

The Parish Schools

As with the Church at Deane, so with the School also, there is no certain record of the date of its establishment, or the erection of the first school building. It is probable that some member or members of the numerous body of Clerks serving at the Church during the latter years of the fifteenth century, might be employed in giving instruction in rudimentary subjects to the children of parishioners. The neighbouring Grammar Schools at Rivington & Blackrod were founded during the reign of Queen Elizabeth, & it is not improbable that a School was erected at Deane during that reign also; for as a matter of fact, a public enquiry was held by Dr Bridgeman, Bishop of Chester, at Wigan, on the 4<sup>th</sup> November, in the 22<sup>nd</sup> James 1 (1624), during the latter years of the reign of James the first, (1622-5), concerning misemployed money given to a School at Deane, when it was found that a certain estate in Windle was held subject to the payment of 40.s. yearly to the said school.

Mr Ralph Crompton, physician, of Manchester, by his will, dated, 8<sup>th</sup> July, bequeathed £50 to the poor of Rumworth, & to James Crompton, of Rumworth, his brother, the reversion of all his goods, &c. (after the payment of necessary expences) if he survived his (i.e. the Testator's) wife, but if he happened to die before his wife, then he gave the reversion of all his goods, &c. to the poor of Rumworth also; the said James Crompton & Robert Robinson being appointed Executors of this Will. The residue of Ralph Crompton's estate, amounting to £136, as well as the £50 left to the poor of Rumworth, came into the hands of James Crompton, who retained the same, & never paid any part thereof, except the interest of the last named sum to the poor for whom it was left. James Crompton died before the wife of his late brother Ralph, & by his will, dated, 3<sup>rd</sup> August, 1636, (wch was proved at Chester the same year), he gave the sum of £100 towards the maintenance of the School at Deane; & £40 for his funeral expenses, the surplus to go to the poor of Rumworth & the adjacent towns; Ralph Worthington, of Snydle Hall, in Westhoughton, Esqre, & Roger Rogerson, of Manchester, being appointed Executors of this will. Eventually, all the estate of both Ralph & James Crompton came into the possession of Ralph Worthington who does not appear to have taken any steps whatever to carry out the trust committed to his charge. Accordingly, the vicar & principal inhabitants of Deane took action in the matter, & in 1653, obtained a Decree from the Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster, ordering the heirs, executors, or administrators of the late Ralph Worthington, of Wyndhill, esqre, deceased, (to wch place he appears to have removed immediately before his death) within three months to pay unto John Tilsley, of Rumworth, Clerk, Adam Robinson, of the same, Gent, John Ford, Thos. Leigh, James Grundy, George Mewcks[?], Rafe Platt, George Seddon, & Henry Molinex, Yeomen, the following sums, viz: -

Amount given to the poor of Rumworth, under the Will of Ralf Crompton, late of Manchester, physician

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This sum of £442-0-2 was directed to be paid by the representatives of the said Ralph Worthington to the above named gentlemen, to be by them invested in the purchase of lands & tenements &c. & the rents [\*?] thereof applied by them to the poor of Rumworth & other adjacent towns & the School at Deane respectively. Millicent Worthington, relict & executrix of Ralph Worthington, demurred to the finding of this decree, however, & further litigation occurred; for the decision of wch the matter was referred [page 156] & the arbitration of John Andrews, Richd Meadowcroft, Thomas Brexes[?], & Richd Turner, gentlemen; who, by their

award dated 29<sup>th</sup> June 1659, ordered the Defendant, Millicent Worthington, her exors. &c. to pay unto the plaintiffs, - Wm Hulton, Esqre, John Tilsley, clerk; Wm Leigh, Thomas Morte, Roger Walmesley, [?], Henry Mollineux, Thos. Anderton, Adam Robinson, Wm Hulme, Gentlemen, Wm Rycroft, James Thomasson, Thomas Smith, j\*[?], Robert Boulton, Richard Leigh, James [?]idge, Jonathan Mather, Roger Thorpe, John Roscoe, Francis Heaton, Ralph Heaton, John Harper, John Johnson, Gyles Green, [?] Grundy, John Moncke, Robert Foster, William Horrocks, John Platt, Adam Whittle, & James Horrocks, as feoffees & trustees [?] some of them, on behalf of the School of Deane & poor of Rumworth, the sum of £304 in full satisfaction of all sums of money, &c. bequeathed by the last wills &testaments of Ralph & James Crompton aforesaid. This sum was duly paid, & £4 of the same was disposed of to the use of the poor &school aforesaid, so that there only rested to be employed the sum of £300. As to the disposal of wch sum, it was ordered & decreed by the Chancery of the co: of Lanc: on the 16<sup>th</sup> October, 1660, that the said Plaintiffs, Wm Hulton, John Tilsley, Wm Worthington, Wm Leigh, Thos. Mort, Roger Walmsley, Harry Mollineux, Thos. Anderton, Adam Robinson, Wm Rycroft, John Thomasson, Thos. Smith, Wm Holme, Robt Boulton, Richd Leigh, James Edge, John Mather, Roger Thorpp, John Roscoe, Francis Heaton, Ralph Heaton, John Harpur, John Johnson, & Giles Gorton, should be constituted & appointed Feoffees & Trustees for the ordering & employing, improving & disposing of £100, parcel of the said £300 for the use &benefit of the Schoolmaster & School of Deane aforesaid for the time being. “And it was further ordered that Robert Browne, of Brinsopp, Esqre, &Roger Walmsley of Roger Stide, Gent, & every other person & persons having any of the moneys belonging to the said School in their Hands should forthwith pay the same unto the said William Hulton &the rest of the Feoffees for the School aforesaid before named such sum &sums of money as there remained in their hands of the said School Stock. And that the same Feoffees should also from time to time yearly receive the annual rent or sum of 40.s. issuing out of certain lands in a place called Windle Park in the said county wch likewise was payable for the use of the schoolmaster and School aforesaid. – “And that the same Feoffees should as to the several sums aforesaid as they should receive the [more?] lay forth & employ the same by the consent & approbation of the major number of them in the purchasing of lands, tenements, annuities, rent charges, or other heridatments of so good a value as they could or should put forth imploy & improve the same, &the profits thereof arising for &towards the maintenance of the School Master & school of Deane aforesaid for the time being”

Acting under the authority of the Decree of 16<sup>th</sup> October, 1660, the above named Trustees purchased a copyhold estate in Tottington, the original surrender &conveyance of wch appear to have been lost, but on 13<sup>th</sup> Oct. 1731, William Leigh, of Westhoughton, Esqre., son &heir of William Leigh, late of Westhoughton aforesaid, Gent, deceased, surviving Feoffee in trust in the hereditaments thereafter mentioned did surrender into the hands of the Lady of the said manor (i.e. of Tottington).

Two messuages other Buildings & certain clases or parcels of Land &meadow &pasture thereto belonging &therewith usually occupied or enjoyed than lately inclosed from the common upon Affetside containing by estimation 13 acres, 3 roods, & 30 Falls of Land be the same more or less of the yearly rent of 6s. 10½d. To the Lady of the Manor then in the tenure or occupation of Richard Barlow, Husbandman, & James Jackson, Husbandman or their assigns.

To the use of William Worthington of Westhoughton, Esqre; Roger Rycroft & Robt. Hindle of the same, Gentlemen; Henry Hilton, of Over Hulton, Esqre; & William Hilton, of the

same, Gent; Richd. Edge & John Leigh, of Middle Hulton, Gents; George Kenyon, of Little Hulton, Esqre; & Robert Bullough of the same, Gent; James Rothwell, of Rumworth, Clerk; James Greenhalgh & Nathaniel Nuttall of the same, Gents; Geo. Leigh, of Farnworth, Gent; Thomas Cross & Ellis Crompton, of Kearsley, Gents; Pierce Starkie, of Heaton, Esqre; & Oliver Morris, of the same, Gent; William Richardson & Roger Dewhurst, of Halliwell, Gents; their heirs & assigns as Feoffees in trust according to an intent the remainder[?] written according to the custom of the said manor.

Declaration that the true meaning of the said surrender was that the said William Worthington & his co-feoffees & the survivors & the survivor of them & his & their heirs should stand fined & seized of & in the said surrendered premises to be paid unto Richard Edge, the younger, the Schoolmaster of the Dean (School) standing near to Dean Church during his life if he continue to officiate there as long schoolmaster. And after his decease or departure & hence to wch other person or persons as should be elected & chosen School Master for the said School by the major part of the said Feoffees then being.

The above surrender & enrolment remained in force until the 18<sup>th</sup> Oct. 1876, when Roger Dewhurst of Halliwell, Esqre, surviving Feoffee in trust surrendered the estate in Tottington into the hands of the Lord of the Manor, to the use of himself, & of William Hulton, of Hulton Park, Esqre; John Kearsley, of Manchester, Merchant; James Edge, of Middle Hulton, Merchant; John Edge, of Middle Hulton, Merchant; Joseph Yates, of Little Hulton, Esqre; the Rev Robt. Kenyon, of Salford, Clerk; Henry Hulton, of Hulton Park, Esqre; William Green, of Westhoughton, Chassman[?]; Samuel Aspinall, of Liverpool, Gent; Henry Atherton, of the Temple, London, Esqre; William Mason, of Halliwell, yeoman; Henry Blundell, of Ince, Esqre; Charles Robt. Blundell, of the same place, Esqre; James Kay, of Heaton, yeoman; Robt. Greenhalgh, of Horwich, Chassman[?]; Henry Pilkington, of Horwich, yeoman; the Rev. Christopher Whitehead, of Farnworth, Clerk; Peter Rasbotham, of the same place, Chassman[?]; Egerton Grosse, of Kearsley, Esqre; John Seddon, of Pilkington, yeoman; John Taylor, of Bolton-in-the-Moors, Doctor of Physic, & the Rev. Robt. Latham, of Rumworth, Clerk, their heirs & assigns as Feoffees in trust, to the same uses as aforesaid.

At a meeting of the Trustees for the Charity of the Dean Church School, held the 30<sup>th</sup> Nov. 1787, it was Resolved (1) That there **[page 157]** a yearly meeting of the said Trustees on the 25<sup>th</sup> of July. The first meeting to be on the 25<sup>th</sup> of July next.

2<sup>nd</sup>) That Mr Dewhurst provide a Box with three Locks in which to Rup the writings concerning the said Trust against the next meeting. Mr Dewhurst, Mr Edge, & the Rev. Mr Latham each to have a Key, & such Box is to be kept in the Deane Church Chest.

3<sup>rd</sup>) That Mr Dewhurst, Mr Crosse, Mr Edge, Mr Greenhalgh, & Mr Seddon go on Friday the sixth day of June next to view the estate belonging to the said Charity. – (signed) R. Latham, Egerton Grosse, Jno. Edge, James Edge, Mr Seddon, C. Whitehead, Wm. Makant, Robt. Greenhalgh, Peter Rasbotham, Henry Pilkington, Jas. Kay.

Meeting held July 25<sup>th</sup>, 1788:

An Account taken of the Rents belonging to the said School, viz: - 40.s. a year arising from certain Lands in the Township of Windle, & parish of Prescott, paid by Mr Alty. Mr Kay the present schoolmaster to receive the 40.s. a year from Windle & to be adjustable & Mr Dewhurst for the same. – A messuage & Tenement in Tottington called Kay's in the

occupation of Adam Barlow &son, rent £9-10-0. Another messuage & Tenement called Bower's in occupation of Robert Jackson, rent £9-10-0.

Agreed at the said meeting to take £5 a year from the above rents towards paying the present Debt & necessary repairs until the Debt be paid. – Agreed further that Mr Edge, Mr Dewhurst, Mr Grosse, Mr Seddon, Mr Greenhalgh go on Thursday, the 4<sup>th</sup> Sept. next to view the Estates in Tottington & make a report thereof to the Trustees at a meeting the Thursday following.

Agreed further that Thursday, the 11<sup>th</sup> Sepr. is appointed for a meeting of the said Trustees at Dean Church at 10 o'clock in the morning to hear the reports of the said Gentlemen, and also to hear the complaints of the Petitioners.

Mr Dewhurst appointed Treasurer & paymaster. (signed) John Taylor, John Edge, R Dewhurst, Jas. Kay, Egerton Crosse, Mr Seddon, Wm Makant.

1789 (no date given). At a Meeting held at Dean Church by the Trustees of this Charity. Ordered unanimously that on examination of the best evidence that can be procured the Township of Rumworth have been heretofore taught free of school wages and that they shall continue to be taught free.

Ordered that each child taught free of School wages shall pay yearly at Michaelmas six pence each in lieu of foring & at Christmas one shilling each each at barring-out, &one shilling each at Shrovetide for a cock-penny, year Two shillings and six pence for each scholar.

Ordered that this meeting is adjourned to the 30<sup>th</sup> July, at Mrs Potter's at 10 o'clock in the morning.

(signed) R. Dewhurst, Egerton Crosse, John Edge, Henry Pilkington, Jas. Kay, John Taylor, Robt. Greenhalgh.

Resolved before the signing of the adjournment on the other side of this leaf – That Mr William Kay the present schoolmaster has been very negligent & remiss in his Duty & that he be now admonished & told that if he doth not behave better for the future he shall be expelled. The schoolmaster was ordered into the room accordingly was made acquainted with the above resolution & he said he had been negligent & would for the future alter his conduct.

(signed) John Edge, James Kay, Wm. Makant, C. Whitehead, R. Dewhurst.

Meeting held at Mrs Potter's, July 31<sup>st</sup> 1789. Resolved by the Trustees of Dean Church School. That the Annual Meeting be held for the future on the Thursday after the 25<sup>th</sup> July. (signed) R. Latham, Wm. Makant, C. Whitehead, R. Dewhurst.

At a Meeting July 29<sup>th</sup>, 1790, at Mrs Potters, of the Trustees of Dean Church School a surrender & lease to Robt. Jackson was signed.

Resolved that Mr Richardson's Bill of £2-13-6½ be immediately paid.

Resolved that £1-10-0 of James Kay's debt of £4-15-6 be paid annually till the whole be discharged.

Resolved that the School be immediately white-washed under the inspection of Mr James Kay. (signed) R. Dewhurst, John Taylor, Jas. Kay, R. Latham, Wm. Makant, John Seddon, Egerton Crosse.

Memorandum: - This day, July 29<sup>th</sup>, 1790, a surrender of Robt. Johnson's Tenement was delivered to John Greenhalgh a customary tenant & the Lease to Robt. Jackson was delivered to Mr James Kay.

No further minutes appear until until the year 1802, but in the School accounts for 13<sup>th</sup> Feby. 1799, we find there was paid, ££10-15-0 by the Trustees, to James Kay, the son of William Kay, for a year's Salary as Schoolmaster. The son received the same sum also for the Father

in 1800, & 1801; & a note in the account Book states that – “William Kay the late School Master died the 26 Dec. 1801”.

Dean Church, July 29, 1802. At a meeting of the Trustees of Dean School held this day it was resolved forthwith to advertise for a Master, to invest the advertisement in both the Manchester Papers, Harrops & Wheelers, & to adjourn this meeting till this day, six weeks, that is, the 9<sup>th</sup> of September. Agreed by us, R. Dewhurst, R. Latham, John Taylor, Henry Pilkinton, Robt. Greenhalgh, Jno. Edge.

Dean Church, Sept 9, 1802.

At an adjourned Meeting held this day for the purpose of electing a Schoolmaster to the Free School at Dean Church: present, the Rev. Mr Latham, Mr John Kearsley, Mr John Edge, Mr Peter Rasbotham & John Taylor, Trustees of the said school it was unanimously agreed to continue Abraham Boardman teacher in consequence of a recommendation from a considerable number of the inhabitants of the neighbouring townships stating his abilities & great attention to the duties of the said School. (signed) R. Latham, John Kearsley, Jno. Edge, Peter Rasbotham, John Taylor.

At the above meeting Mr Jno. Edge was unanimously elected Treasurer for the said School (signed) R. Dewhurst, R Latham, Peter Rasbotham, John Kearsley.

Paid into the hands of Mr Jno. Edge by Roger Dewhurst, Esqre, late Treasurer, the sum of Forty shillings, being the balance of cash left in his hands. (signed) Jno. Edge.

The old School having become too small for the increased number of scholars attending thereat, a movement for the erection of a new & larger School was commenced soon after the appointment of the Rev Thos. Brocklebank to the vicarage of Deane in 1817. Deane Moor had just then been enclosed, & in the award & division thereof, half an acre of land (the site of the old school & adjoining land) was allotted to the Trustees of Deane School; & as that body was now reduced to six members, most of whom were nonresident, a new Trust was now appointed. On the 28<sup>th</sup>. Oct. 1819, Joseph Yates, late of Little Hulton, in the [page 158] county palatine of Lancaster, but now of Park Street, Grosvenor Square, in the county of Middlesex, Esqre; Henry Hulton, late of Hulton Park, but now of Preston, in the said county, Esqre; William Green, of Westhoughton, in the said county of Lanc., Chapman; Charles Robt. Blundell, of Ince Blundell, in the said Co: Esqre; The Rev. Christopher Whitehead, late of Farnworth, in the said co: but now of Eastham, in the co: of Worcester, Clerk; & Peter Rasbotham, late of Farnworth aforesaid, but now of Walford on the co: of Stafford, Esqre; the six surviving Feoffees in trust for Deane School estate in the Township of Tottington, surrendered the same into the hands of the Lord of the Manor, to the use of themselves & also the Rev. Thomas Brocklebank, of Rumworth, in the said co: Clerk; William Hulton, of Hulton Park aforesaid, Esqre; Le Gendre Starkie, of Huntroyd, in the same co: Esqre; Richard Ainsworth, of Halliwell, in the said co: esqre; Peter Ainsworth, of Halliwell aforesaid, Esqre; James Kearsley, of Over Hulton, Esqre; Joseph Ridgway, of Horwich, esqre; Thomas Ridgway, of Horwich, Gent; Thomas Ridgway Bridrou[?], of Horwich, Gent; Benjamin Rawson, of Farnworth, esqre; Benjamin Rawson, the younger, of Farnworth, esqre; John Sharples, of Horwich, Gent; Thomas Heelis, of Rumworth, Gent; Matthew Corr Dawes, of Great Bolton, Common Brewer; Peter Seddon, of Middle Hulton, yeoman; Robert Latham, of Halliwell, yeoman; John Livesey, of Farnworth, Paper Maker, & Richard Woodward, of Over Hulton, Gent; their heirs & assigns as Feoffees in trust, to the same uses as before. **13**

The vicar, with the aid of his co-trustees, & the willing & liberal contributions of parishioners, erected in the year 1820, a large & commodious School, substantially built of stone, at an

expense of about £750. The affairs of the School appear to have continued in a very prosperous condition during the time Mr. Brocklebank was vicar at Deane; much of this prosperity, however, was no doubt due also due to the conscientious & diligent labours of Abraham Boardman, the Schoolmaster, who, although he might not be a very learned man, was yet a very upright man, & greatly respected in the parish. With the advent of Mr. Girdlestone, as vicar in the parish, certain changes were introduced into the Schools. At a meeting of the Trustees, held on the 23<sup>rd</sup> July, 1830; It was - - - -

Resolved that Mr Thos. Ridgway, Mr. Ainsworth, & Mr. Woodward be appointed a sub-committee to inspect the Estates in Tottington belonging to the Trustees of the School. -  
That Mr. Kearsley be appointed Treasurer of the funds belonging to the School & that he be requested to attend to the necessary repairs of the School. - - - - -  
That in future such repairs be completed at the joint expense of the Grammar & Sunday School funds. - - - - -  
That no child who has been admitted on the free list from Rumworth be allowed to return to the School till the payments of 1.s. at Christmas, 1.s. at Shrovetide, & 6.d. at Michaelmas have been duly paid. - - - - -  
That the National School system be introduced into the Grammar School, under the superintendence of the Rev. E. Girdlestone. - - - - -  
That on the application of the said Rev. E. Girdlestone, vicar of Deane, the use of the upper school room be granted by the Trustees for the establishment of a female school on the national & infant School system. - - - - -  
That this meeting be adjourned to Wednesday, the 13<sup>th</sup> of October next, to be holden at the School, at 12 o'clock, & the sub-committee be requested to deliver a report of the estates in Tottington. - - - - -  
The Rev. Thos. Brocklebank having given notice that he will pay into the hands of such Trustees as may be appointed to receive the same the sum of £100, being a balance of money originally subscribed for the use of the school. - - - - -  
Resolved that he be requested to pay the above into the Bank of Messrs. Hardcastle, Cross, & Co, to the credit of the Rev. E. Girdlestone, B. Rawson, Esqre, & Thos. Ridgway, Esqre; for the use of the Trustees of the Grammar School at Deane, & that they be empowered to give Mr. Brocklebank a release for the same.

*Signed.* W. Hulton, Chairman, Benj. Rawson, Jas. Kearsley, Peter Seddon, Robt. Woodward, Richd. Ainsworth, Thos. Ridgway.

At a meeting held on 20<sup>th</sup> Jany. 1831, - It was Resolved that all expenses of the School should be divided into three shares, one-third to be defrayed by the Rents of the Estates, one-third by the Funds of the upper or Girl's School, & one-third by the Sunday School. - -

No further change of importance is recorded until 1839, when at a meeting of the Trustees held on 22<sup>nd</sup> May, it was Resolved - - - - -

That the resignation of the present master, Mr. Abraham Boardman be accepted, & that the balance remaining in the Treasurer's hands £24 - 14 - 6 be paid to him, leaving the further sum of £46 - 5 - 6 due to him. - - - - -

That a Salary of £35 per annum. be offered to Mr. Graystone the new master recommended by the national Society, the remainder of the rents being devoted to paying off the arrears of Salary due to Mr. Abraham Boardman. *Signed.* R. Woodward, Peter Seddon.

For some cause or another not stated, Mr. Graystone did not come to Deane School, but a certain Mr. Barfield came in his stead; though he staid only half a year, viz: from July to Nov. 14<sup>th</sup>, & on the 28<sup>th</sup> Dec. the Trustees paid £4 – 0 – 9 to “Joseph Pownall for six week’s services at the School when Barfield absconded.” The Feoffees of the School met in the School-room on the 13<sup>th</sup> Dec. 1839, where it was Resolved that a renewed application be made to the Executors & administrators of the late Mr. Kearsley, Esqre, for the Title Deeds relative to certain estates in Tottington now in the occupation of James Collins, Samuel Hamer, & Thomas Barlow.16

Resolved that the Schoolmaster who may be elected this day shall be removable by any decision of the Trustees passed at a Meeting duly called, three month’s notice of such removal being given to the Master, who may also vacate his situation on giving the like notice. - - - - -

Resolved that Mr. John Horsfield be elected Master of the School subject to the above stipulation. Signed. W. Hulton, P. Ainsworth, J.R. Bridson, Rd. Woodward, Peter Seddon.

Unlike his predecessors Mr Barfield, Mr Horsfield remained in charge of the School 31 years, resigning the Office on 31<sup>st</sup> Dec. 1870.

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On the 12<sup>th</sup> Jany. 1842, A Meeting of the Trustees was held, when it was – Resolved – That it appears from an examination of the book of Record that since the appointment of Trustees at a Court held for the Manor of Tottington on the 28<sup>th</sup> October, 1819. Fifteen of those Trustees have died, & as a vancancy will now occur by the resignation of Mr Hulton, Resolved that in addition to those Trustees who are now living, - namely, the Rev. Thos. Brocklebank, Peter Ainsworth, Jos. Ridgway, Senr., Thos. R. Pridson, Peter Seddon, John Livesay, & Richd. Woodward; the following be added, the Rev. E. Girdlestone, J.H. Ainsworth, W.F. Hulton, Joseph Ridgway, junr., Stephen Heelis, Nicholas Le Gendre Starkie, & Wm. Longworth. - - - - -

Resolved that the above list be enrolled at the next Court at Tottington, according to the precedents already established.

That the accounts now presented by Mr. Woodward, having been examined, be now passed. Signed. W. Hulton, P. Ainsworth, R<sup>d</sup>. Woodward, Peter Seddon.

The Trustees at a Meeting held on 20<sup>th</sup> March, 1851, Resolved – “That it being considered desirable that a Master’s House should be built in connection with the Deane School, permission be given to erect the same by voluntary subscription together with Government aid on the Land belonging to the Trust.”

(signed) E. Girdlestone, Chairman, Peter Ainsworth, Peter Seddon

Mr William Longworth, of Horwich was appointed Treasurer of the Trust on the 19<sup>th</sup> Sept. 1856; & on the 4<sup>th</sup> Sept. 1859, - “It was agreed that an application be made to Mr Woodward, requesting him to pay up the Balance due from him as former Treasurer of this Trust, £2-3-6.” At the same meeting it was proposed by Mr. W.F. Hulton & seconded by Mr. W. Longworth, that the Rev. F.H. Thickness be appointed a Trustee – carried”. In consequence of the death or removal from the neighbourhood of several Trustees, on the 21<sup>st</sup> Feby. 1860, - “At a meeting of the Trustees this day for the appointment of additional Trustees, - It was agreed that the following gentlemen be appointed as Trustees of this School: - Wm. Atkin,

Esqre & Francis Charlton, Esqre, of Little Hulton; P.R. Arrowsmith, Esqre, Heaton; Jno. Seddon, Esqre, Brightmet; & James Cross Ormrod, Esqre, Halliwell.” Signed P. Ainsworth, Chairman, F.H. Thicknesse, Wm. Ford Hulton, Wm. Longworth.

Application was made to the Board of Charity Commissioners for England & Wales by Peter Ainsworth, Esqre; the Rev. Wm. Bashall, vicar of Deane, Wm. Ford Hulton, Esqre, & William Atkin, Esqre, Barrister-at-Law, in the year 1868, as surviving & acting Trustees, for an order to discharge from being Trustees, the Rev. Edw<sup>d</sup>. Girdlestone, Canon of Bristol; the Rev. F.H. Thicknesse, vicar of Brackley; Joseph Ridgway, Esqre, of Fairlawn, Kent; Stephen Heelis, Esqre. of Manchester; & P.R. Arrowsmith, Esqre, of Southport, who had ceased to reside in the neighbourhood, & John Seddon, Esqre, of Westhoughton, who had never acted in the Trust: And to appoint in their place, the Vicar of Deane for the time being as ex-officio Trustee; Rich<sup>d</sup>. H. Ainsworth, Esqre of Moss Bank, Halliwell; Wm. W.B. Hulton, Esqre, of Hulton Park, & Henry Sharp, Esqre, of New Brook House, over Hulton; in addition to the existing Trustees. The Commissioners were also desired – (1) To sanction a proposed Scheme for the Management of the Charitty & property; & (2) To vest the legal estate in the real property of the Trust in the Official Trustees for Charity Lands. The principal points wch were discussed by the Trustees with the Commissioners in connection with the application were, - (1) The adoption of the Conscience Clause; (2) The restriction of Trustees to members of the Church of England; & (3) The vesting of the property of the Trust in the name of the “Official Trustee”. Eventually an understanding was arrived at between the parties, & a Scheme was established & sanctioned for the future regulation of the Charities, dated the 18<sup>th</sup> Feby. 1870.

The Estates of the Trust are set forth in the said Order as follows:- “The School – A piece or plot of Freehold Land, situate in Rumworth, in the co: of Lanc:, containing two Roods or thereabouts, & the School Buildings & Schoolmaster’s House built thereon. A yearly rentcharge of Two Pounds, issuing out of lands called the Windle Park estate situate in the Township of Windle, in the parish of Prescott, in the co: of Lanc: now belonging to David Bromilow, of Battlesden Park, Bedfordshire, Esqre. - - - - -  
Crompton’s Charity: - Certain Lands & Heriditaments, situate in Tottington Lower End, in the Parish of Bury, containing 17a 0r. 30p. & known as Birchen Bower Farm, now in the occupation of John Taylor, as yearly tenant. – (2) Certain Lands & Heriditaments situate in Tottington Lower End aforesaid, containing 11a. 3r. 2p. & known as Sheep Gate Farm, now in the occupation of Edward Collins[?] as yearly tenant. - - - - -  
Joseph Ridgway’s Charity: - A sum of £1333 – 6 – 8, consolidated £3 per cent. Annuities standing in the names of the Official Trustees of Charitable Funds, & forming part of a sum of £14400, consolidate £3 per cent. Annuities, held by the said Official Trustees for the account of Joseph Ridgway’s Charities. - - - - -

So greatly had the population of Rumworth increased during the next ten years, that the Schools were no longer sufficient to contain the number of Scholars attending thereat; consequently, the Trustees were compelled to enlarge their premises. This was done in 1882, by removing the old Infants’ School, and building the much larger & more convenient School now standing in its place. An Order of the Charity Commissioners, dated 17<sup>th</sup> Jany. 1882, [Page 160] was obtained by the Trustees, sanctioning the erection of a School to contain 250 children, at a cost not exceeding £1574, & authorising them for the purpose of raising the said sum of £1574, to sell so much of the sum of 1333£. 6s. 8d., Consols, (Ridgway Bequest), as would produce £1200, to be replaced by the payment of 45£ a year out of Income for 20 years<sup>17</sup>.

The dismissal of Mr Jacques, the Schoolmaster, in 1896, gave rise to a serious & unfortunate dispute between the Trustees & the National Union of Teachers. The Vicar & the Schoolmaster had not been on good terms for some years past, but at Easter, 1896, the latter allowed himself to be nominated for the office of C'warden for Rumworth in opposition to the Vicar's nominee; & upon the fact being brought before the notice of the Trustees, they immediately requested Mr. Jacques to withdraw from the contest. But he refused to obey the Trustees, continued to oppose the Vicar, & placed himself in the hands of the Union of Teachers. On the 11<sup>th</sup> May, the Trustees gave the Schoolmaster three months' notice to quit his House & Office: Public Meetings were then held to support the Schoolmaster<sup>18</sup>, & to intimidate the Trustees; & a Memorial from the parents of children attending the School, (promoted by the Union), was presented to the Trustees, desiring them to reconsider & withdraw the notice. The Trustees replied – that they were in entire sympathy with the parents regret that it should be necessary for Mr. Jacques to leave the School, but that it was quite impossible for the Trustees to deal with anyone except Mr. Jacques himself, & that they could not under any circumstances admit outside interference.

The subject was then brought before the notice of the House of Commons, by Mr. E. Grey, (one of the Union representatives), asking the member for Thirsk, one of the Charity Commissioners – whether the Trustees of Deane National School had not for a considerable time past neglected to fill up vacancies in the Trust body: & as they had dismissed the Master of the School against the wish of the parents of the children attending the School, would he advise the Commissioners to refuse to sanction the appointment of any person nominated to the office of Trustee, unless & until the parents obtained some share in the selection of Trustees? - - - - -

Sir John Gorst, who answered the question, said the scheme provides that vacancies shall be filled up at the first meeting held after the lapse of one month from the occurrence of the vacancy. On the 28<sup>th</sup> July last, the Commissioners approved the appointment of two new trustees to fill vacancies. The Commissioners had no information of the dismissal of the master of the School. - - - - -

Mr Grey then asked Sir John Gorst, Vice-President of the Com<sup>tee</sup> of Council, - Whether he could state what proportions of the income for the last School year of the Deane National School were received from State Grant, endowment, voluntary subscriptions, & other local sources respectively; was he aware that the Head Master had been recently dismissed as a result of incidents connected with his election to the office of C'warden by the p'shioners; & that this dismissal had been insisted on notwithstanding the request to the contrary made by 166 out of 170 parents whose children attended the School, & notwithstanding the fact that the teacher could show excellent reports both for secular & religious teaching during the last 12 years; & could he state whether there were any means, other than the establishment of a School board for the district, whereby the parents might obtain some voice in the management of the School to wch they were compelled to send their children?

Sir John Gorst answered: - The following sums were rec<sup>d</sup>. – State grant, £339 – 2s – 1d; endowment, £36 – 13 – 4; voluntary subscript £32 – 14 – 5; Church collect<sup>n</sup> £22 – 10 – 0; other local sources £18 – 6 – 1. The Committee of Council had no information as to the facts alleged in the second paragraph. They are not aware of any means by wch the parents could secure some control over the management so long as it is a Voluntary School. - -

A Meeting of Parishioners was now held (3<sup>rd</sup> Sept.) to adopt a Petition to the Charity Commissioners for the revision of the Trust Deed; “-in order to secure that we, the p'shioners, may have adequate representation on the management of our parish School.<sup>20</sup> To

this petition the Charity Com<sup>nrs</sup> replied – “that as the Trust is over £50 annual value, they had no power to revise the Trust Deed without an application from the present Trustees, wch they had not received. But they were prepared to enquire into any allegation of irregularities against the present Trustees.”<sup>21</sup> In the meantime, however, it was found that the Notice given to the Master on the 11<sup>th</sup> May was invalid; in consequence of there not having been two-thirds of the whole number of Trustees present when the notice was decided upon. Another notice was consequently given on the 14<sup>th</sup> Sept. The wrath of the Union was now furiously vented upon the heads of the Trustees, who were threatened with annihilation & eternal disgrace for their stubborn mis-doings. The new Master whom they had appointed was quickly sought out & offered a substantial bribe to persuade him to relinquish his appointment; & when he refused to accept the bribe, the soughs of the village were subtly told – “If the new man came they must not resort to violence. Their fingers might itch, & the man might deserve the ducking threatened, but they must not give it him. Violence would mean playing into the hands of the enemy, & would estrange popular sympathy from their cause.”

Mr. Jacques’s notice expired on 14<sup>th</sup> Dec. & on that day the Schools were closed for the Christmas holidays; & very soon afterwards he received another appointment at Burscough & quietly removed from Deane. Mr. John Kershaw, the new Master was allowed to take up his residence in the School-House without molestation, & when the Schools were re-opened on the 11<sup>th</sup> Jany. 1897, there were practically as many scholars present, as there were on the day they were closed.<sup>22</sup>

Thus ended six month’s strife with the National Union of Teachers, revealing the very unpleasant fact, that for the future, the Managers of Voluntary Schools will be forced to regard their Teachers in a very different light than was formerly the case. The measure of friendship & support henceforth to be expected from the Teachers being strictly limited by their own interests; & in the enforcement of those interests, Trade-union practices must be expected to prevail.

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Deane School received an additional benefit from Thomas Nuttall, of Rumworth, who by his will, dated 30<sup>th</sup> March, 1813, gave & devised unto the Rev. John Brocklebank, vicar of the parish-church of Bolton-le-Moors, & the Rev. Thomas Heyes, curate of West Houghton Chapel in the parish of Dean, & their heirs for ever, two chief rents of 2£. 2s., & 15s. issuing out of the several plots of land situate in Halliwell, by the testator some time since leased to William Thornley & John Pendlebury, together with the reversion & inheritance of the said plots of land (subject to the leases by him granted thereof), upon trust, that they the said John Brocklebank & Thomas Heyes, & their successors vicars of Bolton le Moors & Curates of West Houghton chapel aforesaid for the time being, for ever, should apply one-third part of the said two rents to the vicar of the parish church of Dean, & to his successors vicars of the said parish-church, or to the incumbent thereof for the time being, yearly, for ever, upon condition that he & they should upon the first Sunday after the 24<sup>th</sup> Day of June yearly, preach in the parish-church of Dean a charity sermon; & he desired that the collections & benefactions to be made & given on those occasions should be applied towards supporting a Sunday-school at Dean Church, or elsewhere in Rumworth; but in case no such charity-sermon should be preached as before mentioned, or such collections or charitable benefactions should not be applied for the benefit of such Sunday-School as aforesaid, then he willed that the payment of the said third part of the said rents should be no longer made to such vicar or incumbent, but should be applied yearly by the churchwardens of the parish-

church of Dean, residing in & chosen out of Farnworth, Rumworth, or Kearsley, in the said parish, for the time being, towards the buying of religious & godly books, to be [?] then distributed amongst the School-children at Dean Church School in Rumworth aforesaid, or to the poor people of the parish of Dean aforesaid, as they should think fit, so far as the same third part of the said rents would extend; & the others, or remaining two-third parts of the said rents, in purchasing religious & godly books for the use of Dean Church Sunday-School, or such other use as they might think proper as long as the said school should be continued; & upon further trust, to apply the said two parts of the said rents at such time as the School should not be kept on fort[?], unto & for the use of the friendly society then held, or hereafter to be held at Dean Church aforesaid, to be added to the funds of the said society, & applied therewith.” 23

The rents constituting the above bequest are described in the first demise made in this will as follows: - “All that my Message & Tenement called the Boot situate in Halliwell in the said County with the buildings lands grounds mines delfs quarries heridatments & appurtements (picture 399) thereunto belonging & all other my real estate in Halliwell aforesaid (except those three Fee farms cheif or annual rents of two pounds & two shillings fifteen shillings & fifteen pounds & twelve shillings issuing & payable from three several plots of land by me some time since leased to William Thornley John Pendlebury & Messieurs Derbyshire & Chorley or some of them [?] unto my nephew Thomas Higson of Halsall, Gent. & William Green son of George Green of Old Sirs in Westhoughton yeoman, their heirs executors & adrus[?] for & during the term of 1000 years, &c – Mr. Nuttall died on Friday 7<sup>th</sup> Oct. 1814; & his will was proved at Chester, on 15<sup>th</sup> Oct. 1814; by William Nuttall, Thos. Higson, William Green, & Thos. Syddale, the Executors therein named.

Another bequest was made to Deane School by Miss Betty Morris, of New York in Rumworth; who by her will dated 26<sup>th</sup> June, 1896, “Appointed John Heaton Partington, of Middle Hulton, Retired Farmer, & William Heaton of Holme Barn, Rumworth, Farmer, the executors & trustees of her will; to whom she bequeathed the sum of 100£ free from legacy duty upon trust that they should invest the same & apply the income arising therefrom for the benefit of the Day & Sunday Schools connected with Deane Church “& I direct that such bequest shall be called the – James Morris – bequest in memory of my deceased brother & I further direct that my said Trustees may annually pay or add the said Income to the Collections which are made at the Annual sermons held in the said Church for the Day & Sunday School connected with the same Church.” – Miss Morris died on the 7<sup>th</sup> April, 1898; & the will was proved at Manchester, on the 7<sup>th</sup> May following, by the two executors above named. The bequest of £100 was immediately afterwards invested in [\*\*\*], & the interest is divided between the Day & Sunday Schools yearly; one pound being given to the latter, & the remaining to the former. 25