

THE ORIGIN AND HISTORY
OF THE WARRINGTON BLUE COAT SCHOOL.

By John Bowes, Master of the Institution.

(READ MARCH 10TH, 1870.)

AMONG the Greeks, schools in our sense of the term were almost unknown. The Romans had large private establishments, conducted by *Liberti*, in which were taught reading, writing, arithmetic, music, and dancing; but this provision was for the richer classes: for the poor there was none. The mental condition of these children, except in rare instances, was left to the discipline of external circumstances. During the middle ages, there was in our own country a retrogression rather than an advance. Even among the nobles, a high value was not attached to the possession of learning; "Scholarship," as it was called, being regarded as the exclusive prerogative of the monks. It was not till the time of Henry VI that schools for the education of youth began to be established in this country in any considerable numbers. But these were Grammar Schools, and not intended for the poor. It is true that some of them were expressly founded for the instruction of "poor folks' children," and that in the statutes of many of them provision was made for the admission of such in small proportion, and under certain restrictions; but, taken as a whole, they were for the education of the sons of the middle classes. The right of the poor to a participation in the benefits of learning had not then begun to be acknowledged. The foundation of Grammar Schools for the

benefit of the middle ranks of society was itself regarded as a great concession and privilege—as an extension of education to the utmost limits to which it was necessary or expedient to carry it.

It would be an interesting but rather comprehensive inquiry to write a history of the establishment of primary schools for the instruction of the people. A passing glance at the subject generally will, however, fitly introduce this paper on the Warrington Blue Coat School.

Certain it is that the honour of establishing the first of these schools, for the poor, belongs to ourselves—to us who, as a nation, are so reproached by our continental neighbours for the neglect of the education of our people. If we except those attached to monasteries, the first school erected expressly for the education of poor children was Phillipps' School, Sutton-St. Mary, in Lincolnshire. This school was founded in 1492, in pursuance of the will of the benevolent individual whose name it bears.*

From this time, similar schools sprang up in various parts of the country, though very slowly at first. For eleven years after the foundation of the Phillipps' School, no others were established; but at the end of that time, in 1503, we find that four were founded and endowed. Forty-six years then elapsed without the foundation of a single school of the kind. The intervals between their establishment became, however, less and less, towards the end of the sixteenth century; and from 1600 to 1837 there was not a year that was not marked by the foundation of one or more of these schools. No fewer than ten, twenty, or thirty schools were subsequently erected during the twelve months, while in 1719 no fewer than forty were established. The years in which our forefathers were most industrious in founding these schools were the first

* "Digest of Schools and Charities for Education, as reported on by the Commissioners of Inquiry into Charities."

thirty-eight years of the eighteenth century, namely about the time of Queen Anne, who did much to promote their establishment.

These schools suggested to continental nations the idea of establishing similar ones for their own people. The English free schools formed the original type of the primary schools of every other European country. In a sermon preached in 1760 by Archdeacon Kennett, it is stated that the good example of England in founding schools had diffused itself through other Protestant states and kingdoms, who after our model were setting up similar charity schools in Holland, Switzerland, Prussia, Saxony, and even in Muscovy.*

I now come to the subject of my paper, which is one that was suggested to me some years ago. I was reminded that Mr. Marsh had dealt ably with our Grammar School, while Mr. Bright had told similarly the tale of the Warrington Academy; † and that a paper on the Institution over which it has been my privilege to preside for the last eighteen years, would add another chapter to the History of Warrington, and one, too, not devoid of interest. I accepted the task; and in the imperfect performance of it, I must acknowledge my great obligations to the Trustees of the Institution, as well as to Mr. Beamont, Mr. James Nicholson, F.S.A., and others.

The origin of the Warrington Blue Coat School was a very humble one, and dates as far back as the middle of the seventeenth century. Among the School records is preserved "An Account of y^e foundation, increase, and management of "Lands and Moneys given for y^e education and binding poore "children of y^e Township of Warrington to Apprenticeships "and other Charitable uses." The following is an extract:—

1665. "Mr. Allen of Westm^r gave by will to y^e Church-
wardens of Warrington a Legacy to put out 5

* *Church Education Directory for 1853.*

† *Transactions*, vols. viii and xi.

“several poore boys at 14 years old to Apprenticeships to
 “Some handicraft trade and to take to their assistance
 “y^e Overseers of y^e Poore.”

1677. “The Said Legacy was paid and was £180. Several
 “of y^e Principal Inhabitants thought it better to
 “raise a Stock for y^e Poore than to put out 5 Poore Boys
 “and did themselves Contribute good Sums to that end and
 “added £13 19s. 0d. of some old Stock (but does not say
 “what y^e old Stock was for). And did amongst themselves
 “appoint Trustees to put y^e Stock to Interest and apply
 “y^e Produce to y^e use of y^e poore.”

“The Trustees did apply it so. Some to put poore Children
 “to Apprenticeships, to send up Students to y^e Universities,
 “to Relieve poore old People, to cure the Lame and diseased,
 “to pay Rents for y^e poore, to Cloath poore Children &c. to
 “prefer y^m to Services, to carry poore people to London &
 “Ireland, To pay for y^e table of poore Children, &c., As
 “Appears by y^e Trustees Acco^{ts} by which it is plain y^t y^e
 “Trustees Acted at discretion and laid out y^e produce of
 “y^e Stock where & as they thought it would do most good
 “to y^e Poore.”

“Note y^t Several of y^e Trustees were founders of y^e Stock.”*

The “Stock” thus raised was put out at interest in small
 sums, as the following records testify :—

	lbs.	s.	d.
George Moores of High Leigh, John Birchall of Culeheth, and John Holcroft of Culcheth, by bond dated 23rd August, 1679	10	00	00
William Turner of Parre, Thurstan Cowley of Windle, and Joseph Potts of Eccleston, by bond dated 1st february, 1680.....	30	00	00
Henry Taylor of Knowsley, Thomas Glover of Prescott, and John Barrow of Hyton, by bond dated y ^e 29th March, 1681	50	00	00
Samuell Hatton, Matthew Page, and Peter Naylor, all of Warrington, by bond dated 21st November, 1685.....	40	00	00
Hamblet Woods of Risley, and Henry Woods of Whiston, by bond dated 29th November, 1686...	60	00	00
John Chorley of Warrington, by bond dated 1st May, 1689	50	00	00

* Vide Note A, Appendix.

The original Trustees being, with Mr. Allen, the founders of the "Stock," acted at discretion and laid out the "produce" in a variety of charitable objects as agreed upon. The following are typical items of expenditure :—

	lbs.	s.	d.
1677. To John Pickering for a great Booke.....	01	00	00
" To Widow Tilsley's Son when he went to be an Apprentice	01	00	00
" To John Burtonwood of Church Street, when he went to be an Apprentice in London...	01	03	00
" To William Burtonwood when he went to Oxford by the consent of many of the Inhabitants of Warrington	05	00	00
" To William Burgess with John Harrison his Apprentice	00	02	00
1681. To the Overseers about Key's daughter going to London	001	00	00
1682. for Cloaths for Agnus Seddons' two sons to prefer them in Manchester	000	19	00
" Lent by order of the Jury to John Bent and John Banks to follow the suit for the poore against the Parish	005	00	00
1683. To Widow Lyon towards her journey to London	001	10	00
1689. Payd w th Thomas Millington's Sonne to send him to London	001	00	00
" To Thomas Winstanley for Curing his legge...	001	10	00
1693. Paid Nathan Skelhorn for curing the arme of Widow Clare's child and Saving it from being cut of and for her table.....	002	02	00
1695. To cash paid Mary Unsworth towards the maintenance of her four fatherless children 4lbs. 1s. 0d. upon which John Mill of Dallam is bound in 20lbs 0s. 0d. that the said widdow and her children shall not be troublesome to the town for three years. This is done by the consent of Mr. John Earle and others			
1705. Pd Eliz. Leyland when she went to Ireland...	2	15	0
1724. To Dr. Wilbraham towards curing Penketh's man's arm	1	0	0
1733. To John Turner towards y ^e Education of his wife's children by a former husband	1	0	0

The name of the first Treasurer to the "poore's money" does not appear, but a Mr. Peake early took an interest in

the working of the Charity, and filled that office, as will be seen from the following entry :—

“The whole Summe of the poore’s money of Warrington received by Mr. Peake as appears by his Papers of accounts which was in the year 1668, being part of Mr. Allen’s money with 11lbs. 19s. 00d. of the old stocke is in the whole 132lbs. 13s. 02d. The improvement of it by way of interest 47lbs. 15s. 06d. Now add this 47lbs. 15s. 06d. of interest money to the principal which is 132lbs. 13s. 02d. and then the whole charge upon Mr. Peake will be 180lbs. 08s. 08d.”

At the death of Mr. Peake the bonds and balance in cash were handed over to the new Treasurer, Mr. Earle,* with the following memorandum :—

“ March 29th, 1677.

“ The Ballance of this account being 46lbs. 9s. 2d. is this day paid by Mrs. Peake and the above Bonds given in the hands of Mr. John Earle fforeman of the Jury.”

Mr. Earle filled the office three years in succession, when he handed in his resignation and statement of accounts as follows :—

“ A perticuler and exact account of what moneyes and Bonds are this day delivered by Mr. John Earle unto John Barnes, Jeremy Smethurst, John Naylor, and Thomas Chony, being the Trustees nominated and agreed upon this 21st day of October, Anno Dom. 1680.”

For the next ten years there were few changes in the Committee of management. The most active Trustees, in addition to those already named, were—

Mr. Robert Bewley,	first mentioned in	1680.
„ Geo. Darbyshire	„ „	1680.
„ John Goulborne	„ „	1680.
„ William Patten*	„ „	1681.
„ Thos. Heywood*	„ „	1681.
„ John Chorley	„ „	1682.
„ Matthew Page	„ „	1685.
„ John Leech	„ „	1685.
„ Robt. Birley	„ „	1686.
„ John Barrow	„ „	1690.

* *Vide* Note B, Appendix.

A few years' experience sufficed to prove to the Trustees that their capital was not profitably invested, as appears from the following resolution :—

“ Anno 1690. Or thereabouts, the Trustees finding that “ Several Sums of Mony put to Interest were lost (by people “ failing) Resolved to lay out y^e Remaining Stock on Lands “ w^{ch} cost £471 1s. 6d. The purchase Deeds were made to “ y^e then Trustees, Mr. Earle, Mr. Will^m Patten, & Mr. John “ Barnes, And no Special use or Trust mentioned.”

Mr. William Patten was Treasurer from 1692 till his death, when Mr. Earle again resumed the office, to be succeeded in 1701 by Mr. Thomas Patten.*

In 1709 “ Jonathan Blackburne, Esq.,* Thomas Patten, “ John Goulborne, and Thos. Patten were the ffeoffees for “ y^e lands and monys belonging to y^e poore children of “ Warrington.” In the accounts for that year is the following “ entry :—

“ Received from Alderman Earle y^e Ballance of his father's “ acco^{ts} 40lbs. 05s. 03 $\frac{3}{4}$ d.”

The next few years witness the gradual development of the Trust, further sums being invested in land. To effect this desirable object several of the Trustees contributed handsome donations, as appears from the accounts.

“ In 1702 Mr. Earle being y^e only surviving Ffeoffee “ made a Deed of Ffeoffment to the present Ffeoffees Mr. “ Blackburne, &c.

“ These Trustees (in 1705) bought a piece of Land on “ y^e East side of y^e Heath from the Lady Edgworth which “ cost £27.”

“ The Same being Enclosed, the next year was found “ inconvenient for y^e Road, my Lord Warrington (upon “ application made to him) made a Deed of Exchange whereby “ he gave y^e South Side of y^e Heath for y^e East Side w^{ch} “ was levelled and improved in 1707 and afterwards Let to “ Charles Ranson for 21 years at £8 y^e first year and £10 “ p^r Annum afterwards.”

* Vide Note B, Appendix.

The following items of expenditure occur in the accounts for 1706 :—

	lbs.	s.	d.
To my Lord Warrington's Steward for Deeds of Exchange for Lady Edgworth's land for y ^e South Side of y ^e Heath	01	01	06
Spent at the Execution of the Counter part.....	00	01	00

“ In 1710 the Ffeoffees having observed y^t y^e buildings in Hatton Did Every Year Swallow up a great deal of the Rents to keep y^m in Repair, resolved to pull down all y^e buildings on Holbrook's tenem^t and to build a good Barn, Stable, & Shippens, &c., very much wanted on Barrow's tenem^t which was performed, whereupon Barrow's tenem^t was Let at £18 10s. p^r Annum & Holbrook's at £6 p^r Annum by w^{ch} means Rents advanced and Repairs less chargeable.

“ So that these two Hatton Estates made consid^rably more clear mony yearly than they did Before; w^{ch} together with y^e Heath Ground £10 p^r Ann., Westleigh Lands* advancing, and Several Legacies and gifts coming in to teach poore Children to Read, Write, &c.”

We now arrive at the beginning of the eighteenth century, when so much was done, as I have before mentioned, in the way of establishing primary schools. It was in the year 1711 that this Charity was first constituted an *educational* one. The Trustees of that day (like their successors to the present time), while ready to acknowledge the high value of secular instruction, were strongly impressed with the belief that education to be worthy the name must be based upon religion. That they were actuated by this high view of their responsibilities the following records testify :—

“ The present Ffeoffees observing and finding by Experience y^t to take poore boys, Beggers Rude and unmannerly taught nothing y^t was good by their Parents, but rather given to lying, swearing, cursing, gaming, loitring away all y^e Lord's Day, &c., thus miserably brought up and put to Apprenticeships many of y^m overrun their Masters, the Mony lost & the children come to nothing y^t was good. It was therefore thought necessary in order to Rescue Such poor Children from Ignorance and Vitious courses of living & to make

* “ Westleigh Lands ” were left to the Charity by Arthur Borron, Esq.

“y^m fit for Apprenticeships, to bring them under good Discipline first by putting y^m to y^e Charity School, there to learn y^e knowledge & Practice of y^e Christian Religion as profest in y^e Church of England, to learn to Read, Write Say y^e Church Catechism, Sing Psalms, Every Lord’s Day to go to Church, And on Work Days to prayers, there to make their Responses and to behave themselves decently, and in these Circumstances to put them to App^{ts} is certainly y^e best way to make y^m good Serv^{ts} to God and their Masters, Good and Serviceable in their Generations, to their Neighbours and their Posterities, by bringing up their own Children Religiously and Orderly.

“All these things considered The present Ffeoffees did Anno 1711 put 24 Boys to School all with Caps and bands (And to Encourage their Parents to keep y^m to School) do cloath 12 of y^m once a year, and at abo^t 14 years of age put y^m to Apprenticeships wth new cloaths, Bible & Common Prayer Book.”

These boys, thenceforth called the “Blew” boys, attended as day scholars the old Charity School (which was situated in the centre of the town behind Trinity Chapel) from this date till the opening of the present building in 1782. Many have thought that this School belonged to the Trustees, but this was a mistake. The School site appertained to Trinity Church.

The following extracts from the accounts are noteworthy, as showing the price of some kinds of labour and various articles of clothing at the dates indicated. In 1711, 24 boys were supplied with caps and bands, while 12 of them received a complete outfit, including gloves, at a cost of £7 15s. 11½d. The following are the items:—

	lbs.	s.	d.
24 Blew Bonnets for poor Boys	01	03	05½
24 Shirts for 12 Boys	01	07	00
Cloth for bands	00	03	09
Woollen cloth and trimming	02	14	07
Making	00	12	00
Shoes	01	01	06
Buckles	00	01	06
Stockins	00	08	06
Gloves	00	03	08

In 1718 eleven pairs of shoes cost 1lb. 2s. 7d.; Mr. Rowson was paid 6s. 3d. for brass buttons for "y^e Blew boys' cloathes," and 2s. was paid to Mr. Smith, the Schoolmaster, as compensation for being "barred out."*

At the beginning of the year 1721 the following entry occurs, and is signed by the gentlemen whose names are appended:—

"We, whose names are hereunto Subscribed, being appointed by a Deed of Trust (bearing Date 21 Day of April, 1720) Trustees for Lands and Monys therein conveyed for y^e Education and binding of Poor Children of the Town of Warrington apprentices, for the More easy & effectual discharge of the Said Trust do agree and resolve—

1st.—That the Trustees shall meet twice every year, to Consult and make what orders Shall be thought Expedient in Relation to this Charitable fund; And that y^e days of their meeting shall be on the first Thursday in May and y^e first Thursday after Warrington Winter fair at Two o'clock in the Afternoon; That whatever shall be agreed upon by a Majority of Trustees then present shall be Observed, provided nothing be ordered that is Contrary to the true meaning and Intention of the afores^d Deed of Trust. And that such Orders and Resolutions Shall be entered in this Book, that Contains an Account of this Charity, and Subscribed by Such Persons as are consenting to the same.

2ndly.—That a Treasurer be Chosen every Year, upon y^e first Thursday in May, who shall Receive all Rents, and Interests of Mony belonging to this Charity, and lay out the same according to y^e Orders and Directions Proscribed by the Trustees at their Several meetings. And y^t y^e Treasurer for y^e preceding year shall then make his acco^{ts} and enter y^e same in y^e Book kept for that purpose to be examined and approved by the Trustees then present.

3rdly.—That five Pounds p^{r} Annum be paid to y^e Master of y^e School behind the new Chapel for teaching poor Boys (whose settlement shall be in y^e Township of Warrington) To Read, Write, & Say y^e Catechism of y^e Church of England; Twelve of which shall be thoroughly clothed once & have new Shoes & Stockings twice every year, and Eight more, if there be so many in the School, have new Shoes & Stockings only with y^e Rest. And that these poor Boys Shall have Books, Quills, Ink and Paper, a Cart Load of Coals every Year Provided and their Shoes mended as there Shall be occasion. And that 2 Shillings Shall be given to the poor Boys at y^e Breaking up

* Vide Note C, Appendix.

of School at Christmas and Two Shillings at Shrovetide and that y^e School be kept in good Repair.

Signed

JONAN BLACKBURNE,	
JOHN HESKETH,	THOS. PATTEN,
EDM. TAYLOR,	THOMAS HEYWOOD,
THO. PATTEN,	THO. EGERTON,
JOHN BORRON,	JOHN WORSLEY,
JOHN BLACKBURNE,	JOHN GOULBORNE.

The Warrington "Blews" 150 years ago seem to have imitated their "betters" by indulging in the amusement of "cock-throwing," for in the accounts of 1721, 00lbs. 01s. 04d. is charged for "a cock at Shrovetide and cakes."*

On the 27th day of May, 1738, a new deed of Trust was executed, and the names and description of the Trustees are thus recorded :—

John Blackburne, Esq.†
 John Borron, Esq.
 John Hesketh, Merch^t
 John Haddon, Clerk.†
 Thos. Patten, Gent.†
 Matthew Lyon, Gent.†
 Arthur Borron, Gent.
 Ralph Wright, Linen Draper.
 Joseph Dannet, Woollen Draper.
 Rob^t Patten.†
 James Sugden, Clerk.†
 William Turner, Linen Draper.
 John Fairclough, Gent.
 Tho^s Lyon.†
 John Robinson.
 William Hurst, Ironmonger.

The resolutions passed at the meeting in February, 1721, were confirmed, with the following addition :—

"We nominate and appoint James Bolton Schoolmaster of the said Schoole during pleasure, and that the Rev. Mr. Sugden, Ralph Wright, and John Hesketh be Treasurers for this present year, and that they have power to take into the Schoole such boys as they shall think fit and not exceed-

* *Vide* Note D, Appendix.

† *Vide* Note B, Appendix.

“ing the above Number, likewise to put out to Apprenticeships
 “such boys as they shall think proper, and that Mr.
 “Lancaster be appointed to Get in Catherine Hoolm's debt
 “of £50, Mr. Darbyshire's bond of 20£, and Mr. Waterson's
 “legacy of 40£.”*

The Charity seems to have pursued the even tenor of its way, and nothing worthy of remark occurs until it was decided to build the present house, except the appointment of new Trustees.

In 1764 the list was as follows :--

John Blackburne, Esq.*
 John Hesketh, Merch^t
 Rev. John Haddon, Rector.
 Thomas Patten, of Bank, Esq.*
 Matthew Lyon.*
 Rev. Arthur Borron.
 Robt. Patton.
 Rev. James Sugden.
 Thos. Lyon, Merch^t *
 Robt. Gwyllym, of Bewsey, Esq.
 Thomas Blackburne, of Hale, Esq.*
 Thomas Patten, Jun., Esq.*
 John Lyon, Jun., Esq.*
 Edw^d Pemberton, M.D.
 Rev. Giles Haddon.
 Matthew Lyon, Jun., Merch^t *
 William Hesketh, Merch^t
 John Bent, Merch^t
 Robt. Patten, Jun.
 John Watkins, Merch^t *
 Thomas Dannett, Gentleman.
 Thomas Lee, Merch^t



Three years afterwards the Rev. Edward Owen,* Rector of Warrington, was an active member of the Committee of Management, and in 1770 the Rev. James Stones, Minister of Trinity Chapel, was added to the list.

We now arrive at the eve of a new epoch in the history of the School. Hitherto a limited number of children had been

* *Vide* Note B, Appendix.

clothed and educated only; but now it was proposed to add board and continuous supervision. To effect this most desirable object a large outlay was necessary, as there was no building in Warrington suitable for the purpose. A special subscription was entered into, headed by John Blackburne, Esq. with £500, and followed by the other Trustees and their friends, and a sum of £2,000 was soon available for the purpose of erecting new buildings.

On Nov. 20th, 1778, the following minute is entered:—

“ At a meeting of the Trustees of the Charity School in Warrington, of which Public Notice was given at the Parish Church and Trinity Chapel, Ordered that Mr. Tho^s Dannett, Treasurer to this Charity, be empower'd to order Clay to be forthwith cast in Alms house field belonging to the said Charity for the purpose of making Bricks for the Building of the School intended for the future Education of Children upon the said foundation and that (if a general meeting be not called in the meantime) he shall order such a number of bricks and of such sizes as the said Treasurer shall find necessary upon consulting Mr. Hope or any other experienced architect.

“ Signed “ E. OWEN, “ THO^s DANNETT,
 “ JOHN WATKINS, “ W^m HESKETH.”
 “ THO^s PATTEN,

The next year the following entries are made:—

“ At a meeting of the Trustees of the Charity School in Warrington of which public Notice was given at the Parish Church and Chapel. The plan produced by Mr. Hope for building a Charity School was approved. And it's order'd that Notice be given in the Manchester, Chester and Liverpool Newspapers, that the Trustees of this Charity will meet on Thursday 1st July, to receive Proposals from such Workmen as are willing to contract for building the same, according to a Plan in the hands of Mr. John Watkins.

“ Warrington 20th May 1779.

“ Signed “ JOHN BLACKBURNE. “ JOHN WATKINS.
 “ THOS. PATTEN. “ THOS. DANNETT.”
 “ WM. HESKETH.

“ July 8th, 1779.

“ The Trustees met to receive proposals for the building of
 “ the said Charity School, pursuant to the above order and as
 “ some of the Estimates were made in too general a manner
 “ and furthur explanation necessary the meeting was adjourned
 “ to this day when the Trustees approv'd of Mr. Hope's pro-
 “ posals and do hereby empow'r Mr. John Watkins and
 “ Mr. Thos. Dannett to contract with him and to do what is
 “ furthur necessary towards carrying the same into Execution.

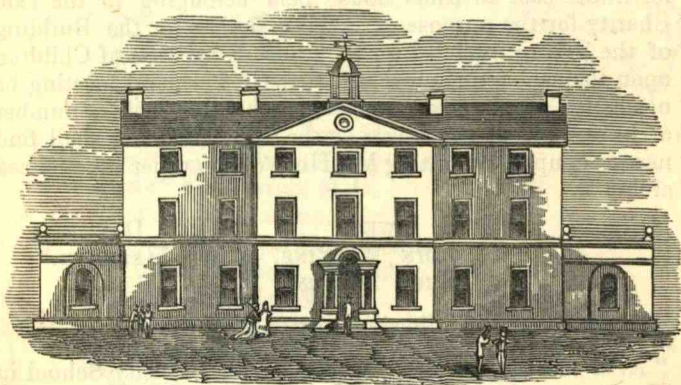
“ Signed

“ THOS. PATTEN.

“ JOHN WATKINS.

“ THOS. DANNETT.”

The dawn of 1782 saw the new school, of which the fol-
 lowing is an engraving, opened under the name of



“ THE WARRINGTON BLUE COAT HOSPITAL ;”

and Mr. John Webster,* of Liverpool, was appointed the first
 master. I cannot learn anything of Mr. Webster's antece-
 dents ; but his children, grand-children, and great-grand-
 children have been and are among the most respected of the
 inhabitants of Warrington.

To celebrate the opening of the new buildings, Mr. Owen,
 rector of the parish, preached an eloquent sermon, a copy of

* See Note B., Appendix.

which is preserved in the library of the Historic Society. The following is a transcript of the title-page :—

“The Resources of Christian Charity: a Sermon upon the occasion of opening a Charity School in Warrington, for the purpose of clothing, supporting, and instructing poor children, upon an incorporated plan, until they are fitted for business. Preached on Sunday, February 3rd, 1782, by Edward Owen, M.A., Rector of the Parish.”

At page 22 of this sermon the following note occurs :—

“It is a fact which ought not to be concealed (because it tends to benefit the charity by a distinguished example) that Dr. Enfield,* though a minister in the separation, honoured these sentiments by an expressive mark of his approbation, a liberal contribution, in which he has been followed by several of the principal members of his society.”

The Unitarian congregation is referred to in this note, and I have been informed that Dr. Enfield dismissed his congregation, on this particular Sunday, at an earlier hour, in order that he and they might hear Mr. Owen's sermon, and contribute their alms. The offertory on the occasion amounted to £41 18s. 11½d.

About fourteen years ago the following letter appeared in the “Local Notes and Queries” column of the *Warrington Guardian*. The writer was the late highly-respected Mr. William Richardson :—

“WARRINGTON BLUE COAT SCHOOL.—Sir,—When the Charity School was removed from behind Trinity Chapel in the year 1782, to the present building at Town's End, the scholars were only six in number, but eighteen other boys and six girls were elected by lot from the town, of whom I was one, and being found upon examination by old Mr. Watkins to be the best reader of these new scholars, my name will be found to stand seventh amongst those admitted to the present building.†

* * * * *

“The girls of the school had for a long time no bonnets over their white caps, nor cloaks as now, and as they

* *Vide* Note B, Appendix.

+ *Vide* Note E, Appendix.

“walked to and from Trinity Chapel, on a Sunday, when the weather was cold or wet, they turned their blue woollen gowns over their heads. At last, the keeper of a public-house, a Unitarian, Ralph Nixon by name, made each girl a present of a broad-brimmed black felt hat, and a warm blue cloak; but it was a long time before they reached the luxury of a bonnet. We boys were dressed much as at present, but we had no warm cloaks as now, and our breeches only reached to the knees, where they buttoned over the tops of our long blue stockings.”

The school was at the outset essentially an “industrial” school, as one half of each day—Saturday excepted—was devoted to manual labour, chiefly weaving. The revenue, at this time, was derived from Annual Subscriptions,* Church Collections,* Occasional Concerts,* a portion of the proceeds of the Boys’ Work,* and Rents of Property.

One of the largest rooms in the house was fitted up as a chapel, and a catechetical service, similar to the one so deservedly popular in the Liverpool institution, was introduced, and has been continued to the present time.

Within twelve months after the school was opened, some of the Trustees having died, a number of new ones were elected, as will be seen from the following minute:—

“Warrington, Jan. 21st, 1783. We the Trustees of the Charity School in this Town do appoint the undermentioned gentlemen to be Trustees for the said Charity, and do order a deed to be prepared for that purpose.

“Signed,

“J. BLACKBURNE.

“THOS. PATTEN.

“JOHN WATKINS.

“THOS. DANNETT.

“ARTH. BORRON.

“viz. :—

“John Blackburne, of Hale, Esq.†

“Robert Atherton, of Atherton, Esq.

“Thos. Leigh, of Goulborne Parks, Esq.

“Wm. Banks, of Winstanley, Esq.

* *Vide* Note F, Appendix.

† *Vide* Note B, Appendix.

- “ The Rev. Dr. Patten.*
- “ The Rev. Edw. Owen.
- “ The Rev. James Stones.
- “ Wm. Dumbell.
- “ Wm. Topping.
- “ Thos. Lyon.*
- “ Dr. Thos. Pemberton.
- “ Richard Phipp.
- “ Peter Patten, Esq.*
- “ The Rev. Geoffrey Hornby, Winwick.*
- “ The Rev. Thos. Blackburne, of Thelwall.*
- “ Mr. Josiah Dainteth.
- “ Mr. Thos. Dakin.”

Human nature is much the same in all ages. Among children we must expect to find some morose, some obstinate, and some idle: others untruthful, ill-disposed, and discontented. Where numbers live together under the same roof—no matter what their social rank—some or other of these vices are sure to manifest themselves in bold relief. That the Warrington Blue Coat School, eighty-five years ago, was not free from such manifestations the following extracts testify:—

“ Augst 5th 1785.

“ It was unanimously ordered & agreed, that if any of the
 “ Boys and Girls be found guilty of telling Lies; He, She,
 “ or They must be kept to their Work the three succeeding
 “ Saturday Afternoons, and Fulfil the same Task as on other
 “ Afternoons; and for the second offence, to be kept in double
 “ that Time, & so on in Proportion as their Crime is—At the
 “ same time it was ordered that Isaac Clayton be kept in the
 “ next three following Saturdays to his Loom, & do the same
 “ Quantity of Work as usual, he having been detected before
 “ us of Lying, in saying he was short of Meat, & intended
 “ spreading the same false report about the Town on Saturday
 “ following.

“ Also, that, in future, if any of the Boys be bated in the
 “ Price of their Work thro’ their own carelessness, they shall
 “ for every Shilling of such Batement be kept to their Work,

* *Vide* Note B, Appendix.

“as many Saturday Afternoons, & do their full Task as usual.

“Signed, “RICHD. PHIPP. “JOSIAH DAINTETH.”
 “THOS. DANNETT.

Less than seven years sufficed to prove that amateur manufacturing was unprofitable as a school employment, for in the Report of 1789, “The Managers are apprehensive that the “Labour of the Children is not so productive as it might be, “and wish to confer with some Gentlemen, in the Cotton “Trade, in order to adopt, if possible, a Plan more eligible “than is at present pursued.”

In 1792 the Trustees recur to the subject in the following terms:—

“It has been stated for the Two last years that the Trustees “are dissatisfied with the Mode of conducting the Cotton “Business in which the Children are employed, and Assis- “tance from Gentlemen in the Trade has been requested, but “no Improvements have yet taken place.”

On the 22nd September, 1801, it is recorded that,—

“At a meeting of the Trustees held this day at the Charity “School it was resolved that the undermentioned gentlemen “shall be appointed additional Trustees, and Mr. Topping be “instructed to prepare a deed accordingly, viz. :—

“Thomas Brooke, Esq.	“Richard Gwilym, Esq.*
“Isaac Blackburne, Esq.*	“John Arthur Borrton, Esq.
“Thos. Patten Wilson, Esq.*	“John Pemberton, Esq.
“Thos. Turner, Esq.	“James Stanton, Esq.
“Peter Dutton, Esq.	“Edward Dakin, Esq.
“The Rev. Thos. Borrowdale.	“William Geddes.
“Thos. Skitt.	“Charles Rogerson.
“Thos. Orford.	“Joseph Lee.
“Edward Greenall.	“Richard Sharrat.
“John Howard, Jun.	“James Hilton.

“Signed, “J. BLACKBURNE. “THOS. LYON.
 “THOS. BLACKBURNE. “JOHN WATKINS.”
 “THOS. PEMBERTON.

* *Vide* Note B., Appendix.

Ultimately the business of cotton weaving was given up, but not before it had landed the charity in difficulties.

In 1802 a Committee was appointed "to enquire into the present mode of conducting the School and to report to a general meeting of Trustees the result, in order that a permanent plan of management of the charity, employment of the Children, and such other objects as may then come before them may be decided upon.

"That the Committee be requested to obtain such information as they shall be able, of the management of similar Institutions.

"That a general Meeting of the Trustees be held on the first Tuesday in July for the purpose of receiving the report and observations of the Committee, and acting upon them.

"That Mr. Charles Rogerson, the present Treasurer, be requested to continue his services.

"That the Committee do consist of Mr. Watkins, Mr. Gwilym, Mr. Dutton, Mr. Lyon, Mr. Borron, Mr. Dakin, & Mr. Geddes, any three of them to form a Committee."

The general meeting of Trustees was fixed for the first Tuesday in July (6th), but this was found to be an inconvenient day, as the following entry shows:—

"A general Meeting of the Trustees of the said School having been appointed the 4th of Jany. last to be holden this Day, and the Election of Members to serve in Parliament for the Borough of Newton being fixed to take place this Day also, and several of the Trustees being under the Necessity of attending the said Election, it is proposed to adjourn the Meeting to Monday next 12th July, by 11 o'clock in the Morning, of which Mr. Webster is directed to give Notice by letter to each of the Trustees.

"Signed,

"THOS. LYON.

"THOS. BORROWDALE.

"EDWARD DAKIN."

The adjourned meeting accordingly took place on Monday, July 12th, 1802, when the report of the Committee was read and the following resolutions passed:—

"That it is the opinion of the general meeting of the Trustees, from the report made to them by the Committee,

“ that the present management of the Institution is extremely
 “ defective and radically bad, and that there is a debt of One
 “ Hundred and Seventy-Eight Pounds, thirteen shillings, and
 “ Four pence halfpenny (exclusive of the sum of Four Hun-
 “ dred and Seventy Two pounds which has been advanced at
 “ different times by Mr. Lyon which he now very handsomely
 “ has presented to the Trustees) which there are no means of
 “ discharging. That it appears to them, that the only method
 “ of relieving the Charity from its difficulties will be to dis-
 “ charge, in a proper manner, the Master and Servants, to
 “ bind out the whole of the Children apprentice as soon as
 “ convenient, and that the Institution shall remain shut up
 “ till Lady Day, 1803, by which means it is apprehended that
 “ the Debt will be discharged, and time given for a new set of
 “ regulations to be adopted, calculated to maintain a much
 “ greater number of Children, and to instruct them in a better
 “ manner, both in the School, and with respect to their
 “ Labour.”

“ That pursuant to the above resolutions, the Institution
 “ be closed on the first day of October next or sooner if the
 “ Committee think fit.

“ That the Thanks of this meeting be given to the Com-
 “ mittee for their exertions in favour of the Charity ; since
 “ the meeting in January last, and that the same Gentlemen
 “ be requested to continue their useful Labours.

“ That Mr. Howard be requested to act as Treasurer to this
 “ Society, and that he be also a member of the Committee.

“ That the Rev. Mr. Borrowdale be added to the said Com-
 “ mittee.

“ That Mr. Webster be allowed Half a year's salary from
 “ this Time, that he be subsisted as usual in the House, 'till
 “ the Boys and Girls are put out Apprentice, or otherwise
 “ disposed of, and that afterwards he be allowed One Pound,
 “ fourteen shillings a week subsistence Money till the first
 “ day of October next, and after that be permitted to remain
 “ at his own expense in the house if he think fit, to the first
 “ day of January next.

“ That the next meeting of the Trustees be on Monday the
 “ third of January next.”

The house remained closed against the reception of scholars
 till the 1st of May, 1804, when it was opened as a *day school*

only, under the direction of Mr. Thomas Bullock (father of Mr. Bullock of Sankey Street), and remained as such for ten years. The following extracts from the school records bear on these matters :—

“ At a meeting held January 5th, 1804, it was resolved,—
 “ That this house be again opened on the first day of May
 “ next & that twenty Children be admitted.

“ That Mr. Thos. Bullock of Shrewsbury, who has offered
 “ himself as Master of the School, be written to, to come
 “ over as soon as convenient.

“ That a plan of Instruction & Management of this Insti-
 “ tution in future, be prepared & laid before the Trustees at
 “ the next meeting by the following Gentlemen—

“ J. A. Borron, Esq.,

“ Thos. Lyon, Esq.,

“ Rev. J. Grant,

“ who are so good as to undertake the same.

“ That the Rev. Johnson Grant* be added to the Committee.

“ That there be a meeting of the Trustees on Monday the
 “ 23rd Inst. at Parslow's Coffee House.”

“ At a meeting held January 23rd, 1804, it was resolved,—
 “ That Mr. Thomas Bullock be appointed Master of the
 “ School with a Salary of Forty Pounds p Ann^m; but to be
 “ increased to Fifty Pounds, if at the end of each year his
 “ Conduct meets the approbation of the Trustees.

“ That the expenses of Mr. Bullock in his journey to War-
 “ rington and back be paid by the Treasurer.

“ That the plan submitted for the future regulation of the
 “ School by Thos. Lyon, Esq., J. A. Borron, Esq., & the
 “ Rev. Mr. Grant be laid before a Committee who are re-
 “ quested to examine the same & make such alterations as
 “ they may think proper.”

At a meeting of the Trustees on November 7th, 1808, the following resolution was agreed to :—

“ That the Charity being now nearly out of Debt a day be
 “ appointed for a Meeting of the Trustees to come to a de-
 “ cision on the future mode of conducting it, and that in the
 “ meantime enquiry be made of the expense of clothing and

* *Vide* Note B, Appendix.

“keeping the Boys and Girls in the Blue Schools of Lancaster, Manchester, and Chester, and report made to the next Meeting.”

At a meeting early in the next year the following resolutions are recorded :—

“That the Income of the Charity School appears to be 350£ per ann^m.”

“That the expenses of the Salary of the Master, his household, repairs, and Sundries amount to 194£.

“That the remaining sum of 156£ wou'd only maintain 8 or 9 Boys at the utmost.

“It therefore appears to the Trustees present that it wou'd not be prudent to revert to the *old Mode* of taking Children into the House at this Time.”

Three years later, viz., in January, 1812, the financial condition of the charity wears a brighter aspect, for it is recorded,—

“That the annual Landed Income of the Charity School amounts to the Sum of £411 . 5 . 1½.

“That all the Debts of the Charity being paid off there will remain in hand a Sum of about £588.

“That the Trustees present taking into their Consideration the flourishing state of the Funds of this Charity, beg leave to recommend to the next general meeting to take into their consideration such *modes of amending the present state of the School* as may be then laid before them and that they wou'd be kind enough in the meantime to turn their attention to the proceedings of the National Society for the Education of the Poor, commonly called Dr. Bell's plan, an explanation of which together with a Copy of these Resolutions is ordered to be sent to each Trustee.”

It was not, however, till March, 1814, that it was decided to re-open the School on the “Old System.”

In August, 1813, it was resolved,—

“That the School be opened the 25th of March, 1814, for the accommodation of 8 Boys & 4 Girls, to bed & board, and to be clothed upon the old System.”

“That a School be opened at the same time upon Dr. Bell's plan for the instruction of Boys & Girls in the Town &

“Neighbourhood of Warrington as day Scholars, subject to such Regulations as may be hereafter determined.”

“That notice be given to the present Master, Thomas Bullock, to provide himself with another situation & that he do quit this School on the 25th of March, 1814.

“That Dr. Blackburne* be requested to seek out at Manchester for a proper Master, understanding Dr. Bell’s System, to take the Superintendence of the education of the Children.”

On the 21st of April, 1814, it is recorded,—

“That Mr. Robt. Horrocks having been accepted as Master from the first of May next, at a salary of £80 ^p annum, the Trustees are desirous that he do go as soon as convenient to receive the necessary Instruction on the System of Dr. Bell’s Madras School, and that Liverpool appears to be the most convenient and eligible place.”

During my residence in Cumberland from 1845 to 1847, it was my good fortune to become intimately acquainted with the Rev. Charles Cuthbert Southey, (son of the late poet-laureate), Dr. Bell’s biographer, and through him with Mr. Davies, Dr. Bell’s amanuensis, from both of whom I learned the high reputation the Liverpool Blue Coat Hospital† had attained for proficiency in Dr. Bell’s plan of tuition. Indeed for a long series of years it served as a training school for teachers for Liverpool and the neighbourhood, and no primary schoolmaster during this period would have proved a successful candidate for an appointment unless he had been to Liverpool “to learn the system.”

No changes of any kind seem to have taken place from 1814 till February, 1832, when it was resolved that Mr. Nicholson (the Law-clerk) be instructed to apply for an Act of Parliament for the future regulation of the Charity. This Act was obtained, and is entitled—

“An Act for empowering the Trustees of the Blue Coat Charity School in Warrington, in the County of Lancaster,

* *Vide* Note B, Appendix.

† *Vide* Southey’s Life of Dr. Bell.

“to make Sales, and to grant Building and Mining Leases of certain parts of the Estates belonging to the said Charity, and for other purposes therein mentioned.”

“A general meeting of the Trustees was held at the School-house in Warrington, on Thursday the second day of August, 1832, being the fifth Thursday next after the passing of the said Act, as directed by the said Act,” when “the Trustees present proceeded to qualify themselves to act in the execution of the said Act by taking and subscribing the Oath or Affirmation in the form and to the effect prescribed by the said Act.”

The Trustees then proceeded to elect certain gentlemen* to be Trustees of the Charity in conjunction with those already appointed by the Act, and the meeting was adjourned “to Friday the fourteenth day of September next for the further proceedings under the Act.” At this meeting the “Old Trustees of the Charity” presented the following report:—

“Warrington Blue Coat School,

“14th Sept., 1832.

“The undersigned, being old Trustees for this Charity, beg leave to report to this meeting, that after payment of all Expenses attendant upon the late Act of Parliament obtained for the management of this Charity and otherwise, there is now a disposable fund in the Banker's hands and invested in Exchequer Bills amounting to the sum of six thousand and sixty-five pounds, seven shillings, and ten pence; that the sum of two hundred and twenty pounds appears to be due for arrears of rent; and that the present gross rental of the real Estates belonging to the said Charity amounts to the sum of four hundred and thirty-two pounds, twelve shillings or thereabouts.

“J. A. BORRON.

“JOSEPH LEE.

“EDWD. GREENALL.”

It was further resolved—

“That Mr. Peter Nicholson† be now appointed Clerk to the Trustees of this Charity.”

“That Mr. John Brandwood† be appointed the Treasurer thereof.”

* *Vide* Note G, Appendix.

+ *Vide* Note B, Appendix.

"That Mr. Robert Horrocks and his wife be now appointed
"the Master and Mistress of this School."

Mr. Brandwood the Treasurer died in the November following, and Mr. William Stretch was appointed his successor.

For a number of years previous to this date a "Ladies' School," for the education and training of girls, was conducted in the building. At a meeting held in November, 1832, it was decided to discontinue this accommodation.

In the spring of 1834 some additions were made to the school premises, consisting of a handsome chapel (funds being left for the purpose by the late John Watkins, Esq.,) and a school-room known still as the "New School." In the chapel is a neat stained glass window, the history of which is contained in the following letter and resolution:—

Warrington, Jan. 14th, 1846.

Gentlemen,

In venturing to address you on a subject which for some time has occupied much of my serious attention, I beg to apologize for taking such a liberty, hoping that the consideration of it will not be displeasing to you.

Through the kindness of one of your body my Son was admitted a day pupil in your noble and valuable Institution, and has for upwards of two years enjoyed the benefits of the superior education there communicated under the tuition of Mr. Forster, which I hesitate not to say could not be obtained in any of the Schools he previously attended.

Being about to take the Boy from School in a short time to work at my own business, I am most anxious to contribute some memorial of my gratitude, not as an equivalent for my son's education, but as a small acknowledgement of the great boon conferred. Strongly impressed with this feeling I stated some time ago to your Treasurer, Mr. Stretch, that I was desirous of placing a stained Glass Window in the Chapel connected with the School similar to the Drawing herewith sent for your Inspection, he recommended that the subject should be brought before the Trustees.

Should you be graciously pleased to allow me the pleasure of expressing my gratitude in this manner, I intend my Son to execute the greater part of the Work under my directions, subject to any improvements or alterations that you might think proper to suggest. With sentiments of much respect I beg to subscribe myself, Gentlemen, your much obliged & obed^t. Serv^t.

JAMES EDMUNDSON,

P. pro my Father R. B. EDMUNDSON.

“ Ordered—That the same be inserted on the Minutes, that
 “ his offer to place a painted window in the Chapel be
 “ accepted by the Trustees—with the expression of
 “ their satisfaction at this mode of shewing his
 “ gratitude for the benefits his Son has received
 “ from this Institution.”

There is also a Marble Tablet in the Chapel, with the following inscription upon it :—

GRATEFUL FOR THE BENEFITS RECEIVED
 FROM THIS INSTITUTION,
 AND REMEMBERING WITH GRATITUDE THE MOTHERLY KINDNESS
 EVER EXPERIENCED AT HER HANDS,
 A NUMBER OF THOSE WHO HAVE BEEN EDUCATED
 ON THE FOUNDATION OF THIS CHARITY
 HAVE ERECTED THIS TABLET IN THE MEMORY OF
 ELIZA FORSTER,
 LATE MISTRESS OF THE SCHOOL.
 GRACED WITH MANY VIRTUES, A MIND WELL REFINED,
 AND AN AFFECTIONATE AND AMIABLE HEART,
 SHE WAS AT ONCE A KIND FRIEND AND A SINCERE CHRISTIAN.
 ENTRUSTED WITH
 THE DOMESTIC MANAGEMENT OF THIS INSTITUTION
 FOR A PERIOD OF THIRTEEN YEARS,
 SHE DISPLAYED ALIKE ENERGY AND BENIGNITY,
 CONSIDERING IT HER CHIEF PLEASURE TO CHERISH AND COMFORT
 THE ORPHAN AND THE FATHERLESS.
 HER LIFE BEING MEEKNESS, HER DEATH WAS PEACE,
 AND HER PASSING SPIRIT, SUSTAINED BY GRACE DIVINE,
 GENTLY FLED TO GOD HER SAVIOUR
 ON THURSDAY THE 4TH DAY OF MAY, 1848.

“ The Memory of the Just is Blessed.”—*Prov. X chap., 7 ver.*

Mr. Horrocks successfully conducted the school till his death, which took place in 1835, when Mr. and Mrs. Forster, of Liverpool, were appointed master and mistress. I have been told by pupils who were resident in the Liverpool Blue Coat Hospital at the time, that they well remembered Mr. Forster as a student “ learning the System.” A former pupil wrote a most interesting account of this gentleman some years ago in the *Educational Guardian*,* under the title,—
 “ My old Schoolmaster and his System of Education.”

* Vol. I, pp. 164, 191.

Mr. Forster died in 1852, when the following resolution was entered upon the minutes of proceedings:—

“That the Trustees at this their first meeting after the death of the late Mr. Forster, Master of the School, desire to express their unfeigned regret for his loss, and hereby record their sense of the great benefit derived by the Establishment from his able superintendence.”

On the death of Mr. Forster, the compiler of this paper was appointed his successor, and still continues in that position.

In 1855 a valuable adjunct to this Institution was founded by the old scholars, at the suggestion of the master. It is called, like its parent in Liverpool, “The Blue Coat Brotherly Society.” Its main objects are to visit, advise, and assist boys and girls when they leave school to enter into the great battle of life. Such a society, founded as it is on the principles of brotherly love and Christian Charity, must and will prosper. The annual reunions, held at Christmas in each year, have at all times been of an interesting and enthusiastic character.

Mr. Richardson, whom I have before quoted, thus refers to the inaugural meeting:—

“When the Blue Coat Brotherly Society was commenced, about a year ago, I was present, and was asked to propose the first resolution. I cannot express with what pleasure, almost reaching youthful delight, I again sat down upon the same forms as were used in my childhood, and saw the same desks and chairs and tables, as I had known many many years ago. But how few of my early school-fellows now live! certainly none in our native town. To the watchful care which was held over my early years in this Institution I have always gratefully attributed my length of days and my comparative prosperity. May it never cease to prosper, and may others long survive to bear such witness as my own!”

In 1858 Mr. Skirrow, one of the Inspectors appointed by the Charity Commissioners, paid an official visit to Warrington

for the purpose of enquiring into the circumstances and management of the various charities of the town. After an enquiry, which occupied two days, he pronounced the Blue Coat School to be "one of the best he had ever seen." During the enquiry the Inspector pointed out that the day school was not contemplated by the founders nor by the Act of Parliament, and that if continued it must be conducted by separate teachers. Under these circumstances the Trustees discontinued the day school, and the Institution is now entirely confined to the maintenance, education, and training of the children elected on the Charity.

The "Blues" have ever been taught, besides the highest aims of true education, the value of generous emulation, and to prize high sentiments and gallant actions; always reared and disciplined to support and advance the English name and character in whatever condition of life Providence might place their lot. It is no wonder, therefore, that they should regard their *Alma Mater* as the pride of Warrington, and feel bound that their reputation in after life should be such as to render them a credit to their old School.

Such is an imperfect outline of the Origin and History of the Warrington Blue Coat School. The Trustees from the first have been generous men and able administrators. By their munificence and fostering care Mr. Allen's legacy of £180 was metamorphosed in the course of a century into revenue of a similar amount. To be found in 1841 increased to £450. Seventeen years afterwards it was officially reported to the Charity Inspector to have doubled itself by the further investments of the Trustees, and at the present time the annual income may be stated as £1,400.* A small beginning, and a truly great result!

* This amount includes £200 a year coal rent, which by the Act of Parliament is required to be funded, unless invested in land under the direction of the Court of Chancery.

APPENDIX.

NOTE A.

A perticular Account of all Such persons who hath given any moneys towards the raising of a Stock for Binding and putting forth poore children Apprentices in the towne of Warrington.

Impr.	lbs.	s.	d.
1677.—John Allen Borne in Warrington and dyed in St. Margaret's, Westminster, London, being the founder of this stock ..	180	00	00
1677.—Joshua Abraham,* Att the death of his Daughter Mary ..	002	00	00
1677.—Matthew Page,* At the death of his wife Ellin ..	001	10	00
1677.—Randle Barnes, At the death of Anne his wife ..	002	00	00
1677.—Joseph Dutton, At the death of Nathaniell his Sonne ..	001	10	00
1677.—Hamblet Yate, At the death of Elizabeth his Daughter ..	001	10	00
1677.—Thomas Mather, At the death of Ralph his Brother ..	002	00	00
1677.—Elizabeth Bulling, At her Death ..	005	00	00
1678.—Joseph Dutton, At the Death of Mary his Daughter ..	001	10	00
1680.—Thomas Cason,* In his life time gave ..	010	00	00
1680.—George Darbshire, In his life time gave ..	010	00	00
1680.—John Naylor, In his life time gave ..	010	00	00
1680.—John Barnes, At the Death of Edward his Sonne ..	005	00	00
1680.—Joshua Abraham, At his Death bequeathed ..	004	00	00
1680.—George Darbshire, At the Death of Anne his Daughter ..	002	00	00
1680.—Mary Dunbavand, At her Death ..	002	00	00
1681.—Susanna Patten, At her Death ..	020	00	00
1681.—Nathan Donbavand, Esq., At his Death ..	010	00	00
1681.—John Chorley, At the Death of his Daughter Anne ..	001	00	00
1682.—John Earle, At the Death of Kathrine his Daughter ..	002	00	00
1682.—Hamblet Yate, At the Death of Addam his Sonne ..	002	00	00
1682.—Thomas Harrops, At the Death of Ellin his wife ..	001	00	00
1683.—Henry Blackledge, At his Death gave ..	010	10	00
1693.—Samuell Yates, At his Death ..	005	00	00
1684.—Walter Barron, At his Death gave ..	005	00	00
The remainder of an old stocke is ..	013	19	00
1684.—Robert Birley, In his life time gave ..	010	00	00
1685.—John Golborne, At the death of Elizabeth his wife ..	005	00	00
1685.—Dorothy Yates, At her Death ..	005	00	00
1685.—Peeres Legh, Esq., of Bruch, at his Death ..	100	00	00
1685.—Richard Legh, Esq., of Lime, at his Death gave ..	020	00	00
1687.—Elizabeth Morris, At her Death ..	005	00	00
1687.—Robert Hack, At his Death gave ..	005	00	00
Arthur Borron, At his Death gave 2 Tenements in Bedford [†] in Lease for 2 lives and the inheritance of them for ever.			

* There is a local token of his in the Warrington Museum.

† Called " Westleigh lands " elsewhere.

NOTE B.

John Earle was an opulent "Maulster" in Warrington, and a direct ancestor of the present Sir Hardman Earle, Bart. His son, Alderman Earle, as Mayor of Liverpool, took an active interest in founding the Blue Coat Hospital in that town. (*Vide Mr. Hughes' Papers in Transactions*, vols. xi and ii and iv, N. S.)

The Patten family have taken a warm and active interest in the management of the Charity for nearly two hundred years. The following members of this family have been Trustees:—

- I. William Patten, of Patten Lane, was appointed a Trustee in 1681, and was Treasurer from 1692 to 1701.
- II. Thomas Patten, of Bank, was appointed a Trustee in 1701. Baines, in his *History of Liverpool*, refers to this gentleman in the following extract:—

The Mersey was not naturally navigable for more than fifteen, or twenty miles above Liverpool. The consequence of this was, that goods sent to Manchester, or other places in the interior, had to be forwarded either on the backs of horses in small parcels, or by slow waggons or carts, in either case at a great cost. The first improvement in the Mersey was effected by Mr. Thomas Patten, of Bank Hall, Warrington, about the year 1694, by which the river was made navigable from Runcorn to Warrington. (See *Norris Papers*, 38.) The following extract of a letter from Mr. Patten, will shew how goods were sent forward into the interior from Warrington, in the year 1701. He says, "I have received an answer from Mr. John Hall, of Stockport, relating to the carriage of tobacco that way to Hull, which he says is not to be done in the hogshead, or by cart or waggon, but in packs by horses, and although this seems no good method, yet in regard of the slow conveyance hitherto I am resolved to make a trial of it, and would have forthwith twenty or thirty hogsheads sent from Bank-kay to Stockport by cart, where he is to break them into three or four parcels, and after putting them in canvas, to load three parcels upon a horse, and the distance thence to Doncaster (whence they pass to Hull by water) being only thirty-six miles, I presume we may, by employing a great many horses, make a good riddance."

III. Robert Patten was appointed a Trustee in 1738.

IV. Thomas Patten, Junior, son of No. II, was appointed a Trustee in 1764. He served the office of High Sheriff of Lancashire in the year 1773, and of Cheshire in 1775.

V. Robert Patten, Junior, son of No. III, was a Trustee in 1764.

VI. Reverend Dr. Patten, was a Trustee in 1783. He was a friend of Dr. Johnson, and resided some years in Warrington. In a letter from the latter to Dr. Thomas Wilson, of Clitheroe, prefixed to the latter's *Archæological Dictionary*, and dated Dec. 31st, 1782, he writes as follows: "As I suppose myself to owe part of your kindness to my excellent friend Dr. Patten, he has likewise a just claim to my acknowledgments, which I hope, Sir, you will transmit." Dr. Patten also held the Rectory of Childrey in Berkshire, where he inscribed the names of the Rectors of Warrington on one of the windows. He died in 1790, and was buried at Warrington in the Patten Chapel.*

VII. Peter Patten, afterwards Peter Patten Bold, was appointed a Trustee in 1783. He was M.P. for Lancaster, and afterwards for Malmesbury. He was son of No. IV, and took the name of Bold from having inherited the estates of that "great, ancient, and respectable family."

VIII. Thomas Patten Wilson, M.P., was appointed a Trustee in 1801. He took the name of Wilson from having inherited the estates of his relative the Reverend Dr. Wilson, Prebendary of Westminster, son of "good Bishop Wilson."

IX. The Right Honourable John Wilson-Patten, M.P. for North Lancashire, son of the above, was appointed a Trustee in 1832, and is at present one of the warmest and best friends of the Charity.

* Dr. Kendrick's *Warrington Worthies*, with MS. additions.

The Blackburne family have given substantial support to the charity for more than one hundred and sixty years. The following members of this family have been Trustees :—

- I. Jonathan Blackburne, of Orford, was appointed a Trustee in 1709. He served the office of High Sheriff in 1715.
- II. John Blackburne,* of Orford, son of No. I, was appointed a Trustee in 1720. He was High Sheriff for the county in 1743. Mr. Beaumont has had the following inscription placed on the pedestal of an obelisk which stands at the end of Orford avenue :—

IN HONOUR
OF
JOHN BLACKBURNE, ESQUIRE,
WHO DIED AT ORFORD HALL,
20TH DEC., 1786,
AGED 93.
A BENEFACTOR OF ORFORD, A GREAT BOTANIST,
AND A CHRISTIAN GENTLEMAN,
WHO LOOKED THROUGH NATURE UP TO NATURE'S GOD.

- III. Thomas Blackburne, son of No. II, was appointed a Trustee in 1764. He was High Sheriff in 1763.
- IV. John Blackburne, of Orford and Hale, son of No. III, was appointed a Trustee in 1783. He was Knight of the Shire for the county of Lancaster thirty-three years, and served the office of High Sheriff in the year 1781.
- V. Thomas Blackburne, D.D., of Thelwall, son of No. III and brother of No. IV, was appointed a Trustee in 1783. Dr. Blackburne married Margaret, daughter of Sir Richard Brooke, of Norton. In 1800 he was made Warden of the Collegiate Church, Manchester, which he held to the time of his death in 1823. The following character of him appeared in *Wheeler's Chronicle* at the time :—“ He was a gentleman of obliging manners, and of ready access to all persons. He had a very impressive manner of reading the prayers, in which he was aided by a most powerful voice. His discourses from the pulpit were universally allowed to be excellent, both for the soundness of their doctrine and the true Christian morality they inculcated. He was in the 67th year of his age, and he died not less respected than lamented.”†
- VI. Isaac Blackburne, son of No. III and brother to IV and V, was appointed a Trustee in 1801.
- VII. John Ireland Blackburne, son of No. IV, and born at Orford Hall, was appointed a Trustee in 1832. He represented Warrington in Parliament from 1837 to 1847, and is at present one of the two senior Trustees.
- VIII. John Ireland Blackburne, junior, son of the above, was appointed a Trustee in 1850, and is one of the present Board.

Thomas Heywood, a Trustee in 1681, was a solicitor in Warrington. His son Thomas was Curate of Sankey Chapel and Master of the Warrington Grammar School.

The Rectors of Warrington have been Trustees for the past one hundred and fifty years. The following names occur in the School records :—

- I. Rev. Thomas Egerton ‡ was a Trustee in 1721.

* *Vide* Memoir of him in the *Gentleman's Magazine* for 1789.

† Dr. Kendrick's *Warrington Worthies*, with MS. additions.

‡ Rev. Samuel Shaw, Mr. Egerton's predecessor, left a legacy of £10 to the Charity.

II. Rev. John Haddon was a Trustee in 1738.

III. Rev. Edward Owen was appointed a Trustee in 1783. He was for forty years Rector of Warrington, and for fifty years Head-master of the Grammar School. He was the author of "a Latin Grammar and "Vocabulary;" "Translations of the Satires of Juvenal, Persius, and "Statius," and several printed Sermons, and amongst them a volume which goes under the name of his predecessor—"Farrington's" Sermons," but which it is understood that he wrote. Gilbert Wakefield, in his "Personal Memoirs," says—"For propriety, perspicuity, and elegance of "expression, Mr. Owen had not many equals, at a time when good "writing is become so general." He died at Warrington in April, 1807.†

IV. The Hon. and Right Rev. Horace Powys, D.D., Bishop of Sodor and Man, was appointed a Trustee in 1832, as Rector of Warrington for the time being.

V. The Rev. W. Quekett was appointed a Trustee in 1854, as Rector of Warrington for the time being.

The following Ministers of Trinity Chapel have been Trustees of the Charity:—

I. Rev. John Worsley was appointed a Trustee in 1720. He married Miss Dorcas Patten.

II. Rev. James Sugden was appointed a Trustee in 1738.

III. The Rev. James Stones was appointed a Trustee in 1783.

IV. Rev. Thomas Borrowdale was appointed a Trustee in 1801.

John Watkins was appointed a Trustee in 1764. "Honest John Watkins," as he was usually styled, was for many years engaged in the business of smelting copper from the ore at Bank Quay, Warrington. The Chapel attached to the School was built out of funds bequeathed by him. He also, by deed, during his life-time, conveyed the reversion of an estate at Sankey, which now yields £200 per annum to the funds of the Charity. Besides this he made the Trustees the residuary legatees under his will.

There is a very agreeable full-length portrait of Mr. Watkins, as a young man, in the entrance-hall of the Blue School, presented in 1847 to the Institution by Mrs. Smith, of Swansea, who was a connection of Mr. Watkins. The following inscription is upon it:—

JOHN WATKINS, ESQ.,
BORN A.D. 1740. DIED A.D. 1821.
HE WAS THE SENIOR TRUSTEE OF THIS INSTITUTION
AT THE TIME OF HIS DEATH,
AND A MOST MUNIFICENT BENEFACTOR TO IT.

Richard Waterson. There is this epitaph on this gentleman in the Warrington Parish Churchyard:—

"November ye 3rd, 1724, was interred Richard Waterson, aged 59, who gave the interest "of fifteen pounds for a sermon at Trinity Chapel, on the 9th April yearly."—This person, it is said, founded a charity school for 26 boys (not the Blue School), in Warrington, with money which he had procured by showing a dancing horse to the people in various parts of the country. This kind of show, which Shakspeare had mentioned a little earlier in *Love's Labour Lost*, where Moth tells Armado that the dancing horse would teach him how to study three years in two words, seems to have been in fashion in that day, for Newcome in his autobiography (i., 82), under February 2, 1658, says—"There was a horse "in the town of Manchester which was taught to do strange things for such a creature "to do;" and Banks, the exhibitor of the learned horse, is figured in Fairholt's *Costume in England*, fo. 269. He and his horse were taken up and burnt in Italy as sorcerers, about the year 1595. Banks's wonderful horse is alluded to in *Notes and Queries*, July 4, 1837, p. 19.—*Local Notes and Queries, in Warrington Guardian.*

* Mr. Farrington was appointed Rector of Warrington in 1767, and died the same year.

† Dr. Kendrick's *Warrington Worthies*, with MS. additions.

The Lyon family have been warmly attached to the Institution for more than one hundred and thirty years. The following members of this family have been Trustees:—

- I. Matthew Lyon was a Trustee in 1738, and continued to be one till the time of his death in 1782.
- II. Thomas Lyon, brother of No. I, was appointed a Trustee in 1738.
- III. Matthew Lyon, junior, was a Trustee in 1764.
- IV. John Lyon, junior, was appointed a Trustee in 1764.
- V. Thomas Lyon, eldest son of No. I, was appointed a Trustee in 1783. He was a magistrate for the counties of Chester and Lancaster and Lieut.-Colonel of the Warrington Volunteers. He was for above thirty years an active Trustee, and filled the office of Treasurer. While in that position he presented to the charity the sum of £622. He died in 1818.
- VI. Thomas Lyon, nephew of No. V, was appointed a Trustee in 1832. He was the son of the Rev. James Lyon, who was Rector of Prestwich for upwards of fifty years. His mother was a Miss Radcliffe, a descendant of the Radcliffes of Ordsal and Radcliffe Tower in Lancashire. He was educated by the Rev. Dr. Donne of Oswestry. Soon after leaving school he came to Warrington, to reside with his uncle, who adopted him as the sole heir to his large property and estates. He held the commission of Colonel in the Warrington volunteers, and was a Justice of the Peace for the counties of Lancashire and Cheshire. He died in the year 1859. Mr. Lyon's son, Thomas Henry, who served the office of High Sheriff of Cheshire for the year 1866-67, is a member of the present board.

The following Rectors of Winwick have been Trustees:—

- I. Rev. Geoffrey Hornby was appointed a Trustee in 1783.

Mr. Hornby was presented to the Rectory of Winwick by Edward, twelfth Earl of Derby, on 7th June, 1781, after the death of Dr. John Stanley. Mr. Hornby has a monumental tablet against the west end of the north aisle of Winwick Church. He died in 1812. In early life he is said to have been in the royal navy, and his curate, the Rev. Giles Chippendall, who lost an arm in the service, is said to have served with him on board the same ship. He married the Honourable Lucy Stanley, the sister of his noble patron, and had by her a family of seven sons and six daughters, all of whom lived to be men and women, and to fill useful and important stations—(1) Edmund, the eldest son, settled at Dalton, and served the office of High Sheriff of Lancashire; (2) James John succeeded him as Rector of Winwick; (3) Phipps, who entered the navy and obtained distinction in the battle of Lissa, was knighted, and became an admiral and one of the Lords of the Admiralty; (4) Geoffrey, who became Rector of Bury; (5) Charles, who was a captain in the Guards; (6) Edward Thomas Stanley took holy orders, and became a Fellow of Oriol College, Oxford, and was author of the beautiful poem of "Childhood;" (7) George, who took orders and became a Fellow of Brasenose College, Oxford, and is still living at Naples; (8) a daughter, who married her cousin, Edward, 13th Earl of Derby; (9) another daughter, who married the Rev. Mr. Champneys; (10) Georgiana, who, after a long life spent in works of piety and active benevolence, died unmarried, and was buried at Winwick; (11) Henrietta, who died at Winwick, also unmarried; (12) Frances, who is still living; (13) Louisa, who is the authoress of Bible Stories, Universal Reform, The Full Loom, The Empty Loom, and many other works which will make her name remembered, and who is, happily, still living at Winwick.—*Local Notes and Queries, in Warrington Guardian.*

- II. Rev. James John Hornby, son of the above, was appointed a Trustee in 1835.

- III. Rev. Canon Hopwood was appointed a Trustee in 1856, and is at present a member of the Board.

Rev. Johnson Grant was appointed a Trustee in 1804. He was a learned divine and an eloquent preacher, who was first curate of the parish church of Warrington, and afterwards incumbent of St. James', Latchford. He was an active and early promoter of Sunday schools, and the author of various works, particularly, *A History of the Church*. He died at Kentish Town, near London,

of which place he was minister, about the year 1847. At the time of his death, and many years previously, he was rector of Binbrook in Lincolnshire.*

Dr. Enfield was born at Sudbury in Suffolk, in 1741. In 1763, on the death of Mr. Seddon, he became a tutor in the Warrington Academy, and minister of the Unitarian congregation. He was author of the well-known *Speaker*, which bears his name, the *History of Liverpool*, and some volumes of *Sermons*.

Richard Gwyllym was appointed a Trustee in 1801. He served the office of High Sheriff in 1796. The following is a copy of the inscription on his Mortuary Tablet in the Warrington Parish Church:—

This Monument
is erected by the Friends of the late
RICHARD GWYLLYM, OF BEWSEY, ESQUIRE,
at once to commemorate the value of his character,
and to record their deep sense of the loss,
which, in common with his family,
and with the Publick,
they have sustained by his Death.
He was the son of Robert Gwyllym, of Langston,
in the County of Hereford, Esquire.
And of ELIZABETH, his wife, daughter of Richard Aldersey,
of Liverpool, Esquire.
In that awful season of Difficulty and Danger
when England was threatened by foes,
both foreign and domestic,
with active and filial fidelity,
he served her both by his Head and Hand,
ably filling both a distinguished place
in the civil and military commissions of his native country.
As a Magistrate diligent and inflexible,
the firmness of his character was tempered by Humanity,
and his Affections regulated by Justice.
As a private man
he was generous, frank, and benevolent,
abounding in all the charities of social life,
and united with those who were nearest to his heart
by every endearment of Tenderness and Love.
In religious Profession,
as he was steadfast in the faith,
so he revered the Forms and Establishment
of the Church of England.
In Political Principle,
he upheld the Constitutional Prerogatives
of the British Crown.
On these settled Convictions he formed his life;
by the zealous maintenance of his Country's Laws
and practical exercise of her Religion,
exhibiting the consistent character
of an English Gentleman.
His perishable remains
are interred in the Burial Ground of the British Factory
at Leghorn,
the nearest Protestant Cemetery to the Baths of Lucca,
whither he had been drawn
by the calls of domestic affection,
and where he died after a short illness,
July xviii, Anno Domini mdcccxviii,
in the li year of his age.
His spirit is with the Spirit of the Just;
His Memory and his Example are with us.

Mr. Nicholson died in the year 1851, having practised the profession of the law in his native town, with eminent ability and success, for nearly half a century, and during nearly the whole of which time he had acted as legal adviser of this Charity. In this position he was succeeded by his son Mr. James Nicholson, the present Law Clerk to the Trustees, and one of the best friends of the Institution.

* Dr. Kendrick's *Warrington Worthies*, with MS. additions.

John Brandwood was Postmaster of Warrington and uncle to Miss Flinn (now Mrs. Farmer), a lady to whom the charitable institutions of Warrington for many years were very greatly indebted.

John Webster, son of the first Master, was appointed Organist of the School Chapel, at the age of twelve, which position he filled at intervals for the long period of sixty years. At the time of his death he was a member of the Town Council, Vice-Chairman of the Board of Guardians, and a Manager of the Savings' Bank, Dispensary, Church Institute and National School. Mr. S. M. Webster, of Bridge Street, is his only surviving son.

NOTE C.

The scholars of the free school at Bromfield in Cumberland assumed a right from old use and went to *bar out the master*, and keep him out for three days. During the period of this expulsion, the doors were strongly barricaded within, and the boys who defended it like a besieged city were armed in general with guns made of the hollow twigs of the elder or bore tree. The master meanwhile made various efforts by force and stratagem to regain his lost authority. If he succeeded, heavy tasks were imposed, and the business of the school was resumed and submitted to; but it more commonly happened that all his efforts were unavailing. In this case, after three days' siege, terms of capitulation were proposed by the master, and accepted by the boys. The terms always included permission to enjoy a full allowance of Shrovetide sports.—*Hutchinson's History of Cumberland.*

NOTE D.

In days not very long gone by, the inhuman sport of *throwing at cocks* was practised at Shrovetide; and nowhere was it more certain to be seen than at the Grammar Schools. The poor animal was tied to a stake by a short cord, and the unthinking men and boys who were to throw at it took their station at the distance of about twenty yards. Where the cock belonged to some one disposed to make a matter of business, twopence was paid for three "shies" at it—the missile used being a broomstick. The sport was continued till the poor creature was killed outright by the blows. Such tumult and outrage attended this inhuman sport a century ago, that, according to a writer in the *Gentleman's Magazine*, it was sometimes dangerous to be near the place where it was being practised.—*The Book of Days.*

In the Middle School at Manchester the master provided the cocks, for which he was liberally paid, and which were to be buried up to their necks to be "shied" at by the boys on Shrove Tuesday, and at the feast of St. Nicholas, as at Wyke, near Ashford.—Mr. R. W. Blencowe, in the *Sussex Archaeological Collections.*

NOTE E.] THE NAMES, &c., OF THE FIRST THIRTY PUPILS IN THE PRESENT BUILDING.

Extracted from the *School Register*. (1782.)

Children's Names.	When Born or Baptized.	Time of going out.	Trade.	To whom Bound.
James Morris . . .	Born Dec. 25, 1768	Sept. 29, 1783	Grocer	Mr. Leigh.
Thomas Unsworth . . .	April 1, 1769	Sept. 30, 1782	Printer	Mr. Wm. Eyres.
William Hartley . . .	Aug. 18, 1769	April 1, 1784		
William Unsworth . . .	April 19, 1770	May 19, 1784	Cotton Weaver	Mr. Naylor, of Bolton.
John Robinson . . .	Jan. 30, 1773	Feb. 1, 1787	Printer	Mr. Wm. Eyres.
John Dumbobin . . .	July 18, 1771	June 1, 1786	Plumber and Glazier	Mr. Oliver Ormerod, of Manchester.
<i>Wm. Richardson</i> . . .	Baptized July 3, 1774	Sept. 6, 1788	Verge Maker	Mr. Matw. Hobby, of Liverpool.
Moses Brown . . .	Oct. 3, 1773	Sept. 29, 1787	Tailor	Mr. Henry Southward.
John Forster . . .	Mar. 3, 1773	April 9, 1787	Watch Motion Maker	Mr. Jones, of Prescot.
Halsal Parker . . .	Jan. 3, 1773	April 9, 1787	Writer	Mr. Kerfoot.
Joseph Bate . . .	Baptized May 1, 1774	April 14, 1788	Sailor	Capt. Simon Marks, of Liverpool.
John Wilson . . .	Mar. 1, 1772	May 22, 1786	Ship Chandler	Mr. Moss, of Liverpool.
Joseph Barber . . .	Dec. 11, 1774	Oct. 27, 1788	Printer	Mr. Wm. Eyres.
John Hatch . . .	July 7, 1771	Sept. 29, 1786	Soap Boiler and Tallow Chandler	Mr. Watt.
William Ross . . .	July 10, 1774	Oct. 20, 1788	Sail Cloth Weaver	Mr. Jona. Jackson.
Thomas Higginson . . .	Aug. 14, 1774	Feb. 14, 1789	Watch Motion Maker	Mr. Thomas Jones, of Prescot.
Richard Mee . . .	April 25, 1773	Aug. 24, 1787	Tailor	Capt. Geo. Brown, of Liverpool.
Ralph Bailey . . .	Oct. 30, 1772	Jan. 2, 1787	Cotton Weaver	Mr. Green.
William Maure . . .	April 10, 1774	Aug. 11, 1788	Joiner	Mr. James Leyland.
Robert Jackson . . .	Jan. 21, 1774	Mar. 3, 1788	Plumber and Glazier	Mr. White.
Isaac Clayton . . .	Mar. 18, 1772	June 14, 1786	Sail Cloth Weaver	Mr. John Howard.
William Crank . . .	Baptized Oct. 4, 1771	Jan. 2, 1786	Grocer	Mr. Sherlock.
Thomas Buckley . . .	Jan. 17, 1773	Sept. 1, 1787	Tailor	Mr. Samuel Fisher.
Robert Taylor . . .	Jan. 2, 1774	May 1, 1788	Husbandry	Mr. Cartwright, of Burton Wood.
Mary Taylor . . .	Nov. 24, 1771	Jan. 1, 1785	Housewivry	Mr. and Mrs. Watkins.
Margaret Thomason . . .	1773	Nov. 1, 1785	Do.	Mr. and Mrs. Dainith.
Margaret Massey . . .	1773	Aug. 1, 1787	Do.	Mr. and Mrs. Watkins.
Margaret Crawford . . .	1774	Aug. 1, 1787	Do.	Mr. and Mrs. Dannett.
Margaret Fairhurst . . .	1774	Mar. 4, 1788	Upholsterer	Mrs. Ann Rowlinson.
Mary Tomlinson . . .	1774	May 1, 1788	Housewivry	Mr. J. Boardman.

NOTE F.

Annual Subscriptions in 1791	£148 19 0
“ Neat proceeds arising from a Oratorio ” in 1791	£55 11 10
Church Collections in 1789—	
Old Church.....	£19 1 10
Trinity Chapel	£12 12 9
St. James' Chapel	£12 15 7
	} £44 10 2
Profit by Weaving in 1796	£4 18 0

July 4, 1791.

Music.

For the Benefit of the
Charity School
In Warrington.

On Thursday, the 4th day of August next,
In the Parish Church,
Will be Performed the
Oratorio

Of Judas Maccabeus,

Under the Direction of Mr. Meredith.

Vocal Performers.

Mrs. Shepley,
Mrs. Sutcliffe,
Mr. Hatton,
Mr. Holden,
Mr. Heywood,
Messrs. Crimes,
Mr. Jackson,
Mr. Dignum, from the
Theatre, Liverpool.

Instrumental Performers.

The principal Violin by
Mr. Wilton, from Liverpool,
Mr. Atherton,
Messrs. Entwisle,
Mr. Blennerhassett.
Mr. Crawthorne,
Mr. Reed,
Mr. Humphreys,
Mr. Crery.

The principal Performers in Liverpool, Manchester, and the neighbourhood
are engaged.

The Chorusses will be remarkably full.

Tickets for the Galleries, Five Shillings.—Body of the Church, Half a Crown.—
Chancel, One Shilling.

May be had of Mr. Eyres and Miss Bancks, Stationers, or of Mr. Arrowsmith,
the Parish Clerk, near the Church; where may be had Books of the
Oratorio, at Sixpence each.

Doors to be open at Ten and to begin at Eleven o'clock exactly.

In the Evening there will be
An Undressed Ball, in the Assembly Room.
A Cold Collation, and Catches and Gleees.

Blue Coat Charity School in Warrington.

On Sunday, the Eighteenth of October, 1789, in the Afternoon,
A Charity Sermon

Will be preached at the OLD CHURCH, by the Rev. Mr. OWEN, Rector;

On Sunday following, in the Afternoon,

At TRINITY CHAPEL, by the Rev. Mr. SAUL;

And on Sunday, the First of November, in the Afternoon,

At ST. JAMES'S CHAPEL, Latchford, by the Rev. Mr. GLAZEBROOK;

When Collections will be made

For the Benefit of the above Charity School.

NOTE G.

Trustees appointed under the Act of Parliament obtained in 1832. The names in *italics* indicate members of the present board:—

The Right Honourable Thomas Lord Lilford, Baron Lilford of Lilford, in the county of Northampton; Henry Bold Hoghton, of Bold Hall, in the county of Lancaster, Esq.; Thomas Legh, of Lyme, in the county of Chester, Esq.; *John Ireland Blackburne*, of Eaton Bank, near Tarporley, in the said county of Chester, Esq.; *John Wilson Patten*, of Bank Hall, within Warrington, in the said County of Lancaster, Esq.; Thomas Lyon, of Appleton Hall, in the said county of Chester, Esq.; Thomas Ellames Withington, of Culcheth Hall, in the said county of Lancaster, Esq.; George Bover, of Stockton Lodge, within Appleton, in the said county of Chester, Esq.; Thomas Parr, of Grappenhall Heyes, in the said county, Esq.; Samuel Grimshaw, the younger, of Millbank, within Partington, in the said county, Esq.; John Hodson Kearsley, of Hindley, in the said county of Lancaster, Esq.; the Rev. James John Hornby, Clerk, Rector of Winwick, in the said county; the Rev. Peter Legh, of Newton-within-Mackerfield, in the said county, Clerk; The Rev. William Fox, of Ollerton, in the said county of Chester, Clerk; James Kendrick, of Warrington aforesaid, Doctor of Medicine; Arthur Borron, of Little Woolden, in the said county of Lancaster, Esq.; James Stanton, the younger, of Thelwall, in the said county of Chester, Esq.; Thomas Greenall, of Wilderspool, within Appleton aforesaid, Brewer; John Greenall, of Middleton, in the said county of Lancaster, Banker; John Clare, of Fairfield, within Warrington aforesaid, Merchant; Thomas Lee, of Latchford, in the said county of Chester, Maltster *; William Kidd, of Widnes, in the said county of Lancaster, Sail-cloth Manufacturer †; John Litton, of Warrington aforesaid, Corn Merchant; and Edward Gaskell, of Warrington aforesaid, Sail-cloth Manufacturer.†

* A traveller, in 1720, writes, "This town (Warrington) is famous for malt, which is here brought to as great perfection as at Derby, or elsewhere, and the ale brewed from Warrington malt is not inferior to the most noted ales in England."

† From a work called *Six Months' Tour through the North of England*, published by Arthur Young, Esq., in 1769, page 163, vol. iii. From Wigan to Warrington land from £15 to £3 10s., and farms from £15 to £100 a-year. At Warrington the manufacture of sail-cloth and sacking are very considerable. The first is spun by women and girls, who earn about 2d a day; it is then bleached, which is done by men, who earn 10s. a week. After bleaching, it is wound by women, whose earnings are 2s. 6d. a week. Next it is warped by men, who earn 7s. a week; and then starched, the earnings 10s. 6d. a week. The last operation is the weaving, in which the men earn 9s., the women 5s., and boys 3s. 6d. a week. The spinners in the sacking branch earn 6s. a week (women); then it is wound on bobbins by women and children, whose earnings are 4d. a day; then the starchers take it—they earn 6s. a week; after which it is wove by men, at 9s. a week. The sailcloth employs about three hundred weavers, and the sacking a hundred and fifty, and they reckon twenty spinners and two or three other hands to every weaver. During the war the sailcloth branch was very brisk; grew a little faint upon the peace, but is now, and has been for some time, pretty well recovered, though not to be so good as in the war. The sacking manufacture was also better in the war, but is always brisk. The spinners never stand still for want of work; they always have it if they please. But weavers sometimes are idle for want of yarn, which, considering the number of poor within reach (the spinners of the sacking live chiefly in Cheshire), is melancholy to think of.—*Local Notes and Queries, in Warrington Guardian.*