Vol Is ha I Avian 83

Archine Mourholme Magazine of Local History

MOURHOLME LOCAL HISTORY CONTENT

VOLI -NOI

THE MOURHOLME MAGAZINE

OF LOCAL HISTORY

VOL II, No 1	Price 30p	Autumn	1983
	Contents		
			Page
Morecambe Bay and S Associations (Pa		Literary	
		J. D. Marshall	1
Warton Crag Mines (Part I) Robert Ashmead	and David Peter	5
The Castles of the	Remontr of Venda	1	
The dastles of the	barony or Kenda	Desmond Holmes	10
Documents			
Charge to the Ju	ry, Silverdale	Manor Court	13
Diary of John Er Contractor (a		th, Building	16
Notes and Queries			
Silverdale 'Gate	Names		18
Centre Insert			
Announcements Coming Events			
	* * *		



J. D. Marshall

The old Ward Lock Guides to towns and regions of England were in the habit of remarking upon 'Literary Associations', and upon authors of note who had written about the districts concerned. Should these things concern a serious local historian? It is true that far too much of our time is spent in frent of a flickering screen, which trains us in mental rubber-necking which does not, at the same time, involve us in any real effort. We are too accustomed to the 'coh-think-of-that' kind of appeal, to the satisfaction of idle curiosity. To what extent, then does it matter that famous people have trodden our lanes and looked at our magnificent scenery and - perhaps - written about it?

I think (with some reservations) that it does matter. A good and vivid writer will tell us things about our own historic landscape that we might not appreciate, or that we might not have noticed. Sometimes such a writer's descriptions have real documentary value, and, at the very worst, a rather unfashionable or stilted author will at least tell us something about the attitudes and values of his or her own age.

The Mourholme Society's territory is exceptionally blessed in that it has had some literary attentions from remarkable people. In at least one case, the writer's observations were not meant to be published, but appear in private letters. Meny readers will know that Mrs Elizabeth Gaskell, one of the most famous 'social novelists' of Victorian England, was in the habit of taking holidays at Gibraltar Tower, Lindeth, in the 1850s, and, fortunately for us, she wrote about it at fair length. Her Letters were published in 1966, edited by Chapple and Pollard, and they contain numerous insights into local life. The difficulties of getting supplies of provisions are mentioned in June 1858, and

Mrs Gaskell wrote:

Silverdale is so wild a place we may be happy to get a leg of mutton at all. I have had to dine 15 people, as hungry as hounds, on shrimps and bread and butter—and when they asked for more to tell them that there was no bread nearer than Milnthorpe 6 miles off, and they had to come down to catcake and be thankful.

Mrs Gaskell, in the original letter, even gives us the their pronunciation of Milnthorpe ('Milthrop'), and, for the rest, we are sharply reminded that carrier's carts were apt to be slow or non-existent, and that a Victorian family could face real privation in taking a holiday.

The habit of fairly well-to-do Victorian families was to rent houses for holiday purposes, and to stay away from home for up to a month. Hence, in an undated letter (c1850), Mrs Gaskell writes about 'our annual migration to the sea-side', and, during a longish stay, one could acquire numerous guests. Mrs Gaskell added: 'And we are keeping holiday in (the) most rural farmhouse lodgings, so that our children learn country interests. and ways of living and thinking.' In 1852, she was at the Lindeth lodging again, and she remarked: 'We may have the tower-house at any time, but there it was so close'. (Here, then, is solid evidence - she did stay in this edifice, as the story goes, but historians are often right to distrust literary folk, and there is considerable tension and suspicion between the two interests! The history of the Lake District is bedevilled by scribblers who repeat each other's stories. but let that pass). Nor was the closeness, or fug, in the Tower the only problem; letters tended to get lost in the country lanes, and the place swarmed with poultry, and, no doubt, their characteristic scents. But Mrs Gaskell helped in the tasks of the adjoining farm as well as entertaining guests. She also used Silverdale as a base for visiting eminent friends in the Lake District, and travelled to Kendal, and then to Windermere to meet, among other people, Mrs Wordsworth and the widow of Dr Arnold at Fox How near Rydal.

She was again at Silverdale in the August of 1855, and seems to have been in and out of the place from July to early September. She was excitedly collecting material for her famous <u>Life of Charlotte Bronte</u>. Three years later, she explained why the Morecambe Bay scenery so entranced her (in a letter of 25 July 1858):

I think - and it is pleasant to think - that one is never disappointed in coming back to Silverdale. The secret is I think in the expanse of view - something like what gives its charm to the Campagne - such wide plains of golden sands with purple hill shadows - or fainter wandering f lmy cloud-shadows, & the great dome of sky - (We have not sate up all night on our tower this time, partly because there have been no tranquil nights...)

S, we know what the Gaskell family did as a special treat when the weather was suitable. They sat on the top of the famous tower, doubtless watching the moonlight spraying across the damp s ds when the moon was in the right quarter, and, perhaps, watching the sunset in the evenings, and feeling the impact of the dawn to landward in the early morning. And here is a comment on the changes of over a century. The country-side really was quiet in those days, and one could find blessed peace and solitude. This passage could have been quoted to the irresponsible and insensitive people who wish to dam up the Bay and to turn it into a still pond for motor boats.

Let Mrs Gaskell make a few more comments. It should be mentioned that she visited Peulton (Morecambe), Grange, Seascale and other places in the area. But she and her family were still visiting Silverdale in the summer of 1861, and their connection with Morecambe Bay plainly lasted for over a decade. Their descent on Lindeth, which commenced in the July of that year, had its disadvantages. The post was not only dreadfully slow: the postman rode a pony 'almost as old as himself to Lancaster every morning to fetch the letters; delivers them to Yealand; walks here; gets thirsty on the road; drops his letters, or forgets in which of his

various pockets he has put them...' The family, it appeared, were starved of reading matter, and our local resorts had a long way to travel before they became more than 'adventure playgrounds' of a testing kind.

Elizabeth Gaskell died suddenly in November 1865.

Many members of the Mourholme Society will have read her

Mary Barton, or North and South, or Cranford (a description of her home town of Knutsford, and the most
delightful of all). Her home at 84, Plymouth Grove,
Manchester, is safely in the hands of that city's university, and may well become a museum dedicated to her.
When we visit it, we shall also remember that she forsook it sometimes to visit our own lanes.

* * *

Editor's Note: This is the first of three articles on Literary Associations which Dr Marshall has prepared for the MMLH. The others will appear later this year.

WARTON CRAG MINES (PART I)

Robert Ashmead and David Peter

Origin of Mineral Deposits

Much of North Lancashire and South Cumbria, including the Warton, Silverdale, and Arnside area, is overlaid with a thick deposit of carboniferous limestone. In these limestone beds there is a variety of mineral deposits, most of which have been explored and many worked over a long period of time. They include, in so far as this district is concerned, particularly iron and copper, neither of which however is present in any great quantity.

There are two main schools of thought as to the origin of these minerals. On the one hand it is suggested that they were derived from a thick deposit of New Red Sandstone, quite rich in iron, etc., which once covered the limestone, but which has been largely worn away. Some of the mineral matter, leeched out by water, has accumulated in the cracks and cavities in the underlying limestone. Others however believe that magma, or hot water and gases, with mineral matter in suspension or solution, and welling up from great depths, filled the faults and fractures in the limestone. One or other or possibly both these processes have produced the ores which are now found in irregular masses, veins, pipes, or flats, even though in limited quantities, throughout this area.

Minerals to be Found Here

The main mineral found in this district is iron.

This takes many forms, the two chief being

Haematite - Ferric Oxide (Fe₂O₃). This varies from red, earthy powder to a dark compact, shiny mineral. It contains 70% metallic iron.

Limonite. An iron ore with water. It is in fact natural rust. It is soft and earthy and contains 48-60% iron.

Other forms of iron to be found hereabouts are

Siderite - Ferrous Carbonate (Fe CO₃). It is usually
brown in colour. Its iron content is low (45%).

Pyrites/Marcasite (Fe S₂). 'Fool's Gold', 54% sulphur, 46% iron.

The next most common mineral to be found here is copper. It occurs in close association with iron. The chief forms are

Malachite (Green, 57% copper) and Azurite (Blue, 55% copper). Carbonates of copper usually found together.

Cuprite - Copper Oxide (Cu₂O). It is reddish brown. Formed by the weathering of other ores, it is usually found near to the surface.

Other minerals found locally are

<u>Manganese Oxide</u>. Used to toughen steel.

<u>Pyrolusite</u> - Manganese de-oxide (Mn O₂).

Non-metallic deposits include

<u>Calcite</u> (Ca CO₃). The most common of the carbonate minerals.

Aragonite (Ca CO₃). Harder than calcite, e.g. mother of pearl lining of sea shells.

Dolomite. Similar in crystal form to calcite but harder.

Gypsum. Used for Plaster of Paris, plaster board, etc. Quartz (Si O₂). One of the most common minerals. It comprises 12% of the earth's surface and is a constituent of many rocks.

The Chief Mines on Warton Crag

They are located particularly in the Crag Foot area, where minerals were recovered in three main places:

1. Lower Mine (South Level)

This lies closely behind the cottages adjoining the old chimney at Crag Foot. From this point there was an extensive interconnecting network of workings. The main shaft (Laycock's Shaft) is blocked. The adit is 400 ft. long and runs northwest.

2. Higher Mine (North Level).

Sited $\frac{1}{2}$ mile E.N.E. of the Lower Mine, in Grisedale Wood, the remains of an extensive series of workings are still to be seen here. Most are now inaccessible. The main shaft was Gillow Shaft.

These two areas were first worked in the 18th century for copper. The mining here can be linked with the bell pits and adits, still identifiable on Heald Brow, on the opposite side of the valley. The copper extracted from all these sites was smelted at the works at Jenny Brown's Point. This lasted for barely ten years, however, and the buildings, except for the chimney which still stands, were demolished in 1802.

The search for copper was inspired by the need to produce bronze, a mixture of copper and tin, to make cannon for use during the Napoleonic Wars.

By way of interest, the tall chimney at Crag Foot has nothing to do with the mines. It was erected in the middle of the last century to provide the flue for the engine at the pumping station sited there to drain water off Leighton Moss.

3. Crag Foot Mine, including Windy Scout Mine
Sited some 4 mile S.E. of the Lower Mine, its
main building measured 80 ft by 20 ft and was adjacent to
the now blocked main shaft. Only the foundations and
the winch beds remain. The ore was raised by means of
a steam engine which was housed on the opposite side of
the shaft to the main building. A short distance to the
north was a small concrete reservoir, which still exists.
To the south of the main building were the crushing
basins. These were also worked by the steam engine.

The main mineral obtained from the Crag Foot Mines was oxide of iron (Haematite). It occurred at depths of from 0-10 ft. Open cast mining took place at the eastern extremity, lear Occupation Lane, and this was the first area to be developed. Deeper workings were opened later.

The ore was really of poor quality, and hardly suitable for smelting. It occurred chiefly in pockets. There does not appear to have been any particular method of mining it. The miners spotted a deposit and worked

at it, or tested it and left it. Some rich deposits were left, probably deliberately (as for tin in Cornwall). They knew it was there and left it for a 'rainy day'. When the demand increased and prices rose, or when there were no other discoveries, they returned to it.

The oxide was first broken into small lumps, and then crushed. After this it was sifted, mixed with water, and placed in wooden troughs. Then the water was run off and the resultant 'mud' was dried. Finally, it was graded into different 'meshes' and packed into kegs.

In the early days it was despatched by pack horse or wagon, but after 1857 it was sent by train from Silverdale station. It was sent to Lancashire towns, and to Lancaster in particular where it was used by Williamson's and Storey's (both major shareholders in the mining company) for the making of red linoleum. Other good customers were to be found in Liverpool and Manchester. Some of the finances of the mining companies were derived from these two cities. In addition, the treated ore was used in the manufacture of red paint, hence the local name applied to the workings: the 'Paint Mines'. Known also as 'Reddle' or 'Ruddle', it was used by farmers for marking their sheep.

Other Minor Workings in the Area

There were quite a number of other smaller mineral excavations on the Crag: Fairy Hole Mine, Potts Wood and Three Brothers Mine, Warton Crag Mine and B.S.C. Mine, none of which appears to have been very productive.

Actually the whole of the Warton, Silverdale, Yealand, and Arnside area is scarred by the excavations left by mining prospectors:

Arnside, White Creek Mine at Blackstone Point Silverdale, Red Rake at the Cove, Jack Scout, Heald Brow, and Challan Hall

Yealand, Cringlebarrow

Over the years vegetation has covered most of the evidence, making it difficult often to identify the sites.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

WARTON PARISH RECORDS

The decision has been made by the Parochial Church Council after consultation with the Warton Parish Council and the MIHS to deposit the ancient records of the Parish of Warton with the Lancashire County Record Office at Preston. The move should take place some time in October.

The records include the Tithe Maps, the Parish Registers over 100 years old, and many other books and documents. At Preston, these will be professionally repaired where necessary, catalogued, and stored in the optimum conditions to insure their preservation — and at no cost to the parish.

There is general regret that the parish should lose the direct possession of its records, but at the same time a realistic acceptance of the inability of the parish to meet the requirements of the Parochial Records Measure for keeping parish records. A new room would have had to be built to house them, and hundreds of pounds spent on their repair.

But they are certainly not lost to us. Not only will they be available to the public at Preston under secure conditions, but the Record Office will gladly display them here in Warton at our request.

It is just possible that the move to Preston will make our parish records more accessible, more familiar, and more useful to us - if we make full use of the services of the Lancashire Record Office.

* * 1

COMING EVENTS

MLHS THURSDAY EVENING LECTURES

10 Nov 1983 <u>Lancashire Heraldry</u> Mr Hugh Sherdley

8 Dec 1983 The Bronze Age Site of Borwick
Mr A.C.H. Olivier

7.30 at Hyning Hall, Warton Guest admission 40p

DAY COURSES

Upland Communities (See MMLH I-4 for programme)

Saturday, 15 October, 10.00-5.00 Ingleborough Community Centre Ingleton, N. Yorks Admission £2.50 (BALH members £2.00)

Sponsored by The British Association for Local History and The Lancashire Local History Federation

Four Nineteenth-Century Diarists from the Northwest

Mr J.J. Bagley and Dr W. Rollinson
12 Nov 1983
Grange-over-Sands
Advance enrolment necessary. Closing date 4 Nov.
Apply to the Director of Extension Studies
University of Liverpool
PO Box 147
Liverpool
169 3BX

* * *

COMING EVENTS

COURSES OF INTEREST TO LOCAL HISTORIANS

The Prehistory of Northwest England

Mr Tom Clare
10 Meetings including field trips
Tuesdays, 18 Oct, 7.30-9.00
St Leonard's House, St Leonardgate, Lancaster
£9.50

Life and Tradition in the Lake District

Dr William Rollinson 10 Meetings Tuesdays, 4 Oct, 2.30-4.00 Gaskell Hall, Silverdale £9.50

Man and the Lakeland Landscape

Dr William Rollinson 10 Meetings Tuesdays, 10 Jan 1984, 2.30-4.00 Gaskell Hall, Silverdale £9.50

The Northern English Countryside, 1580-1980

Dr Angus Winchester 10 Meetings including field trips Thursdays, 12 Jan 1984, 7.30-9.00 Yealand Conyers

Offered by the University of Liverpool, Institute of Extension Studies

Enrol at 1st meeting of course Reduced fees for pensioners and students

* * *

LETTER FROM THE EDFTOR

THE HOUSES OF WARTON AND ITS NEIGHBOURING PARISHES

In the Spring issue of our magazine, due out in February, we would like to run a special feature.

If you live in a house with an interesting history and can write a paragraph or two about it, or a page or two, please do and send it to me.

If you live in a house with an interesting history and would like to contribute but don't like to write, we will provide a friendly ghost-writer to listen to your story and do the writing for you.

We would welcome any illustrative material, like sketches or maps, if you have that talent. Photographs, I'm afraid, are probably beyond our capacity to reproduce.

There must be very few houses in our area that don't have something about them interesting to local historians. Mine, for example, hardly seems historic: it dates from 1912. But it has a most elaborate water collection and storage system that provided a domestic water supply in the days when water came from the heavens instead of the Manchester Corporation. But I'm sure most of you can do much better than that.

And I hope you will.

We will need an early January deadline, but don't wait till then:

NYT

* * *

History of the Mining at Crag Foot

The mines in this area seem to have been worked very spasmodically and for limited periods, when the prices were high or when the demand justified it. Such occasions were followed by closures for lengthy periods. Not many people seem to have been employed at any one time. The census of 1851 refers to 'four men down below and two men and a boy above the ground'.

Eighteenth Century

Iron ore was mined at Yealand in 1757, actually at Yealand Redmayne Common, near Round Top on Cringlebarrow. In this same year an agreement was made by George Gibson (of Leighton Hall), with Anthony Tissington of Alfreton in Derbyshire for a term of 21 years stipulating 'no obstruction or interference to be made with Leighton Furnace'. The mine referred to was at Crag Foot, but it was worked for only two years.

In 1782 there was renewed activity at Crag Foot. Robert Gibson (the land owner from Leighton Hall) granted a lease to a company of miners to 'sink in any part of the common'. An encroachment was made on adjoining land belonging to a Mr Townley. This led to a law suit by Townley on Gibson in 1788 which Gibson lost.

No doubt some of this activity in the second half of the eighteenth century bore a relation to the needs of Leighton (iron) Furnace, which operated from 1711-1813.

NOTES

Peter Ashmead, Robert Ashmead's son, with members of the Lancaster Cave and Mining group, spent much effort and many hours exploring the mines and collecting the data concerning their history. His work, the full report of which is as yet unpublished, is the primary source for this article.

The conluding part, the history of mining in the area in the 19th century, will appear in the next issue.

THE CASTLES OF THE BARONY OF KENDAL

Desmond Holmes

The earliest documentary evidence we have for the castles of the Barony of Kendal is the treaty of 1216 made between Gilbert Fitz Reinfred, Baron of Kendal, and King John. Gilbert supported the barons' rebellion of 1215 against King John; its failure resulted in his suing for peace and the imposition by John of a crippling fine and the seizure of Gilbert's fortresses, the castles of Morhull and Kendal.

The site of Morhull was lost. Historians, including the late Dr William Farrer, suggested that it probably lay somewhere in the vicinity of Dockacres Farm. As a result of research done by Paul Booth and members of his group, investigations were made in the Dockacres area. There was discovered a concentration of medieval pottery and finds which archaeologists now accept as proof of the existence of a large and important household during the medieval period.

Whether the complex of buildings listed in an Inquisition of 1347 were of stone or timber cannot be ascertained, the site having been completely destroyed by gravel workings. Tom Clare, an archaeologist who worked on the rescue excavations, is convinced that the buildings were entirely of timber construction and consequently would have left no remains. It should be noted, however, that there are accounts of the 18th and early 20th centuries of the remains of mortared freestone walls on the site. It is perhaps possible that these walls had replaced the pallisades of an early motte and bailey castle.

Fortunately at Kendal, the caput of the Barony, there are substantial remains of two castles. A motte and bailey, probably Norman, stands on high ground 730 yards west of Highgate. The large level area on its western and northern flanks is the former Beast Banks cattle fairground. This castle consisting of an earthen

mound protecting a triangular shaped bailey has not been excavated and its builder is not known. This type of structure was in widespread use during the Norman period and good examples can be seen at Sedbergh, Halton, and Hornby. It was probably replaced in the late 11th or early 12th century by the stone castle which stands on the hill to the east of the town.

Built on a site dominating the borough of Kendal and the upper Kent Valley, it takes the form of an enclosure castle. It relied on the strength and height of a roughly circular curtain wall surrounded by a deep dry ditch to protect the residential and domestic buildings built within the courtyard or bailey.

There is no evidence of a keep but there are substantial remains of four wall towers. The southern tower is the largest and could have provided accommodation for the castle's constable. the official responsible for the defence and maintenance of the cartle. It may have been the tower which in 1409 Agnes, the widow of John Parr (Lord of Kendal), was awarded as part of her dower described as the 'Troutebeck tower', together with a granary and shares in a stable and dovecote, all within the castle. The entrance to the castle was from the north through a gatehouse of which very little remains. Excavations have revealed it had round fronted towers. It would probably have had a portcullis, and a drawbridge would have been required to cross the ditch. The ruins of the hall built on cellars stands to the east of the gatehouse site. The Royal Commission Survey of 1936 suggests a 14th century date. The earlier hall and domestic buildings may have been originally of timber. A complete excavation of the castle courtyard could give us much more information.

Gilbert Fitz Reinfred acquired the Barony of Kendal by his marriage to Heloise de Lancaster, whose ancestors had been Lords of Kendal from 11 least the early 12th century. Their descendants, the Brus, Roos, and Parr families continued to hold Kendal castle until 1571 when William Parr, Marquis of Northhampton, died without legal heirs. A survey made in 1572 for his widow Helen details the ruinous state of the castle; only the hall block

and the dove cote remained within the courtvard. Helen exchanged her dower rights with Queen Elizabeth for lands elsewhere and the Queen disposed of the castle and park lands, separating it from the Barony.

After passing through the hands of numerous owners the castle was acquired by Kendal Corporation and opened to the public to celebrate Queen Victoria's Jubilee in 1897.

William Parr's sister Katherine, who married Henry VIII, was, according to the 17th century historian Sir Daniel Fleming, born in Kendal castle. Her parents were, however, attached to the court as her father was Comptroller to Henry VIII, and they had a house in Blackfriars near the Royal Palace of Brideswell. If Sir Daniel is correct there must have been compelling reasons for Katherine's mother to travel north to Kendal for the birth. Queen Katherine died in 1548 at Sudeley castle in Gloucester, the home of her fourth husband, Thomas Seymour. Some years ago her prayer book was acquired for the town and is now on display in Kendal's Town Hall. A letter from Katherine to brother William was sold quite recently at Sotheby's.

The history of the castle suggests that the Parrs, an extremely ambitious family ho acquired estates in Northhamptonshire and were drawn to the Court, lost interest in Kendal castle as a residence and allowed it to fall into a condition beyond repair.

NOTES

Works consulted:

Nicholson and Burn, History of Westmorland and Cumberland (1777).

Royal Commission on Historical Monuments, Westmorland (1936)

William Farrer, Records of Kendale, Vol 1 (1923). Tom Clare, Archaeological Sites of the Lake District (1981).

DOCUMENTS

CHARGE TO THE JURY. SILVERDALE MANOR COURT

The following document* is one of a group of informal papers in the Dallam collection which seem to have been the working papers of the Stewards of the Manor of Silverdale. It shows signs of having been revised and prepared for reading to a Jury. Its original references to a Queen and a plural Lordship date it about 1709-10 when Anne was Queen of England and Thomas Fletcher and Albert Hodshon were Lords of the Manor. By 1715. George I was King and John Gibson Lord of Silverdale.

- "1) You shall enquire of all such things which concerne the Lords benefitt, as Suitors of this court, & for this you are to know that all that owe Suite to this court wherever they dwell or of what age soever they be are to attend here or to be amersed
- 2) If any of the Lords houses Lands custom Rents Services herrietts franchises rovalties or evidences or the like. have beene withheld from them/him without their/his consent, by whome what it is & how long the same hath been withheld
- 3) If any encroachments be made upon the Lords Lands or upon the common without the Lords lycence or any Surcharge or abuse of the comon be by cattle or any put cattle upon the common which ought not
- 4) If any Tennant take away or destroy the Lords fish or fowl, or cutt or carry away any woods or take any swarms of bees swanns Eggs pheasant or partridge Eggs hawk or hunt within this Manor or doe other trespas without lycence of the Lord

*Cumbria Record Office. Kendal Archives. WD/D/S1(4). Printed here by the kind permission of Brigadier Tryon-Wilson.

- "5) If any Tennant within this Manor be dead whose death is not yet presented, what is come due to the Lord thereby & whoe is his next heire, that it may be knowned what is due to the Lord & of whome he may expect Suite & Service & Rent
- 6) If any Tenmant be dead without heire Speciall or general, or if any Bastard purchas Lands & dye without issue of his body, for in all these case, the Lord is to have the Lands by escheate
- 7) If any Tennants have allyenated their lands, or exchanged any when, what &to whome, & what is due to the Lord thereby for the Lord must know whoe is Tennant that he may know of whome to expect his service
- 8th) You are & must particularly enquire, if any persons have comitted any forfeitures, Freeholders may forfeit by comitting felony & beinge attainted by confession or conviccion in this case after the Queene/King has had her/his yeare & day, the Lord is to have the Lands, or by Selling their Lands into mortmaine or by Deed or Settlement or any other ways contrary to the Custome, is a forfeiture
- 9th) Also Tennants may forfeit (as there are Severall amongst you whoe are guilty)/(if there be any Such amongst you) by doeinge of waste, Letting their houses of any sort fall down & become ruinous, by doeing of Felcny, Cuttinge downe or marryeinge [sic] of Timber or other trees contrary to your decreed custome by conveyeinge passing or letting their Lands & not presenting their Deeds in due time alsoe they may forfeit by their not payeing their Rents, or not performinge their Services as Suite of Court & the like, especially if they refuse or deny
- 10) If any rescous or poundbreach be made of a distress taken by the Lord or his Bayleffe appoynted within this Manor or if any Rent or Service due to the Lorde is withholden whoe they are that fayles to pay or withholds the same

- "11) If any remove any antient bounds between Lord & Tennants or Tenant & Tenant or one Lord & another and many other ways may customery tenants forfeite their houses & lands the Seignory or inheritance being in the Lord & onely a possionary [sic] right persuant & exactly acording to custome & decree beinge vested in the Tennants
- 12) If any have divirted any antient watercourse out of its usual current or if any doe not make their fences good & sufficient or Top lop or cropp any trees at inseasonable time or comitt any other trespas or offence you ought to Fyne & present such of enders & offences Lords mill sic:
- 13) Now to speake for the benefitt & advantage of the Tennenus for this you are to enquire if any take common that hath none, or haveinge common keepe more thereon in Summer than he can winter in his owne Lands in Winter. or chase & rechase between 2 farmes in 2 parishes. or put on cattle not comonable or inclose digg or delve upp build upon or inclose the land which ought to be common - Alsoe you shall enquire if there be any by law paine or other order made & appoyted to be kept by this Court be broken whereby a forfeiture accrews by any person being Guilty of the breach of such order or paine Alsce if any trospes or offens be committed by any Tenant either by their goods or not repaireinge their fences, or lettinge their houses goe downe whoe they are, & whoe have neglected to pay their rents for Gentlemen on your neglect in presenting, the Lord will enter upon such lands as are forfeit, and/or if there be any other ... or thinge enquirable & presentable within this court which I've omitted desire you'l not be remiss for your owne good & Safety beinge upon your corporall oathes And when you are ready to give in your verdict shall be ready to take the same & give you any other assistance that shall be reasonable"

* * *

DOCUMENTS

The following document was submitted by Anne Hyelman and is a photocopy of two pages from the diary of James Erving of Carnforth, Building Contractor.

The Sands - 28 may 1857 Thistein Comm with a Horse and bart wer course the sounds in the night when they went on or near Prest skeen and reposet ento a hole where all were drowned hoad Improvement excavating of at 9 " yard superfree al como Fence evalling at 1/6 yard Moverston Railway - This railway was opened 26 cruguest 1857 for goods and Lassengers Warton Church - The Balms chanted morning and evening, This has been done in the evening for some time 20 th lept 1807 Robert Lection says he has had a hint to write to

could be thomas Depin appare any my in the chance. I will be algerate and will write or go solow To Down as area to be opposed to it of so, who allivous et three fair but Na now seem it wont do so I gives he well creep away and let the coclass Sear the ones - October to agalan stop to day with Organ and singers they are restive want their own coay Vicar in a funy salud befor com munion sung without organ althou organist was there, however they though fit to begin before sermon October 11" direges determined to chaunt the response Vicar they shall not so neced them to give it up, but when he read the first rout of Communion up street the Organ and response was some so The Vicur omethod the remainder and walked out of Communion October 18.

NOTES AND QUERIES

SILVERDALE 'GATE' NAMES (See D. Peter's article,
'Silverdale Place Names', MMLH I-4, 1983)

Mr Peter suggests that the 'gate' place names come from ON gata, 'a road'. I think it is more likely that the Silverdale 'gate' names come from OE geat (Nom. pl. gatu), 'an opening, a gap', often used to mean an opening in a fence and by implication a barrier used to close it. In 17th century Silverdale documents the word appears as both 'yeat' and 'gate' and refers unmistakably to gates or barriers. Ford Yeat and Winder/Winter Gap Yeat were at Waterslack, the gate at the ford and the gate at the winder gap. The second element in 'winder/winter' may be ON erg, 'a summer hill pasture', and 'winder gap' may have meant 'the opening into the windy summer hill pasture'.

The Bradshaws, who gave their name to Bradshaw Gate, were 16th century millers (a clue, perhaps, to the

location of the Silverdale windmill).

Emesgate, however, is a problem. Mr Peter suggests that the first element might be a corruption of 'Eaves', but the early documents have only various spellings of Emes (Eames, Emms). I wonder if it isn't another 'locating' word like Ford and Winder Gap. OE efen, efn, emm meant 'even, flat, level'. Whether it is possible that emm, which produced Emborough, could have produced Emesgate is a question I can't answer, but it is easy to see why a gate here might have been identified as the gate 'at the level place'. The terrain at Emesgate is certainly level; it is, in fact, the only really broad plateau-type area in Silverdale.

Source:

A.H. Smith, English Place-Name Elements, Part I, English Place-Name Society XXV (1956).

* * *