John Brown, printer and bookseller of Wigan

John Brown was born in 1786 in the village of Catterall, two miles to the south of the Lancashire town of Garstang. He was possibly the son of a father of the same name. On the 2nd October 1809 he became married to Mary Lee Wightman, one of the two daughters (her sister was named Elizabeth⁴) of George and Elizabeth Wightman of Nottinghamshire, and together they had three daughters (Elizabeth, 1811-1834; Mary; and Frances, 1827-1909) and four sons (William, b. 1812; George Wightman, 1813-1871; Thomas, 1817-1894; and James, 1821-1882).

¹ The birth year 1786 is given on his grave inscription, which we shall mention in more detail below.

² In 1795 the leading Scotch Baptist Archibald McLean (1733-1812) wrote a letter to 'John Brown, Wigan' in which he mentioned his having sent Brown his publication on the subject of baptism, referred to as '2 Copies of the Import^e of Baptism', which Whelan (*BA*, p. 78, n. 133) identifies as *A defence of believer-baptism, in opposition to infant sprinkling: in a letter to a friend, being an answer to a pamphlet entitled, Remarks on Scripture texts relating to infant baptism* (Liverpool, W. Jones). Another edition, in 82 pages, was published by McLean in Edinburgh in 1777. Since our John Brown would have been about 9 years old in 1795 and since the tone and content of the letter is that of one adult addressing another, we must hesitate to accept Whelan's suggested identification of the recipient of this letter with our Wigan bookeller (*BA*, p. 77, n. 131). He might perhaps have been the father of our John Brown and there is a possible clue leading to this identification in the register of Lord Street Baptist Church, with which John Brown, our bookseller, was associated. In the register he is always referred to simply as 'John Brown', except on one occasion (in the Baptistry Account of 1820 affixed in the front of this register), where his name is entered, against a relatively small donation, as 'Jn'. Brown Junr.', suggesting that there was a John Brown senr., father of our John Brown, the possible recipient of Archibald McLean's letter.

³ The Lancaster gazette for the 7th October 1809 carried the announcement: 'On Monday se'nnight, at Mansfield, Mr John Brown, of Wigan, stationer, to Miss Whiteman [sic], daughter of Mr. Whiteman [sic], of the former place.'

⁴ In 1804 Elizabeth Wightman married Joseph Parkin (see 'Memoir of the late Rev. Joseph Parkin,

⁴ In 1804 Elizabeth Wightman married Joseph Parkin (see 'Memoir of the late Rev. Joseph Parkin, minister of the gospel at Wigan', *The evangelical magazine*, June 1809, pp. 221-228, esp. p. 223; on Joseph Parkin, see further, Roaf, *EPL*, pp. 22-30).

⁵ See http://www.airgale.com.au/booth/d5.htm#g5 and

http://www.airgale.com.au/booth/d6.htm#i39487, visited 6th July 2013.

⁶ Elizabeth's death on the 17th January 1834, at the age of 23, is recorded in the burials register of St. Paul Independent Chapel, Wigan (see http://www.lan-opc.org.uk/Wigan/Wigan/stpaul/burials_1827-1837.html, visited 1st July 2013).

⁷ In February 1836 William Brown married Margaret Meltham in Eversholt, Beds and the couple had at least six children. Censuses show that they lived in Husborne Crawley (1841 & 1851) and Leighton Buzzard (1861). When he proved his father's will in June 1842, he was then living in Woburn, Bedfordshire, where he was serving as a Dissenting minister (Brown, *Will*).

⁷ George Wightman Brown went on to become manager of the Whitehaven Bank in Cumberland. On the 28th October 1841, when still a banker's clerk, he became married to Caroline Elizabeth Culverwell at Rusholme Road Independent Church in Manchester, on which occasion one of the witnesses, a young deacon of the church, was John Rylands from Wigan, who would become one of the wealthiest cotton manufacturers and philanthropists in nineteenth-century England and for whom his wife would erect and furnish the magnificent John Rylands Library in Manchester. G.W. Brown's wife was the daughter of Joseph Pope Culverwell, a Manchester manufacturer and warehouseman, and later secretary to the Dublin and Drogheda Railway Company. In 1842, while living in Manchester (so it is noted in Brown, *Will*), G.W. Brown, with his wife and children, joined in fellowship among those who became known as Plymouth Brethren. (Although space forbids elaboration in this place, there is some evidence too that John Rylands's personal convictions were much in sympathy with Brethren, but he worked for a greater union between Independent and Baptist Christians. See further D.A. Farnie,

According to H. Fishwick, the first books began to be printed in Wigan about the year 1760. In fact, more than 40 books had been printed at the recusant press of Roger Anderton at Birchley Hall near Wigan in the first half of the seventeenth century, the last book being printed there in 1643, but there was no further printing in Wigan until William Bancks started production in the 1760s (Folkard suggested the period 1766-1791 for Bancks's printing activities). Bancks conducted a bookselling business and also ran a circulating library from premises in Millgate. He was followed by R. Ferguson, who had a printing business in Wigan from 1780 to 1783, when he removed to Liverpool. In 1793, William Lyon began a business in Market Place, Wigan, as a printer, bookbinder, and vendor of patent medicines. In the early nineteenth century we meet with other members of the Lyon family engaged in printing and publishing, 11 Dorothy Critchley 22 among them. 13

John Rylands of Manchester [Manchester, 1993] pp. 17-19, 36.) G.W. Brown's daughter Edith Mary Brown (1864-1956), educated at Girton College, Cambridge, achieved recognition for her work in the Christian Medical College, Ludhiana, India, the first medical training institution for women in Asia, and for her services was honoured with the title Dame Commander of the Order of the British Empire. (See R.B. Dietrick, *The man the church forgot and other early medical missionaries who made a difference* [n. pl., 2007] p. 120; & F. French, *Miss Brown's hospital* [London, 1954].)

⁸ See http://www.airgale.com.au/booth/d6.htm#i39487.

⁹ A history of Lancashire (London, 1894]) p. 272.

¹⁰ WD, p. 69.

¹¹ The proprietors of the Wigan-based publishing business of W. & G. Lyon are possibly to be identified as William Lyon (the husband of Dorothy Critchley, formerly Lyon; see next note) and their son George (b. 3rd July 1795). On the 23rd November 1821 their printing, bookbinding, and stationery business was formally dissolved (*London gazette*, issue no. 17768 [27th November 1821] p. 2328).

¹² Dorothy Critchley was born Dorothy Marsden c. 1766. On the 31st March 1783 she married William Lyon (marriage registers of All Saints, Wigan). The couple had five sons and two daughters: Mary, born 14th December 1831, and Abigail, born 29th May 1793. Dorothy probably became a widow by the end of the eighteenth century, but on the 29th May 1819 she became married to James Critchley, a widower of the parish of St. Peter, Bolton-le-Moors, she herself being denoted as a widow in the marriages register of St. Peter, Bolton-le-Moors, 1819-1821. She had already set up in business in Wigan by the time of her second marriage, since Pigot's commercial directory of Wigan, 1816 lists Dorothy Lyon as a printer with premises in Market Place and, perhaps reflecting the expansion of her business, Pigot, CD (1818) lists her as a printer, bookseller, and stationer situated in Market Place, Wigan. Her name appears as Dorothy Critchley, of Market Place, listed among booksellers and printers in Baines, DW (published in 1825), alongside John Brown, of Standishgate, the recipient of this letter. Folkard (WD, p. 69) lists 'D. Critchley' as a printer active in Wigan during the years 1824-1833. Her second husband, James Critchley, appears to have tried his hand at several enterprises. On the 7th July 1811, Gabriel Shaw, James Critchley, and John Lyon mutually agreed to dissolve their cotton-dealer business in Wigan (London gazette, issue no. 16539 [9-12 November 1811] p. 2173). Critchley then seems to have moved to Liverpool, where he entered into business with James Redmayne and John Wildon Bell as spirit dealers (Redmayne dropped out of the partnership in 1820; see London gazette, issue no. 17632 [2 September 1820] p. 1725). There is further mention, in the London gazette (issue no. 17991 [10 January 1824] p. 55), of the bankruptcy in 1824 of the 'liquormerchants, dealers, [and] chapmen' Messrs. James Critchley and Thomas Walker, both of Bolton-le-Moors, where protection is accorded to the property of James Critchley's 'present wife, Dorothy Critchley, late Dorothy Lyon' according to a settlement made prior to the couple's marriage. Dorothy Critchley was a member of St. Paul Independent Church in Wigan (SPCCM) and died on the 9th January 1840, aged 73 (Blackburn standard, 15th January 1840). Her seven children by William Lyon are all entered in the baptism registers of St. Paul Independent Church, where she herself is variously referred to as 'Dorothy' or 'Dolly' Lyon.

¹³ For further information on printing in Wigan prior to John Brown, see A.J. Hawkes, *Lancashire printed books: a bibliography* (Wigan, 1925) pp. xxiv f.

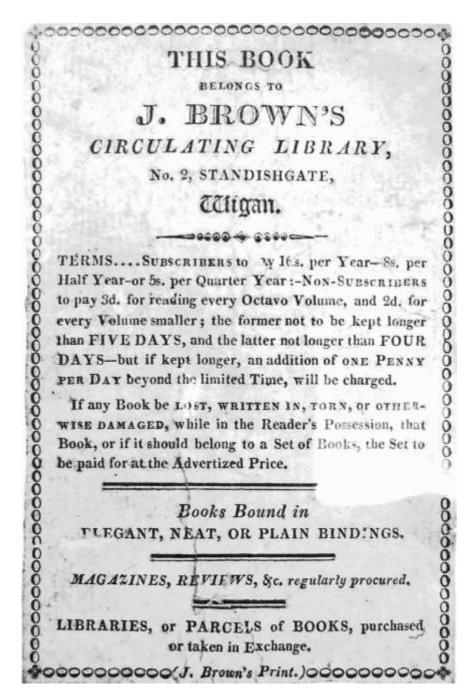
John Brown was thus among the early nineteenth-century printers in the Lancashire town of Wigan, where he conducted his bookselling, printing, and publishing business. The range of Brown's business activities is suggested by an undated bookplate, the text of which reads: 'This book belongs to J. Brown's Circulating Library, No. 2, Standishgate, Wigan,' followed by terms of membership and the following announcements: 'Books bound in elegant, neat, or plain bindings. Magazines, reviews, &c. regularly procured. Libraries, or parcels of books, purchased or taken in exchange.' Other aspects of Brown's business included his agency in Wigan for the Protector Fire Insurance Company, and also for the lottery tickets of the firm of T. Bish in London. Brown was listed as a bookseller in Millgate, Wigan in *Holden's triennial directory* for 1811, but the imprints of his publications suggest that his main printing establishment was at no. 2, Standishgate.

¹⁴ A specimen of this bookplate has been preserved in the Wigan Archives. A catalogue of John Brown's Circulating Library, stating its location as 'opposite the Royal Hotel, Standishgate, Wigan', was issued in 1821. Terms laid out at the beginning of the catalogue stated that in-town subscribers were to be allowed one set of books at a time, while country subscribers were allowed two. See http://www.british-fiction.cf.ac.uk/guide/libraries/brown.html. In addition, it has been observed that in his circulating library Brown was 'tailoring his business towards the particular reading needs (and, crucially, the much shallower pockets) of working people' by 'offering a flat-rate charge of just two pence for the five-day loan of a duodecimo volume and three pence for a full week in possession of an octavo.' (P. Garside & K. O'Brien [eds.], *The Oxford history of the novel in English, vol. 2: English and British fiction 1750-1820* [Oxford, 2015] pp. 67 f. [where Brown's first name is erroneously given as 'James']).

¹⁵ His name appears frequently in the advertisements placed by this insurance company in *The Lancaster gazette*, e.g. on the 10th January 1831 and the 22nd June 1833.

¹⁶ See the advertisement in *The Chester courant* of the 14th May 1816 and of other dates.

¹⁷ So Whelan, *BA*, p. 77, n. 131. The 1811 Census returns for Millgate, Wigan also contained an entry for 'John Brown, stationer', with a household consisting of three males and three females.



John Brown must have gained recognition as a leading citizen of Wigan since, in 1820, he was nominated and elected as one of the very few persons in the town to hold the rank of burgess, allowing him voting rights in parliamentary elections. In addition, he served as postmaster for Wigan from the end of 1831 until 1839, when he resigned the post, perhaps foreseeing the radical alterations that would have to be made in the running of the post office with the introduction of the penny post in 1840. It was, however, in 1831 that Brown might have become involved in, or at least been a keen spectator of, the riots that took place in Wigan during the elections held in that year, when an enraged mob liberated a man arrested for theft, attacked the post office,

_

¹⁸ See the Great Britain Philatelic Society's list of deputy postmaster appointments at http://www.gbps.org.uk/information/po-appointments/dates.php. Brown's appointment to the office of Postmaster of Wigan, 'in the room of Miss Lyon, deceased,' was announced in *The Lancaster gazette* of the 28th January 1832.

and completed the destruction and pillaging of the house of the parliamentary candidate John Hodson Kearsley (1785-1842), who had previously occupied the office of mayor of Wigan (in 1813-14, 1819-20, and 1825-6). Two Members of Parliament were elected for Wigan: Ralph Thicknesse (Whig) with 41 votes and J.H. Kearsley (Tory) with 24 votes. The losers were Richard Bootle Wilbraham (Tory) with 15 votes and Richard Potter (Whig) with 4 votes. On the 1st March 1831 John Brown had cast his vote for J.H. Kearsley, but on the 4th May 1831 he voted instead for Ralph Thicknesse, 19 an apparently principled change in political allegiance, although it remains possible that Brown changed his vote under duress since, as witnesses at the trials of Wigan rioters at Lancaster summer assizes in 1831 testified, a radical flag-waving mob issuing from Scholes created six hours of hubbub with fifes and drums and warlike cries in the streets of Wigan, terrifying the populace. They were led by the demagogue John Coyle, styled 'Colonel' or 'Major', who was dressed to suit his claim to be one of 'King William the IVth's National Guards', wearing a blue cap with side tassel, a white sash at his waist, and a silver stick in his hand wielded in the manner of a dragoon sloping his sword, as he paraded about the town at the head of the vast throng, compelling electors to get out and cast their votes on behalf of Ralph Thicknesse.²⁰

Apart from his printing and bookselling activities, John Brown took an active interest in encouraging the work of Bible distribution in the early years when Bible societies were beginning to develop, so that we find his name, both as a subscriber and as one whose services were paid for, in a report of the Wigan Bible Society.²¹ Brown also served as one of the trustees of the Wigan Institution for the Diffusion of Knowledge, a philanthropic activity concerned for the education of those not readily favoured with access to informative lectures and books.²² His printing and publishing activities spanned three decades (1808-1838) and among more than 80 publications bearing his Wigan imprint that the present writer has been able to discover and which indeed must constitute only a portion of the printed items that Brown executed, we find a wide variety of religious works from the pens of Anglican, Roman Catholic, Unitarian, Congregationalist, Baptist, and Methodist writers. Brown's liberal attitude surmounting denominational blinkers is illustrated by his support, over at least a decade, of the Anglican-based Wigan Sunday Schools Penny Society. Thus, in a poster headed Address to the public, Wigan, 24th of May, 1813, containing a plea for support of this society and a list of resolutions made at the meeting held on that date, the 17th resolution records: 'That the thanks of the Society be given to Mr. Brown, for his liberal offer of printing for the Society gratuitously; and also, for his kind Services

. .

¹⁹ Poll books for the Borough and Corporation of Wigan, 1st March 1831 & 4th May 1831, Wigan Archives, Leigh Town Hall (call no. SR1/18/B).

²⁰ As an example of the rioters' tactics, at the shop premises of one of the electors, John Whittle, a saddler of Market Place, Coyle and his men formed a circle round the shop, threatening, 'If you don't go and vote for Thicknesse I will saw your head off!' (Riot papers, 1831, Wigan Archives, Leigh Town Hall, call no. D/DX/AP/G2.) Coyle received the sentence of death, commuted to transportation for seven years, at the Lancaster assizes in March 1832. A summary of the available documentation on the riots in Wigan and the chief events involved may be found in the article by B. Evans, 'Elections 1831', *Past Forward*, issue no. 60 (April-July 2012) pp. 24-26.

²¹ In the Seventh annual report of the Wigan Bible Society, 1815 the name of John Brown appears among those of other subscribers to the society and his name is given, along with that of another bookseller, Mrs. Lyon, as a person designated by the society to receive subscriptions on behalf of the society.

²² See Rules of the Wigan Institution for the Diffusion of Knowledge, established Jan. 12, 1838, p. 2.

on a former occasion.' John Brown's name appears again among the subscribers to funds in the *Report of the accounts of the Wigan Sunday Schools*, dated the 1st January 1823, and printed by John Brown.²³ As was to be expected, John Brown's printing output included also many jobbing works for various local societies, associations and clubs, as is indicated by entries in the Catalogue following.

John Brown was a member of the Baptist Church meeting in Lord Street, Wigan, having been baptized, along with five others, on the 14th February 1819 by James Lister at Liverpool and brought into membership of the church in Wigan on the 7th March following. This was perhaps through his wife's leading, since the record indicates that Mrs. Mary Lee Brown had been baptized and admitted as a member of Lord Street Baptist Church more than six years previously, on the 30th August 1812. Furthermore, there was a strong Baptist tradition in Mary Lee's family and she herself was the granddaughter of the renowned Particular Baptist minister and author Abraham Booth (1734-1806). Lord Street Baptist Church had been formed in 1796, when a handful of the company who formed St. Paul Independent Chapel, taking exception to the hyper-Calvinism of the minister Alexander Steill and at the same time developing Baptist convictions, hived off and began meeting separately in a room in Brick Kiln Lane, from where they would eventually move to a new church building in Lord Street.

In the letters written by Samuel Harris to John Brown, Harris often sought to persuade his friend in Wigan to emigrate with his family to the New World, and to this end he wrote detailed and helpful advice, gained from his own experience, on how to achieve the relocation. Remarks made by Harris do suggest that Brown was seriously minded to take the great step, but in the end, for whatever reasons, Brown decided to remain where he was in Lancashire. In fact, as his will, written on the 24th June 1835, shows, John Brown had saved and invested fairly widely in property in the Fylde region and in the valley of the Wyre in Lancashire, ²⁹ clearly with the provident aim of securing income in his retirement and of providing for his wife and the

_

²³ Specimens of both these documents survive in Wigan Archives.

²⁴ *BCBLSW*, p. 11.

²⁵ BCBLSW, pp. 1, 10.

²⁶ In his will signed and sealed on the 27th February 1805, Abraham Booth left to his granddaughter Mary Lee Wightman the sum of £150 (which would have a purchasing power of approx. £5,000/\$7,445 in 2013) in annuities, the capital and interest not to be released until Mary reached the age of 24. See E.A. Payne, 'Abraham Booth and some of his descendants', *Baptist quarterly*, vol. XVI (1955–6) p. 198

 $^{^{27}}$ St. Paul Independent Chapel in Standishgate, Wigan, was erected in 1785, although the congregation who worshipped there had been established in 1777 (Robinson, LCU, p. 163). Prior to its Independent, or Congregational, stance, it had been a church belonging to the Countess of Huntingdon's Connexion, and this explains its very unusual (among Independent churches) dedication to St. Paul and its originally liturgical form of worship and use of clerical vestments, as also its strongly Calvinistic Methodist leaning (see Sellers, PF, p. 9).

²⁸ Later the church moved from Lord Street to Scarisbrick Street, where it still functions to the present day (2015).

²⁹ His estate included *property* in Esprick, near Greenhalgh on the Kirkham to Fleetwood road; in Out Rawcliffe; and in Stalmine, all in the Fylde district of Lancashire; as well as *shares* in the cotton factory in Higher Wyresdale (probably at Scorton); in sheep stock and machinery; and in the New Hollins public house in Forton, Lancashire; all in addition to household goods; money and securities; the stock and effects of his printing and bookselling business in Wigan; and a house which he later purchased and rented out to the family of his friend David Brown on Wigan Lane, Wigan. (Brown, *Will.*)

education and upbringing of his numerous children. It would not have been an easy matter for him to dispose of these properties and to contemplate maintaining the security that he had already worked for and provided for his family.

John Brown continued active in stationery-based activities until at least 1839, after which his business in Wigan came into other hands. The 1841 Census shows him living in retirement at Pickerings³⁰ in his native Catterall, along with his wife and two daughters: Mary (aged 20) and Frances (aged 13). On the 9th May 1842, still in Catterall, he died, aged 56,³¹ and was buried on the 13th May at the Church of St. Helen in Churchtown, near Garstang in Lancashire. 32 His wife, Mary Lee, died on the 15th April 1847³³ and was interred in the same grave.³⁴ The memorial inscription over the family grave at St. Helen's, Churchtown reads as follows: 'In memory of William Brown³⁵ of Garstang, who died June XIth MDCCCXXXII aged XLIII years. Also Ann, wife of the above, who parted this life September XXVIth MDCCCXXXV aged XXXIV years. Also of John Brown of Catterall, his brother, who died on the IXth of May, MDCCCXLII, in the LVIIth year of his age. Also of Mary Lee Brown, wife of the above named John Brown, who died XVth April, MDCCCXLVII, aged LXII years. Also of John Arminson, of Garstang, brother-in-law of the above, who died August 16th, 1856, aged 60 years. Also Elizabeth, wife of the above John Arminson, who died August 22nd, 1864, aged 67 years.' With regard to the couple inscribed last on the gravestone, John and William Brown's sister Elizabeth had married John Arminson of Burnley on the 15th September 1829 at St. Helen's,

_

³⁰ A messuage known as the Pickerings had existed in Catterall since at least as early as 1712 (see indenture dated 14th February 1712 in Lancashire Archives, DDFZ/535), but the large house standing in its own grounds and surrounded by large trees and surviving into the twenty-first century was built in the late eighteenth century on the east side of Garstang Road, just south of the road's junction with Stones Lane. A former resident of the Pickerings was James Pedder while incumbent of St. Thomas's, Garstang, until 1835 when his father died and he succeeded him as vicar of St. Helen in Churchtown. Some history of the property and of those who dwelt there is given in A. Hewitson, Northward: historic, topographic, residential, and scenic gleanings, &c., between Preston and Lancaster (Preston, 1900) p. 48. During the time of John Brown's and his family's residence there, the house was probably owned by Henry B. Fielding, proprietor of the calico printing works (which collapsed in 1831) at Catterall on the River Calder near to its confluence with the River Wyre. (Some account of the Fielding calico printing works in Catterall may be found in C.A. Russell, Lancastrian chemist: the early years of Sir Edward Frankland [Milton Keynes, 1986] pp. 27-32, 42.) Sometime in the early 1840s, the property was renamed, somewhat oddly considering its size, 'Catterall Cottage', but the name 'The Pickerings' was reinstated when the property became a hotel and restaurant in the 1970s. The Pickerings closed suddenly in January 2013 and was later scheduled to be demolished after Wyre Council had given planning permission for ten new luxury homes to be built on the site.

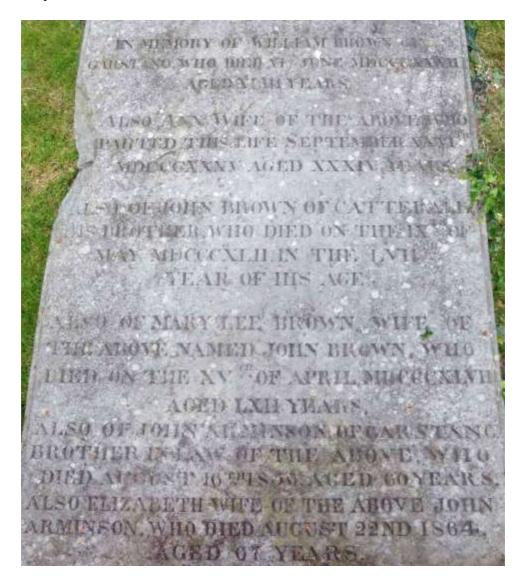
³¹ The date 9th May is that stated in the proving of John Brown's will. Similarly, the death announcement in *The Manchester times* for the 21st May 1842 read: 'On the 9th inst., at Catterall, near Garstang, Mr. John Brown, bookseller, late of Wigan.'

³² BCBLSW, p. 31; and burial register at http://www.lan-opc.org.uk/Garstang/sthelen/burials 1837-1842.html. Confirmation (with photocopy of the entry) that Brown's age at death was entered as 56 in the original document and that the transcript in the web site referred to is correct (see above notes 155 & 156), has been received (30 June 2013) from the parish clerk, Elaine Ashworth.

³³ Announcement of the death was made in *The Blackburn standard* for the 21st April 1847: '... after a short illness, at Bonds, near Garstang, aged 62, Mary, widow of the late Mr. John Brown, for many years bookseller, &c., in Wigan.' ³⁴ *BCBLSW*, p. 1.

³⁵ This William Brown, the brother of John Brown, is not to be confused with the William Brown discussed among the 'other Browns' in Appendix II. A William Brown, shoemaker of High St., Garstang is listed in a directory of 1825 (Baines, *CPL*, vol. II, p.642).

Churchtown. 36 The Brown names were perpetuated in the next generation, for William Brown Arminson was born to John and Elizabeth on the 27th December 1830 and the twins Mary Elizabeth and John Arminson were born to them on the 22nd May 1835. 37



No. 2 Standishgate is the address stated in many of Brown's imprints from at least as early as 1808^{38} and it is interesting to try to trace the continuation of business at this address in succeeding years. It is worth trying to trace the subsequent history of the business at 2 Standishgate after Brown's retirement from business apparently in 1838. A lead is given to our inquiries by a directory for 1841, which lists Charles Samuel Simms, an agent for Britannia Life Assurance, at this address and we learn from Folkard that Charles Samuel Simms was in fact active in the printing trade in Wigan from 1838-1842. ³⁹ However, in the 1841 census the occupant of 2

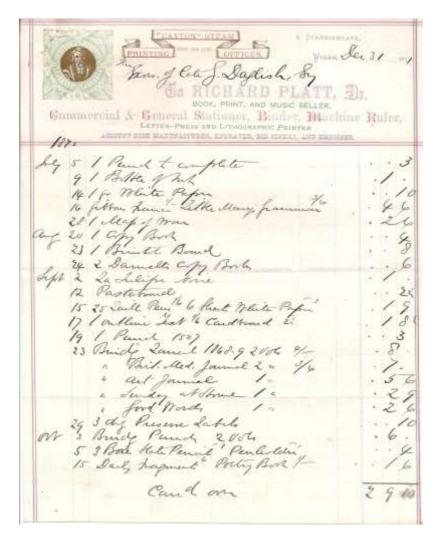
³⁹ Folkard, *WD*, p. 69.

³⁶ John Arminson was a druggist with a business on St. James Street, Burnley (*Pigot and Co.'s national commercial directory for 1828-9*, p. 234).

³⁷ Baptismal register of St. Peter, Burnley.

³⁸ See also *The commercial directory for 1818-19-20* (Manchester, 1818), p. 466.

Standishgate in Wigan is the provision dealer Thomas Winnard and his family. This may perhaps simply be a case of listing the person who inhabited premises above the printing shop. An 1854 directory shows that a bookseller and stationer, Henry Burtt Reckitt, is again in business in Standishgate, though no specific street number is given. However, Albert Reckitt, a bookseller at 2 Standishgate appears in an 1858 directory. By 1861, the premises are in the hands of another bookseller and stationer, George Samuel Bucknall, a native of Stroud, Gloucestershire and this same bookseller (with his forenames reversed) appears in a directory published in 1865. By 1869, however, the business is in the hands of Richard Platt and it seems then to have greatly expanded, for he is described as 'a bookseller, stationer, printer, bookbinder, music seller, dealer in pianofortes, [and] ordnance map agency', with premises at 2 Standishgate, works at Bank Court, and residence in Marsden Square. An invoice dated 31st December



1871, now in the present writer's possession, describes the works in Bank Court as the "Caxton" Steam Printing Offices and further elaborates the range of Platt's business interests as: 'book, print, and music seller; commercial & general stationer, binder, machine ruler; letter-press and lithographic printer; account book manufacturer, engraver, die sinker, and embosser'. In addition to the main address, given as 2 Standishgate, the 1869 and 1881 directories state respectively that Platt's

'works' were at Bank Court and at Millgate, 40 which may perhaps indicate why Millgate was stated as the address of John Brown in Holden's triennial directory for 1811. Richard Platt's business appears through successive directories down to 1887. after which there seems to have been redevelopment and possibly renumbering of premises, as a result of which Richard Platt removed to premises in Wallgate and Dorning Street, and bankers moved into the premises in Standishgate (first Parr's Bank, the successor to Thicknesse and Woodcock's Wigan Bank, then the Westminster Bank), followed today (2015) by the National Westminster Bank (a new sandstone building erected in 1898), which claims the address at 2 Standishgate, as does also the jewellery business of Ernest Jones Ltd. However, it is reported that 'The painted render finish of the black and white building left of the bank covers brickwork of about 1800' and that 'the modillion (bracketed) cornice at roof level is typical of the period', 41 so that this structure might, in fact, have survived from the time of John Brown's business at 2 Standishgate. Although the original buildings inhabited by John Brown are now hard to discover with any degree of precision, it is still evident in the twenty-first century that Brown occupied a prestigious site at the heart of one of the most important towns in Lancashire. It was in fact in this area that the leading citizens of the town, the burgesses, were located in the early nineteenth century and the burgage plots on which their properties were constructed evidence their medieval origins, when the burgesses would pay an annual rent of 12 pence to the Rector of Wigan, who was also the powerful Lord of the Manor, in exchange for plots of land containing 5 roods (11/4 acres). These were long, strips of land with narrow ends facing the street. To the rear, the backlands became infilled with rows of tightly packed 2-3-roomed cottages and cramped courts of houses, although some remained as small market gardens or orchards. The structure of this early planning and subsequent building development are clearly shown in the Ordnance Survey map of the town centre published in 1847. It accounts, for example, to several references to the Legs of Man inn, close by in Market Place, having been claimed to have had the longest bar room in the world, stretching all the way back, from 'top legs' to 'bottom legs' at Woodcock Street. However, we cannot now be certain how far back into this hinterland building development John Brown's premises might have extended.42

_

⁴⁰ 'Standishgate and Millgate' is the address given in the imprint of Joseph Brown's *Masonry in Wigan, being a brief history of Lodge of Antiquity, no. 178, originally no. 235*, printed by 'Bro. R. Platt, 1882. This is expanded to 'Standishgate, Millgate and Wiend' on R. Platt's 1882 publication in 24 pages titled *Legend of the battle of Wigan Lane*.

⁴¹ So it is noted in Philip Powell's excellent architectural and historical study of Wigan: *Wigan town centre trail* (Wigan Metro. Bor. Council, 1986), p. 19.

⁴² Thanks are due to Rita Musa of the Wigan Leisure and Culture Trust for assistance in assembling the information relating to the tenancy of 2 Standishgate.

Catalogue of publications and items printed by John Brown of Wigan

Sources:

AL Angus Library, Regent's Park College, Oxford

BL British Library catalogue

Brown Printer's catalogue at end of J. Jones, *Serious musings* (1822)

CaUL Cardiff University Library

CL Chetham's Library

CUL Cambridge University Library
DB David Brady, personal copy
DUL Durham University Library

Fishwick Henry Fishwick, The Lancashire library (London; G. Routledge and

sons; Warrington, Percival Pearse; 1875)

Folkard Henry Tennyson Folkard, Wigan and district: a local record (Wigan;

J. Starr & Sons; 1916)

Hawkes Arthur John Hawkes, Lancashire printed books: a bibliography of all

the books printed in Lancashire down to the year 1800 (Wigan; J. Starr

& Sons; 1925)

HSCCMB Hope Street Chapel Congregational, Minutes book [in Wigan

Archives, Leigh Town Hall]

JRULM John Rylands University Library of Manchester

MWL Museum of Wigan Life

SOL Microfilm. Atlanta, Ga.: SOLINET, 1998. 1 microfilm reel; 35 mm.

(SOLINET/ASERL Cooperative Microfilming Project)

WA Wigan Archives WC OCLC WorldCat

- 18--? ANON., *The life of Dr. Hugh Latimer*. [Engraving of an open Bible.] (Wigan: printed and sold by J. Brown, 2, Standishgate,) [n. d.] 8 pp. [Folkard, 67; MWL]
- 18--? [A bookplate. Begins:] This book belongs to J. Brown's Circulating Library, No. 2, Standishgate, Wigan. [Statement of membership terms, followed by advertisements:] Books bound in elegant, neat, or plain bindings. Magazines, reviews, &c. regularly procured. Libraries, or parcels of books, purchased or taken in exchange. (J. Brown's Print.) [WA]
- 18--? FOXLEY, Thomas, Curate of St. John Baptist, Chowbent, Select portions of Dr. Brady's and Mr. Tate's version of the Psalms... also a collection of hymns, for the use of the congregation in St. John Baptist's Chapel, Chowbent... to be had of Mr. James Brown Warden. (Wigan; pr. by John Brown) 76 pp., 8vo [Hawkes 1052]

Hawkes suggested the date c. 1800, but added the note: 'The book has been dated [178-] in the Wigan Library printed Catalogue, but it cannot be so early; it is probably as late as 1810.'

18--? [Single sheet containing three verses of the national anthem. Headed:] *God save the King*. [First line:] *God save great George our king*. (J. Brown, printer; Wigan) [WA]

GOD SAVE THE KING. **300€** • God save great George our King. Long live our noble King, God save the King: Send him victorious, Happy and glorious, Long to reign over us, God save the King O Lord our God arise, Scatter his enemies. And make them fall; Confound their politics. Frustrate their knavish tricks. On him our hearts we fix. God save the King. Thy choicest gifts in store, On George be pleas'd to pour. Long may he reign. May he defend our laws, And ever give us cause, To sing with heart and voice, God save the King. CROWN, PRINTER, WIGAN.

- 18--? LAMBERHEAD GREEN AMICABLE SOCIETY, The, Rules. [Folkard, 62]
- 18--? ANON., A picture book, consisting of ancient ruins, representations of persons of different nations, portraits of eminent military and naval officers and other interesting subjects. [Folkard, 68 (sold at Bonhams on 27th November, 2012, Lot 139)]
- 1808 ADULT AND SUNDAY SCHOOLS FRIENDLY SOCIETY, The, Rules, orders and regulations for the government of the Adult and Sunday Schools Friendly Society, established under the patronage of the Hon. and Rev. Geo. Bridgeman, M.A., Rector of Wigan, and under the superintendance [sic] of the

- Rev. B. Powell, Minister of St. George's. (Wigan; printed by J. Brown, Standishgate;) [1808] 14 pp. [Folkard, 61; MWL]
- 1808 UNIVERSAL FRIENDLY SOCIETY IN WIGAN, The, Rules and orders for the government of the Universal Friendly Society in Wigan, for raising and supporting a fund to maintain their sick and maimed, and burying their dead. (Wigan; printed by J. Brown; 1808) 23 pp. [Folkard, 63; MWL]
- 1809? CLERGYMAN, A, An account of John Thompson, a poor carpenter, of Marsh-Chapel [Lincoln], who died November 16th, 1809. (Wigan; printed and published by J. Brown, No 2, Standishgate;) [n. d.] 18 pp. [Folkard, 68; MWL]
- 1809 ANON., A companion to Beilby's Museum: containing a brief description of its natural and foreign curiosities, and antiquities. (Wigan; printed by John Brown; 1809) 32 pp., 17 cm. [CL]

With note on verso of title-page: 'John Beilby, proprietor of this select and elegant Museum, has been encouraged to present the following Pamphlet to the Public.'

- 1809 ANON., Selections of psalms & hymns for the parochial chapel of Billinge. [Folkard, 48]
- 1813 [Poster. Headed:] *Address to the public, Wigan, 24th of May, 1813.* [Being a plea for support of the Wigan Sunday School Penny Society and list of resolutions made at the meeting held on the 24th May 1813. Signed by S. Hollingsworth, Chairman. Imprint:] J. Brown, printer; Wigan.

The 17th resolution records: 'That the thanks of the Society be given to Mr. Brown, for his liberal offer of printing for the Society gratuitously; and also, for his kind Services on a former occasion.'

ADDRESS TO THE PUBLIC.

WIGAN, 24th of MAY, 1812.

Wigan, 24th of May, necessity, and importance of instructing the children of the Pone, in the doctrines and peacepts of Christians, there now remains not a chadow of doubt. Heroon, tangist by experience, consesses the obligation which the Gospel imposes. These who have Carist, will want us other motive to obedirate, to reaction and seal in this great cause, that the imposes. These who have Carist, will want us other motive to obedirate, to reaction and seal in this great cause, that the imposes. These who have Carist, will want us other motive to obedirate, to reaction and seal in this great cause, that their great and increasing accessities, confinently outstripping the officers and administry of their Patrons and Managers, have been to often present upon the attention of the Public. In the year 1812, the permiary distance with which the Managers had be control, assumed a most formidable aspect. Their expences increasing with the rapid increase of their scholars during the last its years, from lost than 100 to nearly 1100—their laconic defining—many plant of increase of their scholars during the last its years, from lost than 100 to nearly 1100—their laconic defining—many plant of increase of their scholars during the autitry was been also as the total of the Friends and Supporters of the Institution, upon the liberal coartification of off real Christians. Now was this claim arged in value, Marh was done is the course of the last Coartification of off real Christians. Now was this claim arged in value, Marh was done is the course of the last Scrimer, in extrigating the Managers from their serious embarraments. Amongst offer afforts of fluturalities of the last Scrimer, in extrigating the Managers from their serious embarraments. Amongst offer afforts of fluturalities of the last Scrimer, and the last of the pounders in this populous Parish; that, in some measure, to interest the balk of its permitted in the sacred came, and the real of the pounders in this populous Parish; that, in some measure, to interest th

Az a Meeting of Subscribers to the " Wigna Sonday-School Penny-Society," held the 24th of May, 1813.

SAMUEL HOLLINGSWORTH, Est was called to the Chair.

THE MEETING . THE FOLLOWING RESOLUTIONS WERE PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

- 1 .- Take the present and forme Subscribers be divided into Classes of twelve Persons such, paying one Penny such weekly.
- E .- Titax one Person of each Class, be Class-Collector.
- 5. That the Classes be formed in general with a view to local circumstances, and to us to give the least possible trouble
- 4.— That the present and future Classis he divided into Divisions, each containing ten Classes; and that the Class-Collectors of each Division, pay their Collection to a Division-Collector, monthly or oftener.
 - 8 .- That the Division-Collectors pay their Collections quarterly to a Treasurer.
- 6.—That the Tressurer place the Monies are received by him, in the Wigan Bank; and that on the Anniversary of the Sunday-Schools in Wigan under the Establishment, he pay the same, after deducting incidental Expenses, to the Managers of the suid Schools for the time being, upon Trun for the general purposes of the Schools.
- 7.—That the Tremuser be empowered to appoint Class-Collectors and Division.Collectors, and to displace them when necessary: to appoint, at his discretion, meetings of the Committee hereafter to be constituted, and to exercise a general super-intendance over the affairs of the Society.
- 8.—That the Committee be composed of the Trusturer as Chairman, of the Division-Collectors, and Class-Collectors.
- 2.—That the Committee he empowered to fill up the office of Treasurer when necessary; to appoint a Treasurer ut their anneal meeting; to treat un, and decide each affairs eduting to the general interests of the Society, as the Treasurer may lay before them; and to impact the Accounts.
- 10.—That an annual mosting of the Committee, take place on some day, to be fixed by the Treasurer, in the week preceding the Anniversary of the Wisan Sunday-Schools under the Establishment, when the Treasurer shall be appointed, the Reports of the Auditors received, and the general state of the Society examined.

 11.—I have the Class Colone as form time to the empty to sent the Solone Colone, too any causes what several Classes, from any causes what several classes.
- 12. That Division. Collectors report to the Treasurer, any vacancies that may occur in Class-C ellectors.
- 11 That Samura Hollimous worth, Esq. be requested to accept the other of Treaturer.
- 14. That Mr. Kann be appointed Division-Collector for the Township of Inca, with most grateful acknowledgments of Als pure road and activity.
- 13 Taar Mesers, Juan Farancear, T. W. Claurs, and William Batter, be appointed Division-Collectors for the Borough of Winess, with most grateful acknowledgments of their past real, activity, and judgment, in founding, and hithorta conducting the Society.
- 16 THAT Mr. WHUSTOCK & Mr. NEVILL, be requested to accept the office of Auditors of Accounts.
- 17.—That the thinks of the Society be given to Mr. Brown, for his liberal offer of Printing for the Society gratuitously; and also, for his kind Services on a former occasion.
- 15 That offers from Ladies or Gentlemen to raise Clauses, be gratefully accepted.

S. HOLLINGSWORTH, CHAIRMAN.

Ter Chairman having left the Chair, the thanks of the meeting were unanimously voted to him.

A BROWN, PRINTER, WIGAN

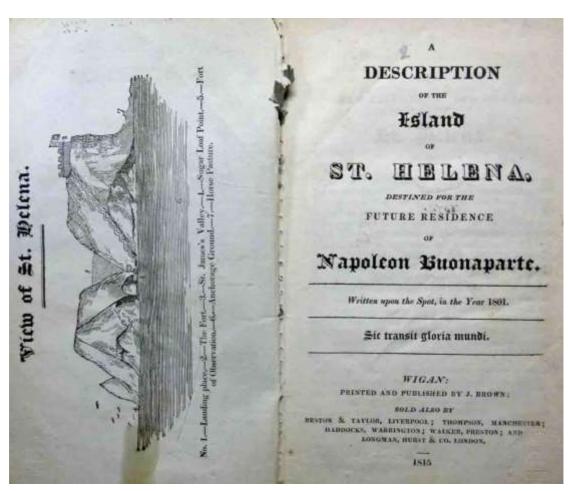
1814 [Begins:] At a General Meeting of the Committee of the Penny Society, in aid of the Sunday Schools of Wigan, under the Establishment, held in the vestry of the Parish Church, on Monday the 20th June, 1814- Mr. S. Hollingworth, in the chair, etc. ([colophon:] J. Brown, printer, 2, Standishgate; Wigan) 3 pp. [WA]

1814 A sermon [on] (Ephesians v. 1-2), preached at Wigan to the Sunday School children under the establishment, on the evening of Thursday the 7th of July, 1814, being the day appointed for a general thanksgiving. [MWL]

Pasted in at front: single sheet containing dedicatory note beginning, 'My dear children...', signed T.P. (J.P.?, i.e. Joseph Parkin? See 'Memoir of the late Rev. Joseph Parkin, minister of the gospel at Wigan', *The evangelical magazine*, June 1809, p. 225), with imprint: Brown's print.

- 1815? LYON, George & others, The trial at large of George Lyon, David Bennett, and William Houghton on an indictment for a burglary committed at Westwood-House, the residence of Charles Walmesley, esq. before the right honourable Sir Alexander Thompson, knight, Lord Chief Baron of the Court of Exchequer, at the Assizes, held at Lancaster, on Monday, April 3, 1815. Le Gendre Starkie, esq., High Sheriff. 2 preliminary leaves, [5]-28 pp., 21 cm. [WC; title-page reproduced in A. Miller, George Lyon, Up Holland highwayman? (Zaltbommel, 2001) p. 2]
- 1815 ANON., A description of the island of St. Helena, destined for the future residence of Napoleon Buonaparte. Written upon the spot, in the year 1801. 23 pp.; engr. frontis. [Folkard, 66; MWL]

Gives an account of the island's inhabitants, food, livestock, climate, garrison, etc. and includes 'Remarks on Ascension Island'.



1815 WILSON, T. (1663-1755), Bishop of Sodor and Man, Fornication forbidden both in the law and in the gospel. A sermon [on] (Ephes. v. 3, 4, 5) by the late Right Reverend T. Wilson, DD., Lord Bishop of Sodar [sic] and Man.

- [Engraving of raspberry twig with leaves and fruit.] (Wigan; printed by J. Brown, Standishgate; 1815.) 14 pp., 12mo. [CaUL; Folkard, 68; MWL]
- 1816? THISTLETHWAITE, W., Hymns to be sung at the parochial chapel of Hindley, on Sunday, September the 22nd, 1816, when sermons will be preached (morning and afternoon) by the Rev. W. Thistlethwaite, A.M., Minister of St. George's, Bolton: and collections made for the benefit of the Sunday-schools of that chapelry. (Wigan; printed by J. Brown, 2, Standishgate;) [n. d.] 8 pp. [MWL]
- 1816 BUNYAN, John, *The Pharisee & publican; Paul's departure and crown; and The barren fig-tree*, &c. [With plates.] 3 pt. (The title "Bunyan's Miscellanies" occurs on the plates.) [BL]
- BUNYAN, John, A true relation of the holy war: made by King Shaddai upon Diabolus, for the regaining of the metropolis of the world; or, the losing and taking again of the town of Mansoul... with practical and explanatory notes. (Wigan; printed and sold by J. Brown, 2, Standishgate; 1816) [viii]+308 pp., plates: ill., 8vo. [BL; JRULM]
- 1816 ENGLISHMAN, An, *Remarks on the "Address to the spirited promoters of parliamentary reform, in Wigan". Addressed to Verus.* [Engraving of fleur-de-lys.] (Wigan; printed and sold by J. Brown; Sept. 1816) 8 pp. [Folkard, 8; MWL]

A reply to *An address to the spirited promoters of parliamentary reform, in Wigan.* By a friend to the cause. [Signed] (Verus, Wigan, September 13, 1816.) [Colophon:] F.B. Wright, printer, Liverpool. 4 pp. This was written in answer to Amicus. See *Miss Weeton's journal of a governess*, vol. II (Newton Abbot, 1969) pp. 149 f, where scornful comment and the names of the pamphlet writers appear to have been under discussion in a contemporary letter.

- JONES, William et al., The Biblical cyclopædia; or, dictionary of the Holy Scriptures: intended to facilitate an acquaintance with the inspired writings. 2 vols., [2] folded leaves of plates, maps, 22 cm. (London, printed for the author, by Whittingham and Rowland, Goswell Street. Sold by Longman, Hurst, Rees, Orme, and Browne; Baldwin, Cradock and Joy; F. and C. Rivington; Gale and Fenner; W. Button and Son; T. Hamilton; Sherwood, Neely, and Jones; and Ogles, Duncan, and Cochran, ...Simpkin and Marshall, ...J. Hatchard, ... J. Seely, ...Oliphant, Waugh and Innes, Edinburgh; Andrew and J.M. Duncan, Glasgow; and J. Brown, Wigan) [AL]
- 1817? FOSTER, Jacob Kirkman, A sermon preached in St. Stephen's Church, Rochdale, on Sunday evening, October 12th 1817: on occasion of the sudden and lamented death of the late Rev. Thomas Littlewood, thirty-two years Minister of the Baptist Church in Rochdale. 2nd ed. (Rochdale; printed and sold by J. Littlewood, Law and Whitaker..., Baines..., Richardson..., and Brown, Wigan; [1817?]) 20 pp., 18 cm. [AL]
- SMITH, Thomas, Rev., *The testimony of Jesus is the Spirit of prophecy: a discourse from Revelation, XIX, 10.* [Anon.] (London; sold by Longman, Hurst, Rees, Orme, & Brown; also by Brown, Wigan; Rogerson, and Deans, Manchester; Reston and Taylor, Liverpool; and Mrs. Walker, and Clarke, Preston; 1817) [colophon:] J. Brown, printer, 2, Standishgate, Wigan. 32 pp. [Folkard, 68; MWL (2 copies, one with contemporary proprietary inscription at head of title-page: 'Wm. Harris', i.e. William Tell Harris?)]
- 1818 GENTLEMAN, A, Remarks on the late anonymous publication, entitled A restatement, &c. relating to the Wigan chapels. By a gentleman. To which is added a true statement of facts, &c. by a friend to truth. (Printed by J. Brown,

Wigan; and sold by Andrews, 8, Drake-street, Red Lion-square, and Keating & Co. Duke-street, Grosvenor-square; Clarke, Wilcockson, and Whittle, Preston; Wilcockson, Blackburn; Bibby, Chorley; Cocker, Ormskirk; Gardner, Bolton; Gale, and Rogerson, Manchester; Gore, Grapel, and Lynch, Liverpool; Haddocks, Warrington; Bolland, York; Simpson, Wolverhampton; Andrews, Durham; and Brown, and Lyon, Wigan; 1818) 30pp., 22 cm. [DUL]

PLOWDEN, Charles, President of Stonyhurst College, *The case is altered, in a letter addressed to the Roman Catholics of Wigan*. 8vo. (London; sold by Andrews... and Keating & Co. ...; sold also by Brown, and Lyon, Wigan... printed by J. Brown, Wigan; 1818) [ii]+21 pp. [BL; DB; Folkard, 37; MWL]

An answer to: THOMPSON, Richard (1762-1841, of Weld Bank, Vicar-general of the Lancashire district, *The case stated of the Wigan Catholic chapels, in two letters, etc. To which are added, (as an appendix) Mr. Walmsley's two letters to the Rev. R. Thompson as made public by himself.* (Wigan; D. Lyon; 1818) 8vo. The controversy dealt with the advisability of building the two churches, St. John's and St. Mary's, so near together. The title would appear to be derived from an incident in the life of the lawyer Edmund Plowden (1517-8-1584-5): 'On one occasion he was defending a gentleman charged with hearing Mass, and detected that the service had been performed by a layman for the purpose of informing against those who were present, whereon he exclaimed, "The case is altered; no priest, no Mass," and thus secured an acquittal. This incident gave rise to the common legal proverb, "The case is altered, quoth Plowden." See also WALMESLEY, below.

- 1818 POWELL, B., A sermon preached in the Parish Church of Wigan, in the afternoon of Sunday, 14th June, 1818, for the benefit of the Sunday Schools. (Wigan; printed and sold by J. Brown, sold also by Mrs. Lyon; Wigan; and Messrs. Haddocks, Warrington) 22 pp. [MWL]
- ANON., To their brethren the Catholics of Wigan, and to the public at large, the following statement of facts is humbly submitted. (J. Brown, printer; Wigan; 1818) 7+[1] pp., 19 cm. [DUL]
 Printer's details from colophon. Signed, p. 7, 'Wigan, January 7th, 1818.' Concerns the building of the Catholic chapel in Wigan.
- 1818 WALMESLEY, Charles (1781-1833), O.S.B., D.D., F.R.S., of Westwood, Vicar Apostolic of the Western district of England, A short address to the Catholics of Wigan, occasioned by the Rev. Richard Thompson's "Case stated of the Wigan Catholic chapels", together with the whole of the correspondence between the Rev. Mr. Thompson and himself. [Folkard, 38]

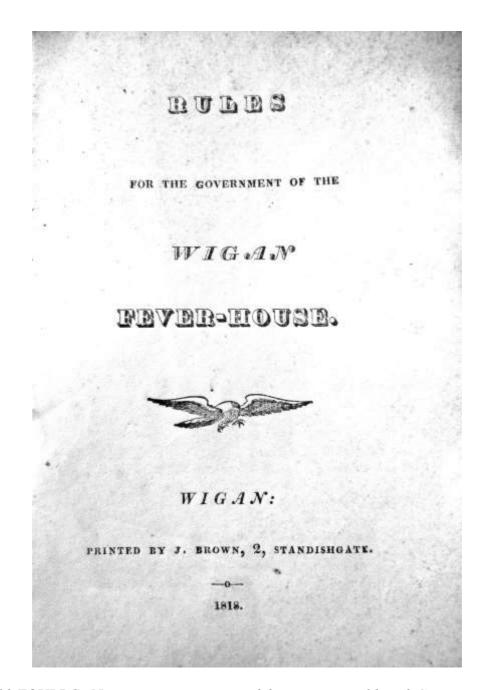
The second of two pamphlets printed by Brown (see PLOWDEN above) for disputing parties of Catholics in Wigan, pro- and anti-Jesuit, relating to the efforts made by Charles Plowden of Stonyhurst to restore Jesuit rights in the neighbourhood. Ultimately Bishop Gibson gave some sort of satisfaction to both parties by permitting each party to keep their separate chapels: Jesuit St. John's and secular St. Mary's.

1818 WIGAN.- Catholic Chapel, *New Catholic Chapel, in Wigan, under the patronage of the bishop of the district.* [J. Brown, printer; Wigan; 1818] 1 sheet, 32 x 21 cm. [DUL]

A printed handbill reporting on the laying of the foundation stone of the new Catholic chapel in Wigan.

1818 WIGAN FEVER-HOUSE, Rules for the government of the Wigan Fever-house. [Engraving of a bird hovering.] (Wigan; printed by J. Brown, 2, Standishgate; 1818) 8 pp. [WA]

A report on measures agreed at a special meeting of subscribers, held on the 20th July 1818, in Wigan Dispensary, James Cardwell in the chair, regarding the propriety of establishing a house for the reception of poor persons attacked with the contagious fever currently prevalent in Wigan and neighbourhood, as an appendage to the Dispensary. The committee appointed to superintend the Fever-house consisted of Messrs. Cardwell, Woodcock, Nevill, Bolton, Newsham, Rymer, and Anderton.



- c.1820 FOULDS, Nanny, Verses composed by Nanny Foulds, of Great Harwood, near Blackburn, on the death of her two sons, (Richard and Thomas.) 1 sheet. 16 x 19 cm. [BL]
- 1820s? [Thicknesse papers.] [Referred to in letter of Samuel Harris, 26th Sept. 1828.]
- DIXON, Myles C., A letter addressed to the members of the Methodist Society, and to the friends of Methodism in the Lancaster Circuit, in reference to the Rev. W[illiam] C[arus] Wilson's History of William S. (Wigan; printed by J. Brown; 1820) 12 pp., 20 cm. [DUL; WC]
- 1820 DIXON, Myles C., A sermon preached in the Methodist Church, Lancaster, August 13th, 1820. 12 pp., 18 cm. [SOL MN09016.10 FUG]
- 1820 JONES, Joseph, *Reasons for admitting the divine origin of revelation* (London; Wigan [printed]; 1820) [BL; Brown]
- DIXON, Myles C., Hungering and thirsting after righteousness: the substance of a sermon, delivered to a congregation consisting principally of Negro

- slaves, before the district meeting, in the Methodist Chapel, St. John's, Antigua, West Indies. 12 pp., 18 cm. [SOL MN07831.08 FUG]
- 1821 JONES, Joseph, *The cottage minstrel; or serious and moral songs, intended for young people of the lower orders.* [Brown; Folkard, 67]
- 1821 JONES, Joseph, Cottage poems. [Brown, Folkard, 67]
- JONES, Joseph, *Prayers for the use of families, compiled from the Book of Common Prayer*. (London; printed for Longman, Hurst, Rees, Orme, and Brown... by J. Brown; Wigan; 1821) vi+[i]+52 pp. [Brown; Folkard, 67; MWL]
- MINIMUS (pseud.), An appeal to humanity in behalf of the heathen world particularly addressed to snuff-takers & tobacco-smokers in all Christian lands... Second edition. 22 pp., 12mo. (Wigan; printed for the author, by J. Brown; and sold by W. Baynes & Son, London; 1821) [BL; DB photocopy; Folkard, 25]

Dated at end by author, who was possibly Samuel Harris (1767-1832).

A5

APPIPIRAR

TO

HUMANITY

IN BEHALF OF

THE MEATHEN WORLD

PARTICULARLY ADDRESSED TO

SNUFF-TAKERS & TOBACCO-SMOKERS

IN ALL CHRISTIAN LANDS.

BI MINIMER

"He that is faithful in that which is least, is faithful also in much: and he that is unjust in the least, is unjust also in much.

"If therefore you have not been faithful in the UNRIGITEOUS MANNON, who will commit to your trust the TRUE RICHES."

"I beseech you therefore as strangers and pilgrims, to abstain from fleshly lusts, which was against the sour."—St. Peter.

SECOND EDITION.

WIGAN:

PRINTED FOR THE AUTHOR, BY J. BROWN ;

And Sold by W. Baynes & Son, 23, Paternoster-Row, London; and all other Bookseilers.

PRICE FOUR-PENCE.

Entered at Stationers' Hally

1821 ST. HELENS.- Friendly Society, Altered, amended, and additional rules, orders, and regulations of the Friendly Society, instituted and now held at the Tontine coffee house, in Saint Helens, in the county of Lancaster, made and agreed upon the fourth day of December, 1820. 8 pp. Printed in 1821 as in the

- text there is a minute dated 'January 29th, 1821'. [BL, with ownership inscription: 'Jno. Glover. July 2nd 1821'.]
- c.1822 JONES, Joseph, The cottager's conversations with his children. [Brown]
- c.1822 JONES, Joseph, *Poems*. [Brown]
- c.1822 JONES, Joseph, Prayers for every morning and evening in the week; designed for the use of children and young people of the lower orders; to which are added some Serious songs, intended to promote the cause of piety, virtue, and humanity [Brown]
- JONES, Joseph, *Cottage lectures; or, tracts intended to lead the poor to the study of the Holy Bible*, vol. I (24 nos.), 288 pp. (Printed and sold by J. Brown; sold also by W. Baynes & Son... and J. Offor... London) [Brown, DB; Folkard, 67, JRULM]

COTTAGE LECTURES;

OR,

TRACTS

INTENDED TO LEAD THE POOR

TO THE STUDY

OF THE HOLY BIBLE.

Search the Scriptures; for in them ye think ye have eternal life; and they are they which testify of me.

ST. JOHN, v. 39.

Hearken, my beloved Brethren, Hath not God chosen the poor of this world, rich in faith, and heirs of the kingdom which he hath promised to them that love him?

ST. JAMES, ii. 5.

BY THE REV. JOSEPH JONES, M. A.

VOL. I.

Migan:

PRINTED AND SOLD BY J. BROWN;

ROW, AND J. OFFOR, 44, NEWGATE-STREET,
LONDON.

1822.

- 1822 JONES, Joseph, *The martyrs: a poem*. [Folkard, 67]
- JONES, Joseph, *Serious musings*. [A verse anthology.] xii+[x]+118+[2] pp. (London; printed for Longman, Hurst, Rees, Orme, & Brown; F.C. & J. Rivington; and G. & W.B. Whittaker; and Beilby & Knotts, Birmingham; by J. Brown, Wigan) 12mo., engraved frontis. signed A. Cooper. [DB, with handwritten signature 'B. Powell', i.e. possibly Benjamin Powell (1792-1861), who served as Vicar of St. George's, Wigan]





- WILCOCKSON, Isaac, Authentic records of the Guild Merchant of Preston, in the County Palatine of Lancaster, in the year 1822: with an introduction, containing an historical dissertation on the origin of guilds, and a relation of all the different celebrations of the Guilda Mercatoria, of Preston, of which any records remain. (Preston; printed and published by I. Wilcockson, sold also by C. Clarke, Lancaster; T. Kaye, Liverpool; T. Sowler, Manchester; T. Rogerson, Blackburn; J. Ogle, Bolton; J. Brown, Wigan; and all other booksellers in Lancashire; 1822) iv, [9]-128 pp., [2] leaves of plates, illustrations, portrait, 22 cm. [BL, JRULM]
- 1823? FRIEND TO FREE INQUIRY, A, *The main pillar of Trinitarianism; the doctrine of the two natures of Christ.* [Colophon:] Printed and sold by J. Brown, Wigan. 4 pp. [Folkard, 24]
- FRANCE, William (1781-1850), The faith once delivered to the saints, defended: being the substance of three sermons [on 1 John ii. 23] on the consistency, truth, and importance of the generally received opinion concerning the person of Christ; preached in the Methodist-chapels, Bolton (Bolton; London; Manchester; Liverpool; Preston; Blackburn; Wigan; Warrington: printed by J. Ogle, and sold by T. Blanshard, 14, City Road, Baldwin, Cradock, and Joy, Paternoster Row, London; J. Roberts, Manchester; T. Kaye, Liverpool; I. Wilcockson and L. Clarke, Preston; T. Rogerson, Blackburn; J. Brown, Wigan; and J. Harrison, Warrington) 102 pp., 22 cm. [BL, JRULM]
- 1823 FRIEND TO FREE INQUIRY, A, *Plain matters of fact, in an important case;* or, *Unitarianism and Trinitarianism contrasted and tried by Scripture*. (Wigan; printed and sold by J. Brown, Standishgate; 1823) 8 pp. [Folkard, 29, MWL]
- 1823 HART, Henry, Antinomianism dissected; being a reply to Mr. Gadsby's pamphlet, entitled "Sandemanianism weighed in the balance and found wanting" in which the false weights of that author... are detected and exposed.

- 52 pp. (London & Wigan) [BL; Samuel Harris letter of 26th Sept. 1828 refers to this as a specimen of Brown's typography]
- [Single sheet dated 1st January 1823. Begins:] Report of the accounts of the Wigan Sunday Schools, [containing] subscribers' names, 1822 [and] an abstract of the Treasurer's account, to December 31st, 1822. (J. Brown, printer; Wigan) [WA]

The list of subscribers indicates that John Brown (Stationer) contributed half a guinea (£0.10.6).

- 1824? HARBOTTLE, Joseph, *The faith, hope and love of the Christian, vigorous in death: being the substance of a funeral discourse for Mr. Christopher Barnes, nearly forty years a member, and twenty-seven a deacon, of the Baptist Church, at Accrington, near Blackburn, Lancashire: preached in the Baptist Chapel, Accrington, Lord's day afternoon, May 23, 1824.* 31 pp., 19 cm. (London: sold by J. Houldsworth; Blackburn: T. Rogerson; Wigan: J. Brown; Colne: H. Earnshaw; Preston: J. Walker) [AL]
- 1824 [A poster. Begins:] To be sold by auction, by order of the assignee of the estate and effects of Peter Lea, an insolvent debtor, at the house of Mr. William Haward, the Stork Inn, in Billinge... on Thursday the 15th day of April next.... all that messuage or dwelling-house... now in the occupation of John Glover, as tenant thereof... Wigan, March 13, 1824. [Imprint:] J. Brown, printer, Wigan. [WA]

To be Sold

By Order of the Assignee of the Estate and Effects of PETER LEA, an Insolvent Debtor,

At the House of Mr. William Haward, THE STORK INN,

in bippinge'

On THURSDAY the 15th Day of APRIL next,

THE SALE TO COMMENCE AT SIX O'CLOCK IN THE EVENING;

Subject to such Conditions as shall be then and there produced;

ALL THAT

MESSUAGE

OR

DWELLING-HOUSE.

With the Garden and Appurtenances thereunto belonging, situate at Billinge aforesaid, adjoining to the Highway leading from Wigan, in the said County, to Billinge Chapel, and now in the Occupation of JOHN GLOVER, as Tenant thereof, from Year to Year.

The Property is Freehold of Inheritance, and the Garden, as it contains a considerable Frontage to the Highway, affords very eligible Scites for the erection of Buildings.

The Tenant will show the Property, and any further Information may be obtained on Application at the Office of JOHN LORD, Solicitor, Wigan.

Wigan, March 13, 1824.

J. BROWN, PRINTER, WIGAN.

- [A poster. Headed:] Borough of Wigan, in the County of Lancaster. [Begins:] Notice is hereby given that a common hall, or meeting of the mayor, bailiffs, and burgesses of the said Borough, will be held at the New Town Hall... on Monday the twenty-seventh day of September... for the purpose of considering and determining whether the tolls payable within the said Borough... shall or not be let by ticket, or otherwise, for a term of years... And also for the purpose of taking into consideration the expediency of removing the fish market and fish stones to some place... more commodious and convenient. [Dated 20th September 1824 and signed:] Mayor. (J. Brown, printer; Wigan) [WA: copy with MS annotation and signature 'Thomas Darwell' above Mayor]
- 1825 ANON., Hymns for the use of the parochial schools of Hindley. [Folkard, 67]

1826? [Address for Scholes school.]

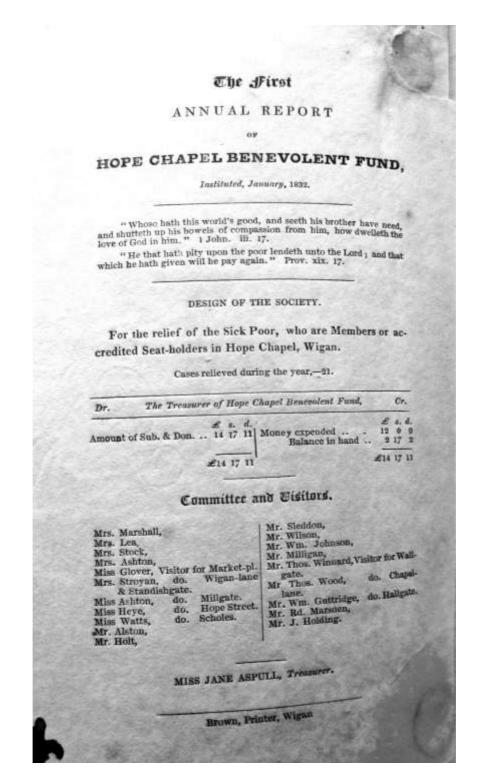
Referred to in Letters 6 and 11 from Samuel Harris to John Brown.

JONES, Joseph, Cottage lectures; or, tracts on the New Testament, intended to lead the poor to the study of the Holy Bible, vol. III (12 nos.), pp. ii+144

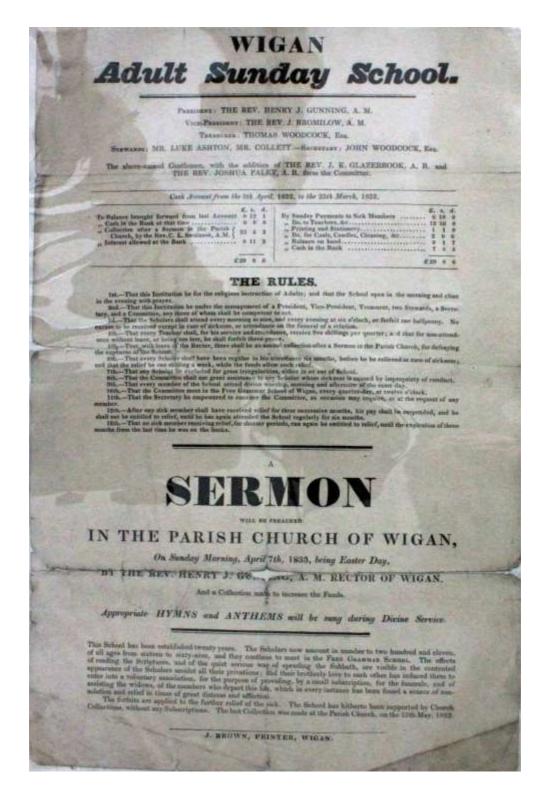
- (Printed and sold by J. Brown; sold also by Wightman and Cramp... London) [Brown, DB]
- 1826 KNOWLES, Francis (1784-1857), Minister of the Unitarian Chapel, Park Lane, Ashton, *A plain statement of the evidences of Christianity, divided into short chapters, with questions annexed to each, etc.* (London; Wightman & Cramp; Wigan; printed Brown). [BL, Folkard, 16]
- 1826 LAMBERHEAD GREEN AMICABLE SOCIETY, The, Amended articles to be observed by the Amicable Society at Lamberhead Green, in the township of Pemberton, for raising and supporting a fund for the maintenance of their sick and maimed, and interring their dead, first established and formed on Saturday the sixth day of January, 1787. (Wigan; printed, by J. Brown; 1826) 22 pp. [MWL]
- JONES, Joseph, *Cottage lectures; or, tracts intended to lead the poor to the study of the Holy Bible*, vol. III (12 nos., numbered 13-24), pp. iv, 145-288 (Printed and sold by J. Brown; sold also by Wightman and Cramp... London) [titlepage dated 1826 with statement 'Vol. V'] [Brown, DB]
- 1828 BLACKROD CHURCH, Occasional hymns, for the use of Blackrod Church. [Folkard, 66]
- 1829 BRIDGEMAN, George (1765-1832), Rector of Wigan, Statement addressed to the owners and occupiers of land in the Parish of Wigan, on the subject of the claim of the rector to the tithe of hay, and the correspondence which passed thereon; by the committee appointed at a general meeting, the 14th of May, 1828. (Wigan; printed by J. Brown, Standishgate; 1829) 25 pp. [Folkard, 3; MWL]
- [A poster. Headed:] Borough of Wigan, in the County of Lancaster. [Begins:] The present Moot Hall, within the Borough of Wigan, having become ruinous and unsafe... it is absolutely necessary that it should be taken down and rebuilt, which affords a favourable opportunity of widening and improving the Wallgate Street... Notice is therefore hereby given that a public meeting, etc. [Signed:] Thomas Hardman, Mayor; Henry Bullock, Justice; Samuel Newsham [and] John Croudson, Sheriffs; William Acton [and] Robert Acton, Overseers. Wigan, 3rd January, 1829. [Imprint:] J. Brown, printer, Standishgate, Wigan. [WA]
- 1830 KNOWLES, Francis (1784-1857), Minister of the Unitarian Chapel, Park Lane, Ashton, An appeal to the English Unitarians, on the marriage question; conversations: with an appendix, containing an address intended to have been submitted to the consideration of the Annual General Meeting, of the British and Foreign Unitarian Association, held, by adjournment from London, in Cross Street Chapel, Manchester, on the 17th of June, 1830. (Wigan; printed and sold by J. Brown; sold also by Teulon and Fox, and G. Wightman, London; Forrest, Manchester; Wilmer, Liverpool; and the booksellers generally;) [1830] [CUL]
- 1831 KNOWLES, Francis (1784-1857), Minister of the Unitarian Chapel, Park Lane, Ashton, *Remarks on the proceedings of the Committee of the British and Foreign Unitarian Association, relative to the Unitarian marriage question.* (Wigan; printed and sold by J. Brown; sold also by Teulon & Fox, and G. Wightman, London; Forrest, Manchester; Wilmer, Liverpool; and the booksellers generally; 1831) [ii]+14+[2] pp., 8vo. [CUL]

- 1832? ANON., A selection of sacred music, to be performed in the Parish Church of Wigan, on Sunday, 15th Jan., 1832. [Colophon:] Brown, printer. 4 pp. [MWL]
- 1832 JONES, Joseph, *Hymnology; or, a selection of hymns for private use.* (London; Wigan [printed]; 1832) [BL]
- WIGAN.- Hope Chapel Benevolent fund, *The first annual report of Hope Chapel Benevolent Fund, instituted January 1832... Miss Jane Aspull, Treasurer.* (Brown, printer; Wigan) [copy affixed in HSCCMB]

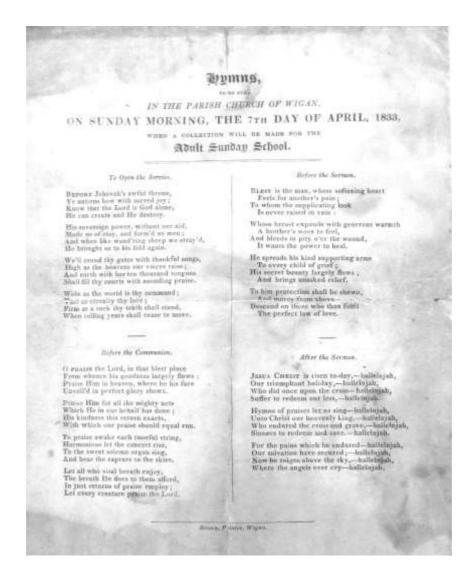
A single sheet containing design of the society, brief account, and names of committee and visitors.



1833 [A poster. Headed:] Wigan Adult Sunday School, [followed by a list of the officers, summary cash account 8th April 1822-25th March 1833, and list of rules. Followed by the announcement:] A sermon will be preached in the Parish Church of Wigan, on Sunday morning, April 7th, 1833, being Easter Day, by the Rev. Henry J. Gunning, A.M., Rector of Wigan, and a collection made to increase the funds.] (J. Brown, printer; Wigan) [WA]



1833 [Single sheet. Begins:] *Hymns to be sung in the Parish Church of Wigan, on Sunday morning, the 7th day of April, 1833, when a collection will be made for the Adult Sunday School.* [Four hymns. Imprint:] (Brown, printer; Wigan) [WA]

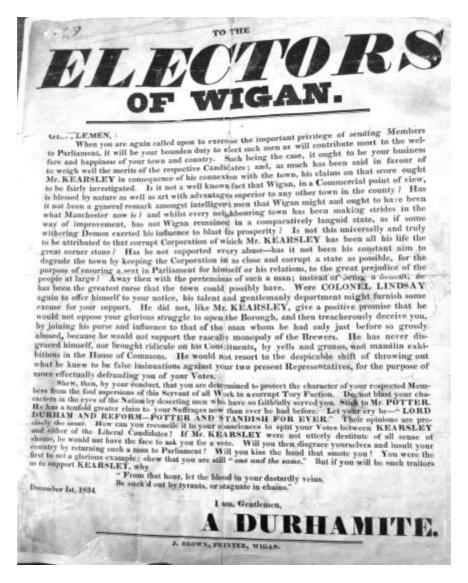


- 1833 STEILL, Alexander (1768-1832), Congregational Minister of St. Paul's Chapel, Wigan, [Sale] catalogue of the late A. Steill of Wigan, consisting of a choice collection of the classics... to be sold, etc. [Folkard, 35]
- 1834 ANON., Billinge hill scenery: an offering to Billinge bazaar. [Folkard, 48]
- 1834 LAMBTON, J.G., Earl of Durham, Speech of the Earl of Durham, at the Newcastle dinner, Wednesday, Nov. 19, 1834. (Extracted from The Sun newspaper.) [Colophon:] Printed by J. Brown, Standishgate, Wigan. 8 pp. [Folkard, 67]

A rousing appeal for political reform.

1834 [Broadside. Begins:] *To the electors of Wigan*. [Signed:] *A Durhamite*. *December 1st, 1834*. [Imprint:] J. Brown, printer; Wigan. [WA]

An election paper denouncing the Tory J.H. Kearsley and promoting the election ticket of the Whigs Richard Potter and the Earl of Durham in the 1835 parliamentary elections.



- 1835 KNOWLES, Francis (1784-1857), Minister of the Unitarian Chapel, Park Lane, Ashton, *The balance of scriptural evidence on Trinitarianism and Unitarianism, etc.*, 3 vols. (London, Wigan printed). [Folkard, 16]
- 1835 LOVE, S., Canon, Lines written on hearing a robin sing in church; printed for the Wigan bazaar. [Folkard, 67; MWL]

With different title on green-paper wrapper: 'Bazaar for the Infant and Sunday School, Wigan, May 13th and 14th, 1835' (see illus. below).





Lines

WRITTEN ON HEARING A

ROBIN

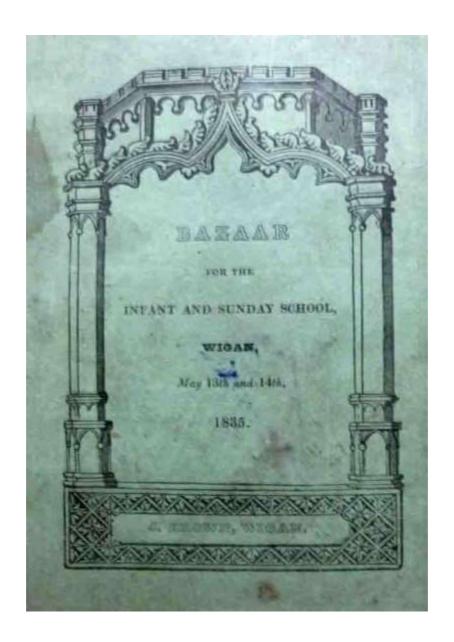
SING IN CHURCH.

Printed for the Wigan Bagaar.

J. BROWN, PRINTER, WIGAN.
MDCCCXXXV.







- WIGAN CATCH AND GLEE CLUB, *Rules of the Wigan Catch and Glee Club*. [Engraving of festooned lyre.] (Wigan; printed by J. Brown, Standishgate; 1835) 5 pp. [Folkard, 61; MWL]
- ANON., An address to the Protestants of Wigan, in refutation of the Rev. Mr. Middlehurst's arguments in support of the doctrine of purgatory; shewing from the Scriptures, that that doctrine is not to be received or believed on the testimony of tradition, as a part of divine truth, nor yet on the authority of the Church of Rome, nor on any other authority, save divine, and also proving the Church of Rome to be diametrically opposed in her character to the Church of Christ. (Wigan; J. Brown, Standishgate; 1836) 26 pp. [MWL]
- 1836 CROOK, George (d. 1836), Baptist, *Conversations on baptism; occasioned by* "A dialogue on the subject and mode of baptism"... Second edition. [Edited by John Crook.] (Wigan; printed and sold by J. Brown; sold also by G. Wightman; 1836) iv+50 pp., 8vo. [BL; CUL; Folkard, 7; OUL]
- 1836 DUGDALE, Robert (1810-1887), The death of saints an event of peculiar interest in the sight of God: being the substance of a sermon [on Psalm cxvi; 15] delivered in the Wesleyan Methodist Chapel, Wigan, June 5, 1836.

- (London; Wigan; Blackburn: sold by J. Mason, City Road; also by J. Brown, Wigan; and R. Wood, Blackburn; 1836) 16 pp., 22 cm. [JRULM]
- 1836 Wigan Operatives' Reform Association. The Establishment of the Wigan Operatives' Reform Association, etc. [A placard explaining their principles. Dated: 30 Oct. 1836.] 1 sheet. fol. [BL]
- 1837 [A large poster proclaiming Queen Victoria's accession to the throne, headed by the letters V. and R., divided by an engraved royal emblem. Begins:] The Mayor begs to inform the Inhabitants of the Borough, that it is his intention to proclaim her Majesty, Queen Victoria, at the usual places within the boundaries, on Thursday next. He begs therefore to invite the attendance of as many of the Inhabitants as can make it convenient to accompany him in Procession for that purpose. The Procession will move from the Town Hall at Eleven o'Clock. Wigan, July 3rd, 1837. [J. Brown, printer]. [WA]



1837 WHITAKER, J.W., The statutes and charter of Rivington School, in the County of Lancaster, with a memoir of the founder, the right reverend James Pilkington, B.D., Lord Bishop of Durham (London; Whittaker, Treacher, and

- Co.; Bancks and Co., Manchester, and J. Brown, Wigan; 1837) v+244 pp. [CL; CUL; Fishwick, 170]
- LINDSAY, Alexander William Crawford (1812-1880), 25th Earl of Crawford and 8th Earl of Balcarres, Baron Wigan, *Poems and poetical fragments*. [iv]+107 pp., large 4to with wide margins. [Folkard, 19; MWL (two copies with handwritten inscriptions: {1} 'James Lindsay, from his very affect brother, the Author. 15 Aug./38'; {2} 'Mrs. Dawkins Pennant with the Author's Brother's kind regards 1845'⁴³.)]
- 1838 POWELL, Benjamin (1792-1861), Vicar of St. George's, Wigan, Letter to the Right Hon. the Earl of Balcarres, in reply to the unfounded aspertions of his lordship, on the character and conduct of the Rev. B. Powell. [Folkard, 30]
- 1838 POWELL, Benjamin (1792-1861), Vicar of St. George's, Wigan, Sermon preached in the Parish Church of Wigan [on Mark xiv. 7] in the afternoon of Sunday, 14th June, 1818, for the benefit of the Sunday schools. [Folkard, 30]

_

⁴³ Elizabeth, daughter of William Henry Bouverie of Betchworth House, Surrey, married George Hay Dawkins Pennant (1764-1840) of Penrhyn Castle, Caernarvonshire and 56 Portland Place, Middlesex on the 4th May 1814. Dawkins Pennant was MP for Newark, 1814-1818 and for New Romney, 1820-1830. The following note may be of additional interest: 'Richard Dawkins, the secularist campaigner against "intolerance and suffering", must face an awkward revelation: he is descended from slave owners and his family estate was bought with a fortune partly created by forced labour. One of his direct ancestors, Henry Dawkins, amassed such wealth that his family owned 1,013 slaves in Jamaica by the time of his death in 1744. The Dawkins family estate, consisting of 400 acres near Chipping Norton, Oxfordshire, was bought at least in part with wealth amassed through sugar plantation and slave ownership. Over Norton Park, inherited by Richard Dawkins's father, remains in the family, with the campaigner as a shareholder and director of the associated business.' (Adam Lusher, 'Slaves at the root of the fortune that created Richard Dawkins' family estate', *The Telegraph*, 19 Feb. 2012.)

Principal sources referred to in the footnotes

Manuscript:

BC Burgess certificates, in Wigan Archives, Leigh Town Hall (call

no. AB/MR13)

BCBLSW Baptists Church book, Lord Street, Wigan (containing an

account of the founding and early days of Lord Street Baptist Church, records of events, and transcripts of some early letters written by the church), presently (in 2014) kept with other documents on the church premises of Wigan Baptist Church,

Scarisbrick Street, Wigan

PB Poll books for the Borough and Corporation of Wigan: (1)

1830; (2) 1st March 1831; (3) 4th May 1831; (4) 1832, in

Wigan Archives, Leigh Town Hall (call no. SR1/18/B)

RP Riot papers, 1831, in Wigan Archives, Leigh Town Hall (call

no. D/DX/AP/G2)

WTCMB Borough of Wigan Town Council: Minute Book, 1835-1841, in

Wigan Archives, Leigh Town Hall (call no. CB/Wi/A1/1)

Printed:

Baines, DW E. Baines, Directory of Wigan (1825) (available on-line at

http://www.wiganworld.co.uk/stuff/townd1825.php?opt=townd

1825)

CSP [A. Hodgson & E.J. Bamford,] The chronicle of St. Paul's

[Independent Church, Wigan] [n. pl.; n. publ.;] 1977

Folkard, WD H.T. Folkard, Wigan and district: a local record (Wigan; J.

Starr: 1916)

PEMP The poll for the election of Members of Parliament for the

Borough and Corporation of Wigan (Wigan; printed by W. & G. Lyon; 1820) [two copies, with different manuscript additions, in Wigan Archives, Leigh Town Hall (call no.

SR1/18/B)]

Roaf, EPL W. Roaf, Ebenezer: a pastoral letter, No. 1. to the church and

congregation assembling in St. Paul's Independent Chapel, Standishgate, Wigan (London; Partridge and Oakey; 1847)

Robinson, LCU W.G. Robinson, A history of the Lancashire Congregational

Union, 1806-1956 (Manchester; Lancashire Congregational

Union; 1955)

Sellers, PF I. Sellers, Pathways to faith: a history of Wigan Baptist Church

1796-1996 (Wigan; n. publ.; 1996)

Whelan, BA

T. Whelan, Baptist autographs in the John Rylands University

Library of Manchester (Macon, GA; Mercer UP; 2009)