

now been in active operation about three years. The *Union Workhouse* is an extensive group of buildings, standing on the summit of a high ridge to the south-east of the town, known as *Whinny Heights*. It was opened in 1864. The cost of this capacious and imposing structure was little short of £30,000. It will accommodate 700 inmates. The *Cemetery* is situated on the *Whalley road*, about a mile to the north-east of the town. It was completed and constituted the sole place of interment for the borough in 1857. There are three Gothic chapels in the grounds—for the Church of England, the Dissenters, and the Catholics—the cemetery being divided into three parts. The affairs of the cemetery are controlled by a burial-board, of which the vicar of Blackburn is at present the chairman. The cost of the land for the cemetery, and the laying out of the same, was about £17,000, borrowed on mortgage of the poor's-rates, of which some £6500 has been repaid, a sinking fund being provided by the overseers of the township for that purpose. The amount still owing on mortgage is £10,350. The income of the burial-board for the year ending 25th March 1867, was £3085 : 17 : 5, of which about £773 was received from burial-fees, grass, and rent of fenced-off land; and the expenditure £2772 : 18 : 8, £1765 of which was appropriated to liquidation of the mortgages, and £545 : 12 : 2 to the payment of interest thereon, leaving £462 : 6 : 6 to represent the annual working expenses of the Board.

The *County Court* is situated on the east side of the market-place,—a neat and substantial building of red brick, faced with stone, opened in 1863. The sittings in this court are weekly, on the Monday, and its jurisdiction extends to all the townships in the Blackburn parochial union. The presiding judge is W. A. Hulton, esq., whose circuit embraces the greater portion of the northern division of the county, including the courts of Blackburn, Chorley, Garstang, Haslingden, Kirkham, Lancaster, Poulton-le-Fylde, and Preston. The number of plaints entered in the Blackburn County Court in the year 1866 was 4329, for a total amount of £13,371, and the number of causes determined was 2516. In 1867 the number of plaints entered had increased to 4467.

Coal is found in the southern end of the parish, and in several parts much gray-(stone) slate is got. In one of the adjoining hills is a mine of alum-stone, which Fuller says was worked in his time, but had long been neglected on account of the increasing expense of removing the superincumbent strata. When Sir G. Colebrook's project of monopolising alum took place, he purchased and worked these mines, but since its failure they have again fallen into neglect.

In the year 1770 the population of the municipal and parliamentary borough of Blackburn amounted to only 5000 souls, and in 1783 to 8000; in 1801, the total number of inhabitants was 11,980; in 1811, 15,083; in 1821, 21,940; and in 1831, 27,091. In 1861 it was by the census returns 63,126.

The town of Blackburn is intersected by two lines of railway—the East Lancashire Railway passing east and west from Burnley to Preston, and the Bolton and Blackburn line passing north and south from Clitheroe to Darwen, Bolton, and Manchester. These two lines were originally constructed by separate companies (the East Lancashire Railway Company and the Bolton, Blackburn, and Clitheroe Railway Company), but they are now both incorporated with the Lancashire and Yorkshire Railway system. The first railway constructed in the parish was the line from Preston to Blackburn, opened on Whit-Monday 1846; the continuation of this line to Accrington and Burnley was completed in 1848. In 1848, also, the line from Bolton to Blackburn was opened for traffic, and in 1850 the branch to Whalley, Clitheroe, and Chatburn was finished. The amalgamation of these two companies with the Lancashire and Yorkshire Railway Company took place in 1854. A new railway from Blackburn to Chorley and Wigan is now in course of construction, for the joint use of the London and North-Western, and Lancashire and Yorkshire Railway Companies. It will connect with the existing line to Preston near the Cherry Tree station, about two miles from Blackburn, and will pass through the village of Withnell, in the township of Wheelton, to Chorley, and thence to Wigan, shortening the distance by rail between Blackburn and those towns by many miles.

MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT.

In 1847, by virtue of a Local Improvement Act, the affairs of the town were placed under the direction of Improvement Commissioners, by whom the erection of the Market-house and the laying out of the Market-square were carried out, and considerable improvements effected in the lighting, paving, and drainage of the town, as well as by the demolition of many dilapidated and overcrowded tenements in the older portions of the town. By a charter of incorporation, dated August 28, 1851, the town of Blackburn was constituted a corporate borough. The borough was divided into the six wards of St. Mary, St. John, Trinity, Park, St. Peter, and St. Paul; each to return six councillors. The council of the borough to consist of a mayor, twelve aldermen, and thirty-six councillors. The first municipal election took place on the 1st of November 1851. William Hoole, esq., chairman of the Improvement Commissioners, was the returning officer. On the 10th of November the council met for the first time, and elected twelve aldermen. William Henry Hornby, esq., was elected mayor. The following is a list of the mayors of Blackburn from its incorporation to the present time (1867):—

1851-2.	William Henry Hornby, esq.	1859-60.	James Cunningham, esq.
1852-3.	Robert Hopwood, esq., junior.	1860-1.	Thomas Thwaites, esq.
1853-4.	} Thomas Dugdale, esq.	1861-2.	Robert Hopwood Hutchinson, esq.
1854-5.		1862-3.	James Barlow S. Sturdy, esq.
1855-6.	William Hoole, esq.	1863-4.	Thomas Lund, esq.
1856-7.	} William Pilkington, esq.	1864-5.	William Stones, esq.
1857-8.		1865-6.	James Thompson, esq.
1858-9.	John Baynes, esq.	1866-7.	John Dean, esq.
		1867-8.	John Smith, esq.

The public works initiated by the Improvement Commissioners, whose powers are transferred to the Corporation, have been carried out with great energy. During the first sixteen years of its existence, from 1851 to 1867, the Corporation, besides providing for the current charges of the government of the borough, has expended in various works and improvements not less than £300,000—a sum equal to twice the total rateable value of the borough, which is now about £151,000. The indebtedness of the Corporation on the 31st of December 1866 was as under:—

Amount owing on mortgage of Improvement Rates	£52,018 19 1
" " " Sewer Rates	54,616 0 0
" " " Public Works Loan	96,666 13 4
	<hr/>
Add balance of Public Works Loan, applied for in 1867	£203,301 12 5
	34,125 0 0
	<hr/>
Total indebtedness	£237,426 12 5

The PROPERTIES BELONGING TO THE CORPORATION are as follows :—

	Cost.
Market and Market Ground	£28,000 0 0
Town Hall	30,000 0 0
Park	20,000 0 0
Red Rake Farm, ultimately intended to be added to the Park, contains about 12 statute acres	1,200 0 0
Baths, containing 1 plunge-bath 20 yards by 11 yards, 40 private baths, and residence	4,500 0 0
Fire Engine Station for six engines, superintendent's residence, stable, and cottages	2,000 0 0
Sewerage Outlet Works, containing 5 tanks for the settlement of sewerage, large store-shed, cottages, etc.	10,000 0 0
Islington Store-Yard, contains 10,000 square yards of land, stables, offices, watch-house, large store-sheds, etc.	5,100 0 0
Daisy Field Store-Yard contains 5603 square yards of land on ground-rent. Cost fencing round	400 0 0
Canal Dock Store Yard contains 2000 square yards of land on ground-rent. Cost fencing round	200 0 0
	<hr/>
	£101,400 0 0

Length of Paved Streets within the borough	19½ miles.
Do. of Macadamised Roads	15½ "
Do. of Main Sewers	31¼ "
Sewerage Works of the borough, cost £90,000.	

The income of the Corporation is derived from improvement, sewerage, and highway rates, and the revenues of the markets, etc. It has also a borough fund for the maintenance of the corporate offices, the police force, and the free library, amounting at this date (1867) to £4200 per annum, which is levied by the overseers as a portion of the poor's-rates.

The POLICE FORCE of the borough is under the direction of the Watch Committee—a committee of the Town-Council, but invested with independent powers. The force, till recently, consisted of a superintendent of police, an inspector, a clerk, 7 sergeants, and 32 constables. After several attempts to augment the force to the government standard of one constable to every thousand inhabitants, the police force has this year (1868) been increased by 21 constables, making the requisite total of 63. The criminal statistics of the borough, as published in the chief constable's report for the year ending September 20, 1867, give the following results :—During the year, 3013 persons (2360 males and 653 females) were proceeded against summarily, of whom 1059 were discharged, and the residue subjected to various pecuniary penalties and terms of imprisonment. The increase in these petty delinquencies during the last few years has been marked. In 1863 the number was 1991; 1864, 2145; 1865, 2156; 1866, 2685; 1867, 3013. The number of persons proceeded against for indictable offences in 1867, was 122 (100 males and 22 females), of whom 26 were discharged, and 96 committed for trial. The county police force for the lower division of the hundred of Blackburn, consists of a superintendent, inspector, clerk, 7 sergeants, and 41 constables; total, 50.

The FIRE BRIGADE, under the charge of a superintendent, who is also inspector of nuisances, consists of 24 men, with 3 engines.

The CORPORATION PARK, a delightful pleasure-ground of about 50 acres, is under the control of the General Purposes Committee of the Town-Council. The estate was purchased by the Corporation from Joseph Feilden, esq., in January 1855, for which purchase were available the proceeds of the sale to the railway companies of a piece of public land, known as the Town's Moor, which, with interest for some years, produced the sum of £4701 : 19 : 7. For the land of the park, £3257 : 6 : 3 were paid; the Corporation also covenanting to erect boundary walls and to construct boundary roads upon the east and west sides of the park. Along these roads the majority of the recently-erected residences of the gentry are situated. The total expenditure of the Corporation in laying out the grounds of the park has been near £20,000. The park is situate upon the southern slope of Revidge Hill, on the north side of the town, and is regarded as one of the most picturesque in the kingdom. The annual cost of its maintenance is about £550.

The FREE LIBRARY is a corporate institution, established under the Public Free Libraries' Act of 1850. It was first mooted by Mr. Thomas Clough, solicitor, in 1853, when a vote of the burgesses was taken upon the question, who all but unanimously approved of the proposal. The subject, however, lapsed until 1859, when Mr. John Baynes, the then mayor, revived it by the offer of a liberal donation. The inaugural meeting was held on August 23, 1860, and a subscription having been raised, towards which the working classes were the chief contributors, a collection of books was obtained, and the lending and reference departments of the library were formally opened in February 1862. For the support of the Free Library, the Town-Council grants the proceeds of the rate of one half-penny in the £ upon the borough assessment, which produces about £340 per annum. Considerable additions have been made to the library since its opening, and it now (1867) contains about 14,000 volumes, and the annual issues of books are from 35,000 to 40,000. A small museum is attached. The Free Library Committee consists in part of members of the Town-Council, and partially of gentlemen of literary tastes not connected with the council. The premises temporarily occupied are in Town Hall Street, but the erection of a library building is contemplated.

The PUBLIC BATHS, erected by the Corporation at a cost of £3500, on a plot of land adjoining St. Peter's Church, were opened July 11, 1868. The baths include a large swimming-bath and private baths of all kinds, for the use of which a small fee is charged.

VOLUNTEER CORPS.—These are, in Blackburn, the 2d Lancashire Rifles and the 5th Lancashire Artillery Volunteers. The rifle corps has a barrack and drill-ground in Back Lane; the shooting-ground is at Audley. The number of men in the corps, including officers, is 601. Associated with the corps are the 62d Clitheroe, numbering 104 men, and the 81st Wheelton, which musters 82 men. The 5th Artillery Volunteers have their offices, parade-ground, and drill-sheds in King Street. The corps numbers at present 400 effectives, and 15 non-effectives. It forms a portion of the 3d brigade, of which Blackburn is the headquarters, and which also includes the 18th, 22d, 23d, and 26th Lancashire Artillery Corps.

The SAVINGS' BANK, established in 1831, has a suitable building in Corporation Street. The last report for the year ending November 20, 1867, shows the receipts for the year to be £46,733 : 5 : 5 in 6599 deposits; amount repaid in the same period, £30,502 : 15 : 10; total amount due to depositors, £138,053 : 10 : 2, to meet which its total assets were £140,901 : 9 : 1. The number of accounts remaining open at the end of the year was 4474.

The CHARITABLE INSTITUTIONS of Blackburn are numerous, but all of them of modern date, except the Free Grammar School. On the 23d of April, in the year 1818, an *Auxiliary Bible Society* was established here, under the patronage of the Right Honourable Edward Smith, Lord Stanley. The *Ladies' Society*, established in 1808, affords relief to poor married women in child-birth, at their own houses; and the *Strangers' Friend Society* relieves those who have no other helper. The *Blackburn General Dispensary*,

established 1823, is now merged in the Infirmary. The *Philanthropic Burial Society* was formed in 1839. At first a private undertaking, it has grown into an important public institution, numbering more than 100,000 members resident in Blackburn and neighbouring towns and villages. In February 1834 six *Almshouses*, erected at Blackburn by the lady of William Turner, esq., M.P., were opened for the dwellings of six aged widows, who are each allowed 3s. a-week.

CO-OPERATION has not been very successful in the town of Blackburn. Four or five cotton-manufacturing businesses have been started on the co-operative principle, but one after another has succumbed to commercial difficulties, and not one now remains. The co-operative provision-stores have been more fortunate. The Blakey Moor Co-operative Society has two establishments. The Daisyfield co-operative Society has three branches. There is also a co-operative store in Grimshaw Park, with several branches, and another society in Witton. These societies are all flourishing, and pay satisfactory dividends. At Great Harwood, in the parish of Blackburn, a co-operative cotton-spinning and a cotton-manufacturing company are in existence. At Lower Darwen there is a co-operative provision society; and at Over Darwen a very considerable society of the same kind, doing an extensive trade, and which has erected business premises costing £7000.

The CLUBS of Blackburn are numerous. The oldest is the *Union Club*, a society of gentlemen established about 1849. The *Conservative Club* in King William Street is, as its name imports, a political association, and has about 400 members. The *Reform Club* occupies a handsome club-house, in the Italian style of architecture, recently erected in the market-place at a cost of £5000. It numbers more than 250 members. The *Literary Club*, in the market-place, was established in 1863, and has about 130 members. The working men also have formed several political clubs.

The NEWSPAPERS at present published in Blackburn are the *Blackburn Standard*, established in 1835, issued on the Wednesday; the *Blackburn Times*, commenced in 1855, published on the Saturday; and the *Blackburn Patriot*, established in 1860, issued on the Saturday. The history of the newspaper press in the town has been a chequered one. The titles of journals which formerly existed here, but are now defunct, are as follows:—*Blackburn Mail*, started in 1791, ceased in 1833; *Blackburn Gazette*, started in 1833, ceased in 1843; *Blackburn Journal*, commenced in 1822, and ceased a few years after; *Blackburn Mercury*, started in 1833, and ceased about 1848.

By the Reform Act of 1832 Blackburn was erected into a borough, and invested with the privilege of returning two members to parliament; and by the Act 2 and 3 William IV. cap. 64, for settling and describing the divisions of counties and the limits of cities and boroughs, so far as respects the election of members to serve in parliament, "the township of Blackburn" constituted this borough. By the Boundaries Act of 1868, the parliamentary borough of Blackburn is extended so as to include parts of the townships of Witton and Livesey. The following are the elections since the Reform Act of 1832:—

BLACKBURN.—(TWO MEMBERS.)

ELECTORS IN 1832, 626. IN 1867, 2004.

Elections.		Elections.	
1832. Dec.	William Feilden (L.) 377	1853. March	On petition, Mr. Eccles being unseated for bribery: Montague J. Feilden (L.) 631
	William Turner (L.) 347		William H. Hornby (C.) 574
	J. Bowring, LL.D. . . . (L.) 334	1857. March	James Pilkington (L.)
1835. Jan.	William Turner (L.) 432		William H. Hornby (C.)
	William Feilden (L.) 316	1859. April	William H. Hornby (C.) 832
	J. Bowring, LL.D. . . . (L.) 303		James Pilkington (L.) 750
1837. Aug.	William Turner (L.) 515		John P. Murrrough (L.) 567
	William Feilden (L. C.) 416	1865. July	William H. Hornby (C.) 1053
	J. B. Smith (L.) 9		Jos. Feilden (C.) 938
1841. July	William Feilden (L. C.) 441		James Pilkington (L.) 774
	Jno. Hornby (L. C.) 427		John Gerald Potter (L.) 577
	William Turner (L.) 426	1868. Nov.	William H. Hornby (C.) 4907
1847. Aug.	Jno. Hornby (PROT.) 641		Joseph Feilden (C.) 4829
	James Pilkington (L.) 602		John Gerald Potter (L.) 4399
	William Hargreaves (L.) 392		Montague J. Feilden (L.) 4164
	W. P. Roberts (CHARTIST) 68		
1852. July	James Pilkington (L.) 846		
	William Eccles (L.) 580		
	Jno. Hornby (C.) 509		

When the returns were made by the Parliamentary Commissioners in 1831, the township of Blackburn contained 4802 houses, of which 410 were assessed at £10 and upwards, and 623 were worth £10 a-year and upwards.

ROBERT BOLTON, S.T.B., a religious and learned Puritan divine, who flourished here in the early part of the seventeenth century, was born at Brookhouse, near Blackburn, in 1572, and educated at the free school there. In 1590 he was entered a student of Lincoln College, Oxford, under the care of Mr. John Randal, a man of considerable reputation in the university, from whose example in learning he made a rapid advancement, especially in Greek. From Lincoln College he removed to Brasenose, with a view to a fellowship, and took his degree of bachelor of arts on the 2d of December 1596; but, being poor and in indifferent circumstances, he waited a long time, receiving in the meanwhile assistance and encouragement from Dr. Richard Brett, a noted Grecian, and an eminent scholar of Lincoln College. At length, in 1602, with great difficulty and some disappointments, he was elected fellow, and proceeded master of arts on the 30th of July. His great reputation now getting abroad, he was successively elected lecturer in logic, and also in moral and natural philosophy, and a public disputant. Having made himself eminent in metaphysics and divinity, he left college and retired to Lancashire, where he had a narrow escape from being finally converted to the church of Rome by the constant and zealous exertions of Mr. Anderton, of Christ's College, his countryman and former school-fellow, in consequence of the latter having neglected to keep an appointment they had made to confer together on the subject of the Catholic religion. Soon after this, Bolton returned again to Brasenose, and became acquainted with Mr. Peacock, a learned and religious man of that college, who persuaded him to take orders. On the 14th of December 1609 he proceeded bachelor of

divinity, and was made rector of Broughton, in Northamptonshire, where he died in the sixtieth year of his age, on the 17th of December 1631, being buried in the chancel of the church there. He was a very zealous and constant preacher, and a charitable, bountiful, and humane man. His publications are numerous, consisting chiefly of sermons and practical divinity.

LOCAL ANNALS.

- A. D. ?596. The original parish church of St. Marie, Blackburn, built shortly after the introduction of Christianity into Britain.
- ?628. Formation of the parish of Whalley, comprising the present parishes of Blackburn, Rochdale, Ribchester, Chipping, Mitton, and Slaidburn, embracing an area of 400 square miles.
798. Great battle at Billingham (Langho, Billington), between Duke Wada and Ardulph, King of Northumbria. Tumuli still exist, supposed to mark the site of the battle.
864. The De Talbots and De Lacies hunted the wild boar in Ramsgrave Chase.
971. In the time of Edward the Confessor, Blagborne described as an obscure *vill*; the parish church of St. Marie, the inn of the lord, and the abode of the parson, the only buildings of any note.
1041. Parish church of St. Marie beautified.
1067. Blagborne granted by the Conqueror to Ilbert de Laci, first Baron of Clitheroe.
1082. According to Domesday Book, the church at Blagborne had two bovates of land and two carucates at Whalley.
1101. A cross erected in Blackburn market-place by John de Laci.
1160. Church and manor of Blackburn divided between the two sons of Henry de Blackburn.
1162. St. Leonard's-the-Great church, Walton-le-Dale, erected.
1190. St. Leonard's-the-Little church, Samlesbury, built.
1251. Grant to St. Marie's church, Blagborne, by Edward de Lacy.
1291. The Vicarage of Blackburn stated in the *Taxatio Ecclesiastica* to be worth £33 : 6 : 8.
1320. The boundaries of Billington and Great Harwood taken, with the assent of Henry de Lascy, by William de Hesketh and his son, Rodger Nowell and his son, in Great Harwood; and Sir Adam de Hoddleston and others, in Bylington.
1335. Ricardus de Southworth built Samlesbury Old Hall.
1350. The parish church of St. Mary re-edified.
1389. St. Bartholomew's church, Great Harwood, built.
1504. St. Leonard's chapel, Balderstone, built.
1510. Sir Edward Stanley recruited men in the parish for the war in Scotland.
1514. Thomas, earl of Derby, founded a chantry in the parish, and endowed it with lands.
1532. Dissolution of the Benedictine Sisterhood at Audley Hall.
1533. Abbot Paslew of Whalley rebuilt the cross in Blackburn market-place.
1537. The church of St. Mary, with the moiety of the manor, vested in the archbishopric of Canterbury. Thomas Cranmer, then archbishop, made rector of Blackburn.
1540. Repair of the parish church of St. Mary.
1559. Levy of men in Blackburn for the national defence: 407 "harnessed," and 406 "unharnessed."
1560. Henry Ainsworth, the notable Hebrew scholar and commentator, born at Pleasington.
1567. Blackburn Free Grammar School established by royal charter.
1572. Robert Bolton, the Puritan divine, born at Brookhouse, Blackburn.
1576. Disputes concerning the encroachments and enclosures on Blakey Moor.
1580. Thomas Talbot of Salesbury, keeper of the Records in the Tower of London.
1592. Samlesbury Old Hall ransacked by order of Chief-Justice Brereton.
1600. Commencement of the registers of baptisms, burials, and marriages at Blackburn parish church.
1603. Camden, the antiquary, visited the parish.
1612. Eight persons from Samlesbury charged at the Lancaster Assizes with witchcraft, but acquitted.
1613. Funeral monument to Sir Thomas Walmesley erected in the Dunkenhalgh Chapel of the parish church.
1614. South Chapel in the parish church divided by legal award between the Talbots of Salesbury and the Walmesleys of Dunkenhalgh.
1617. August 15-18. James I. visited Hoghton Tower on the confines of the parish. Blackburn commons and heaths enclosed and allotted.
1636. Burial of Sir Edward Osbaldestone with great pomp in the family chapel in the parish church.
1642. December 24. Blackburn town invested and attacked by the Royalist force under the Earl of Derby. The attack was repulsed.
1643. The Royalists occupied the town of Blackburn. Sir John Talbot, of Salesbury Hall, sought to capture the Parliamentary leaders by the stratagem of inviting them to visit him, but was circumvented, and the hall pillaged by the Puritans.
1644. Prince Rupert, with his army, passed through Blackburn on his way to Yorkshire, shortly before the battle of Marston Moor.
1651. Inquisition taken, by order of Parliament, of the parish, before Richard Shuttleworth, esq. The parish contained nineteen townships and seven chapels.
1660. Alum-mine opened in the Yellow Hills, near Blackburn, which was worked for some years by Sir G. Colebrooke. Petition to the king for an augmentation of the vicar's stipend.
1662. Rev. M. Sandford, incumbent of Great Harwood, ejected from the living.
1665. Search of suspected houses in the parish for arms.
1667. Shock of an earthquake felt at Blackburn.
1677. The old vicarage (demolished in 1821) built by Francis Price, Vicar.
1680. St. James's church, Over Darwen, built.
1687. Petition presented to James II. by the Inhabitants of Over Darwen in favour of liberty of conscience. The petition was granted.
1688. Langho Chapel seized by Barthomley Walmesley, esq. of Dunkenhalgh, restored to the vicar under a decree of the Lord Chancellor.
1693. Great Harwood School built by Roger Nowell, esq.
1700. The Old Town Prison, on Darwen Street Bridge, erected. Nonconformist chapel built at Over Darwen.
1706. Petition sent to Parliament representing the distressed condition of the poor people in the parish.
1709. Old Independent chapel, Tockholes, built.
1715. The inhabitants of Blackburn prepared to defend the town against the advance of the Pretender, who had captured Preston.
1729. Edward Harwood, D.D., the learned Nonconformist Divine, born at Over Darwen. The river Blakewater overflowed its banks at Blackburn, damaging property and drowning twelve persons.

- A. D. 1737. The bells of St. Mary's church recast.
1745. Stragglers from the army of Prince Charles Edward, at Preston, entered the parish. Blackburn raised its quota of the county force of 5000 men, called for by the Earl of Derby to defend the Government.
1751. A Scotchman, named William Thompson, found murdered on the Braddell Road, Great Harwood. His murderer was not discovered.
1756. The first Sir Robert Peel, father of the statesman and Cabinet Minister, born in Fish Lane, Blackburn.
1760. The first calico-printing works in the county erected at Brookside, near Blackburn, by Mr. Robert Peel, father of the first baronet.
1764. Visit of John Wesley to Over Darwen. Independent Chapel, Chapel Street, and Baptist Chapel, Islington, Blackburn, built.
1765. James Hargreaves of Stanhill, near Blackburn, invented the "Spinning Jenny." Girls' Charity School, Thunder Alley, Blackburn, founded by Wm. Leyland, esq.
1766. Destruction of the spinning-machines in the parish by furious mobs of hand-loom weavers. James Hargreaves driven from the neighbourhood. Regiment of soldiers named "Oatcake Lads," raised in the parish.
1770. Leeds and Liverpool Canal commenced.
1772. Waterworks for Blackburn constructed in Pemberton clough.
1773. Pennant, the antiquary, passed through the parish in his tour from Downing to Aston Moor. Old Catholic chapel, Chapel Street, Blackburn, erected.
1774. Edward Baines, esq., the Historian of Lancashire, born in Walton-le-Dale, in this parish. In 1801 he became the proprietor of the "Leeds Mercury," and in 1834 was elected M.P. for Leeds. He died August 3, 1848, aged seventy-four years.
1777. Sep. 14. Shock of an earthquake felt in Blackburn.
1779. The antipathy of the working people to the introduction of machinery in the cotton-manufacture led to serious riots, and the general destruction of machines, mills, and property of other description.
1781. John Wesley visited Blackburn.
1784. Act of Parliament passed for the division and enclosure of commons and waste lands in the township of Billington and Wilpshire.
1785. Wesleyan chapel, Clayton Street, built. Outbreak of an epidemic fever in Blackburn.
1787. Subscription library started by the vicar and others.
1788. St. John's church, Blackburn, built.
1792. August. Great flood in Blackburn; four persons drowned, and much damage done to property. St. Paul's church built.
1798. Blackburn Loyal Association of Volunteers formed. The volunteers numbered 250 men, commanded by Captain H. Sudell, and a troop of cavalry, commanded by Sir W. Feilden, bart.
1800. Witton House, Witton, erected.
1803. Police Commissioners, twelve in number, appointed by Act of Parliament, for the control of the paving, cleaning, lighting, and watching of the town of Blackburn. James Baxter, of Blackburn, hung at Lancaster for forgery.
1805. Mr. James Barton, engineer to Mr. Peel, invented the process of surface-printing on calico by means of engraved rollers.
1806. Funeral of Lord Nelson solemnised at Blackburn.
1808. Ladies' Charity and Strangers' Friend Society established. St. Peter's church, Salesbury, built.
1809. Oct. 25. Jubilee of the reign of George III. celebrated in Blackburn.
1810. Mount Street Independent (now Presbyterian) chapel built. Feniscowles Hall purchased from the representative of the Aynsworth family, by the late Sir Wm. Feilden, bart.
1812. Outbreak of Luddism. Serious damage done to mills in East Lancashire.
1815. The victory of Waterloo joyfully celebrated in Blackburn.
1816. Theatre Royal, Ainsworth Street, Blackburn, built.
1818. The Rev. Thomas Dunham Whitaker, LL.D. etc., the historian, appointed vicar of Blackburn. Blackburn Savings Bank established; re-established in 1830. Auxiliary Bible Society formed. August. Procession of 6000 weavers to Woodfold Park, to supplicate Henry Sudell, esq., for an advance of wages; an advance of 5 per cent conceded. August 4. Resolution adopted at a vestry meeting to apply for an Act of Parliament to enable the inhabitants to levy rates to defray the cost of erection of a new parish church.
1819. New Grammar School erected. St. Peter's church, Blackburn, built. Blackburn Gasworks established. August 24. The Catholic Priory opened.
1820. Friends' Meeting-house, Blackburn, built. September 2. First stone of the new parish-church laid by the vicar. November. Illumination to celebrate the withdrawal of the Bill of Pains and Penalties against Queen Caroline.
1821. April 25. Great storm and flood in Blackburn. July 19. Coronation of George IV. celebrated with a procession and feasting. December 18. Death of the Rev. T. D. Whitaker, LL.D., *atæt* 63.
1822. February 16. Rev. J. W. Whittaker, D.D., appointed vicar.
1824. Act of Parliament for making a new road from Blackburn to Preston. December 26. Blackburn Dispensary instituted.
1826. April 25. Great riot in Blackburn, and destruction of power-looms by the mob. The mob dispersed by dragoon-guards, and several persons wounded. June. St. Alban's Catholic chapel opened. Great distress in Blackburn; Poor's-rate, 7s. 6d. in the pound. November 24. Meeting of the gentry of Blackburn hundred at Whalley, to petition Parliament for the repeal or revision of the corn-laws.
1827. March 23. The brothers Wakefield tried and convicted at Lancaster for the abduction of Miss Ellen Turner, daughter of Wm. Turner, esq., afterwards M.P. for Blackburn. August. Bankruptcy of Henry Sudell, esq., merchant, of Blackburn. September 10. Proposal for a church-rate for the warming and lighting of the parish church defeated at a vestry meeting; a poll being demanded, the proposal was carried by a majority of votes. Violent popular opposition was excited. No church-rate has since been laid in the parish. September 13. The new parish church consecrated by the Lord Bishop of Chester.
1828. Church of the Holy Trinity, Over Darwen, built.
1829. St. James' church, Lower Darwen, built. St. Mary's church, Mellor, opened.
1830. Wesleyan chapel built at Over Darwen.
1831. January 6. Fire in the parish church; damage, £2500. Mass-meeting on Blakey Moor, Blackburn, to petition Parliament to pass the Reform Bill. Peal of six bells placed in Trinity church, Over Darwen.
1832. Blackburn constituted a Parliamentary borough by the Reform Act. December. First election of members to serve in Parliament. Result of the polling: W. Feilden, 377; W. Turner, 347; Bowring, 334. The defeated candidate, Dr. (now Sir John) Bowring, was the popular candidate.
1833. St. Stephen's church, Tockholes, built.
1834. Important street improvements in Blackburn; King William Street opened.
1835. January 6. General election. The polling was: Turner, 432; Feilden, 316; Bowring, 303. Immanuel's church, Pleasington, built.

- A. D. 1836. Formation of the Blackburn Poor Law Union. St. Saviour's chapel, Mellor, consecrated. St. Mark's church, Witton, built.
1837. July 27. General election. The polling was: Turner, 515; Feilden, 416; J. B. Smith, 9. Primitive Methodist chapel, Blackburn, built. First stone of Holy Trinity church, Blackburn, laid.
1838. Torchlight meetings of chartists on Blakey Moor, Blackburn. Over Darwen Gasworks established.
1839. Terrific gale in Blackburn, damaging the parish church and other buildings. Political banquet to the borough members; W. H. Hornby, esq., chairman. Darwen Mechanics' Institute founded. United Methodist chapel, Darwen, built.
1840. Supersession of the parish constables by the county police. May 27. Great fire at Messrs. Livesey and Rodgett's cotton-mill, Blackburn.
1841. Court of Requests, for the recovery of small debts, established in Blackburn. July 1. General election. The polling was: Wm. Feilden, 441; J. Hornby, 427; Wm. Turner, 426. Riotous outbreak; the Old Bull Inn gutted, and the military called out to disperse the rioters. August 21. Thunderstorm and flood in Blackburn. December. Great commercial depression and distress.
1842. Petition by Mr. Wm. Turner against the return of Mr. J. Hornby, M.P., abandoned, after a scrutiny, April 27; serious popular disturbances followed on the receipt of the intelligence, in the course of which Mr. Astley, bookseller, was trampled to death in the street. "Plug-drawing" riots in the town; intervention of the soldiery; one man shot dead and five wounded. Thirty-three of the leading rioters were arrested and imprisoned. Distress among the operatives. July 17. Death of Mr. Wm. Turner, ex-M.P. February 18. Parcel containing £2000, the property of Messrs. Cunliffe, Brooks, & Co., bankers, stolen from the Blackburn coach; the robbers were discovered, tried, and transported for life. Baptist chapel, Montague Street, Blackburn, built. Gymnasium established at Brook-house by Mr. W. H. Hornby. October 30. Jubilee mill, Blackburn, burnt down; damage, £30,000. James Street Congregational chapel, Blackburn, opened.
1843. Increasing distress of the working-classes; establishment of a soup-kitchen in Blackburn.
1844. St. John's Schools, Blackburn, erected. Political demonstration of sympathy with O'Connell and the Irish repealers. August 19. First sod cut of the Blackburn and Preston Railway. Lecture on the corn-laws in the theatre, Blackburn; amendment carried by Chartists, "that the repeal of the corn-laws would be detrimental to the interests of the working man."
1845. Heavy gale of wind at Blackburn; a cotton mill blown down. Anti-Corn Law League demonstration at Blackburn. Bolton and Blackburn Railway Company's Act passed. Blackburn Waterworks commenced.
1846. Whit-Monday. Blackburn and Preston Railway opened.
1847. Blackburn Improvement Act passed, and the town placed under the government of Improvement Commissioners. July. General election. The polling resulted thus: J. Hornby, 641; J. Pilkington, 602; W. Hargreaves, 392; W. P. Roberts, 68. Turn-out of weavers at Messrs. Hopwood's mill led to the acceptance by employers and work-people in the cotton trade in Blackburn of a standard list of prices. Stagnation in the cotton trade, and very severe distress among the operatives. Belgrave Independent Meeting-house, Over Darwen, built.
1848. January 28. Blackburn Market House opened by William Hoole, esq., chairman of the Improvement Commissioners. August 23. Bursting of a reservoir at Over Darwen; twelve persons drowned, and immense injury to property by flooding. Railways from Blackburn to Bolton, and from Blackburn to Accrington, opened.
1849. Treasure-trove found on the Allsprings estate, Great Harwood, by a labourer; adjudged to be the property of the duke of Buccleuch. Whit-Monday. Oddfellows' A. M. C. held in Blackburn. September. Visitation of the cholera; many deaths in the parish.
1850. Blackburn and Clitheroe Railway opened. May 17. Sir William Feilden, bart. of Feniscowles, formerly M.P. for Blackburn, died, æt. 78. Operatives' meeting in the Blackburn Theatre in favour of the "Ten Hours Bill." Handel's oratorio of "Deborah" performed in the parish church, conducted by Thomas Clough, esq. Public meeting in Blackburn, at which a petition to the Queen in Council for a charter of incorporation was adopted.
1851. January 1. Park School, Blackburn, erected. Four bells added to the peal of the parish church. May 4. St. Ann's Catholic church, Blackburn, opened. August 20. Her Majesty granted a charter of incorporation to Blackburn. November 1. First municipal elections in Blackburn. November 9. W. H. Hornby, esq., elected first mayor.
1852. March 1. Blackburn borough police force constituted. Meeting at the Bull Hotel to establish a volunteer rifle corps. Presentation of a gold badge to the mayor, W. H. Hornby, esq. April 28. End of a drought of seventy days. July. General election. The polling was as follows:—J. Pilkington, 846; William Eccles, 580; J. Hornby, 509. A petition was subsequently presented against the return of William Eccles, esq., on the ground of bribery, and he was unseated. October 28. Foundation-stone of Blackburn Town Hall laid by Joseph Feilden, esq. December. Storm and flood; mill chimney blown down at Billington.
1853. March 24. Extraordinary parliamentary election to fill the vacancy occasioned by the unseating of Mr. William Eccles; rioting, and mischief done to property; the Riot Act was read and military assistance obtained. The result of the poll was:—M. J. Feilden, 631; W. H. Hornby, 574. June 17. Death of William Eccles, esq. July 1. Eccles Shorrock, esq., of Over Darwen, died. Royal North Lancashire Agricultural Society's annual show held in Blackburn.
1854. Over Darwen Waterworks completed. Peel Baths, Over Darwen, erected by subscription. April 8. Over Darwen Local Board of Health formed. July 25. Blackburn Burial Board constituted. August 1. Last meeting of the Blackburn Improvement Commissioners. August 23. Death of J. W. Whittaker, D.D., vicar. Power-loom Weavers' Association formed. Duckworth Street Congregational chapel, Over Darwen, built. Fever epidemic in Blackburn.
1855. The estate forming the Corporation Park, Blackburn, purchased from Joseph Feilden, esq. July. Short time resorted to in the cotton trade. September 10. Local rejoicings on the fall of Sebastopol. December 21. Great fire at the Blackburn Railway goods station.
1856. October 30. Blackburn Town Hall opened by the mayor, W. Hoole, esq. Public meeting at Blackburn to set on foot subscriptions for the proposed infirmary.
1857. January 20. Visit of Louis Kossuth to Blackburn. March 27. General election; Messrs. J. Pilkington and W. H. Hornby returned without a contest. Park Road Congregational Church, Blackburn, erected. July 1. Blackburn Cemetery opened. October 22. Blackburn Corporation Park opened by the mayor, W. Pilkington, esq., in presence of 60,000 persons. Commercial depression in the parish.
1858. May 24. Foundation-stone of Blackburn Infirmary laid by W. Pilkington, esq., mayor; great procession of the inhabitants. Over Darwen Burial Board formed. St. Paul's Schools, Blackburn, built.
1859. April 30. General election. The polling was as follows:—W. H. Hornby, 832; J. Pilkington, 750; J. P. Murrrough, 567. July 14. Presentation to J. P. Murrrough, esq. August 18. Christ Church, Blackburn, consecrated. September 12. Presentation of plate and portrait to W. Pilkington, esq. Chapel Street Congregational Schools, Blackburn, built. November 3. St. Hubert's Catholic Church, Great Harwood, opened.

- A. D. 1860. Formation of Rifle Volunteer Corps in Blackburn. January 12. Swallow Street Mill, Blackburn, destroyed by fire : loss, £30,000. August 23. Public meeting to inaugurate the Blackburn Free Public Library, presided over by James Cunningham, esq., mayor. September 19. New Independent chapel opened at Mill Hill, Livesey. September 22. Foundation-stone of St. Thomas's church, Blackburn, laid.
1861. February 2. Outdoor meeting of operatives to protest against the threatened reduction of wages. April 4. Rev. Robert Dobson, forty-two years incumbent of Great Harwood, died. May 20. Foundation-stone of the new Workhouse for the union laid by Richard Eccles, esq., and Thomas Clough, esq., chairman and vice-chairman of the Board of Guardians. Commencement of the distress resulting from the cotton famine. November 21. Public meeting in the Town Hall to consider the steps necessary to relieve the distress. December 9. Meeting for the same purpose in the Council Chamber ; subscription-list opened.
1862. January. Rapid increase in distress ; soup-kitchen opened. January 16. Blackburn Reform Club opened. February. Systematic distribution of meal and bread to the destitute commenced. February 17. Blackburn Free Library formally opened. February 18. Death in the workhouse, æt. 83, of John Osbaldeston, an inventor. April 12. Increasing pauperism necessitated the division of Blackburn Union into two districts. May 7. New County Court-house, Blackburn, opened. July 15. James Pilkington, esq., M.P. for Blackburn, garrotted and robbed in London. October 4. Board of Guardians suspend the labour test. October 22. Second relief subscription started at a meeting in the Council Chamber, Blackburn ; £9000 subscribed in the room. November 6. Great riot in Blackburn, caused by popular resentment at some convictions under the game laws ; military brought from Preston. Ten of the chief rioters were sentenced to various terms of imprisonment at the Preston Sessions, November 22. December. Acme of the cotton-famine in Blackburn parish. One shilling a-head for a dinner was given by the Relief Committee on Christmas Day to 40,000 Blackburn poor.
1863. March 10. Marriage of the Prince of Wales commemorated by the planting of two oaks in the Blackburn Park by Joseph Feilden, esq., and Mrs. Feilden, by the laying of the corner-stone of the Blackburn Exchange by the mayor, J. B. S. Sturdy, esq., and by a general illumination of the town. April 25. Two men from Blackburn, Duncan M'Phail and George Woods, executed at Kirkdale for the brutal murder of an old woman, named Ann Walne, at Ribchester, on the night of November 10, 1862. June 24. St. Paul's Church, Hoddlesden, opened ; Wesleyan Chapel, Rishton, opened. December. Continuance of the severe distress ; poor's-rates for the year amounted to 9s. in the pound.
1864. April 2. New workhouse opened. June 13. Conservative Club, Blackburn, opened. July 7. St. John's Church, Over Darwen, consecrated. November 9. Discovery of Roman coins and other remains at White Hall, Over Darwen.
1865. March 4. Foundation-stone of St. George's Presbyterian Church, Blackburn, laid by the Rev. F. Skinner, D.D. April 26. Presentation to Mr. J. C. Feilden, honorary secretary to the Blackburn Relief Committee. July 11. General election. The poll resulted as follows :—W. H. Hornby, 1053 ; Joseph Feilden, 938 ; James Pilkington, 774 ; J. G. Potter, 577. October 2. Presentation of plate to J. G. Potter, esq. October 28. Foundation-stone of the Blackburn Public Baths laid by the mayor, W. Stones, esq. November 28. Banquet and presentation at the Town Hall, Blackburn, to James Pilkington, esq., for eighteen years member of parliament for the borough, on which occasion were present Mr. John Bright, M.P., Sir John Bowring (candidate for Blackburn in 1832 and 1835), and other notables. During the year the distress in the borough gradually subsided.
1866. January 3. Foundation-stone of St. Michael and All Angels' Church, Blackburn, laid by W. H. Hornby, esq., M.P. February 21. Opening of St. Peter's Church School, Rishton. May 23. New Reform Club, Market Place, Blackburn, opened. July 19. Strike of the operative masons in Blackburn, lasting eleven weeks, terminated. September 8. Grand banquet given by James Thompson, esq., mayor of Blackburn, in the Town Hall, to 300 guests. October 10. Public meeting in Blackburn to remove the debt upon the Infirmary ; Wm. Pilkington, esq., the chief donor, offered an additional thousand pounds. November 15. Great flood. December 6. Blackburn and Chorley Railway commenced. December 24. Corner-stone of St. Andrew's Church, Livesey, laid by Major Feilden. December 28. Death of Rev. Dr. Skinner of Blackburn. Reduction of wages five per cent in the cotton trade. December 29. Corner-stone of a new Co-operative Store laid at Over Darwen by T. Hughes, esq., M.P. Prevalence of the rinderpest in the parish.
1867. January 1. Reform demonstration in Blackburn ; procession of more than 4000 persons. January 10. Death of the Dowager Lady Feilden of Feniscowles, æt. 90. January 10. Inaugural address of the Blackburn Church Institute delivered by William Harrison, esq., F.S.A., the president. August. The new Reform Act constituted Blackburn the place of election for the new county division of North-East Lancashire, embracing the Hundred of Blackburn. September 27. Blackburn Boundary Commission.
1868. January 2. Resolution of the Blackburn Town-Council to increase the borough police force up to the government standard. February 21. Death of Dr. Rushton, vicar of Blackburn. April 2. Induction of Rev. Edward Birch as vicar. May 7. Exhibition of Art-Treasures opened at Over Darwen. July 11. Blackburn Public Baths and Fire-Engine station opened. June 18. St. George's Presbyterian church, Blackburn, opened. October 29. Corner-stone of a new Fish-Market laid at Blackburn. November 17. Borough election. November 21. First election for the new county division of North-East Lancashire.

LIVESEY.—This township adjoins Blackburn on the south-west, and was held, with Acton and Merley, of the earl of Lincoln, by the fourth part of a knight's fee, in the reign of King John.¹ In 1311 Sir Henry de Bury held Levesay of the Lacies, earls of Lincoln, in thamage.² In 20 Edward III. (1346) William de Ewode forfeited to the crown twelve acres of land in Lyvesay, by felony. A manuscript feodary, of which the first part was written 23 Edward III. (1349), and the latter immediately after the erection of the duchy of Lancaster, in 25 Edward III. (1351), states that Sir John de Haverington, Thomas Darden, and Adam de Hoghton, knights, Richard Noel, and John de Bayley then held the fourth part of a knight's fee in Aghton, Merley, and Lyvesay, which Ralph de Mitton formerly held.³ Livesey gave name to a family, the owners of Livesey Hall and the greater part of the township, who became extinct early in this century, and of whom James Levesey, in 2 Edward VI. (1548) held Levesey as a manor ;⁴ and his descendant James Levesey, in 9 James I. (1611), also held the manor of Livesey, with lands and other tenements in Tockholes and Plessington.⁵ This James died without issue, but gave his estate to his kinsman, Ralph Livesey, whose descendant, John Bell Livesey, esq., living in 1802, sold the ancient possessions of the family in Tockholes,

¹ *Testa de Nevill*, fol. 396.

² *De Lacy Inquisition of 1311*.

³ *Lansdowne MSS.*, Cod. DLIX. fol. 32.

⁴ *Duc. Lanc.*, vol. ix. n. 9.

⁵ *Ibid.* vol. xxiii. n. 60.

Pleasington, and Balderstone, to Henry Feilden, esq., and William (afterwards Sir William) Feilden, bart., the fathers respectively of Joseph Feilden, esq., M.P., and Sir William Henry Feilden, the present proprietors. There is here an ancient cross, of a date not ascertained. In the eastern portion of this township, adjoining the borough of Blackburn, and by the Boundary Act of 1868 included in the borough, cotton-manufactures have been extensively carried on of late years, and there are now thirteen spinning and weaving mills in the township (some of them very large), employing nearly 6000 work-people. At Ewood the Leeds and Liverpool Canal passes over the Darwen by an aqueduct of one arch. *Mill Hill House* was formerly the seat of the late William Turner, esq., M.P. for the borough of Blackburn, on whose demise the house and estate were purchased by the late Joseph Eccles, esq. It is now the residence of Thomas Dugdale, esq. The Wesleyan Methodists have a chapel here, erected in 1828. The Congregationalists have had a place of worship at Mill Hill, in the township, for upwards of twenty years, and in 1860 a fine new chapel was opened by that body, which was erected at a cost of £4000. The old chapel is now used as a Sunday and day school. Public religious worship is conducted in the Episcopalian school at Moorgate, and a new church, dedicated to St. Andrew, is in process of erection. Immanuel Church, an Episcopal chapel in Livesey, was consecrated October 10, 1836, and a school in connection therewith was built at Cherry Tree in 1865.

TOCKHOLES, three miles south-south-west of Blackburn, is a scattered tract, watered by the river Roddlesworth, otherwise called the Moulden Water, and its branches issuing from the adjacent hills. In 1311, John de Plesyngton and Adam de Tockholes, held Tockholes in thanage of Henry de Lacy, earl of Lincoln, and between them did one suit to the court of Clitheroe.¹ In 14 Henry VII. Sir Alexander Hoghton held lands in Tockholes,² and Nicholas Wittone, in 17 Charles I. died seised of messuages and lands called Greene Tockholes in Livesey,³ but the family of Hollinshead have more recently held the lordship, and on the margin of the moor stands an old farm-house, called *Hollinshead Hall*. This estate was sold nearly forty years ago by Lawrence Brock Hollinshead, esq., to Mr. Eccles Shorrocks of Blackburn. The inhabitants were formerly employed in calico and muslin weaving on the hand-loom, but there are now two cotton-mills in the township, which furnish employment for the portions of the population not engaged in agriculture. The Episcopal chapel of St. Michael's, in this township, built before the Reformation, was a low antique pile, over the east window of which were the initials of Sir John Radcliffe, and over the door this inscription—*I W R MAD 1620*. There is a huge stone in the chapel-yard, perforated in the centre, and supposed to be the remnant of an ancient cross. A similar piece of antiquity is placed on an eminence in Livesey township. The new Episcopal chapel, in the Gothic style, with lancet windows and spiral pinnacles, was erected at the expense of £2300, defrayed partly by parliamentary grant and partly by subscription. The site was given by Mr. Pickering of Tockholes. The edifice is dedicated to St. Stephen, and was consecrated Nov. 26, 1833. The old Independent chapel was erected in 1709, and Bethesda Chapel, now used as a school and preaching-place by the same congregation, in 1803. Forty horses' heads, bones, cannon-balls, and clubs, were, in 1826, dug out of a field in this township, called "Kill Field," in which a battle is believed to have taken place in 1642. The water-supply of the borough of Liverpool is now largely drawn from the Roddlesworth river, in this township, and a series of large reservoirs has been constructed here. These stupendous works extend hence, through the townships of Withnell, Wheelton, Anglezark, to Rivington, receiving the natural drainage of the extensive moors which bound these townships to the eastward and southward. The chain of reservoirs and canals extends over a distance of eight or nine miles.

OVER DARWEN, 4 miles south of Blackburn and 9 north of Bolton-le-Moors, is an extensive and populous tract comprised within the valley of the Darwen rivulet, and surrounded by lofty moor-covered heights. The two Derewents, with Mever, Heccleshall, and Haravuda, were originally members of Walatun (Walton), which was granted by Henry de Lacy to Robert Banastre, in the reign of Henry II. In 4 Edward II. (1310-11) Leveseye, Tockholes, and Ouerderwent, are mentioned together as containing a carucate of land in fee of the castle of Cliderhou.⁴ Sir Robert de Langeton had a carucate of land here in 23 Edward III. (1349);⁵ and in 38 Edward III. (1364) a moiety of the manor of Over Derwent was held by Thomas Molyneux, who married the heiress of Kuerdale in 1 Richard II. (1377-8). The other moiety belonged to the Osbaldeston family. Subsequently, the manor became the property of the Traffords, of whom, about 1810, it was purchased by George, father of the present lord, ^{Samuel} Duckworth, esq. On the publication of James II.'s declaration in favour of liberty of conscience, the inhabitants of Darwen, of the Congregational persuasion, presented a petition, on which the king, under his sign-manual, dated July 25, 1687, "allowed of an erected meeting-place within Darwen;" in consequence of which, says Dr. Whitaker, the congregation aforesaid, interpreting the words "erected meeting-place" of the Episcopal chapel of Darwen, applied to Mr. Price, vicar of Blackburn, for the keys. He refused, and they broke open the doors and took possession. He represented the case to his diocesan, Cartwright, a man of great interest at that time with the king, and through

who inherited it from his brother Samuel Duckworth

¹ *Great De Lacy Inquisition of 1311.*

² *Ibid. Lanc. vol. iii. n. 66.*

³ *Ibid. vol. xxx. n. 12.*

⁴ *Escaet. Hen. de Lacy, 4 Edward II. n. 50. The Great De*

Lacy Inquisition of 1311 records that the heirs of Samlesbury and Cuedale hold one carucate in Ouerderwent, of the Lacies, for an eighth of a knight's fee and suit to the court of Clitheroe.

⁵ *Lansdowne Coll. MSS., DLIX. fol. 26.*

his intercession the license was revoked, and possession of the chapel was restored to the vicar by the justices of the peace, November 23, 1687. The township is now divided into four ecclesiastical districts.

The CHURCHES are—*St James's*, a low stone fabric on a bleak eminence, erected since the Reformation, containing a tablet in memory of Mr. Fouldes, who was curate fifty years. *Holy Trinity Church*, a large florid Gothic building with a tower, standing near the centre of the town; it was erected in 1827-8 at a cost of £6573 : 4 : 9, defrayed by parliament, and it was opened with 985 free seats, September 13, 1829. Both livings are in the patronage of the vicar of Blackburn. *St. Paul's*, Hoddlesden (see p. 54), consecrated in 1863, is in the Decorated Gothic style of architecture. *St. John's*, Turncroft, is a Yate cum Pickup Bank, p. 54), consecrated in 1863, is in the Decorated Gothic style of architecture. *St. John's*, Turncroft, is a very beautiful Gothic church, erected in 1864 at the sole charge of the Rev. Philip Graham, the present incumbent, and Mrs. Graham, at the cost of £8000. The INDEPENDENTS are a very numerous body in Darwen, and have three large places of worship. The oldest, known as the *Lower Chapel*, was founded in 1690, and has been subsequently enlarged. *Ebenezer Chapel*, erected in 1808, was superseded by the *Belgrave Chapel* in 1847, and has since been pulled down, and its site occupied by new schools. Belgrave Meeting-house is an imposing and commodious edifice, in the Early English style. The congregation is one of the largest and most influential Dissenting congregations in Lancashire. *Duckworth Street Congregational Church* was opened in 1854; the style is Gothic, and the cost was £6000. The WESLEYAN METHODISTS first built a chapel here in 1791. The chapel in Belgrave Square, erected in 1839, is now used as a lecture-hall, the congregation assembling there having built, in 1864, a splendid chapel, in the Italian style, in *Station Road*, which will accommodate 1600 persons. The *United Methodist Chapel*, Duckworth Street, built in 1839, was enlarged in 1861. The *Primitive Methodist Chapel* was built in 1832. The BAPTISTS opened a neat Grecian chapel in Bolton Road in 1862. The ROMAN CATHOLICS also conduct public worship here in a temporary chapel. The Sunday schools in connection with the above places of worship are numerous and largely attended. The number of children in attendance at these schools is about 5000. The number of children in attendance at the day-schools in Darwen is 3000.

Next to Blackburn, Over Darwen is much the most important town in the parish. Its population, which in 1861 was about 16,500, was computed to have increased in 1867 to 24,100, or nearly 50 per cent in six years. The inhabited houses number 4275, and the annual rateable value of the township is £47,422, having doubled in about thirteen years. The industrial activity and productiveness of the township may be estimated from the following statistics, which were embodied in a petition to parliament for the enfranchisement of Darwen, adopted at a meeting of the local board held in July 1867:—

TABLE OF WORKS AND MANUFACTURES IN THE TOWNSHIP OF OVER DARWEN.

DESCRIPTION OF WORKS.	MANUFACTURE.			Approximate Annual Value.
	No. of Works.	Work-people.	Annual production.	
Tileries	1	80	£7,280
Quarries	6	142	12,715
Foundries	6	196	31,200
Collieries	5	477	101,920 tons	42,588
Paper-making	4	440	5,720 tons	169,936
Paper-staining	2	350	8,000,000 dozen yards	130,000
Calico-printing	2	220	120,000
Cotton-spinning	4	800	6,000,000 lbs. of yarn	400,000
Cotton-weaving	32	6950	28,550,000 lbs. of cloth	2,141,250

The total number of works here enumerated is 62, employing together 9655 work-people, and turning out products of the aggregate annual value of £3,054,969.

The sanitary concerns of the town are entrusted to a *Local Board of Health*, constituted May 10, 1854, which is also a Burial Board. A pretty cemetery, on the slope of the hill at White Hall, adjoining the Bolton road, about half-a-mile from the town, was opened in 1861. It has three chapels. The *Gasworks* were constructed in 1839, costing £8000; they are the property of a company. The *Waterworks* company has two supply reservoirs, holding 95,000,000 and 2,500,000 gallons respectively. The *Market House* is a plain building in Market Street. The *Public Baths*, erected in Church Street in 1854, are named the "Peel Baths." The *Mechanics' Institution*, founded in 1839, is a well-managed and prosperous institute, with a good reading-room and a library of 4000 volumes.

Darwen is the centre of a petty sessional district, embracing Over Darwen, Lower Darwen, Eccleshill, Pickup Bank, and Tockholes townships. The most striking architectural feature of the town is a magnificent campanile chimney, about 300 feet high, and the extensive stone building called the "India Mill," to which it is attached, erected at immense cost by Eccles Shorrock, Brothers, and Co. The railway from Blackburn to Bolton passes through the town, and has a neat station-house here. The fairs are held on Holy Thursday (Ascension-day) and the first Thursday in October. Darwen was the birthplace of the learned Dr. Harwood.

EDWARD HARWOOD, D.D., a learned Protestant Dissenter, was born in the year 1729. He was first educated at Darwen, next at the free-school of Blackburn, and afterwards at the academy supported by Mr. Coward's funds, as a student for the Dissenting ministry. In 1750 he taught a boarding-school at Peckham, in Surrey, and at the same time devoted himself closely to the study of the Greek and Roman classics. In 1754 he removed to Congleton, in Cheshire, and became master of a grammar-school there, preaching on the alternate Sundays in the chapels of two small societies at Whitelock in Cheshire, and Leek in Staffordshire. In 1765 he received an invitation to take the charge of a small church at Bristol, but was obliged to leave that city, as he says, in consequence of publishing a second edition of *The Supremacy of the Father*, written by one William Williams, and thereby rendering himself constantly liable to attacks in the Bristol paper as an Arian or Unitarian—attacks embittered, as is too often the case in theological controversy, with imputations of immorality. In Bristol he followed up his study of the Greek language, as he

had before done at Peckham, and became very familiar with most authors in that tongue, and conversant with the Greek fathers of the first three centuries. In 1768 he obtained a degree of doctor of divinity from the University of Edinburgh, and in 1772, at the desire of his friends, went up to London, where he afterwards obtained employment as a literary character and an instructor in the Greek and Latin languages; and by his industry procured a sufficient maintenance for himself and family. The last fourteen years of his life were spent in miserable suffering and confinement from the palsy, and he died January 14, 1794, and was buried in London. Dr. Harwood was a very voluminous author, and produced many proofs of his learning and industry, of which the most noteworthy are his *Biographica Classica*; his editions of the classics; his "View of the Various Editions of the Greek and Roman Classics, with remarks," which was translated into several foreign languages, and had passed through four editions by 1790; and a curious work entitled "Translation of the New Testament into Modern English; being an Attempt to Translate the Sacred Writings with the same Freedom, Spirit, and Elegance with which other English Translations of the Greek Classics have lately been Executed: the Design and Scope of each Author being Strictly and Impartially explored, the true Signification and Force of the Original Critically Observed, and, as much as possible, Transferred into our Language; and the whole Elucidated and Explained upon a New and Rational Plan; with Select Notes, Critical and Explanatory." London, 1768, 2 vols. 8vo.

ECCLESHILL, three miles S.S.E. of Blackburn, is called Ockleshill in the escheat of Henry de Laci, in 4 Edward II. (1310-11). The Langtons held, with other possessions, a carucate of land in Meling and Eccleshill from the time of their alliance with the Banastres, in demesne and by a knight service rendered to the lords paramount of the Honor of Clitheroe, and in 23 Edward III. (1349) were represented by Sir Robert de Longeton.¹ In 1 Richard II. (1377-8) Thomas Molyneux, in right of his wife, the grand-daughter of Geoffrey de Kuerdale, held Kuerdale, the moiety of Over Derwent, and the lordship of Eccleshill. The other moiety, if not the whole manor, was the property of the Grimshaws of Clayton.² The Eccleshill estate afterwards belonged to Thomas Wilson, esq., of Preston, who purchased it of Sir Richard Hoghton, and by whose representatives it was sold to Mr. Hodgson of Liverpool, since dead.

LOWER DARWEN is a large and populous manufacturing township, two miles S.S.E. of Blackburn, containing coal-mines, and stretching along the east bank of the Darwen, where it is increased by a large branch. It was granted with other members of Walatun (Walton), to Robert Banastre, in the reign of Henry II., and passed by the marriage of Alice, his grand-daughter and heiress, to John Langton, the first baron of Newton.³ In 5 Henry VIII. (1513) the manor of Nether Derwyn was held by William Bradshawe,⁴ and by his descendant John Bradshawe, in 17 Elizabeth⁵ (1575). Subsequently the "manor of Netherdarwynd, alias Lowerdarwent," is found, 13 Charles I. (1637), among the possessions of Sir Thomas Walmesley,⁶ from whom it passed to the family of Lord Petre. The present lord of the manor is Henry Petre, of Dunkenhalth, esq., who holds a court-leet here in September. The Episcopal chapel of St. James, a stone fabric, with an hexagonal tower, was erected in 1829-30, by parliament, at an expense of £5491:2:6. It contains 654 sittings, of which 410 are free, and is in the patronage of the vicar of Blackburn. The Church of England schools at Earcroft in this township, in connection with St. Stephen's church, Tockholes, were built in 1864-5. The Wesleyan Methodists have a chapel here, erected in 1824, and the New Connection of Methodists another, erected in 1830. The Independents have a day and Sunday school in the village. There are in the township several extensive cotton-manufactories.

The important dissenting interest at Darwen Lower Chapel (in Over Darwen), one of the most ancient and respectable in the county, may trace its origin to the influence of persecution. Before the year 1688, many Protestant parishioners from the surrounding towns and villages, who had been prevented assembling together for the worship of God in their usual way, were accustomed to meet on Sunday in a neighbouring wood from fear of molestation. But at the Revolution, when secrecy became no longer necessary, they left their retreat and jointly purchased a barn, which was situated between the spot where the chapel now stands and the parsonage house. Having adopted this as their sanctuary, they fitted it up in a decent manner, and in 1687 gave an unanimous invitation to the Rev. Charles Sager, ejected in 1662 from the mastership of the Grammar School at Blackburn, to which he had been appointed at the age of twenty, and recently liberated from Lancaster Castle, whither he had been sent for preaching,⁷ to become their pastor.⁸ The Rev. Thomas Jollie of Trinity College, Cambridge, some time preached there. Before 1719, the Presbyterian Chapel of Darwen was a thatched building, commonly called "Bottoms," adjoining the road leading from the present chapel to the parsonage. The successor of Mr. Sager was the Rev. Griffiths Griffiths, about 1701, a man of unusual spirituality, simplicity, and general excellence of character; during his ministry (in 1719) the congregation had increased so much that it was found necessary to build a larger place of worship; and a piece of freehold land being accordingly bought within a few yards' distance, the minister and congregation, men, women, and children, immediately set to work without calling in the aid of any extra labourer, some using the barrow, others the spade, and others the trowel, till in a little time a building of primitive appearance, 24 yards by 13 within, was raised, free of every incumbrance, and capable of containing 900 people. This is the present Darwen Chapel. The remains of Mr. Griffiths at his death were interred at the foot of the pulpit stairs, and part of the tombstone still remains.⁹ A few years later, the Rev. Mr. Burgess succeeded Mr. Griffiths, but resigned his charge after a short time. A considerable period of disquietude elapsed before the appointment of a successor. The people became divided; a separation took place, and while the Rev. Benjamin Mather succeeded to the Lower Chapel, another chapel was built, about 100 yards off, of which the Rev. Mr. Yates, a native of Pickup Bank, in the neighbourhood, was chosen minister, and hence called "Yates Chapel." Mr. Yates died about 1748, and was succeeded by the Rev. Mr. Wilson, of disgraceful memory, who resigned after officiating twelve months. Mr. Mather was called to the original chapel in 1737, and continued its minister till his death in January 23, 1748.¹⁰ The Rev. Robert Smalley, one of the last of Dr. Doddridge's pupils, succeeded Mr. Mather in August 1750; and under him the two congregations were happily re-united. Some years later, however, a friendly separation took place, twenty families in Blackburn forming a new congregation, when Pole Lane Chapel was built. Mr. Smalley died in 1791, and was succeeded by his son Richard. The Rev. Mr. Barrett

¹ Lansdowne MSS. Cod. DLIX. fol. 26.

² *Duc. Lanc.* vol. viii. Inq. p. m. Tho. Grymeshey, 32 Henry VIII. n. 16.

³ In 1311, Sir Adam Banastre held two carucates of land in Nether Derwent, of the Lacies, Earls of Lincoln. See *Great De Lacy Inquisition of 1311*.

⁴ *Duc. Lanc.* vol. iii. n. 9.

⁵ *Ibid.* vol. xiii. n. 17.

⁶ *Ibid.*, vol. xxviii. n. 80.

⁷ *Noncon. Mem.*, i. 424.

⁸ Rev. Richard Bowden's *MS.*

⁹ *Ibid.*

¹⁰ The Rev. Mr. Blake's Letter.

succeeded to the Lower (original) Chapel in 1792, and on his removal to Ormskirk in 1795, he was succeeded by the Rev. Richard Bowden, son of the Rev. James Bowden, of Tooting, in Surrey. He married Miss Catlow, Darwen, who was drowned in 1805.¹ Mr. Bowden removed to Holloway, near London, 1813, and after him came in succession Rev. Robert Blake, in February 21, 1814; Rev. Robert Littler, ordained July 24, 1823; Rev. Samuel Nichols in 1829; Rev. R. P. Clarke in 1848; and in 1854, Rev. George Berry, the present minister. In 1852, February 22, the old chapel was not safe for public worship, having given way owing to the coal-mines; a large portion of the church and congregation were for building a new chapel in Over Darwen, the other portion were resolved to rebuild the old place. This was the cause of much unpleasantness; but at last, being referred to Richard Eccles, esq. of Lower Darwen, and Joshua Baron, esq. of Over Darwen, to settle, the result was the building of a new chapel in Duckworth Street, Over Darwen, in 1853, to which a portion of the congregation removed, appointing Rev. R. P. Clarke their minister. In the same year the old chapel was restored by those who remained, under the pastorate of Rev. G. Berry, and was re-opened July 10, 1853.

A tragic event, memorable in the annals of the parish, is recorded by Dr. Webster (who refers to Sir Richard Baker's *Chronicle*, p. 448) in the following terms:—

“In the second year of the reign of King James of famous memory, a strange accident happened here, to the terror of all bloody murderers, which was this, as it was taken from the mouths of Thomas Haworth's wife, her husband being the dreamer and discoverer, and from his son, together with many more, who both remember and can affirm every particular thereof. The narrative was taken, April the 7th, 1663, and is this:—“In the year above said, *John Waters* of *Lower Darwen*, in the county of Lancaster, gardiner, by reason of his calling was much absent from his family: In which his absence, his wife (not without cause) was suspected of incontinency with one *Gyles Haworth*, of the same town; this *Gyles Haworth* and *Waters*' wife conspired and contrived the death of *Waters* in this manner. They contracted with one *Ribchester*, a poor man, to kill this *Waters*. As soon as *Waters* came home and went to his bed, *Gyles Haworth* and *Waters*' wife conducted the hired executioner to the said *Waters*; who seeing him so innocently laid betwixt his two small children in bed, repented of his enterprise, and totally refused to kill him. *Gyles Haworth*, displeased with the faint-heartedness of *Ribchester*, takes the axe into his own hand, and dashed out his brains: the murderers buried him in a cowhouse. *Waters* being long missing, the neighbourhood asked his wife for him: she denied that she knew where he was. Thereupon public search was made for him in all pits round about, lest he should have casually fallen into any of them. One *Thomas Haworth*, of the said town, yeoman, was for many nights together much troubled with broken sleeps and dreams of the murder; he revealed his dreams to his wife, but she laboured the concealment of them a long time. This *Thomas Haworth* had occasion to pass by the house every day where the murder was done, and did call and inquire for *Waters* as often as he went near the house. One day he went into the house to ask for him, and there was a neighbour, who said to *Thomas Haworth*, It's said that *Waters* lies under this stone (pointing to the hearthstone), to which *Thomas Haworth* replied, And I have dreamed that he is under a stone not far distant. The constable of the said town being accidentally in the said house (his name *Myles Aspinall*) urged *Thomas Haworth* to make known more at large what he had dreamed, which he relateth thus: I have, quoth he, many a time within this eight weeks (for so long it was since the murder) dreamed very restlessly that *Waters* was murdered and buried under a stone in the cowhouse; I have told my troubled dreams to my wife alone, but she refuses to let me make it known. But I am not able to conceal my dreams any longer; my sleep departs from me; I am pressed and troubled with fearful dreams, which I cannot bear any longer, and they increase upon me. The constable hearing this, made search immediately upon it, and found, as he had dreamed, the murdered body eight weeks buried under a flat stone in the cowhouse. *Ribchester* and *Gyles Haworth* fled and never came again. *Ann Waters* (for so was *Waters*' wife's name) being apprehended, confessed the murder and was burned.”²

LITTLE HARWOOD, two miles north-east of Blackburn, is a small township on the ridge of a lofty hill, and was the property of the Claytons of Little Harwood Hall, for upwards of 400 years. In 22 Edward III. (1348), Ralph, son of Henry de Clayton de Parva Harewode, granted half the mill of that place to Henry de Clayton of Dutton. Jeffrey Clayton, in 19 Henry VII. (1503-4) granted the manor of Little Harwood in trust. John, his son, left two coheireses, Ellen and Rose; but the estate seems to have been settled on the male line, for Edward Stanley, Lord Monteagle, in whose ancestors it had been vested on trust, releases to Robert, son of George Clayton, 7 Henry VIII. (1515). In 1 Charles I. (1625) the manor of Harwood Parva was held by John Clayton.³ In 1814-15 Colonel Clayton, of Little Harwood Hall, and of Carr Hall, near Colne, disposed of the estate by sale, in shares to various individuals. The *Hall*, a neat brick house, shrouded in trees, and new fronted in 1731, was sold with the adjoining estate to John Hoyle, esq. the father of the present owner and occupier. *Carr*, in Little Harwood, is said to have been occupied by the Talbot family about the reign of Henry VII.; George, the son of Stephen Talbot of Carr, was living 16 Henry VII. (1500-1), according to the Lancashire pedigrees, and left a son Nicholas, living 1 Edward VI. (1547), who married the daughter and heiress of Evan Brown. Bank Hey is a village on a commanding eminence in this township. The appointment of the parish-clerk of Blackburn is vested in the owner of Little Harwood estate. The present owner, Mr. Henry Hoyle, is himself the parish-clerk, and executes the duties by deputy. A small part of this township is now added to the parliamentary borough of Blackburn.

RISHTON, three miles, east-north-east of Blackburn, a large, dreary, barren tract, near the Leeds and Liverpool Canal, and containing a spacious reservoir belonging to that navigation. It was styled a manor in the time of Edmund de Lacye, who died 42 Henry III. (1257-8), and in 4 Edward II. (1310-11) two carucates of land in Rushton were in fee of the castle of Clyderhou. Before the reign of Edward I. it had given name to a family who held a moiety of the manor of Clayton les Moores, and, like the latter, it was held in equal portions, one moiety by the Rishtons, and the other by the Talbots of Bashall. In 4 Edward II. (1311) Joan, widow of Edmund Talbot, held two carucates of land in Risseton, as the fourth of a knight's fee; and William de Haskayth other two carucates; of the Lacies earls of Lincoln.⁴ In 23 Edward III. (1349) John de Radclive and Joan his wife held, in dowry of the same Joan, one carucate of land of the inheritance of Thomas Talbot's heir in Rushton, of which twenty carucates constituted the fee of one knight.⁵ In 15

¹ *Evan. Mag.* 1805, p. 327.

² *The Display of Supposed Witchcraft*, by John Webster, Practitioner in Physic, chap. xvi. p. 297.

³ *Duc. Lanc.*, vol. xxvi. n. 49.

⁴ *De Lacy Inquisition* of 1311.

⁵ Lansdowne Coll. MSS., cod. DLIX. fo. 27.

Henry VII. (1499-1500), Sir Thomas Talbot, whose father had married the daughter of Sir John Tempest of Bracewell, enfeoffed Thomas Tempest, apparently his maternal uncle, with the tenth part of a knight's fee, and the rent of 9d. in his lordship of Risshdene.¹ The Talbots had the privilege of free warren in this and the rent of 9d. in his lordship of Risshdene.¹ The Talbots had the privilege of free warren in this township. Henry, the grandson of Henry de Blackburn, took the name of Rishton or Rushton, both orthographies being found in ancient authentic documents. The Walmesleys purchased the moiety held by this family, and it is now enjoyed by their representative, Henry Petre of Dunkenhalth, esq. *Rishton Hall* is a plain edifice. In this township are the villages of Tottleworth, Cunliffe, and Cowhill Fold. Several cotton-factories have been erected in this township, and the population has rapidly increased since 1861. The Episcopalian school of St. Peter's Church, in this township, was opened in 1866. It was erected through the efforts of the Rev. W. M. Haslewood, M.A., incumbent of Great Harwood, and cost £1150. There is a Mechanics' Institution in the village of Rishton. A Wesleyan chapel and school, costing £1500, were opened in 1863.

GREAT HARWOOD.—Henry de Lacy granted the whole manor of Great Harewood to Richard de Fitton, justice of Chester, in 1233, which grant was confirmed by his son Robert de Lacy, who died in 1193. Richard, son of John Fitton, brother of the original grantee, had the manor conveyed to him by his kinsman Edmund Fitton, and was living in 1237.² He left three daughters and co-heiresses, of whom Matilda married Sir William Hesketh, living 23 Henry III. (1238-9), seized of two carucates of land in Magna Harwode, which Hugh Fitton formerly held of the earl of Lincoln; Amabel, the second daughter and co-heiress, married Edmund Leigh of Croston; and Elizabeth, the third, married Roger, son of Adam de Nowell of Great Mearley; and the manor became divided into three portions. Of these, the Heskeths purchased that of the Leighs; and the Netherton portion of the Nowells continued in the family until it was alienated by Alexander Nowell, esq., who died in 1772. The present lord of the manor of Great Harwood is James Lomax of Clayton Hall, esq., who succeeded to it in 1849 on the death of his elder brother John Lomax, esq.³ In 13 Richard II. (1389), John Nowell did homage for this estate to Thomas Hesketh in the chapel of Harwood. This is probably the same John Nowell who preferred claim to have a weekly market every Thursday in his manor of Netherton in Great Harwood, and a fair every year on the day of St. Laurence, with all liberties to such fair appurtenant.⁴ The present lord of the manor, James Lomax, esq., holds a court-leet in the township in the month of May. Harwood is four and a half miles north-east of Blackburn, and is a large township, divided into the Over and Nether town: it is a parochial chapelry including part of Rishton. The parochial chapel of St. Bartholomew, with its antique tower and cross, appears to have been rebuilt about the reign of Henry VII. The minister ejected from it in 1662 was Mr. Sandford. There are places of worship also in connection with the Independents, Wesleyan Methodists, United Free Methodists, and Primitive Methodists. An elegant Gothic church, dedicated to Our Lady and St. Hubert, was erected for the Roman Catholics in 1860, at the sole expense of James Lomax, esq. of Clayton Hall.

The village of Great Harwood has quickly extended of late years, and now contains upwards of 5000 inhabitants. Its staple industry is the cotton manufacture, and there are 11 mills in the town, at which about 2500 work-people are employed. It is supplied with gas and water from Accrington, three miles distant. The town is governed by a local board of health. The fairs are held on the 2d of March and the 21st of August.

BILLINGTON, five miles north-north-east of Blackburn, is an extensive manor and township on the south bank of the Ribble, and the west side of the Calder. The manor was granted by the first Henry de Lacy to Hugh, the son of Leofwine, a Saxon, in the reign of King Stephen, whose descendant William, lord of Alvetham, granted it to Ralph, the son of Geoffrey de Billington. Adam de Billington, probably the son of Ralph, was one of the jurors on the grand inquest in 13 John (1211-12), and held the moiety of a knight's fee in Billington, which he conveyed to Adam de Huddleston in 1288.⁵ In 4 Edward II. (1311) Sir Adam de Huddleston held Billington of Henry de Lacy, earl of Lincoln, by the service of 10s. yearly at St. Giles (September 1), and 3d. at Midsummer, and suit to the court of Clitheroe.⁶ Sir Adam's nephew, Sir Richard de Huddleston, in 1322, conveyed the reversion of his fee, after the death of Thomas, son of Sir Geoffrey le Scrop, to Sir Geoffrey, who, in 1332, granted it in fee to the Abbey of Whalley. After the dissolution it was obtained by Sir Thomas Holcroft, along with the other moiety, which being granted for life to Adam de Huddleston by Henry de Lacy, the reversion was conveyed to the abbey by Thomas, earl of Lancaster in 12 Edward II. (1318-19).⁷ The manor soon passed from the Holcrofts to Ralph Asheton of Great Lever, esq., and was given by him in marriage with Ann his daughter, in 1554 to Edward Braddyll of Portfield, esq.⁸

Of the moiety of the manor granted by Henry de Lacy to Adam de Hodleston (of a family who at different periods distinguished themselves by their benefactions to the abbey of Furness⁹), Dr. Kuerden has preserved a copy of the Norman-French charter:—

¹ *Duc. Lanc.* vol. iii. n. 69.

² *Whalley Coucher Book*, pp. 845-6.

³ *Notitia Cestriensis*.—Note by Rev. Canon Raines, ii. 284.

⁴ Dr. Kuerden's *MSS.*, 4to, fol. 54, in the Chetham Library.

⁵ *Whalley Coucher Book*.

⁶ *De Lacy Inquisition of 1311*. Chet. Soc. Series, lxxiv.

⁷ *Whalley Coucher Book*, p. 937.

⁸ *Notitia Cestriensis*.—Note by the Rev. Canon Raines, ii. 286.

⁹ Their arms, *Gu. a fret ar.*, are richly emblazoned in the Coucher Book of the abbey of Furness.