

# Friends of Berwick & District Museum and Archives Newsletter



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**[Selected articles]**

1996 December

## **FORD SCHOOL LOGBOOKS, 1873 - 1902**

Continuing on from the last newsletter, here are some more extracts from the Ford School logbooks which are still kept at the School.

- 4 Jan. 1873: Lady Waterford paid a visit to the School on Friday at 4 p.m. and presented the Master with a book, and the Mistress with a handsome thimble in Case.
- 28 Nov. 1874: The upper classes of the School are now well attended but the lower classes are but moderately attended probably owing to the establishment of an infant school at Ford Moss.

End of first logbook

- 1 Sept. 1877: On Monday the School was visited by Lady Waterford, Lord Tankerville and family, Lord Ramsey and Hachisuka, a Japanese gentleman.
- 13 Oct. 1877: School opened on Monday Morning, Oct. 8<sup>th</sup> with an attendance of 64. Harvest operations are not yet concluded, and the attendance was mainly made up of the village boys.
- 28 Feb. 1879: A new picture (St John the Evangelist) was placed in School on Wednesday by the Marchioness of Waterford.
- 8 Nov. 1879: There has been some sickness (chiefly colds) amongst the children during the week which has been the cause of some absence, but on Monday Morning 134 were present, the highest number on record. The Pupil Teachers have been regular in attendance.
- 21 Feb. 1880: Lady Waterford visited the school on Friday Afternoon and made arrangements for placing another picture in School.
- 6 March 1880: This week the March Hirings have been held in the various towns of the district and have caused a great fall in the average weekly attendance at School.
- 10 April 1880: Lady Waterford visited School on Wednesday Afternoon and was engaged on a picture entitled "The First Standard".
- 24 April 1880: The picture "And was Subject unto them" placed on the School walls.
- 15 Jan. 1881: The school was very well attended during the earlier part of the week, but on Wednesday a very heavy snow storm commenced and still continues. This has prevented all children who live at a distance from attending, the snow lying to the depth of 16 or 18 inches. On Thursday and Friday the attendance was only 40 or less.
- 22 Jan. 1881: Owing to the very severe weather and great depth of snow children from a distance have in nearly all cases been absent from school all week. The fifth and

sixth classes have almost entirely disappeared. The average attendance has only reached 55. The work has gone on as usual but the children have been allowed in turn to go to the fires as they were scarcely able at times to bear the intense cold. The Pupil Teacher and monitors have attended regularly.

- 26 Feb. 1881: A photographer was at the school from 1 to 2-15 on Friday, and took photographs of the Scholars in three groups. The School was kept on until 4-30 in the afternoon.
- 19 March 1881: A new picture was placed on the South Wall on Monday the 14<sup>th</sup> instant.
- 26 Nov. 1881: A strike of the pitmen at Slainsfield Colliery has slightly affected the attendance at School, and it is expected that some of them will be leaving the neighbourhood.
- 22 April 1882: A new picture by Lady Waterford - "Timothy" placed in school on Tuesday morning.
- 29 April 1882: A holiday was given on Thursday, the day fixed for the marriage of the Duke of Albany. The children on assembling at School were marched to the Castle where cheers were given for the bride and bridegroom and a verse of the National Anthem was sung. They were dismissed for the day.
- 9 Dec. 1882: Lady Waterford visited School on Friday afternoon for the purpose of making inquiry as to the welfare of the children who had far to go in yesterday's [snow]storm.
- 27 Jan. 1883: Lady Waterford with Colonel and Mrs Talbot visited School on Monday afternoon, a New picture (the last of the series) having been put up in the morning.
- 4 Aug. 1883: On Tuesday and Wednesday of this week a Bazaar for the purpose of raising funds for the repair of Ford Church was held in the School Room and the School has not been able to meet for instruction during the whole week.
- 5 July 1884: The children were photographed by W. Higgins at 4 p.m. on Wednesday.
- 23 March 1885: The School was closed by order of the Medical Authority and School Managers in consequence of an Epidemic of Measles.
- 10 July 1886: The School did not meet on Wednesday the 7<sup>th</sup> instant the room being used as a polling place for the district at the Parliamentary Election.
- 8 Jan. 1887: It may be stated that only 27 out of 136 children on the books reside in the village, the remainder having to come to school from distances of half to 3.5 miles. Severe weather has therefore a very injurious effect on the attendance.
- 30 April 1887: The Pupil Teacher had leave on Thursday afternoon to visit Bostock's Menagerie at Lowick. On Friday Morning the above Menagerie passed Ford on its way to Coldstream, and school did not assemble until 9-45 in the morning, so as to allow the children to see it.

- 25 June 1887: On Monday afternoon the scholars were dismissed at 3 o'clock so as to allow time for preparations for tomorrow's festivities. The Queen's Jubilee was celebrated at Ford on the 21<sup>st</sup> instant and the children took a leading part in it. There was a general holiday. The scholars attended and sang "God save the Queen" at the laying of the foundation stone for "Jubilee Cottage" at the head of the village. They then had tea in the Schoolroom. Each child afterwards sowed some seeds of the Fir in a pot at the Castle Garden. The name of each child was written on the pot. It is intended if possible to rear a "Jubilee Plantation" Races with 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> prizes for each race, succeeded and after the distribution of prizes to the winners by Miss Thompson, the children were allowed to join their parents in the general festivities, the whole of the people on the Estate having been invited to Ford by Lady Waterford.  
Medals were also given to the Children by the generosity of Her Ladyship, who having gone into residence at Highcliffe was unable to be present at Ford. The attendance at School during the remainder of the week has only been poor.
- 17 Dec. 1887: Mr Herriott exhibited a Magic Lantern to the children and adults on Thursday evening.
- 2 June 1888: The school had a holiday on Tuesday. Lady Waterford gave tea etc to the Scholars attending Crookham, Ford Moss and Ford Schools in the afternoon of that day. The tea was served in the School Playground at Ford, and the children amused themselves afterwards in the Castle Court. "Punch" formed part of the entertainment provided.
- 12 July 1889: Only 26 of the children at present on the Register live in the village, the rest having to come some distance to school. As this distance is in many cases very considerable, varying from .5 to 3 miles the weather has a great influence over the attendance.
- 4 Aug. 1890: By order of the Rector (School Manager) all the children attending School from Kimmerston and Ford Moss, where there are cases of Scarlet Fever, have been sent home and forbidden for the present to attend school.
- 6 Aug. 1890: This afternoon, by advice of the Sanitary Authority the School was closed for a fortnight in consequence of Scarlet Fever having appeared at Kimmerston and Ford Moss.
- 15 May 1891: With deep regret we record the death, at Ford Castle, on Tuesday May 12<sup>th</sup>, of Louisa, Marchioness of Waterford who built this School, adorned its walls with pictures from her own hand; and who throughout more than 30 years of her life was its liberal patroness and took an active interest in all its concerns. The School children and teachers attended her Ladyship's funeral on Thursday, May 14<sup>th</sup> in Ford Churchyard.
- 29 May 1891: The attendance has been fair this week. Average 89.4. Four new scholars have been admitted. There are now 103 children on the books, a smaller number than usual as it seems that the change this May Term has brought fewer farm workers with families into the district. Only 22 of the Scholars are resident in Ford.

- 2 Oct. 1891: Opened School after Harvest Holiday on Tuesday Sept. 29<sup>th</sup>. The attendance has been very poor, perhaps owing mainly to the fact that Harvest is scarcely completed. Average 48.1. The Managers have accepted the 10 shillings Fee Grant and School Fees are abolished from this date. The children have still to provide their own books.
- 29 April 1892: On Thursday afternoon the School was closed by Medical advice owing to an attack of measles in the Schoolmaster's family. The attack has since spread throughout the district, and the School remains closed.
- 28 April 1892: During this period the School has been closed by order of the Sanitary Authority in consequence of an attack of measles.
- 26 Aug. 1892: Visitors:- The Marquis and Marchioness of Waterford with Mr and Mrs Frith(?) who came on Thursday afternoon. As this was their first visit since succeeding to the estate, the children gave them three cheers on leaving.
- 9 Dec. 1892: The School was opened on Monday, but the children were dismissed at 9-50, the Master having received a telegram from Newcastle that his son was dying. He died at 10-10 a.m. on Monday and was buried at Ford on Thursday the 8<sup>th</sup> instant. The School was closed during the week.
- 13 Oct. 1893: Attendance very fair. Average 74.3. The potato crop is still in hand, and several children have been employed assisting in gathering it. On Thursday afternoon at 3 o'clock the Bishop of Newcastle consecrated an additional piece of burying ground at Ford Church and the School was dismissed after two hours devoted to secular instruction. It is contemplated by the Managers to close the school against visitors during School hours.
- 8 Dec. 1893: No. on books 78. Average 68.1 Per Cent. Bad weather and sickness are again the chief causes of absence. Only 14 children reside in the village, the rest coming distances of from .5 of a mile to two miles and over. The weather therefore has much influence on the attendance.
- 27 April 1894: A notice has now been put up at the School forbidding visitors during School hours.
- 18 May 1894: The joiners are re-flooring the principal School room.
- 25 Oct. 1895: On Wednesday Evening we heard of the sad death of Lord Waterford, the kind patron of this school.
- 1 May 1896: On Tuesday morning at 9-40 the Rev. H.M. Neville came to school and gave the children a holiday for the day in honour of the Marquis of Waterford who attains his majority on this date (April 28<sup>th</sup>). Cheers were given for his Lordship.
- 25 June 1897: No. on register 89. Average attendance 71.1 Percent of attendance 80. Monday and Tuesday were holidays in Commemoration of the Queen's Diamond Jubilee. On Monday preparation was made in the School Room for a tea which was given on Tuesday to all the people old and young on the Ford Estate. The Fete, which

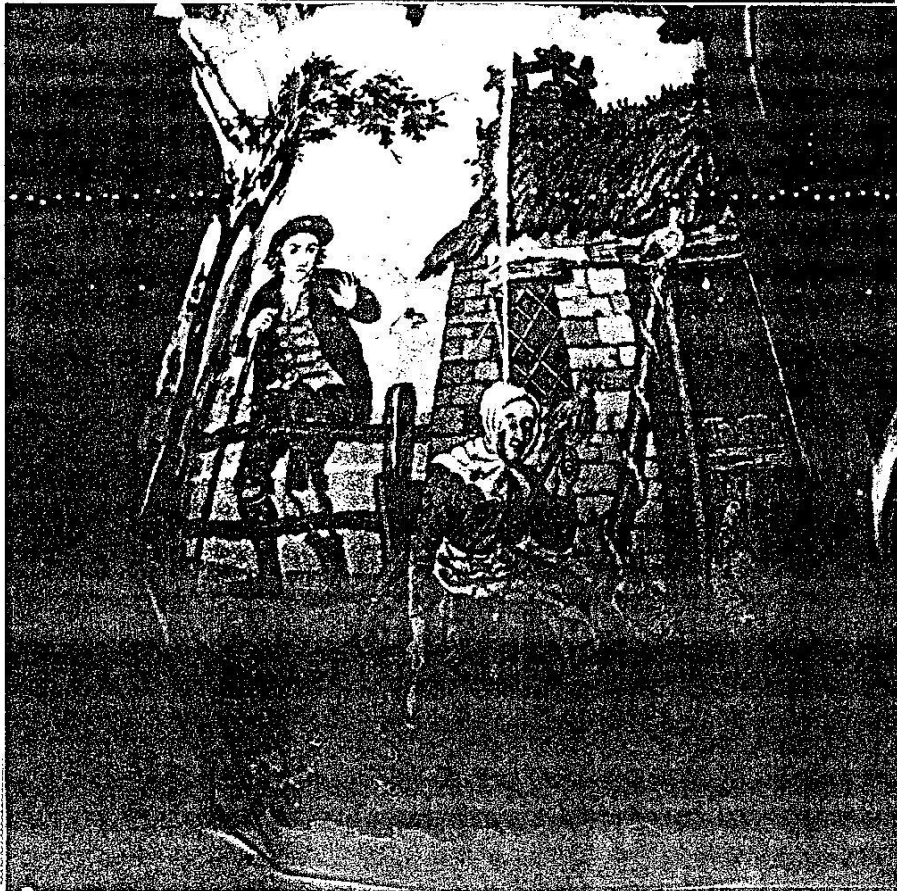
was held on Tuesday in the Castle Court was given by the Honourable C and Mrs Lawrence. The children on the Estate were included in the festivities and received Jubilee medals. On Wednesday the children at School received each a bag of Cake from the Rector. The attendance has only been fair.

- 21 Oct. 1898: By order of the Sanitary Authority the School was closed during the interval on account of an epidemic of Measles.
- 4 May 1900: The scholars were photographed at noon on Monday.
- 25 Jan. 1901: The master announced the death of our dear old Queen on the Morning of Wednesday Jan. 23. Her illness had been observed with the keenest anxiety. Mrs Neville said a few words on the subject on Thursday and children repeated "God save the King".
- 25 Oct. 1901: The School has been closed this week owing to the death of the Schoolmaster's wife, who formerly acted as Sewing Mistress for upwards of 30 years.
- 20 Dec. 1901: No. on register 74 Average Attendance 53.1 Per cent of Attendance 71.7. This has been a very broken week owing to a severe snowstorm. On Wednesday and Thursday snow lay to the depth of about 10 inches. School was closed by order of the Managers. On Friday Morning 37 children were able to be present and 38 in the afternoon. The Rev. H.M. Neville visited School in the afternoon of that day and addressed a few words to the children on the retirement of the Schoolmaster from his duties as teacher.
- 3 Jan. 1902: On Thursday Jan. 2<sup>nd</sup> 1902 this School was reopened after the Christmas Vacation. The Rev. H.M. Neville introduced Mr Todd's successor - Mr J.H. Binks.
- 24 Jan. 1902: Miss E.M. Hempenstall (article 68) from Inch National School Co. Wexford commenced duties on Wednesday morning.
- 20 June 1902: On Friday the school broke up for a week's holiday to celebrate the King's coronation.
- 22 Aug. 1902: No. on register : 54

*Linda Bankier*

## **EXHIBIT OF THE MONTH**

**Spouted Jug**  
**Earthenware with blue decoration**  
**Scottish, c. 1822-28**  
**Burrell Collection: BERMG 148**



This month's exhibit is especially fascinating. The jug is marked Watson & Co which identifies it as being produced at Prestonpans, 10 miles east of Edinburgh. A factory was established there in about 1750 and during the course of the 18<sup>th</sup>. Century some 80 potters were employed mainly producing Staffordshire style figurines. Towards the end of the century bowls, bottles and "greybeards" were also being advised. Our jug is one such, with a bearded face just below the spout. This motif derives from the famous 'Bellarmine' jugs that had been made in this country from the time that Cardinal (now Saint) Bellarmine (1542 - 1621) was first mocked by Protestants. By 1796 the Cadell family owned the pottery along with the celebrated Carron Ironworks to the west of Edinburgh. They leased the pottery to David Thomson & Co who in turn installed Hamilton Watson as their manager. Watson thought he could run things on his own account and sub-leased the factory from the Thomson's. This was not a successful move as by 1838 Watson was bankrupt, owing £120 to the Cadells. An inventory made for the creditors however lists copper plates including "20 jug plates" used for decoration of the wares.

The copper plates would have had engraved scenes from which impressions would be made on tissue paper which would then be transferred to the jug, fired and painted in under glaze blue before a second firing. Often these pictures would be copies of book illustrations and in our case the pictures are particularly complex, with quotations from a story included. Very recently these scenes have been identified as being incidents in the Pastoral Comedy "The Gentle Shepherd" (1725) by Allan Ramsay (1686 - 1758). This was Ramsay's best work and a massive bestseller in the 18<sup>th</sup> and early 19<sup>th</sup> Centuries. It is a delicate pastoral love story typical of its time told in Scots dialect. The particular characters shown in our scenes are Bauldy and Mause, the latter supposedly a witch who reappears as the mother of Cuddie Headrigg in Scott's "Old Mortality". Such was the popularity of "The Gentle Shepherd" that tourists set out along the country lanes around Penicuik, Midlothian seeking the locations referred to in the poem; the remains of Mause's cottage seen on the jug being confidently identified by a guidebook in 1808. Illustrated editions of the Pastoral appeared early on, but it was 1788 before the best known series of illustrations appeared, those by the noted Scottish artist David Allan (1744 - 96). These aquatints, now in the National Gallery of Scotland, broke new ground in the authenticity of their observation of the life and customs of the country folk in the Edinburgh hinterland. Very slightly adapted and engraved for book publication the Allan pictures continued to be reproduced to the end of the 19<sup>th</sup> Century and two were transferred from the page onto our jug. So in a single object we go from the Protestant Reformation, through the best known Scots Pastoral to the most influential Scottish rural painter of the late 18<sup>th</sup> Century.

As a final twist, Allan Ramsay's son Allan (1713 - 84) became a distinguished portrait painter, one of whose portraits is also in the Museum. It is of Miss Christian Grant (d. 1761) who lived at Prestongrange House, just down the road from the pottery.

*Chris Green*

\*Thanks are due to Robin Hill; Mr & Mrs. Holdaway and Mrs. Irene MacDonald all of whom have contributed to researching this fascinating item.



## **APPRENTICESHIP INDENTURE OF JOHN MARSHALL**

The Enrollment of the Indenture whereby John Marshall sonne of John Marshall becometh Apprentice to John Law Entrede and Recorded this 16<sup>th</sup> of Aprille 1614.

This Indenture made the 15<sup>th</sup> day of Aprille in the twelfth year of the Raigne of our Sovereigne Lord James by the grace of God, Kinge of England, ffraunce and Ireland, Defender of the Faith, etc. WITNESSETH that John Marshall sonne of John Marshall of Tweedmouth within the libertyes of Norham parcell of the County Pallintyne of Durham hath putt himself apprentice unto John Lawe of the burrow of Barwick upon Tweed, burgess and marchant of the staple and with him after the maonor of an apprentice to bide and dwell from the feast of the Annunciacion of our Blessed Lady the Virgin now last past before the date thereof unto the Ende and Tearme of Seven Years hence next inseuinge and fully. To be accomplished by all said Tearme (the said) John Marshall the apprentice to the said John Lawe as his master well and faithfully he shall serve his secrits, shall keepe his commandments ever lawfull and honest willingly. Only here he shall do no fornicatione in the house of his said master nor without. He shall not doo hurt to his said master nor of others suffer to be done to the value of £13 per year not above but be to his powre shall lett nor avowe his masiter here. Of Tavernes of custome he shall not haunte but if it be about his master's business there to be done, the Dice, cards or any other unlawful games he shall not play, the goodes of his said master inordinately he shall not wast nor them to any man lends without his maister's license, matrimony with any woman within the said tearme he shall not contract nor espouse nor from his service neyther by day nor by night shall absent or estrange himself but as honest and faithful servant ought to behave himself as well in words as in deed and never the lesse the said John Lawe is contented that the said John Marshall apprentice be kept by his said father at the schoole eyther hear in Barwick or in any other place beyond sea for the first year of the said seven years for his better in ablinige to serve him afterwards and the said John Lawe unto the said John Marshall in the craft masterye and trade which he now uses after the best manor that he can or may shall teache and informe or cause to be taught and informed as much as he unto belongeth and in dew mannor shall chastice him and shall finde unto his said service meat drink linnen wollene hose shooes and all other things nececary or belonging of an apprentice of that crafte to be found after the mannor and custome of the said Burrow of Barwick, in witness whereof the said parties to guid? pute here interchangeably sett his hande and seales the day and yeare first above written 1614.

John Marshall

Lancelot Strother

Leonell Strother, Towne Clerke

*Lindy Tindley*

## **TWEED DOCK AND ITS OPENING**

The Stevenson report on the "Improvement of the Harbour of Berwick", dated 11 January 1869 and presented to the Harbour Commissioners said, in essence, that Berwick enjoyed significant commercial advantages due to its prominent position at the mouth of a large river with adequate depth of water at its entrance, with the immediate proximity of railway communication and ready access to a large tract of inland country. Regarding the entrance to the Harbour, it was considered that, with the exception of the Tyne and Tees, it was the best port between the Forth and the Humber. Considered in the light of the increasing trade, which must be encouraged to be secured between the North Eastern coast of Britain and the continental north sea ports, increased secure and risk free berthage for vessels is of

great importance. Dock accommodation, similar to the new docks recently constructed or proposed at Montrose, Dundee, Anstruther, Burntisland and Leith is now considered necessary at Berwick.

The Dock proposed was of 1  $\frac{3}{4}$  acres in extent with a depth of water over the sill, at high water of ordinary spring tides, of 19 feet. The area enclosed would be sufficient to accommodate eight vessels of from 500 to 900 tons burden each. The dock entrance is so placed as to be under the lee of the Carr Rock in order to protect vessels entering or leaving, from the run of the sea during Easterly gales and, also to a large extent, from the action of land floods.

The position of the dock would be such as to admit the formation of a line of railway to connect it with the North British and North Eastern systems.

The cost of the construction of this dock was estimated at £26,000, in the absence of working drawings.

As the amount of accommodation on the plan as presented was more than sufficient for the present wants of the port, as stated by the Commissioners, a separate estimate for a smaller dock, was also presented. This reduced the dock area to one acre at an estimated cost of £19,000.

*Dennis Nicholson*

## **OPENING OF "TWEED DOCK"**

The opening of the new Dock at Tweedmouth took place on Wednesday 4 October 1876. The want of proper dock accommodation in the port had long been felt, and had been the means of placing the trade of the Borough at a disadvantage. Messrs D & T Stevenson of Edinburgh prepared the plans and the actual construction work was let by contract to Messrs Morrison & Son, also of Edinburgh. The Dock afforded 1550 feet of quay room and had a depth of 19 feet at high water, ordinary spring tides, over the gate sills, the area of the dock being 9 feet deeper. The entrance was 40 feet in width. The Dock was to be connected with Spittal by a North Eastern Railway branch line which was then under contract. The Dock would subsequently have a 20 ton lift steam crane, a timbers lip and other conveniences for use by shipping. The total cost of the dock and all its services would be in the region of £50,000.

On the recommendation of the Mayor a half-holiday was proclaimed in the town on the day of the official opening of the Dock. At two o'clock the Mayor, Town Council and the Harbour Commissioners together with many dignitaries of the town and Northumberland embarked on the steam tug "Tweed", upon which they sailed down the river as far as Spittal before turning back and entering the dock at about 2.30. After much ceremony the assembled company witnessed the entrance of H. M. Gunboat "Tyrian", which was to be accommodated during the winter. Although several ships had entered the dock during the precious month or two, in order to relieve a temporary overcrowding at the Carr Rock anchorage, the first official merchant vessel to enter the dock on the opening day was the Sunderland brig "Bedra" laden with timber for Allen Bros., of Tweedmouth.

In the evening a celebratory dinner took place in the King's Arms Assembly Room. The number present was 110 and the menu was as follows:-

## WINES

Sherry	(	Hare
	(	

	(	Turbots
Hockheimer	(	Crimped Cod
	(	Filleted Soles

	(	Sweet-breads
Sherry	(	Curried Lobster
Champagnes	(	Oyster Patties

	(	Roast Turkeys
Sherry	(	Haunches of Venison
Champagnes	(	Boiled Round of Beef
	(	Boiled Fowls of Cauliflowers

Sherry	(	Pheasants
Champagnes	(	Grouse

Sherry	(	Jellies
Champagnes	(	Apple Tarts

Port	(	
Sherry	(	
Claret	(	

## MENU

### SOUPS

Mock Turtle	Oxtail
Venison	

### FISH

Lobster Sauce
Oyster Sauce
Fried Whittings

### ENTREES

Cutlets a la'Maintenon	
Rissoles	Stewed Kidneys

### REMOVES

Hams	Tongues
	Roast Geese
	Roast Beef

### SECOND COURSE

Partridges
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### SWEETS

Coronation Cakes	Blanc-mange
Tartlets	Compotes of Pears

### DESSERT

Dinner was called at a quarter past five and the chair was taken by C. L. Gilchrist Esq., the Chairman of the Harbour Commissioners. During the course of the dinner many speeches were made by members of the armed forces, transportation groups and various civil authorities who all pursued the common themes of "why had the need for a dock taken so long to be realised", and all the benefits in trade and navigation within the port area which would follow upon the advent of the new dock.

*Dennis Nicholson*  
Hon. Editor