

## **The Cross Papers**

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*When Dr. Ware published her edited version of the Shipton Constable's Book<sup>1</sup> in 2005 she dedicated it 'to Mrs Kitty Wiggins who appreciated the importance of her great-grandfather Richard Cross's archives'. She added a note 'On the death of Mrs Kitty Wiggins, Shipton's elderly postmistress, the Shipton Constable's account book came to light among other papers carefully preserved in her great-grandfather's desk. Her sister Miss Jessica Coombes gave it to me "for safe keeping, because you will know what to do with it" ...'. Later Miss Coombes gave Dr. Ware the rest of the Richard Cross's papers and she passed them on to the Society. These are the 'Cross Papers'. They are a miscellaneous collection of booklets, various pieces of paper, some no more than scraps, frequently written on in faint pencil, and a number of printed documents.*

### **The Cross family**

Members of the Cross family appear frequently throughout the Shipton parish registers. The earliest entry is a baptism dated 1596 but the first entry that can be identified as referring to Richard Cross's ancestors is the marriage of his grandfather. (There are three previous marriages any one of which could be of Cross's great-grandparents.) His grandfather, Thomas Cross, married Mary Ivins in November 1730 and they had nine children, the youngest of whom, Richard, was Richard Cross's father. The parish registers record the baptism of Cross senior on 23 February 1755 and his burial aged 76 on 17 August 1826. Richard senior was a weaver and general merchant and there is a booklet in the Cross papers in which he kept notes of his business transaction. In it he wrote '1780 Richard Cross his Book he was Born March ye 15 in the year or Our Lord 1750'. He was probably wrong as his brother Thomas was baptised in December 1749 although there may be mistakes in the parish registers. His wife was Jane Cox who was seven months pregnant when he married her. They had four children, three daughters and a son Richard, our Richard.

This Richard was baptised on 16 March 1788. He married Elizabeth Slatter in Shipton on 1<sup>st</sup> January 1821 anticipating his marriage as his father had done; his eldest daughter Sarah was born six months after the marriage in August. He had two other daughters, Harriet in 1824 and Sophia in 1826. His wife Elizabeth died in March 1827, aged 43, and among his papers is a bill from R.H. Pytt, a Burford doctor, for four journeys and for pills, mixtures and cough drops for her. Sarah died aged six in August of that year. This left him with two small daughters, Harriett aged three and Sophia aged eleven months.

One of Richard's sisters had married a John Powell and there is an embarrassingly sanctimonious letter dated July 1827 from John to Richard on the death of Richard's wife. Among many exhortations to Richard to bow to the will of the Lord is a paragraph which shows that Sophia had been placed in the care of her aunt. She was in good health, had one tooth and was very fond of her swing. John, was glad to hear that the children [i.e. Harriet and Sarah] were better; sadly Sarah died a month later.

Richard Cross died in August 1852 aged 64. His will, in which he described himself as weaver and parish clerk. is disappointingly brief<sup>2</sup>. He appointed his daughter Harriet sole executor and required her to sell his freehold property, which consisted of a house, shop and garden, and left the proceeds to her. A year later Harriet married William Coombes, whose descendants later ran the Shipton Post Office.<sup>3</sup>

### **Richard Cross senior**

Richard Cross senior's spelling in the notebook referred to above may perhaps be described as personal and some of his entries are difficult to interpret. Nearly half are for weaving ('waven' or 'waving') without specifying the product; named materials are cloth, apron, linsey<sup>4</sup> ('lincy'), holland<sup>5</sup> ('ol(l)e'), woollen and thread. 'Check' and 'medley' are presumably patterns. There are references to the dressing<sup>6</sup> ('dresen') and plain dressing, ('plen dresen') of materials and to dyeing them.

One of the orders from one of Cross senior's customers, a Mrs Warner, shows the style of the entries in his account book.

Mr(s) Warner Hor Bill – 17 yards of lincy dres 2s 10d; 6 yards of lincy green 3s 6d; 4 yards of lincy dresen 8d . 4 yards and half of olen 2s 3d; 2 yad of olen nap 1s 8d; 4 pound of olen bluw 2s; 3 pound of bluw linen 2s 6d; 11 yards of medley 3s 8d; 3 yards of White Cod [? cord] 9d; 2 yards of brown nap 1s 6d; I pound and half Blu 1s 3d – £1 1s 7d.

Mrs Warner placed several such orders and it looks as though she, too, may have been in the textile business;<sup>7</sup> but she also bought 'a pair of hose black' for three pence so Cross senior seems to have been selling made-up goods as well as material.

An interesting feature of Cross senior's booklet is his drafts of weaving patterns. They are for 'Hoka Back' (Huckaback), 'Dyamant Lincy' (diamond linsey), 'Double Dicament (double diamond), and two unspecified, one headed 'Emms and oes'. There is also a small piece of woven double diamond material.



*Weaving diamond linsey*



*Woven double diamond material*

There are not many sales of provisions recorded in Cross senior's booklet but those that there are cover a wide range, barley, grain, beans, butter, cheese, sugar, brimstone, onions, potatoes ('tater'), peas, sows, pigs, pig meat, salt, meal, flour, bread, drink, candles, soap, boards, wood, lamp oil, stockings.

Cross senior also lent money. For example he recorded that 'Mr Tarn "Boroad" [borrowed] of me 1s'.

### **Richard Cross junior**

Like his father before him Richard Cross was a weaver and general merchant and like him he kept a small book in which he recorded among other things sales of woven material between 1822 and 1828. The book is *The New Daily Journal or Complete Account Book for the Year of our Lord,*

1778', which contains some 75 pages of the sort of information usually to be found in diaries. A third of the weaving entries in the notebook do not record what was being woven, customers being charged by the yard or by the ell (1¼ yards) or for 'weaving'. The other entries show the product as 'aproning' (2 orders), blanketing (1 order), cloth (13 orders), huckaback<sup>8</sup> (6 orders), sheeting (12 orders), table linen (7 orders), thread (15 orders), towelling (1 order) and weaving (30 orders). Here, too, the charges were for the most part by the ell or yard except for thread almost all of which was sold by the pound. The charges were 1s 11d a yard for 'aproning', 2s 0d a yard for blanketing, from 7½d to 2s 0d an ell for cloth, from 9d to 2s 0d a yard for huckaback, from 6d to 2s 0d an ell for sheeting, from 9d to 2s 6d a yard for table linen, 10d a yard for towelling and 6d to 10d a yard or an ell for unspecified weaving. Thread was sold at about 9d a pound but two orders were charged one at 6d and one at 6½d an ell.

Cross's best customers in the period covered by the notebook were Sir John and Lady Reed of Shipton Court who bought 75½ yards of huckaback, 162¼ ells of sheeting including one order of 102 ells, 4 yards of table linen, 42 yards of towelling, 46 yards of cloth and 201 yards and 133 ells of unspecified woven material. They also bought 1¼ lbs of thread. In all there were 78 separate orders from 30 named customers, most of whom made repeat orders.

Three orders, recorded on separate pieces of paper, include one from Lady Reed which Cross wrote out as:-

one Dozen pound of flax wove into knife Cloths which are to be plain & wove half yard wide.  
The other Dozen pound is to be wove into the common Huckaback pattern for China Clothes,  
dressed Clothes & etc

The second, from a Miss Sheriff, was for:-

one piece of towelling like Lady Reade's. 30 Yd close diamond like Lady Reade's for Kitchen  
table Clothes. 30 Yd of plain for Round Towels. 3 pr of sheets at 3/6 per Yard 3 pr of Do at 3/  
per Yard

The third was from a Mr D. Rodney Nunay who wrote to Cross from the Rectory, Brampton Brian, Ludlow on 9<sup>th</sup> February 1842 to say 'I beg you to send me 1 Peice of Towelling at 1/6 [and] 1 do. do. at 1/3'. Another note dated December 1842 says 'I send you a cheque for the amount of yr acc.'

We have a fuller record of Cross's purchases of the raw materials connected with his trade. One supplier was the firm of H. G. Busby of Moreton in Marsh<sup>9</sup> for which there are receipted bills for the period 1828 to 1844 together with some undated. A couple of dozen were on printed billheads; most of them are on odd pieces of paper. The bulk of Cross's purchases from Busby was of unbleached yarn but there were occasional orders for, for example white or grey yarn. There were no orders for bleached yarn from Thomas and Hannah Keck of Chipping Norton but several for white and brown yarn, fine yarn and flax. There were also payments for 'cleanings' by the dozen, one for 10 dozen flax cleanings at 6s 0d a dozen. All Keck's bills were on plain pieces of paper. From J. Wall of Banbury, 'Rope, Twine and Flax Manufacturer, Curled Hair &', Cross bought mostly tow.<sup>10</sup> Wall's bills were all on printed billheads and dated 1827-1828.

On 26 October 1826 Cross bought a number of items from J. D. Charles of Stow on the Wold, 'Linen & Woolen Draper, Haberdasher & Silk Mercer'. Not all the items on his bill are readable and one or two are somewhat obscure. What, for example, were one 'Callico' and eight yards of black stuff? What is clear is that he bought some silk thread, some ribbons and gauze, three-quarters of a yard of expensive cloth, (it cost him 4s 1d), two pairs of hose, a pair of kid, gloves for 1s 9d, a pair of long gloves for 1s 6d and a pair of short cotton gloves for 10d. Perhaps he was topping up his wardrobe.

The booklet in which Richard Cross recorded his orders for weaving also included sales of food between 1822 and 1826. The main item was cheese at prices from 4½d to 9d per pound closely followed by bacon at similar prices. Other foods were various cuts of meat, fat and lard and occasional sales of bread, flour and potatoes. There was one sale of a store pig. The vicar, the Reverend Phillimore is recorded as buying only cheese and bacon from Cross and there are no purchases of provisions of any sort by the residents of Shipton Court which was presumably self-sufficient.

Cross also had a considerable business in wood. There were frequent orders for hurdles (once described as ‘flakes’) and for thorn, poles, willow sticks, stakes and bonds (presumably binding material) and of faggots, perhaps for fuel. We can also see from the booklet where he got some of his supplies. For example one page reads:-

Load wood forest  
 2 Ditto Boynall  
 1½ Load Bruern  
 1 Load Poles Fifild Hill  
 1 Load Cockes Hill  
 2 Load East Ground  
 1 Load Shakin Hook

Among the Cross papers are three printed notices of sales of underwood by auction, two at the Crown Inn in Shipton and one in the auctioneer’s office in Woodstock. The auctioneers were Mr London, Mr Churchill and Mr Turner. The wood came from Conduit and Cowlease (Cowleys) coppices in Bruern and from Hop Coppice and the upper part of Coombs Coppice in Tanglely. Each lot was identified by the number of braids in it, ranging from five to 28½. There is nothing to show the size of a braid and no relevant definition in the Oxford English Dictionary.

On one notice of sale, someone, presumably Cross, has marked the sale price of each lot and on another the sale price of half of them

There are two receipts for wood that Cross bought at auction in Shipton, not the auctions for which there are bills of sale. They indicate that the bidding was for so much a braid. At the Crown Inn on 19<sup>th</sup> December 1845 Cross bought lot 12, 21¾ braids of underwood from Birch Coppice ‘at 4’ and paid £4:7:0; and on another occasion he bought at a sale at ‘Shipton Wychwood’, lot 6, 18 braid underwood from Highwood Coppice, Bruern, at 3s 6d and paid £3:3:0.

There are a few pieces of paper dated 1815-1816 which show Cross in partnership with Mark Cox in transactions involving large quantities of timber. For example on 28<sup>th</sup> February 1815 Cross and Cox bought from Mr Pratt of Leafield 566 feet of ‘elm timber’ at 1s 10d per foot for a total of £51:16:0. On the day Cross paid £20 on account. Cox paid another £20 on account on 24<sup>th</sup> July. It is not clear how the account was settled. As an example of a sale Mr Clifford bought from Cross and Cox on 19<sup>th</sup> April 1815 ‘2662 foot of Inch Board at £1:1:0 per hundred £27:18:6, 293 foot 3 qrs Board at 18s per hundred £2:12:6’ and on 23<sup>rd</sup> June he bought ‘2027 foot of Inch Board at £1:1:0 per hundred £21:5:6, 1084 foot of 3 qrs Board at 18s per hundred £9:18:8’ – a total of £61:11:2. The bill shows that Clifford paid £20 on 12<sup>th</sup> May and £20 on 25<sup>th</sup> June. Again there is no record of a final settlement. One note shows Cross and Cox settling between themselves – ‘Mark Cox settled with Richd Cross for oak Timber Left Due £3:13:6’.

There are a few entries in the booklet other than for weaving and provisions, for example occasional bills for washing, for haymaking and for reaping wheat. One cryptic entry reads ‘Faggots Notridge, Thorns 9 Hundred 70s 80 Longtails; longtails being the local word for pheasants,<sup>11</sup>

One or two entries show that like his father Cross was lending money. When accounts were paid off he wrote ‘settled’, but there are three entries for example where he wrote that he had received money from R Jones, without stating the amount. More specifically ‘he lent Mr Pratt one shilling’. There is no suggestion of interest being charged.

One entry appears to refer to a journey to London by coach and horse. It reads:

Turnpikes on the road	0	0	4
	0	1	2
At Beaconsfield	0	5	9
Knightsbridge	0	0	3
Smithfield	0	1	2
Turnpike	0	0	2
Knightsbridge	0	1	8
Smithfield	0	1	0
Smithfield	0	2	8
Coach	0	1	6
Knightsbridge Horse	0	4	10
Turnpike	0	1	6

Was this perhaps a trip to Smithfield to buy meat?

### **Private purchases**

There are some pieces of paper which appear to show Cross's purchases for domestic consumption. They are running accounts over quite long periods with purchases every two or three days and settlement at the end. For example, there are ten accounts for Richard Sims for the years 1823 to 1826 with one for 1842. One for 1823 runs from 20<sup>th</sup> August to 30<sup>th</sup> December before being settled. There is a Richard Sims, butcher of Shipton, in the 1851 census and Cross's bills are for various cuts of beef, mutton and pork, and for bacon and suet. There are also regular purchases of loaves and flour and one of six penny worth of 'blacking'.

There are bills for 1824 to 1826 with one for 1831 which show that he regularly bought bread from John Harris on six month accounts that were settled each May and October with occasional purchases of beans, flour and sugar. In 1824 he bought currants, lump sugar, butter, tea, plums, lard, bacon, candles and yellow soap from M. Upstone; and in 1826 he bought lump sugar, butter, cheese, tea, loaves and candles from T. A. Haynes

One account with H. S. Franklin runs from 28<sup>th</sup> July 1829 to 17<sup>th</sup> November 1830 before being settled and shows Cross buying white and brown loaves, sugar, tea, soap, candles and tobacco on an almost daily basis, buying butter just twice and an ounce of coffee just once. One bill for the period 5<sup>th</sup> November 23<sup>rd</sup> to June 1836 has him buying loaves regularly from William Reynolds. Another supplier was Thomas Gilson for whom there are accounts from 1839 to 1848. Cross regularly bought flour, loaves, cheese, butter, lard, sugar, tea, bacon and candles. He once bought some plums and some 'jap blacking'.

In 1840 and 1841 he bought meat regularly from Robert Spencer with one purchase of eight gallons of beer for 5s 2d. Cross bought some flour from J. Perkins in 1842 and then between 17<sup>th</sup> November 1846 and 24<sup>th</sup> August 1847 bought flour from him every few days and twice bought malt and hops.

It is difficult to reconcile the purchase of the earlier of these items with Cross selling some of them himself from 1822 to 1826 as shown by the booklet. There is nothing to suggest that he was buying wholesale to sell retail.

There are records of payments to Mrs Pugh for washing and of settling the lady's account for the ingredients for making beer, six ounces of hops, four ounces of treacle, four ounces of sugar and one quart of bran, all to be mixed with 14 gallons of water with a little barm, In 1845 Cross paid H. Holland of Burford 1s 0d for a nipple for a gun.

Richard Cross became parish clerk on the death of his uncle John, the previous clerk and Cross inherited wide responsibilities not least in the administration of the poor law. (Civil parishes in the modern sense were not established until the Local Government Act of 1894 and at the time the ecclesiastical parish of Shipton still included Milton, Leaffield, Lyneham, Ramsden and Langley.

Before the introduction of the new poor law in 1834 responsibility for the care of the poor lay with individual parishes. The first part of the accounts of Shipton's overseers of the poor for the period 1830 to 1847<sup>12</sup> show how the old system worked. Cash payments and some personal attention (outdoor relief) were given to individuals according to their need as assessed by the overseers. In 1830 Shipton made cash payments to 30 individuals and paid for a nurse. The new law did away with this method of helping the poor and replaced it with unions of groups of parishes under the management of guardians of the poor and outdoor relief was replaced by admission to a workhouse. The Chipping Norton Union which included the Wychwood villages was formed in 1835 and a new workhouse was built in London Road, Chipping Norton.

Among Cross's papers are a couple of copies of a notice about the nomination of candidates for election as guardians in 1847. (These notices had to be fastened to church doors, and Cross's copies are holed in each corner. He used them as scrap paper to do calculations on the backs.) The notice gave the number to be elected for each parish in the union including one each for Ascott, Bruern, Fifield, Langley, Leaffield, Lyneham, Milton and Shipton. Voters, that is those who had paid the poor rate in their parishes, were each entitled to a certain number of votes depending on the value

of their property. Those with property rated at less than £50 got one vote, between £50 and £100, two votes, between £100 and £150, three votes, between £150 and £200, four votes, between £200 and £250 five votes and over £250, six votes. Nominations on a prescribed form had to be returned either to the clerk to the guardians or to named individuals in each parish, in Ascott to Mr. Gomm, in Bruern to Mrs. Pratt, in Fifield, to Thomas Hambidge, in Langley, to George Wilsdon, in Leafield, to Charles Ferriman, in Lyneham, to Edward Freeman, in Milton to T.G. Ansell and in Shipton to Richard Bould.

Under the 1834 poor law parishes had to contribute to the expenses incurred by the guardians who assessed what each parish should pay. Among Cross's papers is a printed notice dated 10<sup>th</sup> January 1848 from the clerk to the Union requiring the parish to send in an account of the amount for Shipton 'according to the last valuation or poor rate'. A small piece of paper, conveniently dated 14<sup>th</sup> January 1848, shows that Shipton sent a swift reply. It says:-

'The Rateable Value of Shipton Parish is £2023:12:3 Excused out of that 48:15:10 Leaving on the present Rate Book Rateable Value £1974:16:6'

There are a number of hand-written notices on half sheets of paper in the Cross papers, again with signs of having been pinned to the church door and later used as scrap, announcing the making of the poor rates, one at sixpence in the pound, the others at one shilling in the pound. There are five for Shipton, four for Milton and some torn scraps. The collection of some of these levies in the period 1845 to 1848 is shown by the stubs in four purpose made poor rate receipt books, sold by W. Potts of Banbury, recording the individual assessment of the ratepayers in Shipton and the receipts for payment. At a shilling in the pound the highest assessment for 1845 was Richard Bould at £14:9:1½, closely followed by William Bould at £13:17:11 and T. Young at £12:11:0. The lowest assessments were Mr Harris at 2½d and John James and J. Turner at 1s 0d. Richard Cross weighs in at a modest 1s 2d. For some reason Sir John Chandos Reade at Shipton Court gets let off with £1:15:11.

There are further detailed accounts in Cross's papers for the collection of what are called first, second and third rates in 1845 and 1846. There is nothing to show what these were for but they list the same names and payments as the receipt books and are clearly poor rates. Perhaps they were called first, second and third rates because they were collected at intervals each year and were linked with the quarterly returns which the parish had to make to the Union. They were collected by named collectors, Richard Cross, John Spencer and Richard Spencer. John Spencer seems to have been mainly responsible as there are entries showing Cross passing on to him what he has collected himself. The amounts uncollected are noted and most accounts list the ratepayers and what they paid.

The quarterly returns to the Union appear in the overseers' accounts after 1835. There is, however a copy of a return in Cross's papers.

Union of Chipping Norton – Parish of Shipton

Half Year Ending Lady Day

Receipts

1847 In hand from Last Quarter 69:10:7½

1848 Jan<sup>y</sup> 12<sup>th</sup> By a Poor Rate 98:14:10

168:13:5½

Receipts 168:13:5½

Disbursements 138:4:6

In Hand 30:8:11½

Disbursements

1847 Nov<sup>br</sup> 10 Treasurer of Union 63:0:0

Constables Bill 1:3:6

Expences with Jury List 3:0

1848 Jan<sup>y</sup> 26 Treasurer of \Union 71:0:0

R H Pytt Bill<sup>13</sup> 1:1:0

Signing Poor Rate 1:0

Receipt Check Book	1: 0
Clerks Fees on the Appointment of Constables	8: 6
Clerks Fees on the Appointment of Overseers	9: 0
Overseers Bill for Journeys to Chipping Norton	<u>17: 6</u>
	138: 4: 6

The parish needed the authority of the Justices of the Peace before paying the constable the £1:3:6 listed above from poor law funds and there is a printed order requiring the overseers to pay Arthur Cross, constable, for the performance of certain duties as specified. Unfortunately the specification is 'As per bill or account attached' which is missing. An earlier order authorising payment of £1:18:6 and signed for the justices by James Haughton Langston and Robert Phillimore, the vicar as a J.P, is no more informative.

There is also an order from the justices ordering the payment from poor law funds of the 8s 6d listed above on the appointment of constables. It is for 'Issuing Notices and appointment of Constables, Oaths of Office etc 7s 6d, and 'Order on Overseers' 1s 0d.

The money raised by the parish was paid to the credit of the Union at the Chipping Norton branch of Stourbridge, Kidderminster and Stratford-upon-Avon Banking Company and there are receipts for payments of £51, £63, £71 and £76. The accounts were audited by the auditor of the Union and there are three printed notices about this in Cross's papers. Two say that Shipton's accounts will be audited in May and October (no year was given but a printed notice to the overseers suggests it was 1847), the May audit at the Chipping Norton workhouse, the October audit at the White Horse in Chipping Norton. The accounts would therefore be open to inspection by ratepayers, for the first audit at the Red Horse (William Baylis), for the second at the house of Richard Cross. The third notice was for Lyneham, the audit being in October in Chipping Norton and the accounts available for inspection at Mrs. Pratt's house in Lyneham.

Another aspect of care in the community is found in a copy of 'Rules and Orders to be Observed in a Friendly Society', printed by J. Shayler of Witney. This society was established on 6 May 1811 at John Smith's house, 'known by the Sign of the Crown at Shipton under Wychwood ...'. It was 'for the purpose of raising and supporting a Stock or fund to aid and assist each other on just and reasonable occasions, when sick, maimed, or superannuated, to bury their dead, and to promote and encourage peace, love, and unity'.

### Constable's rate

There are three accounts headed constable's rate, one of which includes the assessments on which the rate payers were taxed and seven accounts headed 'bye rates'. These appear in the constable's book<sup>14</sup> and are clearly the constable's rate by another name.

### Other Taxes

A small piece of paper listing the Bye rates at £17:10:10 and three other rates, Church rates at £16:9:7, Highway rates at £57:5:3 and County rates at £35:11:4. On the back is written 'Shipton Church Levy 22:12:11 – Poor Rate at 1s in the Pound in the year 1843 98:17:8'. There are no details about these three rates in the Cross papers although the County rate appears regularly in the Overseers' accounts post-1834.

There is a copy of one account in the Cross papers which includes the County rate and gives some indication of the day to day administration of the poor law. It is written very faintly in pencil on a scrap of paper and some of it is unreadable.

Amount due to Thomas Brookes	10	12	3½
Due to [?parish] Officers	12	10	2½
Overseers Warrant		8	6
Rates & Receipt Books			
Constables fees	3	8	0
Removal services		19	0
April 30 – November ?	59	0	0
Unreadable			
Signed Poores' Rate		1	0

June 18 <sup>th</sup> County Rate	8	17	10
Paid the Guardians' for the Examination & Removal Order of Caroline Hanby		17	6
Conveyance of " "	1	3	1
Postage & Letters		2	7
April 13 <sup>th</sup> Paid the Treasurer of the Chipping Norton Union	57	0	0
Signed the Poores' Rate		1	0
September 24 <sup>th</sup> County Rate	6	18	4
Clerk's fees & Expenses [next unreadable]		1	6
House room		13	0

There are various pieces of paper which bring to light other odds and ends of administering the poor law. There is a notice of a meeting in the vestry to nominate overseers, another of a meeting of ratepayers to decide how best to repay the overseers the money they had advanced to the poor and a bill from Mr Gibbard 'for the use of room to pay the poor from the 22 of May to the 22 of June 13 weeks 6s 6d'.

Putting together the various accounts in the papers it is possible to construct what is probably a pretty accurate list of Shipton ratepayers in the early 18<sup>th</sup> century. This is at Appendix A. They seem to have had quite a demand on their purses.

### Measuring

There are several small notebooks and a bundle of odds and ends of paper which record a series of measurements of named areas of land. The length and breadth of the areas were taken and where they were irregular in shape, the maximum and minimum. The measurements were apparently made in links, a link being one-hundredth part of a chain. They were then converted into acres, roods and poles on the basis of ten square chains to the acre, where necessary taking the mean of the maximum and minimum measurements. (A few entries include the long division used to work out the acreage.) For example in measuring one of the poor's allotments the breadth was given as 719 and 714 links and the length as 503. Taking the breadth as 716.5 this gives 36.15 square chains or 3.6 acres, recorded as 3 acres, 2 roods and 16 poles. A more irregular shaped field farmed by Mr Maddox and called the 'field upon side road' was measured at breadth 1443/1812 and length 3310/3707. Taking the mean figures as 1627.5 and 3508.5 the number of square chains is a fraction over 57, recorded as 57 acres, 3 roods and 9 poles. Not all the calculations work out quite as neatly as this but it seems safe to assume that it was the method used throughout.

The purpose of these measurements is not clear. They look as though they may be measuring for either the tithe computation awards or the enclosure awards with Cross working for the official surveyors; but they are undated and there is no direct evidence to connect them with these awards. However, there is a printed document on which is a handwritten schedule of enclosure in Shipton a notice of a meeting in the Butcher's Arms to hear objections to the proposed enclosure of Milton Common and a meeting, also at the Butcher's Arms, to consider the appointment of trustees and the management of an allotment of nineteen acres, three roods and twenty-six perches as an equivalent to the right to cut furze on Milton Common field.

There is also a notice of a meeting to be held at the Crown Inn to consider whether those claiming common of estover<sup>15</sup> and the right to cut furze and coarse grass on Shipton Downs were so entitled and whether two thirds of those present would agree that they should be treated as a class. There had to be at least twenty claimants at the meeting. There is a note on the back of the notice that copies had been affixed to the church doors in Shipton, Leafield [chapel] and Ramsden [chapel] on 29<sup>th</sup> June 1851. These documents would indicate that Cross was in some way involved with enclosure in Shipton.

Some of the measurements did not give just length and breadth but included farm work, the reaping and mowing of wheat, barley and beans, the hoeing of turnips and swedes, the picking up of swedes [pea aken] and breast ploughing, much of it on the Downs with mention of Milton and Milton Heath and a few other places including the Peat Pits. Some of the entries are dated, covering the period 1845 to 1847. One is dated 8 August 1851. Sometimes the name of the labourer doing

the work is given as well as the name of the farmer employing him. An example taken at random is 'Mr Kimber. Wells Heads, Tho<sup>s</sup> Carpenter, Breast Plowing' 4 acres, 2 roods, 15 poles.

Some of the measurements include in addition a price of three pence an acre which appear mostly as debts to Richard Cross as in

1846 May Mr Brookes to Richard Cross				
measuring of Breast plowing on the Downs @ 3d per acre	6a	3r	11p	1s 8d
24 <sup>th</sup> July measuring of Turnips hoeing on the Downs @ 3d per acre	2a	2r	5p	7½d
14 <sup>th</sup> April 1847 measuring of Breast plowing at Milton @ 3d per acre	17a			4s 4½d
May as above @ 3d per acre	2a	3r	9p	8½d
July " " " " " "	1a	2r	7p	5d
19 <sup>th</sup> August measuring of Wheat reaper @ 3d per acre	8a	3r	1p	2s 2d
March 1848 measuring of Breast plowing on Milton Heath	3a	3r	4p	1s 0d
18 <sup>th</sup> July measuring of Turnip hoeing @ 3d per acre	6a	3r	5p	1s 8d

It looks as though these are measurements of the amount of work done by hired labour though it is difficult to see why a farmer should not know the extent of an area he was employing men to work on. But if this is what these figures cover they can perhaps be taken as showing that when Cross charged for measuring the area of work done he usually charged three pence an acre. There are inconsistencies. One measurement is at six pence an acre. A few of the bills are between individuals other than Cross and of four of these one is at 7s an acre, one at 7s 6d an acre as two at 8s an acre; but no other explanation suggests itself.

Whatever the explanation of the figures linked to farm work they afford us a glimpse of the work being done. Of that mentioned above turnip hoeing was the commonest with several entries being noted 'second time'. Breast ploughing appears frequently. A detailed description of breast ploughs and ploughing is at [www.antiquefarmtools.info/page.htm](http://www.antiquefarmtools.info/page.htm). Quoting from it, the term breast plough is a misnomer. Essentially it was a large paring spade rather than a plough and was used mainly in the process of paring and burning, that is paring turf and other surface vegetation in short strips, turning it and leaving it to dry. When dry it was burnt and the ashes scattered and ploughed in or added to manure. The legs played a major part in pushing the spade through the soil. Breast ploughing rapidly died out from the 1850s although the spade was used in the Cotswolds as late as the 1930s and 1940s, mainly as a garden or allotment tool.

Another set of figures for which there is no explanation consists of four lists of names each in a slightly different layout. In the first the names are numbered consecutively and are followed by three columns headed chs. s. d. thus:-

	<u>Chs</u>	<u>s</u>	<u>d</u>
1 Robert Harris	1	4	4
2 Richard Becett	1	4	4
3 John Cross	1	4	4
4 William Faulkner	1	4	4
5 Simon Eatwell	1	4	4
6 Charles Turner	½	3	3
7 David Cox	½	3	3
8 Limbro Townsend	¾	3	3
.....	..	..	..
34 William Smith	¼	4	4

The second and third lists are in the same format but all entries are for ½ch and for 2s. 2d.

The fourth list is numbered apparently at random and without chs. s. d.

Whatever the explanation of these various measurements and lists, they show that there was a fair amount of casual work in the farming community. From the odd booklets and pieces of paper it is possible to draw up a list, undated, of farmers, the men they employed, the work carried out and sometimes the area worked. For example, Thomas Carpenter worked for Mr Bould, Mr Brookes, Mr Kimber and Mr Young at breast ploughing at Well Heads and Egg Farm, barley and wheat

mowing on the Downs, wheat reaping at Barn Piece and at something unspecified at Shipton Gate. George Turner worked for Mr Kimber, Mr Maddox, Mr Sims and Mr Young at breast ploughing on the Downs and 'on the stubble', pulling up swedes, turnip hoeing and wheat reaping. The farmers and workers have been identified and a full list is at Appendix B.

### Incidentals

The Cross papers afford us occasional glimpses into the small change of everyday life in Shipton in the first half of the 18th century. There is a printed notice of a command by Queen Victoria ordering a general fast on 24<sup>th</sup> March 1847 'in consideration of the heavy judgements with which Almighty God is pleased to visit the iniquities of this land ...'.<sup>16</sup> One wonders how many Shiptonians went without their meals that day; but as the Queen ordered that prayers and thanksgivings be read in churches on 17<sup>th</sup> October of the same year in 'gratitude for the late abundant harvest', it looks as though the fast had some effect in lightening the gloom. Furthermore she ordered that there should be a general thanksgiving on 15<sup>th</sup> November for 'the abatement of the grievous disease which has visited England and Ireland', presumably the widespread cholera epidemic of that year.

There was another call to good behaviour in two copies of '*THE APPEAL*' for 1852, 'a magazine for the people', price one halfpenny, which drew attention to Proverbs xvi. 25, 'There is a way that seemeth right unto a man; but the end thereof is the ways of Death'.

Even so Richard Cross may have tried his hand at a flutter. There is a printed letter from George Voelcker of Frankfurt am Main about the 112<sup>th</sup> Frankfurt Lottery; with a schedule of '5,900 prizes, and 32 Extra premiums and 12,500 blanks in this lottery'.

Food for thought was provided by a series of six lectures organised by the Red Triangle Federation of Oxon, Berks and Bucks by arrangement with the Oxfordshire University Delegacy For Extra Mural Studies. They were on The Story of Man as a Craftsman and were given by Mr A.H.Griffiths B.A in the Red Triangle Hut in Shipton, illustrated by 'material examples and by epidiascope'.

There is a note of a vestry meeting on the 28<sup>th</sup> February 1850 of the inhabitants of Milton at the Butcher's Arms to nominate four men qualified and liable to serve as constable and to pass their names to the Justices of the Peace. The four named were John Ansell, saddler (served 1849), Philip Groves, mason, Anthony Gardner, farmer, Lewis Hulbert, farmer. Any objections to them would be heard at a Special Petty Sessions on 27<sup>th</sup> March at the town Hall, Chipping Norton. The note was signed by two overseers, Richard Gilbert and Philip Harbert.

A vestry meeting in the church of the inhabitants of Shipton was called by the churchwardens in 1845 to discuss the wish of Sir Chandos Reade that 'two certain Highways and Footpaths' in the parish should be stopped; and Reade's influence can also be seen in the following notice:-

To The holders of the Allotments

As you have not complied with the **Rules** of the **Garden Allotments** in this **Parish**, **I hereby Give you Notice** except your rent is Paid by July 2<sup>nd</sup> 1849 **To Quit**, on or before the **Twenty-fifth** day of **March** next, the **Garden Allotment** which you now hold in the parish of **Shipton-under-Wychwood**, in the County of Oxford.  
**Dated** this 12<sup>th</sup> day of **June** One Thousand Eight Hundred forty none  
By order of Sir John C Reade Bt

There is a letter to Cross from Thomas Atkins of Sarsden which reads 'I will thank you to call on me tomorrow Morning or if not then on Saturday Morning as I want to speak to you'.

On a notice of a Vestry meeting there is the draft of an unsigned letter in an educated hand:-

Shipton, June 11<sup>th</sup>, Dear Sir I should be very much obliged if you could come and officiate at a wedding tomorrow Morning at 10 o'clock for me as I am sorry to say I have been very ill this week but am a little better. Mr Chetle<sup>17</sup> advised me not to attempt to do my duty on Sunday if I could get anyone to do it for me. I thought perhaps you could do it on Sunday.

There is an undated estimate from T. Groves for building a 'cottage house' for Cross. It was to be 20ft. long, 16ft. wide and 12ft. high with one chimney stack. The cost for digging and finding stone

was £8:8:0, for the carriage of the stone £4:0:0 and for the carriage of mortar £1:0:0, a total of £13:8:0.

There is a small piece of paper showing Cross indebted to George Groves for building work. This was for putting in a door frame and window and for building a chimney stack. For this Groves charged £1:2:6 for nine days work by his brother William and 5s 0d. for two days work by his son. For materials he charged 6s 0d. for a quarter of lime, 10s 0d. for new chimney jambs and mantel 6s 0d. for new stone to chimney tun<sup>18</sup> etc. and £1:10s.d. for 120ft. of hewn planks. The account was settled on 30<sup>th</sup> May 1823.

There are nine half-yearly receipts from Edmund Smith for payments by Cross for catching. Those for 1846 to April 1850 are for £1:6:0; in October 1850 the rate was £1:2:6.

## Music

There is evidence in the Cross papers of music in Shipton in both the church and elsewhere. There is a printed *Book of Psalmody* with a note on one page saying 'William Cross His Book ... 1759'. The book contains 'Instructions for Young Beginners after a plain & familiar a manner as yet Extant', psalms, anthems and hymns for three to four voices, a poem to all lovers of psalmody with instructions about learning music and various other items. In addition to the printed material there are several handwritten pages of music for psalms and anthems with instructions such as 'Basses to the 138 at ye 6 verse'. For some strange reason there is a cryptic note, repeated several times, which reads 'Samuell Boorman of the County of Midd[lesex] is a mocker and strong drinkis'.

There are several loose sheets of secular music, songs, marches and dances, including *The Queen* for 'brass trombone'. Most of these sheets have 'ophecleide', written on them but there is no evidence of the existence of an ophicleide, defined as an instrument developed from the serpent<sup>19</sup>. A serpent which once hung on the wall of Shipton church is deposited in the Oxfordshire Museums Resources Centre. There was, however, a recorder type wind instrument among Cross's papers with a note that it belonged either to Richard Cross the elder or to John Coombes (see illustration). This, too, is now deposited in the Resources Centre together with the sheets of music.



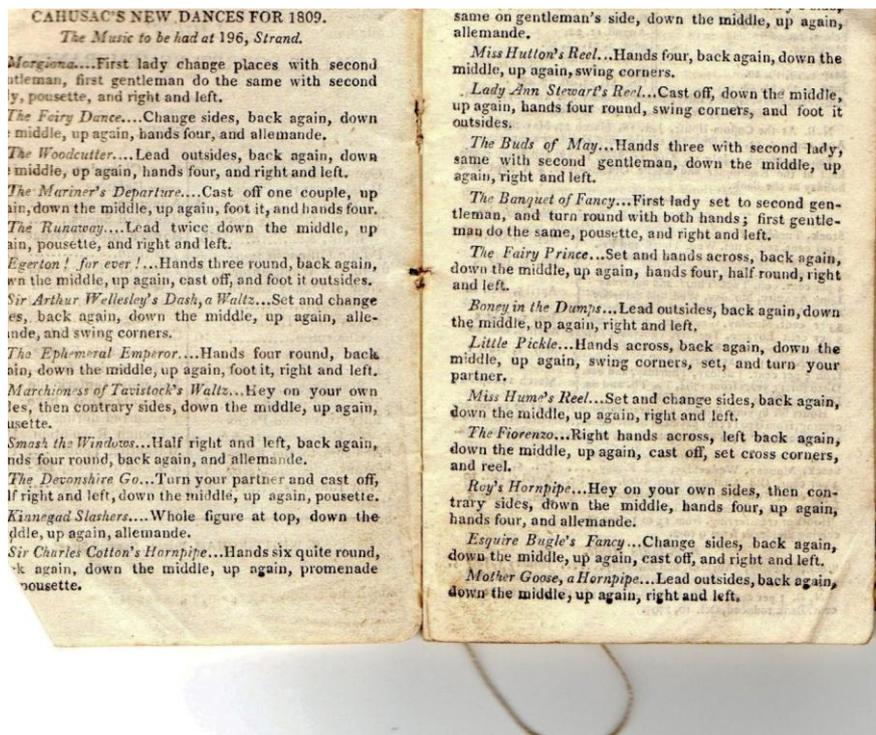
*Music in Shipton*

A tantalising fragment among the Cross papers is a few pages of *The Ladies' Select Pocket Remembrancer* for 1809. The original booklet was some 150 pages long with two pages for engagements in each month of the year and a few pages for a running cash account. The rest was a compilation of useful information, to wit:-

Country dances; Holidays at the Public Office; Transfer days at the Bank, etc; Public Offices in London & Westminster; New Hackney coach Fares; Rates of Watermen; List of Commercial Stamps; Table of Interest;

New Enigmas; New Charades; New rebuses; Anagram; Vauxhall Songs; Royal Family of Great Britain; Table of Kings & Queens of England; A catalogue of useful things; Chronological Table of remarkable Events, Discoveries, etc; The most remarkable events that have occurred during the French Revolution; Marketing Tables; A Table to cast up Expenses or Wages.

Sadly only the first 12 pages of useful information have survived in the table of interest but these include an entertaining list of new dances for 1809 (see illustration). The missing pages included the list of the most remarkable events that occurred during the French Revolution, a reminder that Cross and his contemporaries lived in the shadow of that event.



*Dancing in Shipton*

As parish clerk, weaver and merchant Cross was an important member of the community and had a leading role in most of the business, farming and social activities of the Wychwood villages. He lived in Gas Lane<sup>20</sup> in the centre of Shipton with his daughter Harriet who, after his death, married William Coombes, which accounts for his papers surviving with the Coombes family. Their survival has made it possible for us to bring Richard and many of his contemporaries briefly to life.

## Ratepayers

Baylis	Hyatt, Richard
Bould, Richard	James, John
Bould, William	Jones, Mrs.
Brookes, John	Lardner, L.T.
Brookes, Thomas	Lardner, William
Bunting, John	Maddox, John
Castle, W.	Maddox, Thomas
Chapman, Richard	Maddox, W.
Cheatle	May
Clifford, C.	Morris, Mrs. Ann
Coleman, W.E.	Peugh, William
Combs, Charles	Phillimore, Revd.
Combs, Daniel	Pratt, M.
Combs, John	Reade, Sir John Chandos
Cross, Arthur	Reynolds, T.
Cross, John	Sedgley, R.
Cross, Richard	Sharpe, J.
Crouch, J.	Shaw, William
Ellis, Thomas	Sims, Richard
Franklin, Richard	Smith, John
Gardner, George	Spencer, James
Gardner, Henry	Spencer, John
Gibbard	Spencer, Richard
Gibbard, Mrs.	Trinder, Thomas
Gibbs, Edward	Turner, J.
Gomm, John	Upstone, John
Gomm, Richard	Upstone, Michael
Hambidge,	Willesden, James
Harris	Willsdone, Jane
Harris, Ann	Willis, James
Hawcutt	Willis, John
Haynes, Mrs.	Wood, Col. Thomas.
Herbert, Philip	Young, Thomas
Huckles, William	Young Mrs

## Appendix B

### Workers and their employers

*In various booklets and on odd pieces of paper there are the names of farmers and the men they employed. Entries are undated. The type of work is sometimes given but not always. The places worked sometimes have the area or breadth and length of land plus a number. Farmers are in bold with abbreviations given. Names of workers employed are listed & where they are given without an employer's name they are noted by \**

#### Farmers

**Mr Bould = B; Mr Brookes = Br; Mr Gilbert = Gt; Mr Gomm = G; Mr Groves = Gr; Mr Hyot/Hiat = H; Mr Kimber = K; Mr Maddox = M; Mr Pratt = P; Mr Sims = Ss; Mr Smith = S; Mr Trinder = T; Mr Young = Y**

#### Employees

Acock, S., Fifield, the Heath; Little Hill; **Br**

Akerman/Acerman; **B**

Akers, John & co, turnip howing at the Downs; **B**

\*Bartlett, E.; **Br**

Bason; **Br**

Beckley, W., up at the barrow; **M**

\*Benfield, M., bean reaping; in Norgrove;  
piece of wheat; **B,Br,M,P**

\*Bodington, T., two & four lands; **Y**

Bouls, T., breast plowing; **M**

Bown, E., breast plowing on the Downs; **B**

Bridgwater, G.; **K**

Brookes, Henry, wheat rick; **K**

Carpenter, Thomas, breast plowing at Well  
Heads; breast plowing at Egg Barn; barley  
mowing; wheat mowing; on the Downs;  
wheat reaping at Barn Piece; Shipton Gate;  
**B,Br,K,Y**

S.; **Gr**

Case, A., Langley; the Heath; Little Hill; on the  
stubble; **Br,K,M**

\*Castle, G.; **B**

\*Clack, William on Milton Heath; two lands;  
**Br,Y**

L.; **M**

Colicut, J., on the Downs; **K**

Cox, up at the barrow; barley mowing; **K,M**

\*Charles; **Y**

D.; **Br**

E.; **B**

\*Thomas, bean howing; **B, Br, K**

\*Cross, Steven; **B**

\*Finstock, Daniel; **Br**

\*Davis, Robert, bean howing; Home Close; **B**  
Thomas; **Br**

\*Dodd, Charles, breast plowing; **K**

Dore, Daniel, in Norgrove, piece at the Elm;

**Br,K**

Samuel; **K**

Thomas, on the Downs; **Br**

\*Drinkwater, D., breast plowing; **M**

Eatwell, Simon, pulling sweeds; thatching;

**B,T,Y**

\*Eden, Richard, the Heath; **Y**

\*Edwards, Charles, bean reaping; turnip

howing on the Downs; **B,Gr,K,M**

Steven, one land; bean reaping; **M,Y**

Ellis, S., two lands; **Y**

T.; **B,Br**

Faulkner, piece of wheat; wheat howing; **B,Br**

D., turnip howing; **S**

\*Richard, wheat reaping; **B,Br,S**

Thomas, breast plowing on the Downs; **B,Y**

\*Franklin, at Finstock; **Br**

\*Gibbard, Mrs, bean reaping; **B,M**

\*Grant, Robert; **Br,Y**

Grey, John; **B**

Hall, Robert; **B**

Harris, in piece upon the side of road; **Y**

Mrs, two & three lands; **Y**

J., in Barn Piece; **Br**

\*James, ?vitching/vetch at New Close; howing

**B,Y**

\*John, bean reaper in Home Close; **B**

Joseph, four lands; **Y**

R., in Barn Piece; **Br**

\*Robert, bean reaping; **B,K**

\*Hart, Robert; **B,Br,Gr,T**

Harvie; **Y**

Hedges; **B,Br**

\*Joseph; **Gr**

\*Thomas, Home Close; **B**

Himson, S.; **B**

\*Holaway, M., bean reaping; **B,K,M**

Howes, Richard; **Br**

\*Ierland, J.; **Br**

Jackson, in Norgrove; **B**

\*James, John, on Downs; ?vitching/vetch at

New Close; **B**

Lardner, T., Ascott; **B**

Long, R., bean reaping: **M**

\*Longshaw; **B**

Richard, in Norgrove; **Br,M**

\* Steven; **Br,T**

Thomas, in Home Close; turnip & bean

howing; **B**

Maddox, W., turnip howing at the Peat Pitts;  
bean reaping; **M**

\*Miles, R. wheat reaping; the Heath; at the

Mill; **Br**

John, bean reaper; **B**

\*William, turnip howing; **Gt**

\*Millin, E, bean reaping; **M**

\*Mose, William, seven & eight lands; **H**

Palmer, John; **Y**

Richard; **Y**

\*Pittaway, Thomas; **B**

Poddle/Puddle, T., four & six lands; **H**

Prattley, Charles, bean reaping; **K**

\*Jacob, turnip howing; **B**

Joab, turnip howing in the field; **B**

\*Richard, on the Downs, in Barn Piece, in Pea  
Aker; **Br, Y**

William, turnip howing on the Downs & at  
the Peat Pitts; bean reaping; **M**

Price, C., at the barrow; **M**

Purbrick, James, wheat reaping; bean howing;

**K**

Pugh, W.; **Br**

Radborn/Radbourne, Richard; **K**

\*Rainbow, William; **B,Gr**

\*Right, Lucy, Pea Acre; **B**

W, Pea Aiker, in Barn Piece; **Br,M**

\*Rolins/Rawlins, in Norgrove; **B**

Thomas, bean reaping; **M**

Shayler, W., bean reaping; **M**

Shurman, Robert; **Br**

\*Silman, J., at the piece at the Elm; **Br**

\*Smith, piece of wheat; **Br**

\*James; **M**

\*John, sweed howing; Home Close; **B,S**

Joseph, pea field raking, turnip howing; **B**

\*Robert, at Finstock, Sweed Piece; breast  
plowing; **B,Br,Gr,S,Y**

\*Steven, on the Downs; **Br,Y**

\*Thomas in New Close; **B,Br,M**

\*William at Digers Pit, wheat reaping; in  
Norgrove; **B,Br,M**

South, Joseph at Egg Barn: **B**

Robert, round about; **Br**

W., **M**

\*Sparks, Joseph, turnip howing; wheat  
mowing; **K**

\*Steed, J.; **B**

W., wheat reaping; **S**

Stepto; **Y**

Stringer, D.; **Br**

Gerry, wheat reaping; **K**

Jerome, sweed howing; **S**

Taylor, George, pea howing; **M**

Timms, Mary; **S**

\*Townsend, E., Home Close; **B**

Henry; **B,Br,Gr**

\*John, bean reaping; three[or 8] lands;

**B,K,H,S**

\*Limboro'; **Y**

Thomas, in Barn Piece; **B,Br,Y**

\*William, wheat reaping; **B,K,Y**

Turner, piece of wheat; **Br**

George, breast plowing; pulling up sweeds;

breast plowing on the Downs; breast

plowing on the stubble;turnip howing;

wheat reaping; **K,M,Ss,Y**

\*Thomas, on the Downs; bean reaping; breast  
plowing on the Downs; wheat reaping(&co);

**B,Br,K,M,Y**

William;

Upstone, Robert, Little Hill; **B,Br**

Upton, the Heath; **Br**

\*Watts, John, bean reaping; **M**

T., Milton; **Br**

West, T., Little Hill, the Heath; **Br**

Wiggins, George, turnip howing; sweeds; **M**

\*James, in 9 acre Piece; breast plowing; **Br,T**

Wilks, D.; **B**

\*Thomas; **S**

Williams; **B**

Wright, three lands; **Y**

L., Pea Aker, wheat reaping; **M**

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With thanks to Alan Vickers for photography of the items in the Oxford Museum Resources Centre.

## References

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<sup>1</sup> *The Shipton-under-Wychwood Constable's Book 1808 – 1851*, Margaret Ware ed., Wychwoods Local History Society 2005.

<sup>2</sup> ORO 104.257; 230/2/43

<sup>3</sup> *The Wychwoods Album*, Sue Jourdan and Sue Richards, eds. Wychwoods Local History Society, 1985, p.6. As noted there a letter addressed to 'Mr. Cross, Post Office, Shipton, Chipping Norton, Oxon' and dated 4 April 1845 suggests that the Shipton Post Office was the oldest sub-post office in the country.

<sup>4</sup> The O.E.D. equates linsey with linsey-woollen which it defines as 'Orig. a textile material, woven from a mixture of wool and flax; now a dress material of coarse inferior wool, woven upon a cotton warp'.

<sup>5</sup> 'A linen fabric, originally called, from the province of Holland in the Netherlands' (O.E.D.).

<sup>6</sup> 'To finish (textile fabrics), so as to give them a nap, smooth surface, or gloss' (O.E.D.).

<sup>7</sup> There is a will of Edward Warner of Burford, dyer, dated 1773, in O.R.O.), W. Aff. 216.183:159/1/36.

<sup>8</sup> 'A stout linen fabric, with the weft threads thrown alternately up so as to form a rough surface, used for towelling and the like' (Oxford English Dictionary, henceforth O.E.D.).

<sup>9</sup> The firm is variously described as Moreton in the . Marsh(sic) - Henry Goodear Busby manufacturer of Cheese-cloths, Canvas etc. Busby – Linen Manufacturer and General Linen and Woollen Draper Silk Mercer & Hosier – Moreton. B G Busby – Wholesale & Retail Mercer Draper & Haberdasher – Moreton in Marsh. Busby & Co Manufacturers of Genuine Home-Made Linens Morton Henmarsh Gloucestershire

Extract from Moreton in Marsh Local History Society archives

Henry Goodear Busby (1798-1867) was a prominent resident in Moreton in Marsh. He was the third and last Busby to own the biggest business in Moreton in the 19<sup>th</sup> century. (Archives of Moreton in Marsh Local History Society.) The firm was established in 1748.

<sup>10</sup> Prepared fibres of flax, hemp or jute, particularly shorter fibres.

<sup>11</sup> I am indebted to Jim Pearse for this reference.

<sup>12</sup> O,R.O./PAR/236/05/F1/2.

<sup>13</sup> R.H. Pytt was a doctor in Burford. There is a receipt in the papers signed by Dr. Cheattle, another Burford doctor, on behalf of Pytt for a 'journey and certifying to the Insanity of [*name suppressed*].

<sup>14</sup> Margaret Ware, *op. cit.*

<sup>15</sup> The right to take necessities such as wood from the landlord's estate for the repair of by a tenant of his house etc.

<sup>16</sup> Financial crisis

<sup>17</sup> Burford doctor.

<sup>18</sup> A chimney-pot.

<sup>19</sup> An ophicleide is defined in the O.E.D. as a 'deep wind instrument consisting of a U-shaped brass tube with eleven keys, forming a bass version of the key-bugle. . . . [It] was developed in 18th cent. Europe where it supplanted the earlier serpent;. The earliest dated reference is 1834.

<sup>20</sup> ORO MS Oxf. Dioc. Papers b 122b, tithe apportionment and map for Shipton under Wychwood.

## Captions

1. Weaving diamond linsey
2. Woven double diamond
3. Music in Shipton
4. Dancing in Shipton