



Account of Purley on Thames

Chronicles 1810-1819

1810 50/51 Geo III

Anthony Scott, the Surveyor of the Posts for this part of England did a survey on the possibility of establishing a Penny Post in the area. The idea of a Penny Post was warmly supported by most of the local inhabitants who sent a memorial to the Post Masters General on the subject. Nevertheless Scott recommended against the idea as it would not be profitable. (314)

1811 51/52 Geo III

George Reynolds misbehaved in some way and was replaced as ferryman by George Holdgate (43-226)

At the census, Purley's population was found to be 197 (26-ii-242)

The Post Office established a Penny Post between Reading and Streatley as an experiment. A Receiving House was set up at Pangbourne and a messenger had to leave Reading each morning at 6.30 am in the summer (half an hour later in the winter) to arrive in Pangbourne by 8.00 am. He delivered letters on the way and left letters for Mapledurham at Purley. The carrier Godwin, who had provided the service in the past on an unofficial basis, was engaged at 20s per week. (210, 314, 315)

Mr Sherwood died aged 40 on 15th April (add ms 28673)

1812 52/53/Geo III

John Haines of Purley was the chief witness against one William Parker who was charged by the Rev Henry Stevens of having in his possession 'a certain snare or engine' to kill game (375)

At the General Election on Oct 12th, Charles Dundas (1717 votes) and The Hon Richard Neville (1374) were elected as MPs for Berkshire. William Hallett (325 votes) was not elected. Two persons from Purley voted. (117)

1813 53/54 Geo III

The Poor Rate at Easter raised £386 (74-163)

A perambulation of the Parish of Whitchurch, south of the Thames, was undertaken by Joseph Scrace who was described as '79 years of age, of unusual vigour of faculties for his time of life' (118-7)

Scott reported on the first year of operation of the Penny Post. It had carried over 28,000 letters and had made a profit of £56.18.3. As a result it was made permanent (314, 315)

1814 54/55 Geo III

The Poor Rate at Easter raised £277 (74-163)

Henry Wilder died. He had been Rector of Sulham since 1744 and had served also as curate at Purley

and as a magistrate. He was succeeded as owner of Purley Hall by John Wilder (20)

1815 55/56 Geo III

The Poor rate at Easter raised £236 (74-163)

1816 56/57 Geo III

James Geddes died and was succeeded as keeper of Mapledurham Lock by his widow Cicely. A cottage was ordered for her. (43-224)

1817 57/58 Geo III

Feather took over Godwin's carrier route from Reading to Streatley via Purley and with it the Post Office Messenger Service (210)

The Honor Court of Ewelme was sold by the Crown to Jacob Bosanquet of Brosanbury, Herts (350)

1818 58/59 Geo III

At the General Election Charles Dundas (1154 votes) and the Hon Richard Neville (1224 votes) were elected as MPs for Berkshire. William Hallet (640 votes) was not elected. There is no entry in the Poll Book of anyone from Purley voting. 117)

Anthony Gilbert Storer died on 13th June, at New Providence, and was buried in a mausoleum in his estate at Belleisle, Jamaica. He had inherited Purley Park from his uncle Anthony Morris Storer who had died in 1799. He was succeeded by his son, another Anthony Morris Storer who was only five years old at the time. As well as being Lord of the Manor of Purley Magna, Anthony Gilbert was also a member of the House of Assembly of the Parish of Westmorland in Jamaica. A memorial to him was erected in the church by his widow Ann K Storer. (1-9/80, 12)

Charles Manesty, the rector, replied in a questionnaire from the Committee of Education in London, that there was a day school in the village for the younger children and that the older children went to school in a neighbouring parish. (74-207)

1819 59/60 Geo III

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