



Account of Purley on Thames

Chronicles 1830-1839

1830 - 10/11 Geo IV/1 Wm IV

The two children of John Engelbert Liebenrood were found to be of unsound mind at an enquiry held in London on May 18th

William Lukeman died aged 89. He had been supported by the Parish after several years of illness

The Parish rate was set at 6/- in the pound for the year from 25th March. It raised £318-18-0.

John Baker was appointed Parish Constable. He had married his wife Jane at Chieveley in 1791 and had been 'removed' to Purley by the magistrates in 1792 having been found destitute. His wife had been one of the beneficiaries of the will of John Liebenrood in 1795

1831 - 1/2 Wm IV

William Pocock, a carpenter from Compton, came to live in Purley

The belfry and roof of the church were repaired

The parish rate was set at 4/- in the pound for the year from 25th March. It raised £212-12-0. Edward Sherwood and Thomas Adams were appointed Overseers

At the census the population of Purley was found to be 172

There was an enquiry at the Eyre Tavern, St John's Wood, London on May 18th into the state of mental health of the two children of John Engelberts Liebenrood who had died in 1812. Both George and Lucy were declared of unsound mind

1832 - 2/3 Wm IV

Mapledurham Lock was reported as 'being in a dangerous condition'

The parish rate for the year from 25th March was set at 3/6 in the pound. It raised £186-0-6. Edward Sherwood and R W Southby were appointed Overseers.

As a result of the 1832 Reform Act the first Electoral Register was published. The register covered the whole of Berkshire and three persons were registered from Purley. Instead of the two 'Knights of the Shire' who had represented Berkshire at Parliament in the past, it was to be represented by three elected Members. The Boroughs continued to send their own Members although some, like Newbury lost theirs and were included in Berkshire.

1833 - 3/4 Wm IV

The Parish rate for the year from 24th March was set at 3/- in the pound. It raised £159-9-0

1834 - 4/5 Wm IV 1834

John Wilder died aged 65. He was succeeded by his son the Reverend Henry Watson as owner of

Purley Hall

The Parish rate was set at 3/- in the pound for the year from 24th March. It raised £159-9-0

1835 - 5/6 Wm IV

The Bradfield Union was formed and took over from the parish the responsibility for the poor. At its first meeting on 12th March Purley was represented by Edward Sherwood. The Reverends Charles Manesty and Henry Wilder were ex-officio members. One of the first reports to be considered was on the widow Ilsley of Purley. She was very ill with a dropsy, unable to do any work and had no resources. The parish relief of 2/- per week was continued.

The Bradfield Union Workhouse was established at Southend Bradfield at what is now Waylands Hospital. It was designed by the architect Sampson Kempthorne to take 214 paupers.

Isambard Kingdom Brunel came to visit Purley to persuade Anthony Morris Storer to accept £10,000 in return for a change in route for the Great Western Railway from one which followed the river to one which cut across Purley Magna in a cutting.

1836 - 6/7 Wm IV

Purley was transferred from the diocese of Salisbury to the diocese of Oxford in a wholesale reorganisation of Sees.

The Reverend Henry Watson Wilder was drowned off Yarmouth IOW with his wife Augusta. He was succeeded by his son Frederick Wilder who was then only 4 years old.

In midsummer £129-13-1 was spent on repairs to the church

1837 - 7/8 Wm IV/1 Victoria

Cow money was said to be in the hands of Edward Sherwood who paid six shillings interest on £6 which was distributed occasionally to poor widows.

In September Anthony Morris Storer changed the entail of the Purley Magna estate so that he became the sole owner of the land rather than a tenant of the estate. This enabled him to sell land to the GWR.

1838 - 1/2 Victoria

In a complicated deal between the GWR, the rector (Charles Manesty) and Henry Philip Powys of Hardwick, the GWR acquired 5 acres of land from Philip Powys which Manesty was occupying. Part of the land was Glebe land and for this Manesty received £300 and £30 for his solicitor's fees. The agreement was that any land not actually required for the railway should be sold to Manesty personally (not as Glebe) for £280. In the end 2a 2r and 24p were transferred back to the rector under the arrangement.

The contracts for the main Great Western Railway line from Reading to Didcot were let early in the year. A cutting through Purley Park had been finally agreed although a tunnel had been contemplated.

1839 - 2/3 Victoria

An enquiry into the status of the parish of Whitchurch south of the Thames was held. It was ruled by the Henley magistrates that this was part of Oxfordshire.

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