



Account of Purley on Thames

Chronicles 1860-1869

1860 23/24 Victoria

There were 6 electors registered for the year 1860/61

1861 24/25 Victoria

At the census the population of Purley was found to be 193 (ref 26-iii-242)

1862 25/26 Victoria

The Reverend Richard Palmer recorded in March 'After a very dry and mild winter a high flood in March, not so high as '48 or '52' (ref 1-6/80)

1863 26/27 Victoria

The reverend Richard Palmer recorded on April 13th that he 'had planted a *Bellingtonia Gigantea* in the church yard and that it had been an unusually mild winter'. In the autumn he planted a cedar tree on the lawn of the rectory.(ref 1-7/80)

Richard Sherwood died at Speen aged 80 on July 21st. A few years later his widow paid for three commemorative windows in the church. He had been baptised at Purley 8th May 1783 and married at Aldermaston 19th March 1807 to Elizabeth Stephens (ref 12)

1864 27/28 Victoria

1865 28/29 Victoria

1866 29/30 Victoria

In May the cedar planted in 1795 was measured as having a girth of 10ft 3in at 3 ft above the ground. The larch of similar girth of 8 ft. (ref 1-7/80)

1867 30/31 Victoria

1868 31/32 Victoria

There was a dispute about the statutory compensation for the weir and in April Mr C Blount forebad the lock-keeper, William Sheppard, from landing on his property to get supplied. The Thames Conservators ordered Sheppard transferred to Hambledon in June and Mrs Strange from Hambledon to Mapledurham, however the order was rescinded in September (ref 43-224&277)

The Reverend Richard Palmer recorded that 'it was a very dry hot summer and the harvest was very early'

1869 32/33 Victoria

Work started on the rebuilding of the church on 13th April and services were held in the Free School by special dispensation of the bishop (ref 1-2/81)

A small northeast extension was built to Purley Hall (ref 10-5)

Alfred Warwick, the Roebuck Ferryman, was reported as having gone insane and given a months notice by the Thames Conservancy in April There was a lot of local intervention and he was given a reprieve until November when he was succeeded by C G Clutterbuck at both Ferries. Warwick was half owner of the Roebuck Ferry House and the Conservancy bought him out for £7 (ref 43-227)

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