



Penistone Grammar School

from

A History of the
Parish of Penistone
by John N. Dransfield, 1906

CREDITS

The following pages are taken from John N. Dransfield's *A History of the Parish of Penistone*, published in 1906 by James H. Wood (The Don Press).

Four copies of the book are available to view at Penistone library; one copy is annotated by Dransfield himself and contains handwritten notes along with references to his volumes of press clippings and other documents which are also stored in the library.

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SG, July 2012

A History

OF THE

Parish of Penistone

EMBODYING NOT ONLY INTERESTING PARTICULARS RELATING TO ITS FINE OLD CHURCH AND THE PARISH GENERALLY FROM THE EARLIEST TIMES AS CONTAINED IN HUNTER'S HISTORY AND TOPOGRAPHY OF THE DEANERY OF DONCASTER AND OTHER RECORDS, BUT ALSO SEPARATE HISTORIES

OF

THE ANCIENT GRAMMAR SCHOOL OF PENISTONE FOUNDED A.D. 1392;

OF

THE OLD MARKETS OF PENISALE AND PENISTONE ESTABLISHED RESPECTIVELY A.D. 1290 AND 1699, AND THE OLD AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY FOR A WIDE DISTRICT AROUND PENISTONE ESTABLISHED A.D. 1804;

AND OF

THE OLDEST PACK OF HOUNDS IN THE WORLD, VIZ., THE PENISTONE HARRIERS OR "OLDE ENGLYSHE" NORTHERN HOUNDS, PROBABLY IN EXISTENCE BEFORE THE CONQUEST TO PREVENT THE RAVAGES OF WOLVES AND OTHER WILD ANIMALS FROM THE GREAT FORESTS OF HORDERN, WHARNCLIFFE, AND SHERWOOD, AND THE VAST MOORS, WILDS, AND FASTNESSES, OF THE DISTRICT.

WITH ILLUSTRATIONS AND MOST INTERESTING LOCAL AND GENERAL INFORMATION, INCLUDING EDUCATIONAL, AGRICULTURAL, AND SPORTING GLEANINGS, SCRAPS, NOTES, ETC., ETC., MADE AND COLLECTED FROM MANY SOURCES DURING THE LAST THIRTY YEARS AS WELL AS MY OWN RECOLLECTIONS OF PENISTONE AND THE DISTRICTS AROUND FOR UPWARDS OF FIFTY YEARS.

BY

JOHN N. DRANSFIELD

PENISTONE

JAMES H. WOOD, THE DON PRESS

1906



yours faithfully
Wm. D. Mansfield



THE OLD GRAMMAR SCHOOL.

PENISTONE GRAMMAR SCHOOL.

“*Quoniam refert a quibus et quo quisque modo sit institutus*”—Quintilian.
 (“It is of great moment by whom and in what manner every one is educated.”)

ENGRAVED on the headstone over the doorway of the School is the following inscription, namely: “*Circiter 1397. Grammar School. ‘Disce aut discede.’*” That the School was erected “about” 1397, as the word “*circiter*” implies, may be taken to be correct. And the Latin words, “*Disce aut discede*,” which mean “learn or leave,” show very clearly that no scholar who did not make up his mind to learn would be allowed to stay at the School, and have the Master’s time wasted over him.

Many centuries ago the Clarels of Aldwarke, a wealthy and important family, and possessed of vast estates, were Lords of the Manors of Waterhall, Peniston, Heley, and Hoyland Swein. And Hunter, in his valuable work, *The History and Topography of the Deanery of Doncaster*, sets out that: “Thomas Clarel, Dominus (that is Lord) de Peniston in 1392, granted to John del Rodes and others a piece of land in the *Kirk-flatt*, *sicut se extendit et jacet inter quinque lapides per manus predicti Thomas Clarel pro metis positos*, with license to grave turf on the Moors of Penistone.” Translation: “So much as extends and lies between five stones placed as bounds by the hands of the above-mentioned Thomas Clarel.” That the above piece of land, described as in the “*Kirk* (that is Church) *flatt*,” was the site of the School, and shops and houses adjacent, formerly part of the endowments of the School, and that the above “grant of 1392” is the “*Foundation Deed*” of the School, few acquainted with Penistone I think will have a shadow of doubt. Indeed, the fact that the grant is *not* made to John del Rodes *alone*, but to himself *and others*; and from what is

shown by an Inquisition made in 1604, and hereafter fully referred to, make it plain that the land was not granted to John del Rodes for his own use, but to *him and others*, whose names we have not, as Trustees for the purposes of providing a School or seat of learning for Penistone and district. That other endowments were soon added is apparent from the said inquisition; but that the school would at its foundation be called a Grammar School is open to question; though in an old information of the inhabitants in 1785 it is stated "That there has been from time immemorial or for a long time past a Free Grammar School of and within the said Parish of Penistone, in the County of York." However, be that as it may, there is the undoubted fact that the Grammar School at Penistone is by far the oldest in the district. Many years before Barnsley, Sheffield, or Huddersfield began to take up the question of education Penistone had its Grammar School; indeed in 1397, and for many years after, Penistone would probably be a more important and opulent place than either Barnsley, Sheffield, or Huddersfield. The Barnbys, Bosvilles, Burdets, Clarels, Cudworths, Cutlers, Eyres, Micklethwaites, Riches, Rockleys, Wentworths, Wordsworths, and Wortleys, amongst others, would all be influential families in the district in those days; and through the exertions of some of those families—many of whom are at one time or another mentioned in the School Documents—it may safely be assumed that Penistone became a great seat of learning. It is believed to have become a Grammar School early in the reign of Queen Elizabeth from the fact that the school has always received rent charges out of lands in Bagden, which were left by William Turton in 1559 on certain conditions in his will mentioned. In King James the First's reign, namely in 1604, and in Charles the Second's reign, 1677, Government enquiries were held in connection with this school; and that it was a well-known and flourishing school long prior to 1604, must be apparent from the Inquisition taken upon the Commission then granted, and the Decree thereupon made; and from which the following extract will be interesting as showing how well even at that period it was endowed, namely:—

In 1604 the Inquisition showed that there belonged to the Grammar School at Penistone "All the Houses, Stables, Buildings, and Gardens, in the North end of the Towne betwixt St. Marie-lane and the Cockpit-lane, and beinge the gift of one *Mr. Clavel, of Aldwarke*, then *Lord of the Towne of Pennystone*, as appeareth by certain *ould* Dedes thereof had and made (that is to say) First, the Schoolmasters House and Garden. Also one Shoppe and a Chamber in the occupation of one Thomas Waynewright. Also one Cottage and a Garden in the occupation of Uxor Roides. Also the House wherein Ralph Walker latelie dwelt. And three other decayed Almshouses not certenlie rented. Also one House, one Stable, and one Garden in the occupation of Uxor Bower: Also one House in the occupation of Thomas Wodcock. Also one House in the occupation of James Marsden. Also more Lands at the West end of the Towne in Penystone aforesaid (that is to saie) First, one House, one Croft, and one Garden in the occupation of Raulph Roder. Also one House and one Garth in the occupation of Uxor Wordsworth. Also the Roughe field and Roughe field Inge in Penystone, in the Schoolmasters occupation. Also two Closes in the East Field, in Penystone aforesaid, in the occupation of the said Schoolmaster. Also two Doles in the Eastfield aforesaid, in the occupation of Uxor Bower. Also one Dole in the Dobbinge Gappe in Pennystone. Also the Balgreave, in Penystone aforesaid, in the occupation of Edmund Beamont. Also one acre and a half in Redbrome, in Penystone aforesaid. Also the Armit Yeard in Penistone, in the occupation of John Baumforth. Also Land in the Hacking in the occupation of Gregory Wordsworth. Also one Cottage in

Denbie, and two Crofts of Land there in the occupation of John West. Also a rent charge of twelve pence yearlie goinge out of the Lands of Frauncis Apleyard, of Ecklands. Also issuing out of the Lands of John West, of Denbie, given by the Will of William Turton, a rent charge of 33 shillings and four pence. Also given by the said Will issuing out of the House and Grounds at Bagden a rent charge of 37s. 8d. Also given by the said Will a rent charge of 10s. per annum, going out of the Ark in ground in Ingbirchworth, in the lands of Richard Micklethwaite. Also a rent charge of 3d. per annum going out of a Croft of John Leadbeathers, of the White Hart, Pennystone. Also Thomas Ellis, of Spinkegall, ought to pay out of Moisebotham to the Schole of Pennystone for ever 3s. 4d. per annum. Also the heirs of Smallcawe (Smallshaw), in Thurlstone, videlicet Richard Micklethwaite paieth per annum 6d. or a pound of Wax to the said Scole for ever. Also William Cudworth, for Pogge Croft, ought to pay to the said Schoole, out of the said Pogge Croft, a rent charge of fourteen pence yearlie for ever. Also Francis Greaves and John Greaves for lands in Hunshelf called Storthe, which sometime were Sir Richard Wortley's lands, ought to pay and have paid 3s. 4d. per annum. Also Francis Greaves and the heirs of Edward Hellywell ought to pay a rent of 3s. 4d., issuing out of Hellywell House and land, to the said Schole yearly for ever. Also the Heirs of William Blagborne, out of lands in Huddersfield, were charged with 4s. 11d. of rent, but no proof made of the possession or payment of that rent. Also William Wordsworth (in lieu of Jessopp House) is to assure for ever 3s. yearlie rent to the use of the said School for ever out of Cotes yeard. Also the Heirs of John Walker and Richard Bilcliff ought to pay for Thomas Silvester's House and the House called Peck House, in Hunshelf, twelve pence. Also Raulph Wordsworth, of Snodenhill, a rent charge of 4s. 11d. per annum. Also the some of £3 6s. 8d. remaininge in the hands of Elias (obliterated), of lands given to the School by John Micklethwaite, his Father, whose Executor or Administrator he is."

Now we repeat again that the very fact that in 1604 the School, as is shewn by the above Inquisition, was possessed of all the houses, lands, rent-charges, and premises specified in the said Inquisition, must make it apparent to all that for a long period there had been a large, important, and flourishing School at Penistone, endowed and patronised and thought much of by the wealthy families of the district. Indeed, such a long list of Endowments must have been the accumulations of years—nay, centuries; and there is little reason to doubt but that the School which is now called the "Penistone Free Grammar School" is the school that was first erected in 1397, the date on its headstone, and thenceforward was the most noted and popular school in the district, and that a wide one. But even the above list does not appear to have included all the endowments of the School in 1604, for we find the following Presentments, namely; "The joynt Presentments of the Churchwardens and Constables of the Parish of Peniston to the Articles ministered unto them at Rotherham by the King's Majesties Commissioners for charitable uses, 1613. First, we present that there is in the Township of Penistone one House called Joseph House, *alias* Jesop House, with two Crofts of Meadow about two or three acres, in the occupation of one Robert Storry; and is detained wrongfully from our School by Thomas Wordsworth, of Shepherd Castle, as may be proved by divers Deeds, as also by Roger Micklethwaite, and by a Paper Rental. Item, we present these Parcels of Ground of right to belong to our Free School, which were either through oversight or negligence of some persons left out and overslipt, when the rest of our Parish Land were decreed to our School at Wakefield, before Sir John Savil and divers others, when the like Commission for Charitable

uses was holden there, that is to say—One acre of Land lying in the High Royd, and one rood lying in the three roods both within the Demeasn of Shepherd Castle, and in the occupation of Thos. Wordsworth, Gentleman, or his assigns. Also one half-acre lying in the Lumb Royd. And one half-acre lying in the Long Lands, within the Tenement of Scole-hill, and in the occupation of Wm. Wordsworth. All which said parcels of Ground are employed to the use of our said School. *Item*, we present a rent charge of 3s. yearly going out of the Lands of Ralph Greaves, late of Hunshelf, of right to belong to our School, as may be duely proved by a Paper Rental with 17 substantial men's hands to it, and also by Mr. Hey, our Schoolmaster, who hath received divers rents for the same. *Item*, we present that there are divers Rents detained and kept back from our School which of right ought to be paid, and which were likewise decreed to our School at Wakefield before Sir John Savile and divers others as is aforesaid and as may be duly proved by Mr. Hey, our Schoolmaster. *Item*, we present Francis West, Gentleman, for detaining a certain original Deed which he had at the hands of John Sotwell, Gentleman, deceased. Witness, Ralph Roads and Richard Sotwell. Richard Brooksbank, Andrew Haigh, Robert Marsden, Thomas Sylvester, Churchwardens; William Bostock, Edward Hinchclyff, John Micklethwaite, Ric. Hawksworth, Ric. Pymond, Chri. Wordsworth, John Mitchell, Hugh Ellis, Constables."

The old Deeds shewing the early Donors to the School, and some of which were in existence in 1604 and 1696—as is shown by the Inquisition of 1604 and a letter from the Rev. Edmund Hough, then Vicar of Penistone to Ralph Thoresby, of Leeds, the antiquarian, dated Penistone, March 16th, 1696-7, wherein he states, "That in the *Town* of Penistone is a free School of an *ancient* foundation whose revenues consist much in land rents, the writings of some of them scarce legible, nor the names of all the Donors known as I understand"—have long since been lost, as appears from a memorandum under the hand of the Rev. Francis Haigh, a Master of the School, dated St. Andrew's Day 1757, wherein, after stating that the Inquisition of 1604 was held at Wakefield, before Sir John Savile, Knight, Robert Kaye, Esq., John Armitage, Esq., John Favour, Vicar of Halifax, and Robert Cooke, Vicar of Leeds, refers to the Gift of Mr. Clarel—"as it then (that is in 1604) appeared from certain old Deeds none of which I ever saw, and I suppose them now all lost." Although Penistone since 1604, probably on account of its being situated so near the Moors and in a bleaker district, has not made the progress that either Barnsley, Sheffield, or Huddersfield have done, prior thereto it would be a more important place, as the fact of its having such an important School when those places were without any to equal it—if they had any at all—fully shows; indeed of the town of Sheffield in 1615 we read that—"By a survaie of the towne of Sheffield made the second daie of Januariē 1615 by twenty four of the most sufficient inhabitants, there it appeareth that there are in the Town of Sheffield 2207 people of which there are 725 which are not able to live without the Charity of their neighbours. These are all begging poor. 100 Householders which relieve others. These (though the best sorte) are but poor Artificers; amonge them there is not one that can keep a team on his own land; and not one above ten who have grounds of their owne that will keep a cowe. 160 Householders not able to relieve others. These are such (though they beg not) as are not able to abide the storme of one fortnight's sickness but would be drawn thereby to beggary. 1222 Children and Servants of the said Householders, the greater part of which are such as live of small wages and are constrained sore to provide themselves necessaries." And Dodsworth, as Hunter informs us, has preserved the memory of a singular, and indeed a savage, custom, of which

Sheffield Park was formerly the scene. In the topographical notes which he made at Sheffield in 1620 he writes that "The late Gilbert Earl of Shrewsbury was wont in every year on a certayne day to have many bucks lodged in a meadow near the towne side about a mile in compasse, to which place repaired almost all the apron men of the Parish, and had liberty to kill and carry away as many as they could with their hands, and did kill some tymes twenty, and had money given them for wine by the earl." If the above account of the inhabitants be correct, there is no doubt but that a good fat buck or two would not come amiss to them; and might it not have been because Sheffield was in those days such a poor place that the custom originated and was kept up? Penistone at this time had, as before mentioned, many wealthy and influential families residing in the neighbourhood, and its inhabitants would, there is little reason to doubt, be better off than those of Sheffield, Huddersfield, or Barnsley. Considering the valuable endowments the school acquired it would no doubt give a liberal education even in its early days and be resorted to by all classes; but with the teaching therein from time to time—as it is not now of much consequence—it is not our intention to enter upon. At all events in its early days, scholars that attended the school were expected to do their best, as the words on the headstone "*Disce aut discede*," which, as I have before stated, means "Learn or leave;" or to put it more plainly "Learn or take your hook" plainly show. And probably the following account an old chronicler gives of the course of education pursued by the higher classes in early times may be interesting. It speaks of their sons

"bene sette at foure year age
 To scole at learne the *doctrine* of *Lettrure*;
 And after six to have them in language
 And sit at meat semely in all nurure;
 At ten and twelve *to revel is their care*,
 To dance and sing, and *speak of Gentleness*;
 At fourteen year they shall to field I sure,
 At hunt the deer and catch an hardiness.
 For deer to hunt and slay and *see them bleed*,
 An hardiment giveth to his courage,
 And also in his wit he taketh heed,
 Imagining to take them at advantage;
 At sixteen year to overray and to wage,
To just and ride and castles to assail,
 To skirmish als and make siker scourage,
 And *set his watch for peril nocturnall*.
 And every day his armour to assay
 In feat of arms with some of his,
 His might to prove, and what that he do may,
 If that he were in such a jeopardy
 Of warre by falle that by necessitie
 He myet algates with weapons him defend;
 Thus should he learn in his priority
 His weapons all in arms to dispend."

That things were very different in those times to what they are now from the above plainly appears; and that they were perilous times the fact that at the age of 16 scholars had "to set their watch for peril nocturnall" makes it apparent.

Of the noted men who received their education at this school, probably the one who attained the most eminence in comparatively recent years was Dr. Nicholas Saunderson, the blind, but eminent Professor of Mathematics at Cambridge. He was born at Thurlstone, and attended the school when Mr. Staniforth was master. Popular tradition ascribes the attainment of a know-

ledge of letters to a habit of passing his fingers over the inscriptions on the gravestones in the churchyard of Penistone. The cottage in which he was born was pulled down many years ago. It was situated near to the residence of the late Mr. John Crosland Milner; and when a coachhouse was erected on the site of the cottage, Mr. Milner very considerably identified the locality by causing the following record to be cut conspicuously upon a stone in the gable end of the new building—"Hic natus est Dr. Nicholas Saunderson, 1682." Dr. Saunderson was a great friend of our greatest and most eminent of mathematicians, Sir Isaac Newton; and there is a memoir of Dr. Saunderson in the "Northern Star, or Yorkshire Magazine" by Mr. Wood, master of the Free Grammar School, Penistone. Of the masters of the school in olden times we have no record; probably they would be priests who officiated either at the Parish Church at Penistone or at the chapel of St. John the Baptist, which formerly stood on the site of the house now called "St. John's" or "Old Chapel," occupied by Miss Stones; and the walls whereof the Rev. Edmund Hough, in his letter to Thoresby, the antiquarian before referred to, says have been "since my coming to be vicar taken to repair the churchyard walls." Would John del Rodes, the first-mentioned trustee in the foundation deed of 1392 be a master? We find him described in charters dated 1430 as "*custos capellæ sancti Joh'is apud Peniston.*" Probably the priest that loved "venerie," as Chaucer says, and whose doings are recorded in "Dr. Mack," a song of the Penistone hunt, might have been an old master, indeed may he not have given his name to the song? It says of him—

"It happened on St. Hubert's day, as we were going to mass, sir,
 He heard the music of the horn and saw the beagles pass, sir;
 He shut his book, his flock forsook, and threw away his gown, sir,
 Mounted his horse to hunt the fox and tally ho'd the hounds, sir.
 One day he had a pair to wed, bold reynard passed in view, sir;
 He threw his surplice o'er his head, and away to Midhope flew, sir;
 Tho' they did pray that he would stay, for they were not half bound, sir;
 He said that as right take it they might, and tally ho'd the hounds, sir."

William, described in Hunter as proctor (that is writer) de Peniston, in 1525, would probably also be a master of the school. In 1613, Mr. Hey was master; he died 28th May, 1630. In 1630, Mr. John Cotehill; he died 8th May, 1644. In 1644, the Rev. George Didsbury; he died 24th April, 1666. In 1666, Mr. Revel; declined in 1668, and died 2nd May, 1672. In 1668, Mr. Nathan Staniforth; he died 24th November, 1702. In 1702, Mr. John Ramsden. He was a noted master, "and for the greater convenience of a writing master, and the better accommodation of a considerable number of boarders, the parish (assisted not only by Mr. Ramsden, but by the gentlemen in the neighbourhood) built the present school and (the late) school house upon a very extensive plan." He died 12th March, 1726. In 1726, the Rev. Jonathan Parkin; he died 3rd May, 1751. 1751 the Rev. Francis Haigh; he died 15th November, 1776. 1776, the Rev. Joseph Horsfall, curate of Penistone. His appointment gave great dissatisfaction. He is stated to have been "a master who does little or no duty otherwise than by a deputy," and an information in Chancery having been threatened to be filed against him by the parishioners, he resigned in 1785. 1786 to 1836, Mr. Jonathan Wood, better known as "Old Schooly Wood," he died 22nd April, 1836. His usher was Thomas Roebuck an old soldier. Miss Wood also assisted in the school. 1836 to 1855, the Rev. Samuel Sunderland, also vicar of Penistone. When on an excursion to Chatsworth, with the Sunday school teachers, on the 18th July, 1855, the omnibus they were in was upset near Rowsley Station when returning, and he was thrown off and killed. He

was greatly respected, and his death was a great loss to the parish. 1855 to 1867, the Rev. John Wesley Aldom; resigned 15th March, 1867. 1867, the Rev. Alfred Steane, appointed and accepted, but resigned previous to acting. Mr. George Curtis Price, B.A., appointed, but declined. Mr. Walter Mooney Hatch, B.A., appointed, but resigned after holding the office for a few months, and having had throughout his mastership one scholar, and he only for half a day. 1868 to 1884, Mr. Theophilus Jackson; resigned 5th July, 1884. 1884, Mr. Othman Blakey; resigned January, 1885. 1885, Mr. Harry Hardy. A copy of the appointment of Mr. Ramsden, we are glad to say, is amongst the school documents, and as it will be interesting we give it in full. It reads as follows:—"Be it known to all persons whom it may concern, that John Ramsden, late of Batley, in order to his being admitted Schoolmr. of ye Free-gramr. School of Peniston, in ye West Rid. of ye Coun. of York. He ye said John Ramsden doth agree covenant and promise to and with ye Feoffees of ye sd school to wit, Godfrey Bosville, Esq., Josias Wordsworth, of Waterhall, Gent.; Arthur Hinchclyff, of Hooten Pannel Yeom.; and Edmund Hough, vicar of Peniston, as followeth. He doth promise yt he will freely admit into and teach all Gramr. Scholars in ye sd Free School, being children of such parents as are Lawful Inhabitants of ye Parish of Peniston, in all ye Rudiments of ye Latin and Greek Tongues, with ye Rhetorick according to ye Foundation of ye said School—2nd, that ye said School may be of Generall Use to ye poorer sort and to promote their Learning to Read English as well as ye Latin tongue, as hath been formerly for many years accustomed. He doth further promise and engage to consent to allow such a salary yearly out of ye advanced Rents, to an Usher as shall be deemed or thought fit and convenient by ye said Feoffees or their successors or ye major part of them to teach ye said English tongue, and further he doth promise to see yt ye said Usher (when elected and substituted) do his office in his place as he ought to do—3rd, He doth promise diligently and faithfully to attend ye sd Free-school and schollars, as many hours every day as are usually accustomed, and yt he will not allow any more play days or Holy days than are commonly allowed in ye Best Govern'd Schools in this Kingdom; Grants of play shall not be oftener than once in ye week; nor for more than half a day unless upon some extraordinary occasion.—4th. He doth further promise that he will carefully endeavour by moderate correction and other prudent methods to restrain all swearing, cursing, lying, and other evil practices, spoken or committed within or without ye School by any under his Authority.—5th. That he will instruct or cause to be instructed once in ye week those Children Capable in some Orthodox Catechism, and in pticular in ye Church Catechism, those yt have been Baptized according to ye custom of the Church of England that they may when called give an account thereof, publicly in ye Church.—6th. In case of any extraordinary Inability Rendering him wholly unfit and unable to manage ye said School to ye satisfaction of ye said Trustees or their Successors in ye afforesd cases, he doth promise freely to surrender up all his Right, title, and claim in ye said School, unto ye Trustees or their successors; and yt while he continues Master of ye said School he shall not enter into Holy Orders in ye Church, without ye consent of ye said Feoffees or their successors or ye major part of them under their hand writing first had.—Feb. 9th, 1702." The clause that "he will carefully endeavour by moderate correction and other prudent methods to restrain all swearing, cursing, lying, and other evil practices spoken or committed within or without the school," we may say—with one enforcing the teaching of "good manners," now sadly neglected in many schools—is worthy of being inserted in agreements of the present day. Probably the document

would be prepared by the Rev. Edmund Hough, as Hunter says "he was a man of considerable learning and attainments, and is said to have kept the town and parish in great awe and order." He died, we may say, when on a visit to Broomhead Hall in August, 1717. Mr. Wood and some of the prior masters also appear to have been licensed to the school by the Ecclesiastical Courts at York, and he also obtained from the Quarter Sessions on the 10th October, 1787, a certificate that he had taken the oaths of allegiance and supremacy, and done what required under an Act of 25 Charles II., intituled, "An Act for preventing dangers which may happen from Popish Recusants."

The trustees of the school were originally appointed by the parishioners, and in nearly all new schemes for schools now promoted by the Charity Commissioners it will be observed that public bodies representing the parishioners have a great voice in the appointment of trustees, and it is only right they should have, for who have more interest in a school in their midst than parishioners? The commission of 1604 was directed to John Sotwell (clerk), John Hawksworth, Thomas Ellis, Wm. Cudworth, John Greaves, Ral. Wordsworth, F. Catlin, Xpofer Marsden, Ellis Micklethwaite, John Micklethwaite, Nicas Silvester, Ralph West, Gregory Wordsworth, and John Wordsworth. And the Commission of 1677:—To Josias Wordsworth, Ambro Wordsworth, Thomas Greaves, Thomas Mitchell, and Isaac Woodcock. And they would probably be the trustees of the school at those dates. By the Decree made under the Commission of 1677, the following gentlemen were appointed trustees of the school, namely:—Godfrey Bosville, Sylvanus Rich, Robert Blackburn, George Walker, Josias Wordsworth, William Beever, Arthur Hinchliff, and Francis Morton, and the Vicar for the time being. The number of trustees thereby appointed, it will be observed, is nine, and in reference thereto we find it stated in the old Information before referred to, that "it may be well presumed that as the Parish of Penistone, altho' consisting of eight townships, is divided into four quarters, two Trustees for each quarter might be appointed either by the Parish at large or each quarter appoint their own Trustees, and the Vicar of Penistone always to make the ninth." Their names would suggest that each of the eight townships appointed a trustee; and from an old book, kept by Mr. Staniforth, a master of the school, it appears the trustees named in the Decree were elected by the parishioners on the 19th November, 1677. The Report of the Commissioners for Inquiry concerning Charities (vol. 17, p. 751) says:—"The Feoffees named in the Decree were chosen by the inhabitants of the parish, to whom it was left to recommend proper persons as Feoffees." They appear, however, not to have exercised their right, as the power of choosing new trustees and appointing the schoolmaster has on all subsequent occasions, as far as can be discovered, been executed by the trustees for the time being. The next appointment of trustees would appear, from the above report, to have been made in 1724, but no further trace thereof, nor who then appointed trustees, can be ascertained. Subsequent appointments took place by Deeds dated 17th and 18th November, 1748; 15th and 16th July, 1783; 2nd and 3rd January, 1786; 1st and 2nd January, 1801; 1st and 2nd January, 1807; 23rd and 24th January, 1833; and the last appointment by a Deed dated 12th September, 1854. The trustees of the school thereunder were Robert Pemberton Milnes, John Stuart Lord Wharnccliffe, John Spencer Stanhope, Frederick William Thomas Vernon-Wentworth, Vincent Corbett, Joseph Parkin Hague, Edward Montagu Granville Stuart Wortley, Walter Thomas William Spencer-Stanhope, Thomas Frederick Charles Vernon-Wentworth, John Hall, John Crosland Milner, Thomas Tomasson, the Rev. Samuel Sunderland, and Henry Rolling, fourteen in all.

A further endowment was given to the school by Samuel Wordsworth, of London, merchant, who, by his will dated the 9th March, 1703, gave £400 to the church and school of Penistone, and £100 to the poor of Penistone, as his intimate friend, Richard Green, and servant, William Hobman, along with his (testator's) three brothers, John, Josias, and Elias, should think fit to employ or bestow it, and they, it is stated, with the advice and approbation of the vicar of the parish of Penistone and schoolmasters of the parish of Penistone, and the overseers of the poor of the said parish, by and with the advice and approbation of many freeholders and other inhabitants of the same parish, and the better to secure the said £400 and £100 from being lost or wasted, purchased therewith an estate at Netherthong, and, by indentures dated the 25th and 26th February, 1708, the same was conveyed to the use of Elkanah Rich, George Beaumont, George Walker, Thomas Haigh, John Greaves, Josias Wordsworth (the younger), Elias Wordsworth (the younger), John Wordsworth, Josias Wordsworth (the elder), and Elias Wordsworth (the elder), as trustees, upon trust, after paying outgoings and expenses, to pay one-fifth part of the clear rents and profits unto the overseers of the poor of the said parish, who were to give and distribute the same to and amongst the most poor, aged, and infirm inhabitants of the said parish, that were not common beggars nor receiving poor assessments. And of the balance of such clear rents and profits, three-fifths thereof was directed to be paid to the vicar of the Parish Church of Penistone for the time being, half-yearly, provided the said vicar for the time being preached every Sunday, forenoon and after, as had been and was then used and practised in the said Parish Church, and also to preach, or cause to be preached, a sermon every 24th day of June, betwixt the hours of 10 and 12 in the forenoon, on some suitable subject for the edification of the parishioners of the said parish, particularly of young persons; and that the said vicar give public notice the Lord's day preceding such sermon. But if it happen that the vicar of the said Parish Church for the time being neglect to preach, as aforesaid, except in case of sickness, or some other extraordinary occasion, then it should be lawful for the said trustees or the major part of them, their heirs and assigns, to deduct and keep back from such vicar so neglecting one moiety of such half-yearly payments till such vicar preached, as aforesaid, and so continued to preach, as aforesaid, and bestow such moiety of the half-yearly payments so kept back on the schoolmasters of the said school, in such proportions as they should think fit. And the remaining two-fifths of the balance of such clear rents and profits were directed to be paid to John Ramsden, then headmaster of the school of Penistone, and John Roebuck, then usher thereof, and to their successors, masters and ushers of the said school for the time being, in such proportions as the said master and ushers' other salaries were paid or payable, provided the said schoolmasters continued to teach the Assembly's Catechism, as had been formerly taught in the said school. But if the said schoolmasters, or either of them, neglected to teach their scholars the said catechism; then it should and might be lawful to and for the said trustees, their heirs, or assigns, or the major part of them to deduct and keep back from the said schoolmasters or such of them as should neglect his or their share of the said two-fifths of the remainder of the rents and profits of the said premises, and bestow the same on the vicar of the parish for the time being. The share of the above endowment at present payable to the school is about £50 a year.

Further particulars of all the endowments, and of other matters that are interesting, but too numerous to set out here, appear in old documents connected with the school; and it is suggested that the master should be furnished with a book wherein to have the same and other noteworthy parish records written,

by some of the scholars, and kept in the school for reference when required by the trustees or parishioners.

For several years immediately prior to 1888 both the inhabitants and the trustees were extremely anxious to see the School made of more benefit to the district than under the existing arrangements it could be, and after several private and public meetings and enquiries held and made by the Charity Commissioners, terms were settled to the satisfaction of all parties. By an Order of Her Majesty in Council of the 28th November, 1887, the new scheme for the future management of the School received approval. Thereby, in addition to the Earl of Wharncliffe, Mr. W. T. W. Spencer-Stanhope, Mr. Thos. F. C. Vernon Wentworth, Mr. John Crosland Milner, and the Rev. W. S. Turnbull, the old Trustees, who under the new scheme are called co-optative governors; eleven other trustees, who were to be called representative governors, had to be appointed by the following public bodies, viz., two each by the Penistone and Thurlstone Local Boards, one each by the Denby Local Board, the Ingbirchworth and Gunthwaite Local Board, the Hunshelf School Board, the Oxspring School Board, and the Council of the Firth College at Sheffield, and two by the Public Elementary School Electors, who shall be either the same persons as for the time being are respectively chairmen of the several bodies of managers of such of the Public Elementary Schools in the ancient parish of Penistone as are not Schools provided by a School Board or persons appointed in place of such chairmen by the managers of each such School.

Representative governors having been duly appointed, the new machinery at once got to work.

At the end of 1888 Mr. Lionel Ernest Adams, B.A., who for five years had been second master at the Stafford Grammar School, was appointed head master of Penistone Grammar School, and Mr. H. Hardy retained as assistant master.

In 1892 the 500th anniversary of the foundation of the School was duly celebrated, and a certificate in an appropriate border of various coats-of-arms and neatly framed was presented to all connected with the School.

The following is a copy of the certificate:

Penistone Grammar School.

MOTTO: "*Disce aut Discede.*"

500TH ANNIVERSARY, 1892.

The Foundation Deed of this ancient School sets out that "Thomas Clarel Dominus de Peniston in 1392 granted to John del Rodes and others a piece of Land in the Kirk-flatt *sicut se extendit et jacet inter quinque lapides per manus predicti Thomas Clarel pro metis positos* with license to grave turf on the Moors of Peniston."

On the above Piece of Land the School was built and now stands.

This Certificate

to commemorate the above Anniversary was given to

who in 1892 was a Scholar at the School.

WHARNCLIFFE, Chairman of the Governors.

JNO. N. DRANSFIELD, Clerk to the Governors.

Christmas, 1892.

							FOUNDED
							A.D.
Wimborne	...	...	...	...	...	...	1510
Berkhamstead	...	...	...	...	...	...	1524
Shrewsbury	...	...	...	...	...	...	1551
Marlborough	...	...	...	...	...	...	1551
Christ's Hospital	...	...	...	...	...	...	1553
Westminster	...	...	...	...	...	...	1560
Charterhouse	...	...	...	...	...	...	1561
Rugby	...	...	...	...	...	...	1567
Harrow	...	...	...	...	...	...	1571
Uppingham	...	...	...	...	...	...	1584

GRAMMAR SCHOOL PROPERTY.

In a little old brown-paper-backed book with the Grammar School Deeds are several very old descriptions and particulars of the Grammar School property and rents, and also a copy of the Will of William Rich of Hornthwait dated the 29th day of October, 1673.

The book was written by Mr. Nathan Staniforth, one of the masters of the School.

The descriptions of the property are too long to set out here, but the following names of places, fields, &c., in the Township of Penistone in use in 1630 may be interesting: East-field, Castle-green, Kirk-brook (this would be what we now call Cubley Brook and Green Dyke—probably it would be so called from running past the old chapel of St. John the Baptist), Mowsley-Park, Three Lands, Dobbing-Gapp, Cubley, the Town-Green, High-royd, Callis Lane, the Hackings, Allen-field, Lumm-royd, the Hermit-yard "abutting on the scyte of the said Chappel late called St. John's Chappel towards the East," Levy Lands, Otley-field, Ball-greave, Rudbroom, Ambry-Flat, Scottish Croft, Longlands, Cock-pit Lane, the Common Pound, Basing-yard, Kirk-flat, St. Mary-Lane.

The commons of Peniston would then come close to the town. John Shawe and various members of the Wordsworth family would appear to have been large land-owners in the township in these days.

Of names of persons in the Township of Penistone in 1630 as tenants of Grammar School property and owners of lands adjacent, I came across the following: John Shawe, Thomas Wordsworth, Mathew Roebuck, Barbara Burdet, John Earnshaw, Thomas Denton, Jonas Rooks, William Woodcock, George Ibotson, Ralph Wordsworth, William Gower, Ambrose Wordsworth, Richard Swift, Nicholas Bamforth, John Bamforth, Henry Burgon, Robert Stony, John Bilclif, Margaret Woodcock, James Marsden, William Carter, Widow Roads, Ralph Roads, Widow Vessey.

Many of the above surnames are still common in the district. Jonas Rook is described as "clerk," so no doubt he would be the then Vicar of Peniston.

As I know of no other copies of all the particulars and information contained in the little book above referred to, I have made a complete copy thereof in one of mine.

The following therefrom I, however, think will be interesting:

RENTALE REDDITUS STÆ MARIE QUARTERIJ DE HUNSHELF.	
Johannes de Snodhill et Henricus de Stebinroyd tenent in Snodhill unum Messuagium et totum terram nram et ad Festum Martini et Pentecostes p annum reddunt	... .. iiijs. xjd.
Dominus Nicolaus de Wortley tenet in Hunshelf unum Messuagium et dimidium bovat terræ quondam Adæ Filij Wittimi, et ad dictos Terminos reddit	... .. ijs. ijd.
Dominus prædictus Nic. tenet unum Messuagium, et dimid bovat terræ in Hunshelf, et ad dictos Terminos reddit	... .. xjd. ob.
Adam Filius Wittii filij Adæ tenet unum Messuagium et dimid bovat terræ quond Jacobi de Wortley in Hunshelf et reddit	... .. xjd. ob.
Idem Adam tenet certas terras in Hunshelf jacentes particulariter in Holowood-royd, et reddit	... .. ixd.
Johannes Hall tenet quatuor acras terræ et prati in Hunshelf juxta aquam de little Dun in Mosebotham et per annum reddit	... .. iijs.
Richardus Dunning tenet in Hunshelf unum Messuagium et octo acras terræ, et per annum reddit	... .. vjd.
Tres filiæ Hugonis Ward tenent unum Messuagium et dimid' bovat terræ juxta pontem in Hunshelf, et reddunt	... .. xijd.
Johannes Swynhird tenet duas acras prati in Hologhroyds, et per annum reddit	... .. xijd.
Wittus filius Johis Molson tenet duas acras terræ in Hunshelf-edge in Le Shirt-flatt, et per annum reddit	... .. iijd.
Adam filius Wittii filij Adæ tenet duodecim acras terræ in Hunshelf quæ vocantur Eggecliffe et Greenhill et p annum reddit	... .. xijd.
Johannes Procter de Peniston tenet in eadem Hunshelf certas terras quæ vocantur Jesepe intake et p annum reddit	... .. xjd.
	Summa ... <u>xvijs. vd.</u>

How Penistone Grammar School became originally entitled to the above-mentioned rents or rentcharges, whichever they were, or who the donor or donors thereof I cannot find out. All of them are long since lost to the School except the first, which is now a rentcharge of 4s. instead of 4s. 11d., and is payable out of property at Snowdenhill, late belonging to Mr. John Pearson but now to Mr. de Wend Fenton.

The said William Rich directed by his Will the payment out of his real estate of the sum of £3 6s. 8d. "yearly and every year for ever at the Feast of Pentecost only unto the Godly Preaching Minister of the Word of God at the Parish Church of Peniston aforesaid for the time being from time to time successively for ever"; the sum of 40s. unto the Schoolmaster of the Free Grammar School of Peniston yearly, and 20s. yearly to the Poor of the Parish of Penistone.

At the end of 1892 Mr. Adams resigned the head-mastership of the School, and Mr. Joseph W. Fulford, M.A., from the Grammar School at Retford, was

appointed in his place and still holds the post. He has been very successful in passing pupils at the various examinations, &c. At the end of 1892, on my retirement from active practice as a solicitor, I resigned the office of Clerk to the Governors, and was succeeded by Mr. Charles Hodgkinson, my partner. I succeeded my father, Mr. John Dransfield, who died on February 4th, 1880, and he succeeded Mr. Joseph Parkin Hague, who died in 1855, as clerk or agent.