

THE CLOTH TRADE ALONG THE PAINSWICK STREAM * PART I

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The Painswick Stream (formerly the Wycke Stream) rises in Cranham Woods and joins the River Frome near the Stroud-Cainscross road (A419). Until 1894 all the land between the Slad Brook and the Painswick Stream down to the River Frome was in Painswick Parish, but it is now part of Stroud.

On the Painswick Stream and its tributaries - the Sheepscombe Brook, the Washwell Brook, the Washbrook and the Pitchcombe Brook - documentary evidence has been found for 31 water-mills and 27 of them were in the cloth trade. There is no doubt that "The Never-Failing Stream", as advertised many times when mills were advertised to be let or sold, was the water-power which brought the cloth trade to the area.

If we go upstream from the junction with the River Frome, the first mill recorded is ...

STRATFORD MILL The first information found about this mill was in the will of Edward Stratford who died in 1607. He had an estate which included "1 water-mill 1 fulling-mill and 2 acres of meadow in the tenancy of Thomas Merryatt for 30 years, all in Paganhill". This shows that there was a cloth mill there in 1597, and it may have been there even earlier. It was in Paganhill because it was on the west side of the Painswick Stream. (1)

In 1627 John Stratford, the grandson of Edward, leased a "tucke, messuage and grist mill, with 4 racks for broad woollen cloth with land", to Gyles Davies. A tucke-mill was another name for a fulling-mill. (2)

In 1636 when a "Final Concord" was made between Giles Davis and Henry Mayo with the Stratford family, 3 mills were mentioned but not described. (3)

In 1688 Giles Gardner, clothier, was owner of the Stratford Estate, which included 2 fulling-mills and a gig-mill. (4) In 1689-90 Giles Gardner de Stratford was recorded on the rates list in Painswick Parish. No mill is mentioned, but this probably means he was just paying rates for land he owned on the east side of the Painswick Stream. (5)

Again, in 1692-93 James Stratford was on the Pound Rate List, but again no mill was mentioned. (6) In 1735 Stratford Mill was occupied by William Little, a baker, as tenant from Mrs Gardner, a widow. (7) Whether this means only one mill is not clear, but 3 mills had been recorded in 1688. In 1738 an advertisement for sale of 2 houses in Stroud quoted "Enquire of William Little of Stratford Mills". This seems to indicate that he had more than 1 mill, (8) and it is probable that by this date Stratford Mills were no longer cloth mills and must have been the very first mills along the Painswick Stream to leave the cloth trade.

In 1801 Stratford Mills with the Stratford Estate were advertised for sale and described as a "Corn Mill easily converted to a cloth mill". (9) In 1839 Biddle & Bishop were recorded at Stratford Mill as "Millers and Mealmen" and John Biddle was still recorded as owner in 1865. (10) Several tenants were also recorded which shows that there were probably still 3 mills. William Lane, miller, was tenant 1856 to 1867. (11) Reynolds & Allen, corn-merchants, were there 1856-1860. (12)

John Biddle of Stratford Mills in 1851 advertised "Wanted immediately an Active Industrious Man as Warehouseman in the Loading & Unloading Dept." (13) In 1853 he advertised again, "Wanted Immediately, a steady honest man to superintend loading of corn on board trows and small craft". (14) In 1854 the mills, named as Grist Mills, were advertised "To be Let or Sold", and it was stated that they had been "occupied by John Biddle & Co. who is declining business on account of ill health and has owned the mill for 40 years". (15) This shows he must have had Stratford Mills in 1814, an earlier date than found recorded on other lists. It was not sold as a John Biddle was still recorded as owner in 1865, but it was let as in 1857 Reynolds & Allen of Stratford Mills, Stroud, advertised: "Wanted - A Man who well understands Dressing Mill Stones. None but the first-rate Hands need apply". (16)

In 1876 Butt & Skurry were recorded as owners and occupants, for steam- and water-mills at Stratford Mills, and they were still recorded there in 1889. (17) In 1894 and 1897 Kemble & Dash were recorded using steam- and water-mills at Stratford Mills. (18) In 1901 R Townsend and Co. Ltd. had bought the Stratford Mills property. (19)

In 1908 on June 15th, a disastrous fire destroyed much of the mill, (20) and many more fires have been recorded there. In 1976 a fire destroyed the "Feed Mill" and a new one had to be built on the site at a cost of c.£2½ million, (21) and in 1978 Princess Anne re-opened the new building. (22) In 1981 another fire damaged the mill, (23) and at that time it was used for animal-feed production, and about 30 persons were employed on production, and about 150 was the total employed there, and 60,000 tons of animal food were produced per year. (24) That same year a young Stroud man was accused of causing £2,000 worth of damage to vehicles parked at Stratford Mill (25) and that same year R Townsend & Co. Ltd. pleaded guilty to two charges of "Contravening the Ministry of Agriculture Plant Variety and Seeds Act" by marketing uncertificated seeds. They were fined £25 on each charge and £60 costs. (26).

Another fire broke out before 3 a.m. on March 2nd 1982, but only 20 tons of rice bran were destroyed, but within 24 hours a second fire took place but although the damage caused by the first one was about £4,000, no figure was quoted for the second one. (27)

In 1983 two more fires took place in Stratford Mills, one on April 16th, and another on May 17th. (28) It is not surprising that after all these fires Stratford Mills was taken over by the Dalgety Spillers group, in September 1983, (29) but they did not keep it long as in March 1984 it was advertised that 90 jobs would be lost at the end of June, and Mr Jimmy Campbell, the TGWU shop steward at the mill thought "Dalgety are going to close five or six mills around the country". (30)

In April 1984 Stratford Mill was advertised for sale, and "Buy our mill - and us" was the plea from 90 workers there. (31) However, the mill was not sold, so closed at the end of June 1984. The "For Sale" notices are still there by the entrance in 1985. (32) It was the very last mill on the Painswick Stream to close.

SALMON'S MILL (Salmon's Spring & Blisses' Mill)

Going up the Painswick Stream from Stratford Mill, the next mill is Salmon's Mill, also called Salmon's Spring and Blisses' Mill, because it was held by William Bliss from the Lord of the Manor in 1439, (1) which is the earliest date it has been found recorded. The Bliss family, also spelt Blysse, held the mill for almost a century. In 1496 William Bliss held "½ virg. and a mill called Blysses otherwise Salmonys at 18s." (2) In 1523 William Blysse transferred the copyhold to his son Thomas, who was on the Manorial Roll in 1548, but no mill was mentioned. (3) In 1574 the Lord of the Manor confirmed the tenure of the mill by George Fletcher, which had been occupied previously by John Gardner. (4)

In 1602 Thomas Fletcher, on his marriage to Rachel Archard, was recorded at Salmon's Mill for one messuage and one fulling-mill. This seems to be the first evidence that it was really in the cloth trade. (5)

The date 1607, initials E.F. and a clothier's mark can be seen over a door at the entrance. (6) In 1608 Edmund Fletcher and Thomas Fletcher were recorded as clothiers. (7) In 1626 Edmund Fletcher on a Subsidy Roll was quoted for 13s. 4d. and with Thomas Webb paying the same, they were the highest payers on the list after Samuel Seaman of Court House. (8)

In 1624 Thomas Fletcher and his brother Henry inherited their father's estate and a fulling-mill is again recorded. (9) In 1641 Henricus Fletcher and George Fletcher were recorded on a Subsidy Roll, but no mill is mentioned (10) but this was possibly the George Fletcher whose initials G.F. and a clothier's mark are over the entrance to Wick Street House. (11) In those days and on till the early 19th century, the Wick Street was the main road between Painswick and Stroud, so it was a reasonable area for a clothier to have a house.

From 1664 to 1689 Henry Fletcher continued to be recorded for Salmon's Mill, and in 1681 he was also Overseer of the Poor and in 1688-89 he was Churchwarden for Painswick. (12)

In 1664-74 Thomas Bliss was also recorded for the mill, so possibly he was a tenant or may have been using only part of it. (13) In 1674 Thomas Bliss was also a churchwarden.

From 1690 to 1699 Edward Gardner de Salmon's was recorded on rates lists. (14) From 1704 to 1733 Samuel Cole and his heirs were recorded for Salmon's on rates lists and in 1730-31 he is recorded "for his mill", (15) but "John Ellis de Salmon's" was Overseer of the Poor in 1714, so whether he was tenant or using part of the mill is not clear. (16)

In 1717 "John Pinfold de Salmon's" was recorded in the Reeve's Book, and also in 1740. (17) In 1749 he was also recorded as "Clothier of Salmon's Mill" in a deed about the sale to him of Spring's Borough Estate which was later Skinner's Mill, with land, (18) and this was the only mill on the Painswick Stream in Painswick Parish which was never recorded in the cloth trade. John Pinfold was still recorded for Salmon's Mill to 1764. (19) From 1766 "Mr Samuel Webb de Hill" was recorded for Salmon's Mill and he still had "part of Salmon's" in 1817, (20), but 1781-86 Mr Berwick was recorded for the mill, so probably he was a tenant. (21)

In 1786 Salmon's Mills were advertised for sale, with a messuage, gardens and "an excellent mill containing 3 flocks, one gigg-mill" also a "grist mill, good cloth racks in a meadow near the mill, a very good stove rack lately built, with burling shops, wool lofts, sheer shops, press-house, dye house, stables etc. with every conveniency for the clothing trade, together with six closes of rich meadow land adjoining, planted with fruit trees: the whole being a most desirable situation either for a clother or miller, being near the Stroud Navigation and at an easy distance from several market towns, a large trade having been carried on there for many years past to the present time." (22) Edward Cutts was recorded for Salmon's Mill Estate from 1786 to 1789. (23)

In 1789 Mr Will. Drew married Miss Mary Cutts of Salmon's Mills (24) and then in 1799 Will. Drew was paying rates for Salmon's Mill (25) and was recorded as owner until 1839. (26) In 1820 and 1822 Salmon's Mill was recorded as a corn mill with annual valuation £105, and malt house £10, (27) so by that date it was no longer in the cloth trade. Until 1831 Drew was running the mill himself, (28) but that same year Biddle became a tenant (29) and on some lists it was recorded as "Biddle & Bishop" (30) and they were both recorded at Salmon's Mill to 1844. (31)

In 1835 Mr Drew, proprietor, advertised Salmon's Mill "To be Let", and it was described as a "Good Water Corn Mill, working 4 pairs of stones with a good supply of water". There were also 4 cottages, a malthouse, a Dwelling and 20 acres of land. (32) In the next year, 1836, it was again advertised not only "To be Let" but "To be Sold" and this time it was described as a "Mansion House Outhouses, Gardens, a Grist Mill, a Malthouse, 2 cottages and 20 acres of pasture and orchard. Apply Mr. Drew proprietor on the premises". (33) So it seems that Mr Drew was still living in the Mansion House.

In 1838-39 Nathaniel Marling was recorded as owner, so he must have bought it from Mr Drew, and Biddle & Bishop were still tenants for the mill when he owned it, (34) until 1844 when Nathaniel Samuel Marling gave a lease of Salmon's Mill, 2 cottages, a stable and malthouse, lately in the possession of John Biddle and William Bishop, to William Hall for 7 years. (35) On rates lists Wm. Hale is recorded as a tenant until 1850, so possibly this is just a different spelling of his name. (36) Another tenant, Luker & Son, was recorded from 1844-47 at Salmon's Mill, so probably they had only a part of it. (37) On the census of 1851 the mill was called "Biddle's Mill" and 1 miller, 1 pin-maker and 1 commercial traveller in the flour trade were the only persons recorded, so probably they lived in cottages there, whereas the owner and tenant were not then living on the premises. (38)

From 1853 Thos. Godsell was tenant and Marling still owner to 1865. (39) After that date only Godsell was recorded for Salmon's Mill which became known locally as Godsell's Brewery, so he probably bought it from N S Marling at that time, and Godsell & Sons were still recorded there to 1928. (40) From 1865 Godsell's were also recorded for Grove Mill (41) and later they built a malthouse on the west side of the Painswick Stream, not in Painswick Parish. It is still there today, 1985, but has been converted into a dwelling-house.

In 1881 Thomas Godsell of Salmon's Mill was recorded as a Brewer and Miller employing 35 men. (42) In 1885 Thos Godsell & Sons were recorded as owners and occupiers of house, brewery etc. at Salmon's, with an annual rate of £300 and £30 for the malthouse. (43)

In 1928 Stroud Brewery was recorded at Salmon's Spring and was there until 1938. (44)

In 1938 the mill was demolished and replaced by a brick-bottling factory which closed in 1969. (45) In 1969 it became used as a storage depot by Whitbreads, but they left the building before Christmas in 1980. (46) In 1981 "Salmon's Springs Industrial Estate" was advertised "To Let", with a detached stone office building of considerable character, a 2-storey factory, a single-storey workshop and plenty of car parking. (47) In 1982 it was advertised that 40 jobs were being created by a company called Great Mills which was converting the old brewery at Salmon Springs into a D I Y superstore. (48) In 1983 on March 24th it was advertised that "Superstore opens tomorrow." (49)

In 1984 at "Salmon Spring's Trading Estate" there were advertised "To Let" - 10,870 sq. ft. 2-storey factory/warehouse, a 6940 sq. ft. 2-storey factory/warehouse, and 1920 sq. ft. single-storey factory/warehouse, (50) but these were parts of the buildings not used by the D I Y Superstore which is still open there in 1985. (51) Also in 1985 the south part of the buildings is used by Alan's Cycles, which have been there some years, and another part is advertised "To be Let" by a notice on the building. (52)

GROVE MILL

Going up Painswick Stream from Salmon's Mill, the next one recorded was named Grove Mill, after the Grove Estate which was owned by the Capel family through most of the eighteenth century and part of the nineteenth century, (1) and on Charles Baker's map of 1820 it was

recorded with 472 acres. The Grove House, on the eastern side of Wick Street, on Wickridge Hill, is now Hawkwood College. (2) William Capel was recorded as a clothier in 1738, but no mill was mentioned. (3)

The first evidence found of Grove Mill was in 1763 when it was granted by lease to Robert Ellis and was named as a "Cloth or Fulling Mill in the Parish of Painswick called the Oyl Mill", so it must have existed at an earlier time. (4) In 1776 a notice was published that Superfine Broadcloth had been stolen from the Tenters of William Capel, and a reward of £20 was offered for information. (5) As the Capel family had Capel's Mill on the River Frome as well as on the Grove Estate, it is not clear which mill is mentioned in this notice.

The Clothier's Account Book of the Capel family from 1791-99 mentions buying Spanish Wool, Gallipoli Oil, and selling Superfines, Scarlets, Ladies' Cloths, and paying bills for Stove Drying of Wool and Dyeing, (6) but whether this was for both mills is not made clear. From 1815 to 1826 Wm. Capel was paying rates in Painswick Parish for the Oil Mill on the Grove Estate, (7) but during that period, in 1820 he was also paying rates for a Paper Mill, but Jn^t. Ward was tenant and in 1822 it was valued at £47. (8)

From 1827 Wm. Capel was owner, and T. Creed a tenant, for a Grist Mill, lately a Paper Mill, and this continued to 1837 (9) and the tenant had a dwelling house also. In 1833 Grove Mill was advertised "To be Let" and was described as a "Water Corn Mill with 3 pairs of French Stones, Smut Machine, Boulter, Corn and Flour Bins, Malthouse, capable of wetting 50 bushels of barley with Malt Mill driven by water, a warehouse, dwelling house, garden, cottage for miller, stables, sheds, pig-styes and 4½ acres of pasture. These premises have been built 8 years, adjoining the Turnpike Rd. through Pitchcombe to Gloucester. Apply Will Capel esq. The Grove". (10) This shows that it was not the old Grove Mill, which was on the east side of the Painswick Stream, but a new building, not in the Parish of Painswick but still part of the Grove estate.

In 1836 William Capel agreed to exchange the Grove Mill and some land on the Stroud Parish side of the brook for 4 pieces of land at Salmon's Mill. Watts and Marling of Salmon's Mill made the exchange. (11) This was where Salmon's Mill later had a malthouse, but a Malt House recorded in 1835 was in Painswick Parish. (12) In 1838 the Annual Value of the Grove Mill in Painswick Parish, but not including the dwelling house, was £90. In 1822 it was only £47, so it had gone up in value, which was different from most cloth mills. (13)

Marling was still recorded as owner in 1851, but as it was advertised for sale in 1858 he may have owned it until then, (14) but several tenants were quoted during those years: Wm. Bick 1839, Thos. Vick 1839-40, W B Price, Miller & Mealman 1842-44. (15) In 1843 the partnership was dissolved between Mr Lewis Munn of Hazel House, Painswick, and William Bright Price of Grove Mill near Stroud and Wade's Mill under the name of "Price and Company, Mealmen". (16)

In 1844-45 John Biddle was tenant at Grove Mill. (17) Luker & Son were recorded as tenants in 1845, (18) and in 1847 John Luker & Son advertised for sale an "Eight Horse-power STEAM ENGINE with boiler, pipes and gearing, an excellent Malt Crusher, a quantity of Castings, Wrought Iron etc." (19) Luker & Son were still recorded as tenants until 1858 when it was advertised "For Sale". It was described as a Corn Mill with a "Water-Wheel on a never failing stream", also a 12 h.p. steam engine, 3 pairs of millstones, various other buildings, and a dwelling-house. "The property is in the Parish of Painswick about 1 mile from the Gt. Western Railway in Stroud". (20) It was again advertised to be sold with much the same description in 1859 - Jan. 1st, and it says "Samuel Luker's tenancy expired on Dec. 25th last and a purchaser can take immediate possession". (21)

In 1860 it was offered for sale again with much the same description, but the tenant was Mr Washbourne whose tenancy would expire on March 25th, 1861, and the owner recorded in 1860 was J W Hallowell. (22) All these sales only advertise the old Grove Mill etc. in Painswick Parish and do not include the buildings and land on the west side of the Painswick Stream in the Parish of Stroud.

In the 1861 Census, Grove Mill was recorded "Vacant", (23) but William Lane was recorded as tenant 1859 to 1865, (24) so it seems some mistake was made? In 1865 Thomas Godsell, brewer of Salmon's Springs Brewery also had Grove Mill and as he was recorded as owner 1875-76 on the Painswick O.Vs lists, he must have bought the old Grove Mill as well as the land & buildings in Stroud Parish. (25) Also in 1876 Geo Godsell, probably his son, had the house and garden by Grove Mill (26) and in 1881 George Godsell Junior was recorded as a "Brewer and Miller". (27) In that same year 1876, Flight & Smith were recorded as Millwrights and Engineers at Grove Mill, so they must have been tenants. (28) In 1885-86 the annual value of Grove Mill in Painswick Parish was £81 (29), so it had gone down in value since 1838.

In 1900 Godsell & Son were still recorded as owners, and in 1905 for old Grove Mill and Stables. (30) From 1905 to 1919 Alfred Silk, miller, was recorded as tenant for Water Grove Mill which was in Painswick Parish. (31) In 1928, still owned by Godsell & Sons Ltd, Grove Mill and Stables were recorded Void. (32)

No evidence has been found that it was used after that date. Now nothing remains of the old Grove Mill except the dwelling house nearby. (33)

The malthouse on the A46 side was still in use by Godsell's Brewery until the 1930s and a few years ago it was converted into a private dwelling house. (34)

ROCK MILL

The next mill recorded up the Painswick Stream from Grove Mill was Rock Mill. It was possibly the Hammonds Mill recorded in 1486, when Edward Hammond had a mill, as it is the only mill site in the area and Hammonds Farm is still just a short way up the hill behind it, by a public footpath to Wick Street. (1)

No further evidence has been found until 1679 when "Edward Gardner de Mill" was Overseer of the Poor in Painswick Parish and the initials E.G. and date 1681 can be seen above a door at the mill house with a clothier's mark; so it seems that the mill was by then in the cloth trade. (2)

In 1681 "Widdow Gardner" was on the Rates List for Rock Mill and then Daniel Gardner, probably her son, was named on the lists to 1696 (3) and in 1699 at the baptism of his daughter Sarah he was named as a clothier. (4)

On March 7th 1738 it was advertised that a Beehive had been stolen out of the garden of Richard Ellis, Clothier at Rock Mills nr. Stroud and 2 guineas reward was offered for information. (5) That same year in October, Rock Mill was advertised "To be Lett immediately and entered upon Lady Day next". This advertisement mentioned a fulling-mill in good repair, a dwelling-house, stables, garden, orchard and pasture land, now in the possession of Mr William Packer. (6) In 1743 Rock Mill was advertised again "To be Lett". The description was much the same except that a Rack Leaze is mentioned and Mr Anthony Bigmead, Clothier, was tenant. Again in 1744 it was advertised the same way except that at the end was printed: "The Mill is in Good Repair". (7)

In 1752 someone broke into the Bee-house in the garden of Mr Richard Ellis of Rock Mill and 2 guineas reward was offered for information. Whether he was actually running the mill is not clear. (8) From 1754 to 1785 Zachariah Horlick, named as a clothier, was recorded as owner

of Rock Mill. (9) He lived at Hambutts House in Painswick and owned a lot of other property in Painswick described in his will of 1798, which included 2 tenements in St Mary's St., 1 by the churchyard called "Sparrows", houses in Friday St. opposite the Bell Inn, 5 in Vicarage Lane, and one house called "Angel". (10)

Gardners were still recorded as owners of property at Rock Mill, as in Edward Gardner's will of 1767 he left a dwelling-house, brewhouse, garden etc. in the hands of a tenant and a "tenement or dwelling house where I now dwell with stables, orchard, etc." to his son Job. Gardner, (11) but no mill is included in his property. In 1768 the son died at Rock Mill, recorded as a clothier, but what mill he was using is not recorded. (12)

In 1760 it was advertised that 5 or 6 yards of Worcester Cloth had been stolen from Rock Mill and Samuel Horlick offered "5 guineas reward for information leading to conviction", quite a lot of money at that date, and the advertisement also shows that the Horlick family were using the mill themselves at that date. (13) In February 1776 the Horlicks suffered from two thefts from the tenter-hooks at Rock Mill. The first one is described as "seven or eight Ells of scoured say-cloth" the property of Zachariah Horlick senior. The second one was fourteen yards of blue and white Worcester Cloth, the property of John Horlick, and the two Horlicks both signed the advertisement offering ten guineas reward for information leading to conviction! (14)

From 1785 to 1810 James Stanley was recorded as owner and occupier of Rock Mill. He had married Hannah the daughter of Zachariah Horlick, so possibly they had had the property given to them. (15)

In 1787 stolen from the racks of James Stanley of Rock Mills was 36 yards of white wool cloth worth 5s. 6d. per yard. 5 guineas reward was offered for information. (16)

In 1811, the year after James Stanley had died aged 77, a "Sale by Auction" was advertised of "Clothing Mills called Rock Mills", and there was a stove for drying wool, outbuildings and "a constant regular supply of water equal to milling and rowing 1500 cloths a year", also a good dwelling-house and 5 cottages, late occupied by Mr James Stanley dec^d. Apply Mr John Adey at the mills. (17) John Adey in 1791 and 1797 in baptisms of children had been quoted as "Clothier of Rock Mill", so whether he was in partnership with James Stanley, or tenant for part of the mill is not clear. (18)

Evidently it was not sold, as in the following year - 1812 - it was again advertised for sale 3 times. The description was much the same as in the previous year, except that it said "The water fall at the mill is 12 feet" and application could still be made to John Adey at Rock Mills. (19) It was obviously still not sold, as in 1815 it was again advertised for "Sale by Auction" twice, and the description was much the same except that there was added "about 21 acres with newly erected tenter racks". Particulars could be obtained from John Adey and Thomas Holder at Rock Mills, so they may have been then in partnership. (20) From 1820 to 1836-37 Mr Hicks was recorded as owner of Rock Mill. (21) From 1822-26 Mrs Miles was tenant. The mill was valued at £250 on the 1822 Valuation List and was the highest on the list of Painswick mills, but in 1826 Mrs Miles and her son were bankrupts and had all their machinery advertised for sale, which included 5 scribbling and carding machines, 10 shearing frames, wool willies, tuckers, moosing, washing and brushing machines, lots of spindle billies and spindle jennies and spooling-tommies. Also included on the list was white cloth and Gallipoli Oil. Horses and carts were also for sale, and much furniture. (22) From 1831-33 Messrs Wyatt & Fluck were recorded as tenants for Rock Mill. (23) From 1833 Josh^h. Wathen was tenant and in 1836 Wathen & Roberts were tenants. (24)

In 1836 Rock Mill was advertised for "Sale by Auction at the Mart, London". It was described as Fulling mill, Water & Steam Power, Reservoir, Aqueduct, Rack, Stove, Teazle House, Warehouse, Workmen's Cottages, Residence, Garden, Orchard, Meadow, c.15 acres on banks of the Painswick Water, together with a Steam Engine, Millwork, Gig-mills, stocks, scribblers and other machinery, now in occupation of Messrs Wathen & Roberts. clothiers, at a rent of £200 per annum. Another field - "Tickleford" - was in occupation of Mr William Wilks at £15 per annum. Particulars were to be had at the George Hotel in Stroud. (25)

This advertisement makes it seem that 2 mills, with water and steam power, were there at the time. Later in October 1836 another advertisement said "Shuttleworth & Sons inform the public that the Sale of Rock Mill has been COUNTERMANDED". (26) Joseph Wathen continued to be recorded as tenant to 1841 and in 1839 he was quoted on the List of Principal Manufacturers of Woollen Cloths in Gloucestershire. (27) In 1838 the Annual Value for Rock Mill and Workshops was £160, the dwelling house was not included. (28) In 1839-40 the owner was Edw. Bloxham. (29) From 1841-42 Mr Price was recorded at Rock Mill, (30) but whether he was tenant or owner is not mentioned, In 1842 another sale "PEREMPTORILY BY AUCTION" was advertised for 8th Feb, with a long list of valuable "CLOTHING MACHINERY" but no owner or tenant was quoted. (31)

On the O.V. list for 1842 Rich^d. Smith was quoted as tenant, so it seems that he took over the tenancy from Mr Price that year. (32) In 1842-44 Currie & Co. were owners, in 1844 Jno. Lewis was recorded as tenant, (33) and in 1843 it was "Vacant". (34) In 1845 Moira Maclean was tenant and Biddle & Buck were owners. (35) In 1847 the mill etc. was advertised "To be Let immediately, free of taxes and poor rates". It was said to be capable of milling and rowing 6 pieces of cloth per week, also a 12 h.p. steam engine could be used if required and at the end it says - "Apply Stroudwater Pin Company at Rock Mills". (36) It seems that this date was the end of the cloth trade at Rock Mill.

In 1850 the rates were reduced for Rock Mill because of the removal of the steam engine, and they are quoted: Gross, from £176 to £147, and Rateable Value from £132 to £112. (37)

In 1851 Peter Watkins was recorded as the manager of the Pin factory and lived in Rock Mill House. The firm for which he worked was recorded in 1852 as "Buck & Holmes - Pin Manufacturers - Rock Mill". (38) In 1855 John Buck was owner and Pumphrey Chas. & Co were quoted as occupiers of mill and house at Rock Mill and were still there to 1859, but from 1856 to 1859 Stroudwater Pin Co. were recorded for Rock Mill, so perhaps Charles Pumphrey was manager or part of that company. (39)

In 1858 Rock Mill was advertised "To be Let" and it said "Apply Mr J Buck, Engineer, Stroud". (40) It was let as from that year John Thomas & Co. were recorded as tenants to 1885, and were described as "Dyewood Manufacturers". (41) That same year, 1885, John Buck's executors were recorded for Rock Mill, so that family still owned it and its rateable value was £90, (42) very low compared with previous valuations! In 1889 Tabram & Co., Flock & Shoddy Manufacturers, were using Rock Mill. (43)

In 1894 Moffat & Hughes were at Rock Mill recorded as "Athletic Material Manufacturers". (44) Then in 1897 the "British Chess Company" was there. (45) In 1900 Lewis Gardner was owner of the mill, but had a tenant there, not named, and its rateable value was £15, but he himself was owner and occupier of a Brewery at Rock Mill, with a rateable value of £10. (46) In 1902 and 1903 on the O.S. maps Rock Mill was named "Logwood" and the brewery was shown in a field behind the mill cottages. (47) In 1905 Lewis Gardner was owner and occupier of the mill and "Old Brewery" at Rock Mill. (48) In 1928 only the house and garden were recorded, so the mill had been demolished before that date. (49) The house is still there and was offered for sale in 1983 for £95,000. (50) The 5 mill cottages still exist, but have been converted into 3 dwellings. (51)

PITCHCOMBE MILL (also Jenner's & Wade's)

The next mill recorded up the Painswick Stream from Rock Mill was Pitchcombe Mill, also called Jenner's Mill and Wade's Mill. It was on the western side of the Painswick Stream and was in the Parish of Standish until 1884 when it became part of the Parish of Pitchcombe. (1)

In 1724 Daniel Jenner of Pitchcombe was named as a clothier. (2) So although it cannot be proved, he probably had the mill named Jenner's Mill, and it may have existed even earlier.

In 1771 Mr Nathaniel Jenner had his mill advertised "To be Let". It was described then as Grist Mills upon a large stream of water, consisting of 3 Pairs of stones, 2 of them French, a Boulting Mill and 2 large granaries, also a dwelling house, garden, stable, brewhouse and 4 orchards, situated near the Turnpike Road between Painswick and Stroud. (3) The turnpike road in those days was the Wick Street which could be reached from the mill by Wade's Lane. In 1776-77 Nathaniel Jenner was still owner and tenant, and in 1778-80 Mrs Mary Jenner was owner and tenant. (4) So evidently the Jenner family did not manage to let the mill. From 1783 to 1794 Mr Thos. Huntley was owner. (5) In 1786 "Pitchcombe Grist Mills" were advertised to be let by Mr. Thos. Huntley, and were described with 2 good French Stones, 1 pair of Welsh Stones, 2 bolters, 6 large bins for corn and 2 for flour, Dwelling Hse, Garden, Brewhouse, Stable, cart-house, 10 acres of land, a large pond and constant water near the Turnpike Road from Painswick to Stroud (i.e. Wick Street). It has been in possession of Mr Edward Cutts who had carried on a large and extensive trade for about 15 years. (6)

In 1788 and 1790 Pitchcombe Mills were again advertised to be let with much the same descriptions, but they both say "Apply Mr. Thos. Huntley on the premises", so it seems that he had not managed to let it since 1786 and was using it himself. (7) Mr Thos. Huntley probably died in 1794 as from 1795 to 1803 Mrs Huntley was recorded as owner, and Wm. Cook as tenant in 1795, and John Cook in 1797. (8)

In 1795 it was advertised that the partnership between John Cook and James Wood of Pitchcombe, Cloth Manufacturers, had been dissolved. (9)

In 1799 Mrs Hathaway was recorded as tenant, but there is nothing to show for what purpose she was using the mill, (10) but she was not there long for from 1800 to 1805 Jeremiah Cother was tenant. (11) From 1804 to 1824 William Carpenter was recorded as owner. (12) In 1806 a sale was advertised of a Clothier's Estate and Stock-in-Trade of Jeremiah Cother, Bankrupt. Lot 1 was a large Dwelling House, a Large Mill, Garden and Orchard all Freehold; and Lot 2 was a Capital Clothing Mill called Jenner's Mill with 2 cottages, outbuildings and 10 acres, all Leasehold - which explains why he was recorded as tenant, but where Lot 1 was is not made clear. (13)

That same year 1806 it was advertised again for sale as a clothing mill, with much more detail, and was said to be very near to Lot 1. The description of Jenner's Mill included 2 stocks, a Gig Mill and a Rack Hill and then there is a very long list of stock offered for sale, which included a 28" Double Scribbling Engine, a 30" Single Scribbling Engine, 3 Billies, 7 Spindle Jennies, 4 Long Reels, 1 Brushing Machine, 1 large dyeing copper and lots more. (14)

In 1813 William Carpenter was recorded "Bankrupt" and all his clothing stock and household furniture was advertised to be "Sold by Auction" on premises at Pitchcombe Mill. (15) How William Carpenter could still be recorded as owner to 1824 when he was bankrupt in 1813 seems strange, but there is a possibility that it was a son with the same name who took over the mill.

In 1823 "Jenner's Mill commonly called 'Pitchcombe Mill'" was advertised "To be Sold or Let" with 3 stocks and 2 gig-mills in excellent order, a nearly new wheel for machinery, so it had been made larger than it was in 1806, but this advertisement states that the "mill is capable of improvement and has a great water-supply of 16-18 ft." The dwelling house etc. is also offered and it also says a considerable mortgage is available. Another advertisement later that year says if it is not disposed of before Michaelmas, Milling and Roughing will be taken as tenants but Room and Power may be let separately for 2 Carding Engines or Shearing Frames. (16) In 1824 William Carpenter still owned the mill, (17) and on Bryant's map it was named "Lower Pitchcombe Mill".

By 1825 it must have been sold because that year Hawkins Esq. was recorded as owner and Benjamin Wood as tenant, (18) but the next year, 1826, Wood had all his machinery and household furniture for sale, and in 1827 the Commission of Bankrupt v Benjamin Wood of Pitchcombe Mill in the Parish of Standish was advertised. (19) From 1828 to 1832 Mrs Mary Hawkins was owner, but the tenant was Wm. Fluck who continued to be there until 1842. (20)

In 1833 William Fluck answered many questions from the Factory Commission about Pitchcombe Mill. He described it as a "Woollen-cloth manufactory", with 16 horse-power-water-power in winter, varying to 8 horse-power during four months in the summer, when it was irregular. Sometimes work was started at seven o'clock in the morning, but at other times they could not start until nine or twelve o'clock and then the water continued to flow to midnight. He also said the milling process had occasionally been carried on for 24 hours, but a prohibition of night-work would cause considerable loss to manufacturers who depended on water power. He also said it was indispensably necessary to drive the stocks all 24 hours for milling cloth. William Fluck also stated that dangerous parts of his machinery were all fenced off and that all workpeople had access to water to wash themselves, and could change their clothing. He said he had occasionally employed children as low as seven years of age and that children of seven to twelve were capable of "piecing and feeding the machines also quilling to weavers as those above twelve years". No children had been employed for night work. He believed that those brought up from infancy to work made decidedly the best workmen. He had "no objection to a limitation of hours from nine to fourteen years of age provided the legislature will adopt means for the maintenance and education of such children". (21)

In 1839 it was reported that William Fluck had 38 looms at Pitchcombe Mill: 3 of these were Steam and Water Power Looms, 2 were unemployed, and 33 were Handlooms. The weavers employed on the 3 Power Looms were 1 man, 4 women and 9 children. On the Handlooms there were 30 men and 8 women, which makes a total of 52 persons employed just for weaving.

William Fluck himself was recorded on the "List of Principal Manufacturers of Woollen Cloth in Gloucestershire". (22) In 1841 Pitchcombe Mill was advertised "To be Let" when Mr Fluck was still tenant, so it seems he wanted to give up his cloth industry. (23) In 1842 the owner of Pitchcombe Mill was John Page, the lessee Mrs Mary Hawkins, and the tenant that year was Ebenezer Durdin who was advertised as a Manufacturing Chemist and a maker of Umbrella Sticks. (24) So it seems that by this year the cloth trade at the mill had ended.

In 1843-44 another tenant as well as Ebenezer Durden was recorded and named as Frederick Barron, and in 1844-47 when he was named as a "Joint Occupier". (25) In 1846 Ebenezer was bankrupt, so it was not only the clothiers who went bankrupt! He had all his goods and furniture for sale which included 200 books. (26) It seems strange that on the 1848-49 Register of Electors, "Durdin & Co." were still recorded there, as also was Charles Barron who may have been a son of Frederick Barron.

In 1851 John Randall "Naphtha Manufacturer" was using Pitchcombe Mill. He had been born in Somerset, but his wife Mary had been born in Painswick. (27) In 1852 Charles Barron was still recorded at Pitchcombe Mill for house, mill and garden, so it seems that two firms were using the mills. (28)

In 1853 in August and September, Pitchcombe Mills were advertised "To be Sold by Private Contract". A fall of water equal to 40 horse-power was mentioned, also stone buildings, warehouses, Manager's Dwelling, Cottages, Stables and 6 acres of land. It was fitted principally for the manufacture of Naphtha, 100 gallons weekly, also for artificial manure and also a saw mill. It also said "Apply to Mr Randall, the Manager at the works or Fuller & Horsey, Auctioneers, London." (29)

In October that same year it was advertised to be "Sold by Auction" on Nov. 15th, 3 p.m., at the George Hotel, Stroud. (30) That same month, all the stock, tools etc. of Pitchcombe Mills were to be "Sold by Auction" on Nov. 16th on the premises. (31) In 1854 Peter Mathews was recorded for "leasehold mills and land, Pitchcombe Mills", and with his son Augustus, the Mathews family was recorded there to 1885. (32)

In 1854 Mr Mathews applied to the magistrates to widen the lane from Pitchcombe Mills up to Wick Street. He said that on driving down from Wick Street he had several times been stopped by meeting another waggon and had to back his horses a considerable distance. He said it was very difficult to carry on business unless the road was widened. The Bench decided that they could not at present make any decision. (33) The lane there is still (1986) narrow!

In 1855 Stroud Police charged Charles Cratchley, a waggoner, with leaving a loaded timber-carriage in Gloucester Street, Stroud, without anyone in charge of the horses from a quarter past two to a quarter to three, when he came out of the Greyhound Inn. The waggon belonged to Mr Mathews of Pitchcombe Mills. He was fined 2s. 6d. and 8s. costs. (34)

In 1856 Peter Mathews & Son of the "Bone & Manure Works" at Pitchcombe near Stroud, advertised that "in addition to the usual supply of bones, they now offer the following manures, Super Phosphate of Lime, Nitro Ammonia Phosphate, Wheat or other Corn Manures, Grass and Clover Manures, Nitrate of Soda and Peruvian Guano." (35) In 1884 Mr A Mathews advertised that Pitchcombe Steam Manure Mills were to be sold by auction on 18th June with all the machinery, building materials, farming and other implements, and it said "Mr Mathews at Pitchcombe View close by the works will show on application". (36) Evidently he did not sell it immediately as it was recorded "Disused" in 1885. (37)

The year of 1884 was the one when the area of Pitchcombe Mills, and more, was transferred officially from the Parish of Standish to that of Pitchcombe. (38)

In 1889 Ladd & Charles Willoughby were recorded using Pitchcombe Mill and were described as "Miller-Water". (39) In 1894 John Broughton was using it also as a Water-Mill. (40) In 1901 "Pitchcombe Corn Mills" was used by "J. G. Wade, Miller and General Corn Merchant". (41)

From 1902 to 1927 James Gibson Wade was recorded in directories using the Water-Mill, (42) but I can remember seeing about 1930 farmers driving horses and carts there loaded with corn to be ground. This shows why Wade's Lane there was so named. (43)

Exactly which year the mill closed has not been found recorded, but soon after 1930 it was disused and the actual mill buildings have been completely demolished. Mill cottages can still be seen on the other side of Wade's Lane, and the mill house is still there and in 1981 was advertised "For Sale", for £130,000. (44)

SMALL'S MILL (alias Ayer's and Seagrim's Mill)

Upstream from Pitchcombe Mill on the Painswick Stream, the next mill found recorded was Small's Mill, also named Ayer's Mill and Seagrim's Mill.

In 1327 Alice Segrym and John Segrum were recorded on a Lay Subsidies List but no mill was mentioned. (1)

Richard Talbot, Lord of the Manor of Painswick, who founded Flanesford Priory in Herefordshire in 1346, endowed it with lands and a mill in Painswick in 1348, and in 1439 it was described as above Seagrim's Bridge. (2) There are still cottages there called Seagrims, and fields near to Small's Mill site. (3) The same estate in 1538 was granted to George Tablot, Earl of Tewkesbury, then in 1553 it was sold to Lord Chandos; then the whole or part of the estate was conveyed to Henry Jerningham in 1587.

That same year Henry Jerningham conveyed the property called Seagrims to John Osborne who died 1630, when his son Thomas leased it to Robert Cooke, a clothier, whose sons bought it in 1641, but again as in all the documents since 1346 no mill is mentioned although it was probably there. (4) In 1717 Thos. Palling, for Small's Mill, was recorded in the Reeve's Book. (5) Why it is named Small's Mill is not clear. The Pallings had been recorded in Painswick much earlier, as in 1642 they had Greenhouse, (6) and Edward Palling in 1673 was selling cloth to a factor in London for £9. 5s. per cloth, (7) and also selling to him in 1678 and 1681. The Pallings were recorded living at Wick Street House, and at Brookhouse 1677-1758. (8) In 1718-22 William Palling of Painswick was sending to London about 230 cloths a year of the type exported to India and the Levant (9) and in 1720 he was supplied with yarn from Devizes and Cirencester. (10) From 1730 Mr Will. Palling was paying rates for his mill, (11) but in 1735 Sarah Palling, the widow, made surrender of copyhold property to her son Thomas, which included: 1 messuage, 2 fulling mills, 1 gig mill, 1 dyehouse, 1 shearshop lately built, and quite a lot of land. (12) This is the first proof that the mill was a cloth mill. Thomas Palling was recorded for his mill in 1740, (13) and continued to 1771 when he transferred it to Edward Palling, (14) but in 1768 it was advertised that William Lawrence, Clothier of Small's Mill, had much stolen. He must have been a tenant there. The things stolen were 8 yds of fine cloth worth about 5s. a yard, Livery cloth worth 6s. a yard, and more from the tenter hooks. He offered 3 guineas reward for information leading to conviction, and was also offering his house "To be Let." (15)

In 1771 Edward Palling also had cloth stolen from Small's Mill which he described as one piece of "Shurn Spanish Stripe List Cloth, very thin, about 36 yards, marked Edward Palling best Superfine." He offered 10 guineas reward for information. (16) Pallings continued to be recorded for Small's Mill to 1790, (17) but on the marriage of a daughter in 1771 to William Carruthers it had been arranged that she would get the estate for her children, (18) and in 1787 William Carruthers was using Small's Mill and was advertising another terrible lot of stealing. He said, "Whereas in the night between the 12th and 13th inst. a piece of Seven Quarter Scarlet Cloth worth about 9s. per yard was cut on the tenters belonging to Small's Mill in the Parish of Painswick and six yards of the last end thereof STOLEN. Also the same night the Drying House in the tenter-ground of the said Mills, was opened by picking the lock and about TWENTYNINE YARDS of a stout Seven Quarter WHITE CLOTH in full wool worth about 8s. 6d. a yard were cut off and stolen." Ten guineas reward for information was offered by Wm. Carruthers of Brownshill. (19) The Brownshill where he lived is up on Wick Street.

In 1790 on the 5th July William Carruthers Esq. died, (20) and that same month "Small's Mill with several tenements, four stocks, a gig-mill, dye house, press-house, workshops and wool lofts" was advertised: "To be Let" and it also said the tenant may have pasture land, a good dwelling-house etc. and "premises are in complete repair". Applications were to be made to Mr John Carruthers, Pitchcombe, or Mr Samuel Webb of the Hill, near Stroud. (21) Only a month later the stock of the late William Carruthers Esq. was for sale, and included Super Scarlet Cloth, Spanish Green Cloth, Spanish and best head wool, more than 100 gallons of Gallipoli Oil, Teazles, Spinning Machines and much more. The Sale was to begin 24th August. (22)

From 1790 Mrs Carruthers was quoted as owner of Small's Mill and Mr Jas. Stanley was tenant to 1805, (23) and Mr Clutterbuck was tenant to 1810. (24) In 1810 "Sale by Auction" was advertised of Small's Mill, a Clothing Mill and Factory with 2 stocks, one $\frac{1}{2}$ stock, Gig Mill, Dyehouse, Press House, Drying House, Stable, 2 Cottages and other buildings, also a Rack Ground with 7 Racks and c. 13 acres of land. (25) It was evidently not sold as in 1811 Small's Mill was conveyed to the Rev Joseph Jones by Mrs Grace Carruthers, the widow of Edward Palling Carruthers of Brownhill. (26)

From 1814 to 1820 John Palling, who lived at Sheephouse, was tenant of the mill and for many years he also had King's Mill. (27) He was named in 1820 as as a clothier (28) but it seems he did not want to go on being tenant there as in 1818 Small's Mill in Painswick was advertised "To be Let or Sold" and described as a "Capital Cloth Mill" which included 3 stocks, 1 Gig and Machinery Wheel, Scouring, Dyeing and Pressing Houses, 6 Racks in Rack Leaze, and a Drying House. It also said, "The Quantity of Water is Great and the Fall is Good". (29) Mr Mills was recorded as tenant 1820-22 and its valuation in 1822 was £180. (30) On maps of 1823 and 1824 it was still named as Small's Mill. (31)

In 1827 the Rev Jones was still owner and the tenant was quoted as "Late Wiles now Rice" and Rice remained there as tenant until 1837, but the Rev Jones owned it until he died, when his heirs were recorded in 1833. (32)

In 1837 it was advertised that Mr Mathew Rice was removing to London and had up for sale all his "Clothing Machinery and Household Furniture". His list included 6 scribbling and carding machines, 9 broad looms, 120 sets of gig-mill work, 12 packs of prime teasels, a 120 spindle-mule, 60 spindle-billies and lots more. This advertisement shows that weaving was being done in this mill. (33)

From 1833 Mrs Ann James was recorded as owner of Small's Mill and continued recorded to 1860. (34) 1837-38 Small's Mill was recorded Vacant, and on the 1838 Valuation List, Small's Mill with cottages adjoining was recorded at £115, so like many other mills it was of less value than in 1822. (35)

In 1838-39 Philip Foxwell, named on the List of Principal Woollen Manufacturers of Gloucestershire was tenant at Small's Mill. (36) Philip Foxwell also had Loveday's Mill from 1829 until he went bankrupt in 1840. (37) In 1839 Small's Mill was advertised "To be Sold by Auction" at the Falcon Hotel in Painswick, and was described as a "Valuable Clothing Mill" with a dwelling house, cottage and other buildings, a rack hill and drying ground. The premises were described "in excellent condition" and it was stated that "a large Sum of money has been spent in the last 3 years enlarging the mill". It also says it could easily be converted to a Grist Mill and quotes Philip Foxwell as a yearly tenant. (38) Philip Foxwell also had a Wool Drying Stove on the west side of the Painswick Stream in the Parish of Pitchcombe which explains why it was not advertised for sale. (39) It could still be seen there about 1930 but nothing remains now. (40)

Obviously it was not sold in 1839 as Mrs James was still owner when it was recorded as Vacant from 1842 to 1844. (41) From 1845-55 Jenkins & Shipton were recorded as tenants at Small's Mill, (42) then in January 1846 the whole "CLOTHING MACHINERY of Mr Shipton taken under Execution" was advertised "To be Sold by Auction" on Feb. 2nd 11 a.m. A long list included "8 double and single scribbling and carding machines", also 4 wool and flock willeys and tuckers, 70 & 80 spindle jennies, 3 60-spindle billies, a broadloom and a narrow ditto, a quantity of fullers earth, a capital 6 end steaming copper, teasels" and lots more. He also advertised for sale his dwelling-house in Pitchcombe. (43)

From 1848 to 1850 Biddle & Buck were recorded as tenants for Small's Mill, but for what purpose they were using it is not mentioned. (44)

In 1851 the next tenant recorded was William Clark, a Timber Merchant, employing 3 men and 5 boys and girls, so it seems that the cloth trade at Small's Mill had now ended. Clark & Son were recorded there to 1856 when it was described as "Steam Sawing Mills". (45)

From 1857 William Ridler, described as an "Umbrella Stick Manufacturer" used Small's Mill. In 1863 his business was described as "Saw Mills and Timber Dealer". In 1865 he was recorded as owner as well as tenant, so it seems quite possible that he bought it from Mrs James in 1860, (46) and he still had the mill in 1876 when he also had 12 acres of land and 4 houses with tenants. (47) In 1879 Thomas Hooper, "Umbrella Stick Manufacturer", was advertised at Small's Mill. (48)

From 1885 George Ayers was recorded as tenant and David Prosser as owner. Ayers was a Timber Merchant and was still recorded there in 1910, (49) and there are still some people in Painswick who can remember Ayer's Mill as they called it still working. (50) The Ayers family lived at Prospect House by Bull's Cross for many years. (51) In 1900 the owner was recorded as "late David Prosser" so evidently he had died that year. (52) Who owned it after that date has not been found recorded until 1928 when Frederick Gyde was owner and occupier of Small's Mill. (53) He was still recorded there in 1934 and local people called it Gyde's Mill, but that name has not been found recorded anywhere as an official name. (54)

The mill buildings soon after this became derelict but some years the water-wheel was fully restored and a dwelling house built on the mill site. The overshot water-wheel may be seen working now. (1985) Some old mill cottages have also been renovated and extended and are used as dwelling-houses, but no other mill buildings remain. (55)

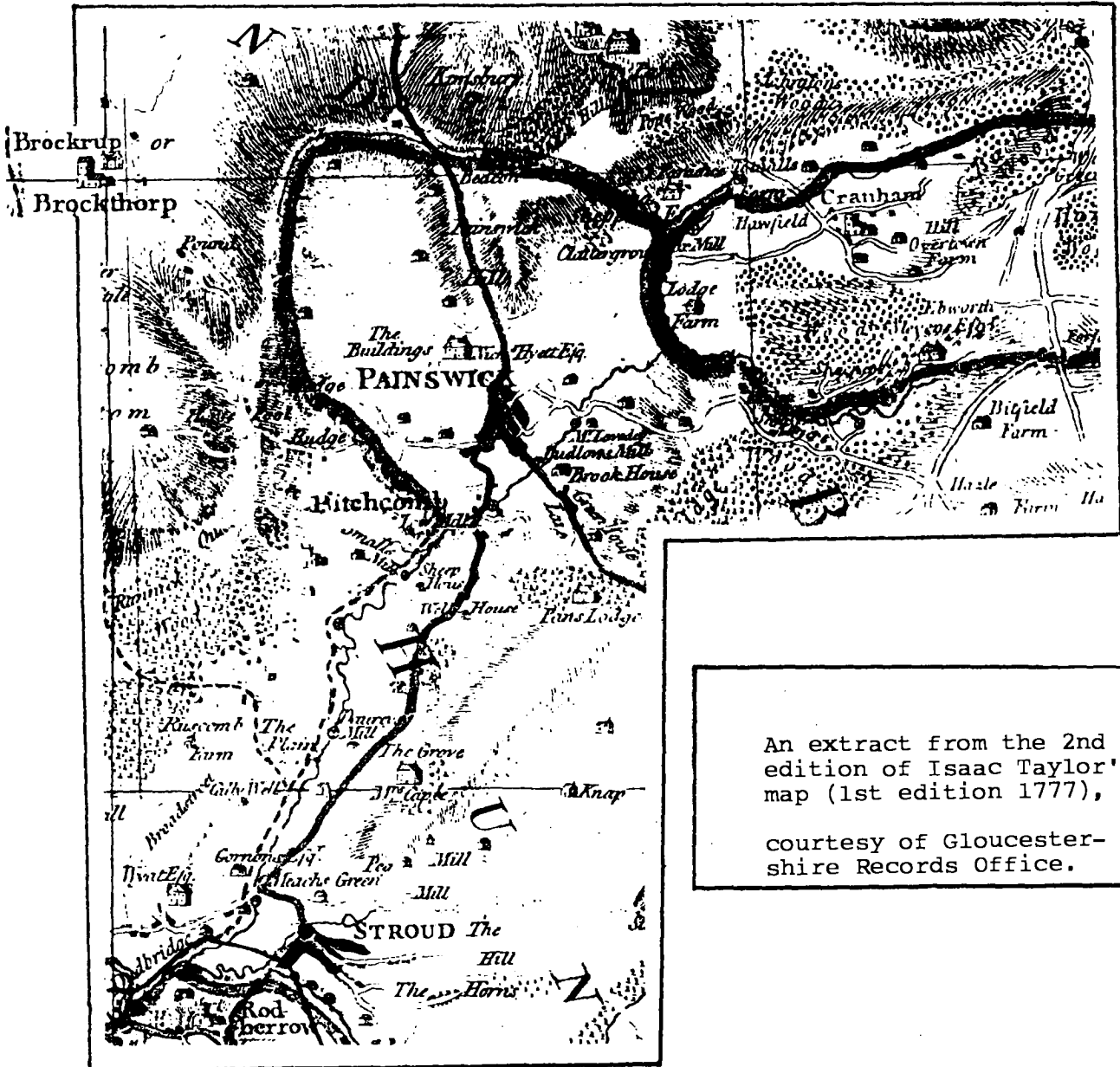
Colleen Haine. © 1985. (checked 1986)

Samuel Rudder wrote of Painswick in the 1770s "The clothing manufacture has been long established in these parts, by which many have acquired large fortunes. It is still considered as a lucrative and genteel employment, capable of any extension; and it certainly deserves the greatest encouragement, because it furnishes labour for the poor or both sexes, and all ages, who derive from it the necessaries and comforts of life; and the air of this parish which is remarkably salubrious, gives them a great share of health to enjoy them."

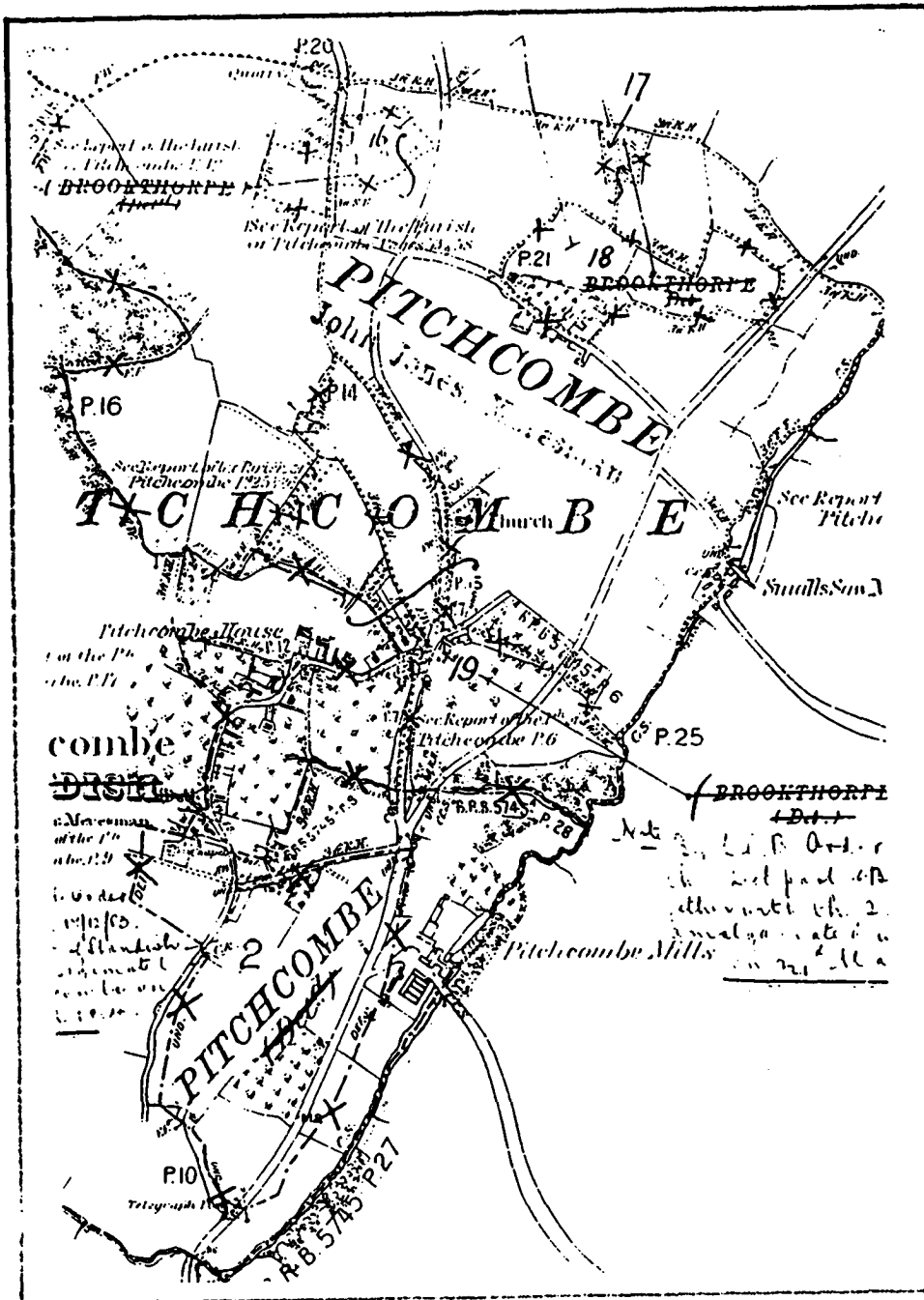
Ichabod!

It was said that people in Painswick were too poor to live, and too healthy to die.

THE PAINSWICK VALLEY in the late eighteenth century



The road from Gloucester to Painswick and Stroud (Wick Street) is shown by a dark line, also the road up Greenhouse Lane to Bulls Cross and Bisley. The present roads to Gloucester via the Horsepools and to Cheltenham via Prinknash and Fiddlers Elbow did not then exist. The road to Birdlip for Cheltenham ran along the rim of the scarp, to the north of Cranham. Not all mills then existing are shown, and "Daureys" Mill is an error. Meachs Green is Beeches Green. But Taylor depicts a beacon, and names it, on the top of Painswick Hill. (The beacon does not show on this copy.) The Gloucester-Painswick road was called the Gloucester Eastgate Turnpike. The thick dark line (connected by a dashed line) is the boundary of the Hundred of Bisley: Cranham was in Rapsgate Hundred.



A Bewilderment of Boundaries.

Until 1884 much of the present parish of Pitchcombe was in Standish or Brookthorpe parishes. Thus a Wheatenhurst Highways District post of 1864 on the bridge at Pitchcombe Mill is labelled for Standish and Painswick.

This map is an extract from the Parish Boundaries Survey done by the Royal Engineers in 1882. It shows that Pitchcombe Mill was then in Standish Parish, which curves round Pitchcombe from the left. The erasures and alterations on the map were made so that the forthcoming 6 inch OS map of 1884-86 might be consistent with the revised parish boundaries.

(See GSIA Journal for 1983, p 44.)

Crown copyright.

REFERENCESSTRATFORD MILL

- 1 GRO D149 T567.
- 2 GRO D149 T568.
- 3 GRO D149 T574.
- 4 GRO D149/F 72.
- 5 GRO P244 CW 2/1.
- 6 GRO P244 CW 2/1.
- 7 GRO D149 T863.
- 8 GJ 21 Feb 1738.
- 9 GJ 17 Aug 1801.
- 10 Robson's Directory 1839, and GRO P244a OV 1/13, 1/14, 1/16.
- 11 Kelly's Directory 1856 & Morris & Co.'s Directory 1867.
- 12 GJ 20 Dec 1856, and GRO P244a OV 1/13, 1/14.
- 13 GJ 15 Nov 1851.
- 14 GJ 16 April 1853.
- 15 GJ 11 & 18 March 1854.
- 16 GJ 25 July 1857.
- 17 GRO P244a OV 1/42 & Kelly's Directory 1879, 1885, 1889.
- 18 Kelly's Directory 1894, 1897.
- 19 Stroud News & Journal, 31 May 1984.
- 20 Citizen Special March 1982.
- 21 Information from Mr. Polhill, who worked there.
- 22 Personal knowledge, and Stroud News & Journal 12 April 1984.
- 23 Stroud News & Journal 23 July 1981.
- 24 Information from Mr. Polhill, who worked there.
- 25 The Citizen 22 June 1981
- 26 The Citizen 15 June 1981.
- 27 The Citizen 2 & 3 March 1982.
- 28 The Citizen 16 April and 18 May 1983.
- 29 Stroud News & Journal 12 April 1984.
- 30 The Citizen 16 March 1984.
- 31 The Citizen 7 April 1984.
- 32 Personal information.

SALMON'S MILL

- 1 VCH xi p 76.
- 2 Baddeley's History of Painswick pp 118, 119, 120.
- 3 VCH xi p 76 & GC RF 229.27.
- 4 VCH xi p 76.
- 5 Inq P.M. 1625-1642 (1 Sept 1624).
- 6 Personal inspection.
- 7 Smith: Men & Armour pp 286-289.
- 8 Baddeley p 227 & GC 229.27.
- 9 Inq P.M. 1625-1642 pp 5-6.
- 10 GC RF 229.27.
- 11 Personal information.
- 12 GC RF 229.27 & 229.26 (1) & (3), & GRO P244 CW 2/1 & 4/1.
- 13 GRO P244 CW 2/1.
- 14 GRO P244 CW 4/1.
- 15 GRO P244 CW 2/1 & 4/1.
- 16 GRO P244 CW 4/1.
- 17 GC RF 229.15 (2-4).
- 18 GRO D873/T90.
- 19 GRO P244 CW 2/2 & D873/T90.
- 20 GRO P244 CW 2/2, 2/3 and Q/Rel 1.

(Salmons Mill contd.)

- 21 GRO P244 CW 2/3 and Q/Rel 1.
- 22 GJ 6 Feb 1786.
- 23 GRO P244 CW 2/3 and Q/Rel 1.
- 24 GJ 13 April 1789.
- 25 GRO P244 CW 2/3.
- 26 GRO P244 CW 1/5.
- 27 GRO P244 MI 1/3-5 and P244 M 19.
- 28 GRO P244 OV 2/10.
- 29 GRO P244 OV 2/10.
- 30 GDR T/139.
- 31 GRO D873 - E3.
- 32 GJ 11 July, 26 Sept and 10 Oct 1835.
- 33 GJ 30 Jan, 4 June 1836.
- 34 GRO P244 CW 2/6 & P244a OV 1/1-2 and GDR T 1/139.
- 35 GRO D873 - E3.
- 36 GRO P244 CW 2/8.
- 37 GRO P244a OV 1/7 and P244 CW 2/8.
- 38 GRO M.F 315-316.
- 39 GRO D445 E8 and P244a OV 1/14, 1/16.
- 40 GRO D.A 35 -- 501 and personal information.
- 41 Morris & Co.'s Directory 1865-66.
- 42 GCL 1881 Census.
- 43 GRO P244a OV 1/18.
- 44 GSIA No 7 and GRO DA 35 517/3.
- 45 VCH xi p 76.
- 46 Personal information.
- 47 Stroud News & Journal 23 April & 17 Sept 1981.
- 48 Stroud News & Journal 4 Nov 1982
- 49 Stroud News & Journal 24 March 1983.
- 50 Stroud News & Journal 2 Aug & 9 Aug 1984.
- 51 Personal information.
- 52 Personal information.

GROVE MILL

- 1 GRO P244 CW 2/1, 2/2, 2/3, 2/4, 2/6.
- 2 Personal knowledge.
- 3 GRO D 149/244/435.
- 4 GRO D 1388.
- 5 GJ 22 July 1776.
- 6 GRO D 3393 A.4.
- 7 GRO P244 2/4.
- 8 GRO P244 M.I 1/3-5 and P244 M.I 9.
- 9 GRO P244 CW 1/1, 1/2, 2/4, 2/6.
- 10 GJ 28 Dec 1833 & 4 Jan 1834.
- 11 Sanders G, The Capel Family of the Grove.
- 12 GRO P244 OV 1/32.
- 13 GRO P244 M.I 9.
- 14 GRO M.F 315-6, and GJ 24 April 1858.
- 15 GRO P244 CW 1/6 and P244a OV 1/39 and 1/40.
- 16 GJ 21 Jan 1843.
- 17 GRO P244 CW 2/8.
- 18 GRO P244a OV 1/7.
- 19 GJ 4 Dec 1847.
- 20 GJ 24 April 1858.

- 21 GJ 1 Jan 1859.
- 23 GJ 10 Nov 1860, and GRO P244a OV 1/14.
- 23 GCL 1861 Census.
- 24 GRO P244a S.U 1/3 & 1/5, and OV 1/16, and Kelly's Directory 1863.
- 25 Morris & Co.'s Directory 1865, Slater's Directory 1868, Kelly's Directory 1870, and GRO P244a OV 1/18 & 1/42.
- 26 GRO P244a OV 1/42.
- 27 GCL 1881 Census.
- 28 Morris & Co.'s Directory 1876.
- 29 GRO P244a OV 1/19.
- 30 GRO P244a OV 1/20 & 1/22.
- 31 GRO P244a OV 1/22, and Kelly's Directories 1906, 1910, 1914, 1919.
- 32 GRO D.A 35 -- 501.
- 33 Personal information.
- 34 Personal information.

ROCK MILL

- 1 Baddeley p 118 and personal inspection.
- 2 GRO P244 CW 4/1 and personal inspection.
- 3 GRO P244 CW 2/1.
- 4 GRO P244 I.N 1/2.
- 5 GJ 7 March 1738.
- 6 GJ 24 Oct 1738.
- 7 GJ 14 June 1743 and 8 May 1744.
- 8 GJ 26 May 1752.
- 9 GRO P244 CW 2/2 & 2/3, and Q/Rel 1.
- 10 Bigland, Hyett, and GRO Calendar of Wills 1798/103.
- 11 GRO Cal. of Wills 1767/6.
- 12 GRO Cal. of Wills 1768/67.
- 13 GJ 18 Nov 1760.
- 14 GJ 18 March 1776.
- 15 GRO P244 CW 2/3, and Q/Rel 1, and D 2569 1/1.
- 16 GJ 13 Aug 1787.
- 17 GJ 29 July 1811 & 23 Dec 1811.
- 18 GRO D 2569 1/1.
- 19 GJ 16 March 1812 & 23 Nov & 30 Nov 1812.
- 20 GJ 6 March & 13 March 1815.
- 21 GRO P244a M.I 1/3-5 and P244 CW 1/1, 1/2, 1/5, 2/4, 2/6, and OV 2/10 & 1/32, and Q/Rel 1.
- 22 GRO P244 M.I 9 and CW 2/4, and Valuation of Mills 1822, and GJ 15 May 1826.
- 23 GRO P244 OV 2/10 and CW 1/2 & 2/4.
- 24 GRO P244 OV 1/6 & 1/32, and CW 2/6.
- 25 GJ 27 Aug 1836.
- 26 GJ 8 Oct 1836.
- 27 GRO P244 CW 2/6, 1/5, 1/8, and Report on Handloom Weavers 1839 p 381.
- 28 GRO P244 M.I 9.
- 29 GDR T 1/139, and GRO P244a OV 1/1-2.
- 30 GRO P244 CW 2/6.
- 31 GJ 5 Feb 1842.
- 32 GRO P244a OV 1/39.
- 33 GRO P244a OV 1/40 & P244 CW 2/8.

- 34 GRO P244 CW 2/6.
- 35 GRO P244a OV 1/7.
- 36 GJ 15 & 22 May 1847.
- 37 GRO P244a VE 2/1.
- 38 GRO M.F 315-316, and Slater's Directory 1852.
- 39 GRO P244 OV 1/33 & P244a SU 1/1, and Kelly's Directory 1856 and Harrison, Harrod & Co's Directory 1858-59.
- 40 GJ 10 April 1858.
- 41 GRO P244a OV 1/13, 1/14, 1/16, 1/19, 1/42, and Morris & Co.'s Directories 1865-67, Slater's Directory 1868, Kelly's Directories 1870, 1879, 1885, and Morris' Directory 1876.
- 42 GRO P244a OV 1/19.
- 43 Kelly's Directory 1889.
- 44 Kelly's Directory 1894.
- 45 Kelly's Directory 1897.
- 46 GRO P244a OV 1/20.
- 47 O.S map 1902 41/15 (in GRO) and OS map 1903.
- 48 GRO P244a OV 1/22.
- 49 GRO D.A 35--501 and personal knowledge.
- 50 Stroud News & Journal 28 July 1983.
- 51 Personal knowledge.

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- 1 VCH x.
- 2 GRO D 149/250/445-6.
- 3 GJ 21 Oct 1771.
- 4 GRO Q/RE 1.
- 5 GRO Q/RE 1.
- 6 GJ 3 July 1786.
- 7 GJ 31 May 1788 & 31 May 1790.
- 8 GRO Q/RE 1
- 9 GJ 12 Jan 1795.
- 10 GRO Q/RE 1.
- 11 GRO Q/RE 1.
- 12 GRO Q/RE 1.
- 13 GJ 16 June 1806.
- 14 GJ 7 July 1806.
- 15 GJ 24 May 1813 & 7 June 1813.
- 16 GJ 10 May 1823 & 8 Sept 1823.
- 17 GRO Q/RE 1.
- 18 GRO Q/RE 1.
- 19 GJ 11 Nov 1826 & 6 Jan 1827.
- 20 GRO Q/RE 1 and Register of Electors, Whitstone Hundred 1834.
- 21 Report of the Factory Commissioners B.1 pp 21-22.
- 22 Report on the Handloom Weavers 1839.
- 23 GJ 25 Sept 1841.
- 24 GRO T.1 168 and Pigot's Directory 1842.
- 25 Register of Electors, Stonehouse Polling District.
- 26 GJ 14 March 1846, and Register of Electors 1848-9.
- 27 GRO M.F 315.
- 28 Register of Electors 1852-4.
- 29 GJ 20 Aug, 27 Aug, 17 Sept, 24 Sept 1853.
- 30 GJ 29 Oct 1853.
- 31 GJ 5 Nov 1853.
- 32 Register of Electors 1854-1884, Stonehouse Polling District, and 1885 Stroud Polling District.

- 33 Stroud Free Press 18 Aug 1854.
 34 Stroud Journal 19 May 1855.
 35 GJ 5 Jan 1856.
 36 GJ 14 June 1884.
 37 O.S map 1885, 25 in.
 38 VCH x.
 39 Kelly's Directory 1889.
 40 Kelly's Directory 1894.
 41 Personal information, found on a bill paid by my great-uncle (a farmer) to J G Wade.
 42 Kelly's Directories 1902 to 1927.
 43 Personal information.
 44 Stroud News & Journal 23 July 1981.
- SMALL'S MILL
- 1 GCL R.F 229 26(5).
 2 Baddeley, History of Painswick, pp 82-3, and VCH xi p 68.
 3 Personal information.
 4 VCH xi p 68.
 5 GCL R.R 229.15 (2-4).
 6 Bigland.
 7 Mann, J de L, The Cloth Industry of the West of England pp 68-9 & 80.
 8 Bigland.
 9 Mann J de L op cit p 34.
 10 Mann J de L op cit pp 264-5.
 11 GRO P244 CW 2/1.
 12 GRO D 1347 - Palling Family Admissions.
 13 GCL R.R 229-15 (2-4).
 14 GRO D 1347 Palling Family Admissions.
 15 GJ 5 Dec 1768.
 16 GJ 28 Jan 1771.
 17 GRO P244 CW 2/2, 2/3, and Q/Rel.1.
 18 GRO D 1347 Palling Family Admissions.
 19 GJ 19 Feb 1787.
 20 GJ 12 July 1790.
 21 GJ 19 July 1790.
 22 GJ 16 Aug 1790.
 23 GRO P244 CW 2/3, and Q/Rel.1.
 24 GRO P244 CW 2/3 & 2/4, and Q/Rel.1.
 25 GJ 12 Nov 1810.
 26 GRO D 1815 T.
 27 GRO P244 CW 2/4.
 28 Gell & Bradshaw's Directory 1820.
 29 GJ 5 Jan & 30 March 1818.
 30 GRO P244a M.I 1/3-5, and P244 M.I 9.
 31 GRO D 6/P2, and Bryant's map 1824.
 32 GRO P244 CW 1/1, 1/2, and OV 1/6, 1/32, and GCL 9931 (H) G.3.9.
 33 GJ 15 July 1837.
 34 GRO P244 CW 2/6, and OV 1/6, 1/13, 1/14, 1/32, and GDR T 1/139.
 35 GRO P244 CW 2/6, and M.I 9.
 36 GRO P244 CW 1/5, 2/6, and GDR 1/139, and Report on Handloom Weavers 1839.
 37 GRO Q/Rel. 1, and GJ 28 Nov 1840.
 38 GJ 8 June 1839.
 39 GRO P250 CW 2/1.
 40 Personal information.
 41 GRO P244a OV 1/39, 1/40, and P244 CW 2/6.
 42 GRO P244 CW 2/6, and OV 1/7,
 43 GJ 31 Jan 1846.
 44 GRO P244 CW 2/8.
 45 GRO M.F 315 & 316, P244 OV 1/33, P244a SU 1/1, and Kelly's Directories 1852 & 1856.
 46 GRO P244a SU 1/2, 1/3, 1/5, and P244 OV 1/13 & 1/14, and Kelly's Directory 1858-9 and 1863, and Morris & Co.'s Directory 1865-6.
 47 GRO P244a OV 1/42, and Morris & Co.'s Directory 1876.
 48 Kelly's Directory 1879.
 49 Kelly's Directories 1885 to 1910, and GRO P244a OV 1/19, 1/20, and P244a P.C 4/1.
 50 Personal information.
 51 Kelly's Directory 1902, and personal knowledge.
 52 GRO P244a OV 1/20.
 53 GRO D.A 35-501.
 54 GRO D.A 35-505/2.
 55 Personal information.

"The beautiful institutions of the Infant Schools are meant to open the capacity, and even to prepare the Child for future mechanical pursuits; but what will become of him between that period, and the period of legal labour? Is he to be kept in all that interval at School, and if so who is to pay for it? ... (the Parents) can do nothing for their Children now, who must beat the streets, while their Parents are at the Factories and freed from their superintendance and controul, either pass their days in doing nothing, or what is worse in habits of Vice and Thieving ..."

(From a pamphlet inveighing against the 1833 Factory Act which limited the hours and ages of children employed in textile mills.) See William Fluck of Pitchcombe Mill - his remarks about labour legislation. And could there be any connection with the current state of education in this country? No comment! Ed.