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JOHN GULLAND'S DIARY, 1846-1849: A TRANSCRIPT AND COMMENTARY

JOHN B BARCLAY

IT WAS THE YEAR 1846. Queen Victoria was in the ninth year of her reign: it was just three years since the Disruption of the Church of Scotland and the creation of the Free Church: Charles Dickens was beginning to make his mark on the literary world by the publication of his novels in parts: the movement was afoot to erect monuments to Sir Walter Scott: the North British Railway had joined Edinburgh and Glasgow and the building of the line to Berwick-upon-Tweed was under way: Thomas Babington Macaulay was one of the Members of Parliament for the city but lost his seat at the election of 1847: Adam Black of the publishing house A. & C. Black was the Lord Provost, whose firm was printing the *Encyclopaedia Britannica*: it was the period of the run-up to the revolutions of 1848 which was to see the fall of Louis Philippe in France, unrest in Italy and Germany, the Chartist movement in Britain and the Young Ireland movement which sought revolution.

It was in 1846 that John Gulland, a baker's son, a pupil of the Royal High School, aged twelve, began to write his diary in an ordinary notebook, a diary which was to reflect the life of his time, locally and nationally, his holidays and his hobbies. Little, perhaps, did he realise it, but the diary shows the beginning of the development of the boy who was to play a leading part in civic and church affairs in his native city right up to his death at the start of the next century in 1902.

His father, George Gulland, from Belleknowes, Inverkeithing, Fife, began his bakery business in New Street in Edinburgh in 1822 and lived above the shop. It was a fashionable part of the Canongate at that time. The property was ultimately bought and demolished to make way for railway extension. He became a distinguished councillor and bailie of the Canongate

and of Edinburgh after the amalgamation, as, indeed, were his son and grandson to become later. His mother was a sister of the William Johnston who became Lord Provost in 1848.

John was an ordinary boy of the period, full of fun and prepared to hold his own with any of his peers. He was healthy and had nothing more wrong with him than a common cold which kept him off school or absent from church. He was a friendly and popular lad as evidenced from the 35 boys named in the diary with whom he played or met or discussed things, outside the school yards or playground. Many of them were with him in school. His bosom pal, Willie Brockie, was his cousin of the same age, also the son of a baker, who was in the same class at school and was generally just ahead of him in place in class. He went to school daily in company with the brothers Maxwell who lived nearby, using the stairway known as Jacob's Ladder, now closed, up the side of the Calton Hill from the end of New Street to Regent Road. His pal Willie is actually mentioned some 130 to 140 times in the diary.

His family upbringing in the Free Church which he attended regularly probably accounted for his attitude to others and especially to those who were ill. He was solicitous when any of his sisters or his little brother were in bed. He visited his sickly grandmother frequently and walked to Corstorphine several times when she was convalescing in a cottage there. He seldom mentions his mother. She is just in the background but, when she was ill, he bought her a bottle of scent. He mentions funerals and was concerned about the illness and death of the young son of one of his father's former employees who died from whooping cough. He lamented the death of his uncle's infant child. The school janitor's death

affected him. He delivered funeral cards for his father on his aunt's death, in keeping with the custom of the period. He was sent with funeral biscuits for the reception of the guests at his aunt's funeral. He was deeply concerned at the news of the revolution in France which brought about the fall of Louis Philippe. He seemed to devour the local press for every detail of the King's fate and travel.

John Gulland was definitely a man's boy. His father and his uncles were his friends. His father helped to make a portfolio for his drawings: his uncles accompanied him on walks and helped him with his studies. He went on fishing expeditions with the grown-ups: he went to a bowling match at Dirleton with his father and to Burntisland by the new Granton railway and ferry: his uncles showed him their souvenirs from overseas and gave him the opportunity to see the use of the microscope and magic lantern. In return we find him helping to keep the shop when the shop assistant was ill or on holiday, taking sums of money to the different banks, calling on defaulters to pay their bad debts, besides paying bills on behalf of his father to various traders. He frequently went messages for his uncles.

At school he seemed a pupil in the upper part of his form. He was in the prize list on both prize-days mentioned in the diary. He was jealous about his place in class for different subjects. This was important as these places were evaluated at the end of the session for prize purposes. It was to some extent a process of continuous assessment in classes which could number a hundred pupils. He enjoyed the rough and tumble of the playground and was punished for obstructing the passage of boys from one part of the school building to another.

After school he played with his fellows at cricket, blockie and kickball (he never used the word football). He was chased with others by the park-keeper in Holyrood Park where the game was not allowed. He attended cricket matches and played on a number of

occasions at Portobello. When on holiday at Portobello he bathed most days with his friends, sometimes quite early in the morning. He enjoyed sliding on the ice on Duddingston Loch although he did not skate. On holiday he describes flying a kite. He recorded his success with a fishing rod and his disappointment when he accidentally broke it. At home with his elders and his pal or other schoolfellows he played at cards, backgammon, draughts, bagatelle and solved Chinese puzzles. At one game with his cousin he adds, probably with a measure of bravado and a feeling of longing to be grown up, 'I bet'. Maybe it was the Free Church sinner making confession.

He loved visiting his uncles and friends and going to parties. He criticised parties at which only charades or games were played. To him, a party was not a party unless there was dancing but there is no indication of what dances were performed. He did not go to bed early: sometimes he mentions midnight and after, even although he seems to have risen early to get to school for a class at eight. The distances walked by John would surprise the modern boy. It was no effort to walk round Arthur Seat in the morning and in the afternoon to go to Corstorphine and back. He walked regularly to Portobello and Duddingston though sometimes he returned by stage-coach or train. He generally walked to his uncle's farm at Dalkeith and he records walking to Hermiston on one occasion. Walks to Leith Docks and to various parts of the town with messages were common. It seemed nothing to him to walk ten or fifteen miles in one day and to repeat the dose next day.

He read widely, biography, history, travel and fiction. He went to lending libraries regularly and tells how he often carried a book with him on his walks. He got the parts of Dickens' novels as they came out and even borrowed his uncle's copy when visiting. He frequently went to salerooms to buy books and complained when he did not manage to obtain what he sought. He must have had sufficient pocket money to

make these purchases although he did not buy anything costly. He deposited money in the Savings Bank and recorded with pleasure the interest he obtained at the end of the year. Even when on holiday at St Boswells in the Borders he records a visit to the local library.

He went each year to the art exhibition at the Royal Scottish Academy and made observations about pictures and artists, comparing one exhibition with another. He attended the Reid Memorial concerts of the University in the Music Hall in George Street and went to the theatre to see plays and the annual pantomime. Exhibitions and processions feature in the diary. A panorama of Berlin and a model of Jerusalem are both mentioned. No doubt his interest in these faraway places was inspired by his uncles who were mapmakers and geographers. He records watching dragoons and other troops drilling on Portobello sands and the activities of the Free Gardeners and the Caledonian Youths.

Throughout the diary John Gulland recorded the name of the preacher and his text each Sunday. He was absent from church only when he suffered from a severe cold. His allegiance was to the Free Church but he often attended other churches with uncles or when on holiday. He went to the United Presbyterian Church, the Episcopal Church at Portobello, the Church of Scotland at Duns and St Boswells. Not until the later part of the diary did he criticise the sermon but he did rate some as very good or excellent and others prosy. He seemed outraged when he heard three sermons on the same text during his stay at Portobello. Some sermons he described as lectures. The distinction is difficult but his minister, the Rev. Dr W. K. Tweedie, was well known as a distinguished preacher and author of theological works. He preached for a whole term, fifteen sermons, on three chapters of John's gospel and some of these lectures seemed to be material for his publications. His father was an elder and John was given the duty of delivering some of his communion cards. In later life John took an interest in

the Tolbooth Church mission in the Castlehill and became superintendent of the Sunday School. He became a deacon, an elder and church treasurer and maintained that interest to the end.

John Gulland attended lectures and political meetings. He was disappointed when T. B. Macaulay lost his seat as one of the city's MPs. He was interested in his father's activities on the Town Council and followed his arguments in favour of the amalgamation of the Union Canal and the North British Railway Companies. He records meetings about the game laws, changes in the marriage laws, Roman Catholic emancipation, and the activities of the peace committee. The 'kirkin' o' the Council' and the inauguration of the Scott Monument find a place. He visited the docks and noted the shipping and a reception to a flotilla of the Royal Netherlands navy. He was in the Music Hall for the gymnastic demonstration by the pupils of the Rolands, who were appointed fencing and gymnastic masters in the High School, and he was at the first public sports meeting in Bruntsfield Links. He attended markets with his uncles and no doubt learned much about grain which would serve him well in later years.

He left school before the third part of the diary and attended classes privately in French, German, mathematics and architectural drawing. He was still hoping to become an architect at the end of the diary but his father died a year later, in 1850, and John, not yet sixteen, took over, with the support of his mother and relatives, the management of the large bakery business. Suffice it to say, he flourished and was able to buy out his uncle's corn merchant business at 20 Greenside Street by the time he was twenty-one, the year in which his mother died and left him to look after the younger members of the family. He had always shown an interest in his brother and sisters, in playing with them, and helping them. For example, when his younger sister and her cousin began learning French at school he gave them extra tuition although a learner himself.

In summary, the future of John Gulland was one of business success. Though he concentrated on the business of corn merchant and was at one time tenant of Bonnington Mill, milling his own grain, a regular buyer at the Edinburgh Corn Exchange and at places like Dalkeith market, he kept his bakery shop, maintaining contact with his citizen customers whose custom had made him what he was. He became a town councillor and then senior bailie, a member and assistant of the Merchant Company, a member of the Chamber of Commerce, a governor of the George Heriot Trust, a member of the Water Board and, in 1886, the chairman of the great exhibition in the Meadows. He claimed his whole object on entering the Town Council was to do public service. He certainly put much service before self and overworked himself. When he died in 1902, aged 68, the city accorded him a civic funeral with orations in his own church and in the City Chambers.

John Gulland was descended both on his father's and his mother's side from large families. His mother, a Johnston, had some ten brothers and sisters while his father, a Gulland, had at least six. His mother's family traced their descent back to the Johnstons, the Border reivers, while his father's family were of Covenanting stock and had a family tradition that a great-great-grandparent was hung in connection with the murder of Archbishop Sharp in 1679. The Gullands were tradesmen, shopkeepers, principally bakers, corn merchants and clothiers and seemed to have had businesses which were successful enough to allow them time off in business hours to indulge in other pursuits. The Johnstons were also business men and those most mentioned in the diary were the founders and principals of the once world-famous map-making geographers whose name disappeared only in the 1980s after a series of amalgamations and failures of associates. Daughters of both families married farmers who seem to have been gentlemen farmers with staffs to carry on the day to day work. The Johnstons were

wealthier than the Gullands and lived in larger houses with more facilities. The Gullands, however, were prosperous. They were closely united together and more frequently in each other's company. They seem to have had a large circle of friends who came and went who have been extremely difficult and sometimes impossible to identify. Where no mention of a name is made in the commentary, the person has not been identified. Both the Gullands and the Johnstons took a prominent part in civic and public affairs. John Gulland had some thirty cousins, some of whom became distinguished in their trade or profession. One of them, George Harvey Johnston, was an original member of the Old Edinburgh Club.

John Gulland did not live long enough to know of the achievements of his distinguished sons. George Lovell Gulland (1862-1941) GMG, LLD, MA, MD, FRCPE, was dux of the Royal High School. He became Professor of Medicine in the University of Edinburgh in 1915. He was a consultant physician at the Royal Infirmary, Chalmers Hospital and the Royal Victoria Hospital and became President of the Royal College of Physicians.

John William Gulland (1864-1920), his second son and biographer, was also a Royal High boy, playing in the first rugby XV and in the first cricket XI. He followed his father into the corn merchant's business and as a town councillor but he was interested in politics. At university he obtained the Lord Rector's prize for an essay on 'The Navigation Laws'. He became a lecturer in the practice of commerce at Heriot-Watt College. He was elected Member of Parliament for Dumfries burghs, 1906-1918, and became a Privy Councillor, Scottish whip, and parliamentary secretary to the Treasury in the Asquith administration in 1915. He devoted much of his energy to the temperance movement and his last public appearance was addressing a meeting in the Usher Hall on the subject.

The diary is in three parts. The first is the young

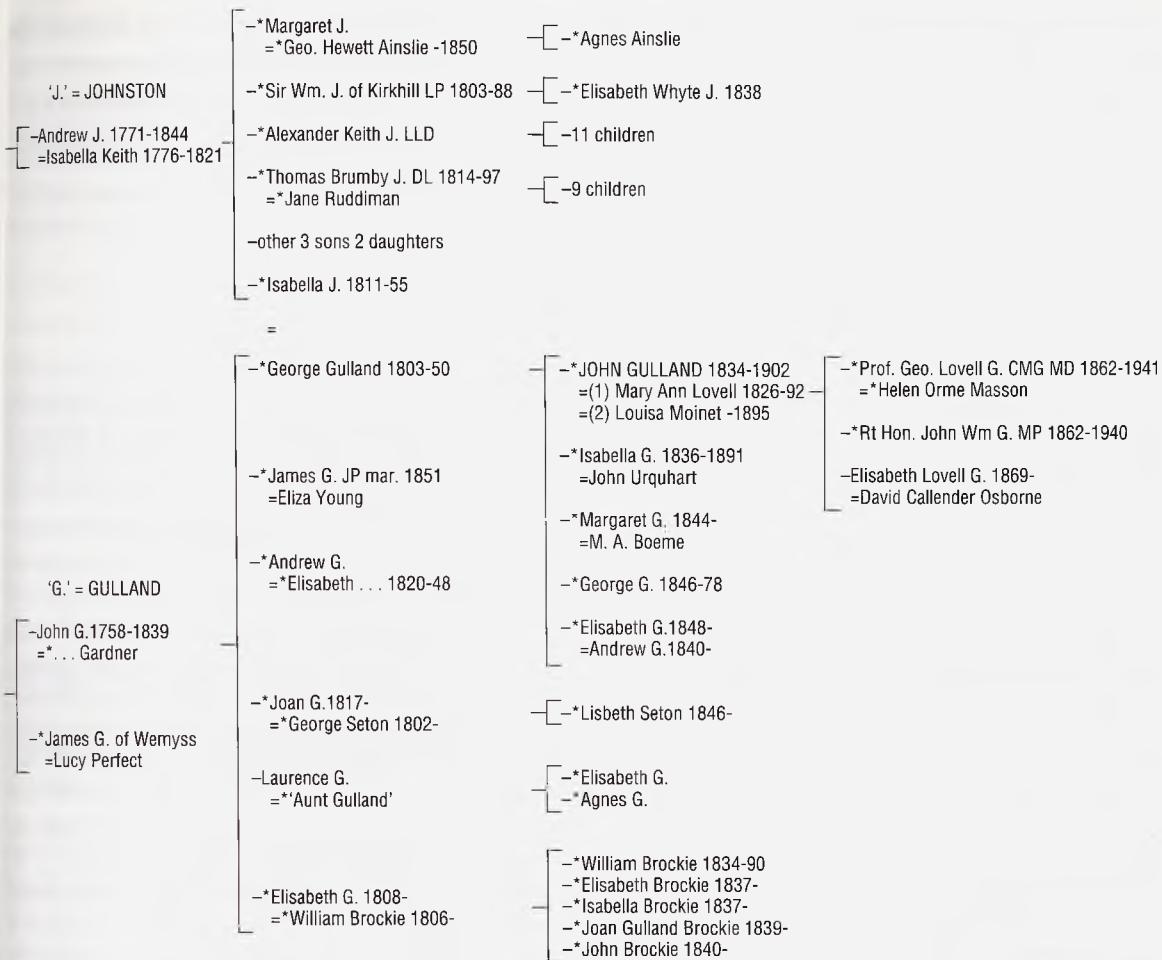


Fig. 1. Family of John Gulland (names marked with * are mentioned in Diary or Commentary).

schoolboy finding his feet and looking forward to manhood. It lasts from 8 June to 3 October 1846, some 118 days. He seems to have ceased writing when the new school term started after the summer recess and did not begin to write again till the following summer. The second part, ranging from 29 July 1847 to 11 March 1848, 227 days, shows the boy grown into a teenager, more and more interested in grown-up affairs, yet at times still a young boy at heart. The final part comes in the following year for a short 65 days from 12 February to 17 April 1849 when he had ceased to be the schoolboy and was developing the characteristics which were to shape his life in the future, earlier than he realised.

The diary is no literary work. Its sentence construction is loose and often does not exist. It would have angered his teachers. Capital letters and punctuation were not of great concern to a boy just putting down his thoughts and notes of his activities. Much of his spelling has been retained in the transcript. He most likely never expected others to read, a hundred or more years later, what he had written for his own satisfaction at the time. The original was in copper-plate style of writing and was lent to the author by his grandson, the late John Gulland Osborne, OBE, in 1974, who intended it to be preserved in a museum or library, but it has disappeared and cannot be traced since his death. A quick transcript was made in 1974 but was never

checked for detail. Some apparent errors might quite well have been typing errors of that period. As the original is lost the transcript must be the definitive copy for the time being. It formed the basis of a lecture to the Old Edinburgh Club in January 1977 and, in

1976, for a short article in *Schola Regia*, the magazine of the Royal High School. The diary is now given with commentary and explanations, in the belief that it is a valuable contribution to the story of mid-nineteenth-century Edinburgh.

JOHN GULLAND'S DIARY

PART I : 8 JUNE 1846 TO 3 OCTOBER 1846

MONDAY 8 JUNE 1846. I have this day by the advice of my Uncle James begun to write a journal of my proceedings. This has been a very sultry day and we had a shower of rain about six o'clock pm.

John's Uncle James was James Gulland, his father's brother, a master clothier and a Justice of the Peace with his business at 23 South Hanover Street. John was frequently in the company of this uncle and regularly, on Sunday afternoons, accompanied him to his church, the Free High Church. At the time of the diary Uncle James was unmarried.

TUESDAY 9 JUNE 1846. This day has been set aside for the celebration of Her Majesty's birthday, the shops throughout the city were all shut, and a general holiday was given. Father and I and some others went by the Leith and Granton Railway to reach Granton Pier, this railway has just been newly opened, and is drawn by horses just now till they get the steam on, we were informed by the clerk at the Edinburgh station that nearly Four Thousand passengers had gone to these places last Saturday and twice that number is expected today we went on board the Burntisland steamer and had a very pleasant sail across, I met a great many persons whom I knew on board, there were hardly a wave on the sea, and there was a great many passengers on board, we went to the new inn and ordered dinner then to the links and saw the new railway and came to the inn and got a very excellent dinner and went away with the ½ past three o'clock boat which is far quicker than the rest as it is the Mail Boat there were more persons on board than the last time and also a great deal of cattle, we heard the Castle

guns firing quite well which shows that sound is easily carried over the water, it was very calm and we had a pleasant sail back again, we came home and found Mother at her tea but we got it together afterwards.

Queen Victoria was born on 24 May 1819 and succeeded to the throne on 20 June 1837. 24 May or an appropriate day was celebrated throughout her reign and since her death Victoria Day is still a holiday. The *Evening Courant* of 9 June reported that 'Tuesday, having been appointed for the celebration of Her Majesty's birthday, it was observed as a holiday at the banks and public offices and also by the principal merchants and shopkeepers of the city. The day, being fine, large numbers of the inhabitants availed themselves of the opportunity for the purposes of recreation and every facility for the object was eagerly embraced. The various railways in the neighbourhood were much thronged in the course of the day as were the different steamboats on the Firth ...' In 1846 church bells were rung at 12 midday and a royal salute was fired from the Castle by the 2nd battalion of the 1st (The Royal) Regiment of Foot, commonly known as The Royals, which was the regiment on garrison duty at the Castle in 1846. They 'lined the battlements while the veteran companies occupied the esplanade of the Castlehill'. In time, the 1st Royal Regiment of Foot became known as the Royal Scots. The veteran companies were generally composed of ex-servicemen or re-enlisted soldiers. At night there were bonfires and fireworks in Edinburgh. The *Scotsman* reported stones thrown at the police when they tried to control the festivities.

The Edinburgh, Leith and Granton railway was formally opened from Canonmills (Scotland Street Station) to Trinity in 1842 and extended to Granton on 19 February 1846. It was not till a year later that the railway came to Canal Street, a station parallel with the present Waverley Bridge, through the tunnel under St Andrew Square. The line, re-routed by Abbeyhill in 1868, was not closed till 1967. In 1846, the ferry sailed from Granton eight times each day from the first boat at 5.20 am till 7 pm. The journey took approximately 20 to 25 minutes. The last return boat from Burntisland was at 7.30 pm. The new inn at Burntisland was opened to purvey for travellers from the ferry and en route by the connect-

ing conveyances to Fife and the north. It was situated opposite the end of the ferry pier. The links at Burntisland were intersected by the new railway mentioned, a line constructed between Burntisland and Cupar as the first stage of the line to Dundee using both the Burntisland and Tay ferries. Until this line was constructed the links stretched right to the sea. The line was opened on 20 September 1847.

WEDNESDAY 10 JUNE 1846. This was a very warm day, the thermometer in the shade stood at 71°.

John, in the first part of his diary, seemed very interested in the daily temperature and recorded it on 106 of the 118 days of the diary. It was a very warm summer with temperatures ranging from 72° on several days in June, July and August and generally in the middle and upper sixties. The lowest recorded was 62° and 63° on two days in August. There were numerous thunderstorms which caused some damage as reported in the *Courant* at the time. In this issue of the diary, to avoid unnecessary repetition of the phrase 'the thermometer in the shade stood at ...', the temperature alone is shown.

THURSDAY 11 JUNE 1846. 70°.

FRIDAY 12 JUNE 1846. Nothing particular occurred today.

SATURDAY 13 JUNE 1846. William Brockie and I went to the Links about halfpast One o'clock, and saw a cricket match played between the Thistle Street School's third Class and the third Class of the High School, the former won by 23 runs, we came home at Six o'clock.

William Brockie, generally Willie in the diary, was John's cousin and good pal. They were the same age and both were enrolled in the High School in the same class. He is mentioned regularly in the diary. His father, Uncle Brockie in the diary, was also a baker, with premises at 18 Greenside Street where was also his home. Greenside Street was on the eastern side of Leith Street from approximately the junction of Leith Street and Calton Road to the Playhouse theatre where it became known as Greenside Place. John Gulland, who in later years also had a business at 20 Greenside Street, complained when the Town Council decided to change the address to 137 Leith Street, as his biographer put it 'in a mistaken craze for uniformity in street nomenclature'. John Gulland to the trade was regularly known as 'Greenside', which was his telegraphic address when that service was introduced. William Brockie later went to the United States where he became a successful businessman, dying in 1890.

Little is recorded about the Thistle Street School or Academy. One of its greatest pupils was Dr William Maxwell Gunn who after

training under Mr Peter Scott of Thistle Street moved to the High School to become dux in 1823. He became the first rector of the Edinburgh Southern Academy in George Square in 1829. In 1838 he became rector in Haddington and in 1843 he returned to the Royal High as one of the classical masters. His next move was to the inspectorate. He died in 1851.

SUNDAY 14 JUNE 1846. Mr Tweedie was preaching both forenoon and afternoon. His text in the forenoon was John IX 1-7, in the afternoon Zechariah XIV 6 to the end.

John attended church and recorded every Sunday the name of the preacher and the text. He was throughout his life associated with the Free Tolbooth Church. His father was a member of the Tolbooth congregation which worshipped in the western part of St Giles, where criminals were brought to worship on the Sunday before their execution. The Rev. William King Tweedie became minister in 1841. He came from Aberdeen. At the Disruption in 1843, he joined the Free Church, taking his congregation to worship in the Freemasons' Hall in Niddry Street. John's biographer recalls that the most vivid recollection of the Freemasons' Hall was the packed hall with moisture streaming down the walls. The church moved to the old Secession Church in Infirmary Street, a building which became the Working Men's Institute and is presently a store and offices of the University of Edinburgh. The next move was to the Music Hall in George Street, opened 9 October 1843, till their new church was ready on the north side of St Andrew Square in a building which was later sold to the banking exchange. Finally the congregation moved to St Luke's Free Church which became Queen Street Free Church. John Gulland, in later years, conducted a Sunday School class in the Tolbooth Free Church School in the Lawnmarket and later became superintendent. The minister, Mr Tweedie, lived at 15 George Square and was awarded a DD in 1852. The congregation in 1848 numbered 975. John's father became an elder in 1846 while his uncle, William Brockie, was elected a deacon in the same year. An informative book of reminiscences of the church was published by William Brown in 1867.

MONDAY 15 JUNE 1846. Another very warm day 71°. A boy named John Lyon, recommended by Mr Stenhouse of Whitehill near Dalkeith has come today to drive the bread van, he seems a very nice boy, and Father has asked me to learn him to write. I got up four places in the class today for geography.

Whitehill was a property and little community about two miles along the old road from Dalkeith to Pathhead by Ford. In the large classes that existed in the school at this time the customary way of awarding progress was to have places, and boys could be moved up and down

according to their achievement in class. These places were recorded and considered in connection with the prize list at the end of the session.

TUESDAY 16 JUNE 1846. Nothing particular occurred today weather still hot.

WEDNESDAY 17 JUNE 1846. A very hot day 72°. Aunt Alex. got a Daughter this Morning.

Aunts and uncles are variously described, sometimes by their own Christian names, sometimes by that of husbands and sometimes by their surnames. Families were large. John's parents had at least fifteen brothers and sisters and it is often difficult to be clear about which uncle or aunt he intends. This Aunt Alex was the wife of John's mother's brother Alexander Keith Johnston (1804-1871) the geographer. He joined his brother William in 1826 in the map-making firm of W. and A. K. Johnston, 'geographers, engravers and printers to the Queen,' publishers and stationers with works and offices in 1846 at 4 St Andrew Square. After his University studies Alexander had been an apprentice with James Kirkwood and Sons, engravers. Alexander received many honours. He became LLD of the University of Edinburgh: he was awarded a medal at the 1851 exhibition in London for the first globe of physical geography: he received the Victoria medal of the Royal Geographic Society: he travelled widely and published the first English atlas of physical geography in 1848 and a dictionary of geography. He lived at 8 Lauriston Lane. They had eleven children of whom six survived him.

THURSDAY 18 JUNE 1846. We got the play half of the day today. William Brockie and I went to Sheriffhall Mains, and found Aunt and Uncle quite well, and got some fine fun, we left home at 2 o'clock pm and came back by the 8 o'clock coach, we found a strange fellow in the coach and got fine fun with him. I went over to Uncle Brockie's and wrote my version as I had left my books there, and came home at 10 o'clock. We got the half holiday today, it being the anniversary of the Battle of Waterloo, there were many loud peals of Thunder and brilliant flashes of Lightning today.

To 'get the play' meant that the boys were awarded time off lessons, usually a half-day or whole day to celebrate an occasion like the Queen's birthday or an anniversary of an important event like Waterloo, fought on 18 June 1815. Occasionally 'the play' was the award for good work done in school, as will appear later in the diary.

John and his cousin Willie seemed often to collaborate in their homework, more frequently in Willie's home than in John's.

The farm of Sheriffhall Mains was situated just off the A6106 road to Millerhill, Old Craighall and Musselburgh from the A68 to Dalkeith at the Sheriffhall roundabout on the Edinburgh by-pass road. In Colin McWilliam's *Penguin Buildings of Scotland* volume on *Lothian* (1978) the farmhouse is described as an 18th-century building and barn connected by a garden wall. The dovecot of the old Sheriffhall House stands not far away, clearly visible at the roundabout, really the staircase tower of the old house adapted. Uncle George Seton was the farmer at Sheriffhall. He was married in 1844 to Joan Gulland, one of John's father's sisters. Their daughter Elisabeth Gulland Seton, commonly Lisbeth, is frequently mentioned in the diary. The farm extended to 175 acres and employed 8 farm labourers.

FRIDAY 19 JUNE 1846. We had a great deal of Thunder and Lightning today and a smart shower of rain which the country needed very much.

SATURDAY 20 JUNE 1846. Geo. and Jn Robertson, Wm Brockie & I went down to Portobello to get a bathe today. We left Edinburgh at XII o'clock. The sea was rough but we got a fine bathe, we went to Mr Proudfoot's and got some bread and cheese, then we went to Mr Hewats and went down to the sands, and walked along the sand the length of the rocks but Geo and Jn Robertson left us at ½ past Two. We went to Mr Proudfoot's and got tea there. Walked up and was home at ½ past Eight o'clock.

George Andrew Robertson and John Robertson were schoolfellows. George won the prize for Latin prose in the rector's class in 1847 while John was dux in French. Thomas Proudfoot was a baker at 57 Regent Street in Portobello. The Hewats lived in Williamfield House and had a tea, wine and spirit merchant's business at 74 High Street, Portobello. Williamfield house, built in the later 1790s, was on the south side of the High Street of Portobello on land sub-feued from the estate of William Jameson, the founder of the first brick works and 'father of Portobello'. Both Thomas Proudfoot and William Hewat, according to William Baird, *Annals of Duddingston and Portobello* (1898), were concerned in civic affairs and served the local town council.

SUNDAY 21 JUNE 1846. Mr Tweedie was preaching both forenoon and Afternoon today, his text in the forenoon was John IX 8-23 in the Afternoon John XX 24-29.

MONDAY 22 JUNE 1846. We had a great deal of Thunder and Lightning with Rain and Hail today. This is the day for the Public Opening of the North British Railway.

With regard to the thunderstorm the *Courant* of 24 June reported that 'until Monday last, June was the driest and most sultry month of the many that we recollect over the years ... About 5 o'clock on Monday the severest thunderstorm of the season passed over the city, that is to say, the lightning was the most vivid and the thunder peals the loudest while the rain fell in torrents ... continued through the night into the next day.'

The North British line to Berwick-upon-Tweed was opened officially on the previous Thursday, 18 June, with parties of invited guests, town councillors, shareholders and the like. The first train consisted of twelve first-class carriages drawn by five engines and the second of thirty carriages with five engines. The North British Railway Company which had been formed in 1843 was praised in the press: 'Improvement progresses at a rapid rate in the internal intercourse of the country insomuch that journeys which were formerly counted in months, and weeks or days are now compassed within a few hours by the miracles of modern science, ingeniously fashioning the powers of nature to the various purposes of life'. There were originally five trains per day to Berwick and arrangements were advertised that coaches would meet the trains at Berwick for Newcastle to connect with the trains from Newcastle to York and London. There were branches to North Berwick from Drem, to Gullane and Aberlady from Ballencrieff Station and to Haddington and later to Duns from Reston.

John's biographer tells us of this event although John has not recorded it. His school chums who resided near him, James and Richard Maxwell, climbed Jacob's Ladder, the stairway and path, now closed, up the side of Calton Hill, from the railway bridge across the Low Calton, now Calton Road, to Regent Road, opposite the school, and waited for the departure of the official train in which his father, Bailie Gulland, was a passenger. When they reached school late, William Moffat, the arithmetic master, would accept no excuse and 'liberally applied the cane'. His biographer adds that this was the only time John was caned, as he used to tell with some pride.

TUESDAY 23 JUNE 1846. We had a good deal of Thunder and Lightning today too. We began marking for the Bible Prize today.

WEDNESDAY 24 JUNE 1846. It has been clearer and cooler today than it has been for at least two days preceding. Father took me down to Portobello with the North British Railway by the Six o'clock train, we got

down in 6 minutes, and came back by the train that leaves Portobello at 22 minutes past 8 pm.

THURSDAY 25 JUNE 1846. This has been a very nice day but we had some rain at night.

FRIDAY 26 JUNE 1846. Isa and I went to Uncle Thomas's at ½ past Four we saw his fine Microscope it makes a mite as big as a crab. we came home at ½ past X pm.

Uncle Thomas was another of his mother's brothers, Thomas Brumby Johnston who lived at Great King Street. He became a partner with his brothers in the map-making firm in 1852. In time he became a Deputy Lieutenant for the city. Isa was one of John's sisters who in time became Mrs John Urquhart. She died in 1891.

SATURDAY 27 JUNE 1846. Betsy's Brother and Father came here today. I went up to the High Street Shop for a while to help her to keep it as Miss Hay went to Fife to see her friends. After that I went down to Granton with Mr Swan and Adam and Betsy Jane and Isa we went down by the Granton Railway and came up by the same conveyance and was home at VI o'clock! pm.

So many persons, especially young persons, are mentioned in the diary by their first names or pet names only that it is difficult to identify the relationship with certainty. There are Elisabeths, Lisbeths, and Betsys who may be related but there is no indication of any relationship. This Betsy was the daughter of Alexander and Janet Swan of Castlecraig. She must have been regarded just as part of the family for she is frequently mentioned on walks and at play.

Castlecraig was in the parish of Kirkurd, about a mile south of Blyth Bridge on the Blyth Bridge to Peebles road. The estate, originally known as Kirkurd, was held by the powerful family of Rachan, one of whose members in 1710 was appointed a judge of the Court of Session. The estate passed to the Carmichaels and was later occupied by the Earl of Hyndford. About the time of John's diary Castlecraig was reported as a property of ten enclosures of different sizes, all well sheltered and watered, having some sixteen score black-faced ewes which were crossed with Leicester stock. The Swans and the Gullands seemed to be very friendly. Alexander Swan appears in the census returns as gardener at Castlecraig. There were six in the family of whom Betsy was the eldest. Adam and Jane were brother and sister.

Miss Ann Hay and her sister Margaret Hay, described as shop

assistants, are listed as residing with the Gullands in the 1841 census. On their days off or illness members of the family took their places.

SUNDAY 28 JUNE 1846. Mr Tweedie was preaching twice today his text in the forenoon was John XX, 24-34 & in the afternoon James I, 26.

MONDAY 29 JUNE 1846. Nothing particular occurred today.

TUESDAY 30 JUNE 1846. This has been a very fine day 68°. I went over to Uncle Brockie's to get some fun. William and I went over to see Grandmother & we had some fine fun playing at bagatelle.

Grandmother, throughout the diary, was the Gulland grandmother. There is no mention of the grandparents on his mother's side, who were dead before the date of the diary. Bagatelle in 1846 was played on a board with nine balls, eight of which were struck by a cue, or for ladies one with a shovel-type of end. The object was to play the eight balls into cup-holes at the farther end of the board, the ninth ball being spotted centrally on a mark. Normally, the board was about six to ten feet long, and one foot nine inches to three feet wide, lined with a green baize cloth surface. The whole could be folded out of use. The modern bagatelle game with balls cued into areas with pins is a more recent invention.

WEDNESDAY 1 JULY 1846. 67°. There was a mock battle at Arthur Seat today, by the second battalion of the 1st Royals at present stationed in the Castle.

It was customary for army units stationed in the Castle to have exercises in the royal park, especially in Hunter's Bog where until the 1960s there were shooting butts.

THURSDAY 2 JULY 1846. 68°.

FRIDAY 3 JULY 1846. 68°. I went down to Duddingston Mills in the afternoon and came up on the North British Railway by the 6 o'clock train from Portobello.

In *Exploring Old Duddingston and Portobello* (Edinburgh 1990) Dennis B. White says there was a mill on the Figgate Burn for centuries. In 1828 when the lease of the mill expired Mr King took over, offering to pay £6 for each of the six acres attached to the mill, £14 for the use of the water and 7.5% of the cost of building a new

mill. It was the new mill that John visited often. Presumably his father obtained his flour at Duddingston. Certainly from future references in the diary he was always well received and entertained by James King, the millmaster, and his wife. The mill area has now been laid out as a residential enclave. It was approached from the narrow road immediately to the north of Duddingston Crossroads. Portobello station was convenient, being situated just at the railway bridge over Duddingston Road.

SATURDAY 4 JULY 1846. This has been a very warm day 72°. We had a visit from Uncle Ainslie today.

Uncle Ainslie lived at Peelrig, Duns. John spent holidays there as reported later. Captain George Hewett Ainslie was married to Margaret Johnston, sister of John's mother, Isabella. He was the son of Colonel Ainslie of Teviotgrove and brother of Colonel Bernard Ainslie, CB, who commanded the 93rd Highlanders, the 'Thin Red Line', at the battle of Balaclava at the end of the Crimean War. The Ainslies had at least one daughter, Agnes, mentioned in the diary. After Captain Ainslie's death in 1850, his widow Margaret lived with her sister Isabella Gulland, also by that time a widow. In the 1851 census she is described as an annuitant.

SUNDAY 5 JULY 1846. Mr Tweedie was preaching both forenoon and Afternoon today. His text in the forenoon was John IV. 35, 38 in the afternoon Psalm LXVIII. 18. there was a great deal of Thunder and Lightning and it was raining all the night.

MONDAY 6 JULY 1846. 68°.

TUESDAY 7 JULY 1846. 66°. We had Uncle Ainslie dining with us, he went away by the 5 o'clock train to Dunse. I went down to Duddingston Mills after tea and came home at ¼ to X pm.

There was, of course, no train to Duns in 1846. Passengers travelled to Reston on the Berwick line, opened a fortnight before on 22 June 1846. The branch to Duns was not opened till 1849. At Reston station passengers changed to the stage coach to Duns.

WEDNESDAY 8 JULY 1846. 68°.

THURSDAY 9 JULY 1846. 67°.

FRIDAY 10 JULY 1846. 68°.

SATURDAY 11 JULY 1846. 68°. Walked down to Portobello, and got a fine bathe, and came up by the North British Railway at IV o'clock pm.

SUNDAY 12 JULY 1846. 68°. I went to Mr Tweedie's in the forenoon and to Dr Gordon's in the afternoon. Mr Tweedie's text was John IX, 39-41 Dr Gordon's was I Samuel XXIII, 17. I went to Grandmother's at night and came home with Father at VIII o'clock.

Dr Robert Gordon, after studying at Edinburgh and Aberdeen universities became a mathematics assistant to the rector of Perth Academy. He was ordained at Kinfauns and had charges at Buccleuch, Hope Park and New North churches in Edinburgh before becoming minister of the High Kirk part of St Giles in 1830. He was Moderator of the General Assembly in 1841 but came out at the Disruption. He became minister of the Free High Church which met in the Music Hall in George Street until its own building by W. H. Playfair was built at the Mound, now used as the library of New College for the Divinity Faculty of the University of Edinburgh. The present day successor of the High Church is the Reid Memorial Church at Blackford Hill. Dr Gordon wrote mathematical articles for the *Edinburgh Encyclopaedia* and published a book of sermons.

MONDAY 13 JULY 1846. 68°.

TUESDAY 14 JULY 1846. 68°.

WEDNESDAY 15 JULY 1846. 69°. This is St Swithin's day and we have not had a drop of rain so we do not expect any this month.

THURSDAY 16 JULY 1846. 68°.

FRIDAY 17 JULY 1846. 67°. We have had some rain today so that St Swithin has predicted wrong. The marking stopt today.

St Swithin, bishop of Winchester, wished to be buried in his churchyard but the monks thought he should be in the choir of the church in keeping with his dignity. The fact that rain fell for 40 days from the day of the burial was understood to be the saint's objection to the action of the monks. Hence the tradition that if it rains on St Swithin's day it will rain for 40 days.

SATURDAY 18 JULY 1846. 67°.

SUNDAY 19 JULY 1846. 68°. This was the Sacrament today. Mr Tweedie assisted by Mr Marshall Dunfermline. His text was Galatians II, 20.

The Rev. Charles Marshall was a Paisley man who was appointed headmaster of John Watson's Institution, Edinburgh. He attended divinity courses while there and became minister of the North Church, Dunfermline in 1841.

MONDAY 20 JULY 1846. 68°.

TUESDAY 21 JULY 1846. 68°.

WEDNESDAY 22 JULY 1846. 68°.

THURSDAY 23 JULY 1846. 68°. I went and got a walk on the Craigs with J. Sim in the afternoon.

Here he means Salisbury Craigs. John Walker Sim was a school-fellow.

FRIDAY 24 JULY 1846. 69°. I walked to Portobello with J & R Maxwell and J. Sim and got a fine bathe. the sea was rather cold but it was smooth as a lake. We saw the Gardener's Procession passing by as we were going up to the Railway. We left Portobello by the North British Railway at ¼ to 6.

James Laidlaw Maxwell and Richard Welsh Maxwell were boys in John's class at school who went with him each morning by Jacob's Ladder. The British Order of Ancient Free Gardeners Friendly Society asserted in their 1918 bicentenary volume their claim to being a society of longevity, a fact disputed by other bodies. The Society is said to have originated in Scotland where it was generally known as the St Andrew Order of Ancient Free Gardeners. In the 19th century there were numerous branches throughout the country, the one at Portobello and another in Broughton being highly successful in the 1840s. Though in some respects the Society's methods resembled freemasonry it was not masonic but rather a friendly or benevolent society. It was registered under the Friendly Societies legislation but as numbers declined the Society was dissolved in the 1980s. For a long period a magazine of its activities was published.

SATURDAY 25 JULY 1846. 69°. Isa and I went to Uncle Alexr's in the afternoon and got some fine fun in the garden.

SUNDAY 26 JULY 1846. 69°. Mr Tweedie was preaching in the forenoon his text was Ephesians II, 20 but we had a stranger in the afternoon his text was Corinthians I, 18.

MONDAY 27 JULY 1846. 71°. Father and I went to Portobello in the Afternoon by the North British Railway at 4 o'clock and walked up to Duddingston Mills and was home by half ½ past 6 o'clock.

TUESDAY 28 JULY 1846. 68°.

WEDNESDAY 29 JULY 1846. 68°. I went to the School from 8 to 11 in the forenoon. Then to the Counting Examination, and last of all to Mr Macdonald's examination. Isa got Cowper's *Poetical Works* for the third dux prize in English and Hannah More's *Poetical Works* for the Dux prize in Writing.

It was the custom at the time to hold public displays by pupils at schools to show the success of the school and the pupils. These were usually held before distinguished persons and were called examinations but were not examinations as we know them. Gifted pupils read exercises to display the work of the school. These examinations were the equivalent of school prizegivings today.

Isa was nine and attended a school conducted by John Macdonald at 123 George Street. His advertisement indicates 'teaching in English, Grammar, Recitation, History and Geography' and says that 'pupils are received into his classes of both sexes from four years of age and upwards who are taught in separate rooms'.

William Cowper produced several books of poems and a number of well known hymns. He died in 1800. Hannah More was a dramatist with successful tragedies which David Garrick produced for her. She was in the cultural circle of men like Johnson, Burke and Reynolds. Later she wrote tracts which led to the formation of the Religious Tract Society. She wrote several volumes of poetry.

THURSDAY 30 JULY 1846. 67°. This was the Examination of the High School. Alexr Muir got the McGregor and City Medal for Dux in Latin and Greek in the Rector's Class. I got the *Life of Sir Walter Raleigh* for the 22nd prize. The list of prizes of the Second Class is opposite.

II. PRIZE LIST
FOR SCHOLARSHIP

William Wyllie, Dux	
Edward Neilson	Robert Greig
John Thomson	William M'Culloch
William Turner	Richard Welsh Maxwell
John Douglas	Alexander Watson
Alexander Brown	Edward Hugh Brown
Hugh Nelson	John Wilson
Robert Watson	John Gulland
James Fergusson Mackie	George Paxton
William Findlay Main	Alexander Ramage
John M'Gilchrist	Thomas Scott
James Laidlaw Maxwell	David Robertson
William Brockie	James Thomson Jeffrey
Henry Johnstone Sutherland	Thomas Edmonston Charles
James Grieve Grant	William Johnston Boyd

FOR PARTICULAR MERITS

Scripture	
Edward Neilson	William M'Culloch
Roman History	
Edward Neilson and William M'Culloch (equal)	
Geography	
William Wyllie	James Thomson Jeffrey

(Here is attached a list of the books read in class during the session in the Second Class in which John Gulland was enrolled.)

Mr MACMILLAN, Master
BOOKS READ
LATIN

- ADAM'S GRAMMAR – Rudimental portions of last Session, carefully revised, and other portions, with Latin Rules for gender, committed to memory and applied.
- GRAMMATICAL EXERCISES – The whole of PART I and PART II as far as page 124, RULE XXVII; each sentence altered in a variety of ways.
- EUTROPII HISTORIA ROMANA – BOOK I from Chap. VII to the end.
- CORNELIUS NEPOS – Lives of Aristides, Cimon, Hamilcar, and Hannibal.
- PHAEDRUS – Twenty-five Fables.

ENGLISH

- SCRIPTURES – The Gospel of John and the Acts of the Apostles, carefully read, explained, and examined upon – Sixteen Paraphrases repeated.

SIMPSON'S ROMAN HISTORY – From the destruction of Carthage to the Death of Adrian, with Exercises on ORTHOGRAPHY, ETYMOLOGY, and COMPOSITION.

SACRED EPIC POETRY – Extracts from Milton – Eighty pages read and explained.

ALLEN AND CORNWELL'S ENGLISH GRAMMAR – several Exercises in the Syntax corrected.

GEOGRAPHY

THE MAPS of AFRICA, AMERICA, ENGLAND, SCOTLAND, and a Revisal of EUROPE AND ASIA – ANCIENT GEOGRAPHY incidentally.

EXERCISES

TRANSLATIONS from English into Latin, and from Latin into English, &c.

Lord Provost Adam Black the publisher (Messrs A. & C. Black) whose statue is beside that of Sir Walter Scott in Princes Street Gardens, presided as chairman of the governors of the school and in his address to the pupils said: 'As to those who have been endowed with so much talent as some of the school leavers, let them keep in mind that though some blossoms were early to be seen and some fruits early ripe, that though early blossom was most agreeable and the first fruits the most desirable offering, yet it often happened that those plants that developed themselves later in the season and came into full maturity when others were exhausted proved to be the more useful fruit and the most lasting tree (applause)'.

The Macgregor (Murray) medal is the oldest award still presented in the Royal High School, now books instead of a medal. It was endowed in 1794 by Lt-Col. Peter Murray, adjutant general of the army in Bengal in the service of the East India Company. He gave one hundred guineas to produce an income of £5 for the medal. His name was really Macgregor, son of Ewan Macgregor of Glencairn who took the Murray name at the friendly request of the Duke of Atholl when the Macgregor name was proscribed. The City medal was endowed by the Town Council in 1814 for the dux in Greek on the motion of Sir John Marjoribanks, Bart., then Lord Provost. These prizes are still awarded, the values coming from a consolidated Royal High School endowment fund, supplemented by donations from the Royal High School Former Pupils' Club. In recent years they have seldom been awarded as the study of Classics has ceased to be general in the school. There were several books on the life of Sir Walter Raleigh available in the 1840s, by Cayley (1805), Tytler (1833) and Mrs Thomson (1830).

John Macmillan, the master, was a native of Dumfriesshire. After study at the University of Edinburgh he taught in Yorkshire and in East Lothian. He became, in turn, English master at George Watson's Hospital, headmaster of Dumfries Grammar School, his

old school, and Classical master in Glasgow High School before joining the staff of the Royal High School in 1844 on the translation of Dr Pyper to the chair of Humanity in St Andrews University. He was a popular teacher and on his retiral John Gulland was instrumental with other former pupils in the formation of the Macmillan Club, one of many class clubs in the School's history. They instituted the Macmillan Club prize for the dux in English, a gold watch until the 1939 war when the income was not enough and books were substituted.

Alexander Muir, the dux of the School, went on to study literature at the University. His accomplishments at School were a Latin poem and a translation of a portion of a History of Greece.

Of the schoolbooks listed the grammar of Dr Alexander Adam was probably one of the best known books in the country at the time. Dr Adam was rector of the School for 40 years. The book met with considerable criticism when first issued but was repeatedly reprinted in this country and in the United States. Dr Adam gave the copyright of the book to the Society of the Burgh and Parochial Schoolmasters of Scotland and the profits were used for the relief of their widows and orphans. The fables of Phaedrus was a popular textbook in the 19th century. It was a comparatively easy approach to Latin verse. It consisted largely of translations of Aesop's fables which the pupils were likely to know. Phaedrus was a slave who gained his freedom at the time of Emperor Augustus.

School holidays in the 1840s began normally on the last school day of July and extended to the first school day of October. This coincided with the law vacation and Parliament House. The earliest the school closed was 29 July and the latest date of opening 3 October. These dates for the school vacation continued until the time of the 1939 war when the school holidays were brought into line with those of other schools in the city under the then local education authority.

FRIDAY 31 JULY 1846. Isa, Maggie, Betsy and I went to Portobello by the North British Railway at XI o'clock. Betsy and Maggie left Portobello by the 7 o'clock coach but Isa and I stopped there all night. We had a nice bathe in the morning. 67°.

Messrs Croall operated a Portobello coach from 10 Princes Street every hour from 10 am to 9 pm, while John Ross, a tavern keeper at 209 High Street, ran a coach every hour from 11 am to 5 pm and thereafter at 7 pm and at 9 pm. Maggie was Margaret, another of John's sisters who became in time Mrs Boeme and served as a member of the Parish Council.

SATURDAY 1 AUGUST 1846. 70°. We were hardly up this morning till I received a letter from Father saying that Aunt Ainslie had come, and that she wished

us to come home as soon as possible. Accordingly we bathed at IX o'clock walked up to Edinburgh with William Brockie and was home at a ¼ past X. Aunt, Isa, and I left Edinburgh by the North British Railway to Reston at V o'clock. We went into the Dunse Coach at Reston, it was very crowded we had 7 passengers inside and it is only allowed to carry 4. We arrived safely at Peelrig at X o'clock evening and found Uncle quite well, took supper and drank Isa's health this being her tenth birthday, and went to bed very tired having travelled 62 miles.

John spells Dunse correctly for 1846. Originally the spelling was Duns and at times Duncce. In 1882 it was decided to revert to the ancient spelling of Duns. The 62 miles to Duns took some 5 hours by train and coach. Such was the speed of travel compared with today when a car can travel the journey comfortably in somewhat under 2 hours. Fares were considerable in relation to incomes at the time. On the Berwick line the fare was 1st class 10s; 2nd class 7s.6d; and 3rd class 4s.10d. This would compare favourably with today's charges allowing for the changes in the value of money. It was possible to travel to Duns direct from Edinburgh by coach from the premises of G. Taylor and Co. at 1 North Bridge. There was one coach per day each way leaving Edinburgh at 10 am and arriving at Duns at 3.30 pm. The return journey was at 8 am from Duns arriving in the city at 1.30 pm. Reston and Duns were connected by rail in 1849 but the service was closed in 1951. The line was extended to Earlston in 1863 and to St Boswells in 1865, thus giving a through route across the Borders. Severe flooding in 1948 caused the abandonment of the Earlston to Duns section.

It seems almost certain that Captain Ainslie of Peelrig was related somehow to the family of the farmer and estate manager for Lord Douglas at Berrywell, the adjacent property. When his son, Robert Ainslie, was an apprentice to a writer in Edinburgh he became acquainted with Robert Burns. Burns was invited to Berrywell and was taken to the service in Duns church on 6 May 1787. Burns was charmed with his visit and wrote asking 'how that good, sagacious man, your father, is – that kind, dainty body your mother – that strapping chiel, your brother Douglas – and my friend Rachel, who is as far before Rachel of old, as she was before her blear-eyed sister, Leah'. In church while Rachel Ainslie was looking for the minister's text for his sermon on obstinate sinners Burns passed her a slip of paper:

Fair maid, you need not take the hint,
Nor idle texts pursue;
'Twas guilty sinners that he meant,
Not angels such as you!

There are also quite a number of letters to Robert extant.

SUNDAY 2 AUGUST 1846. 68°. I went to church in the forenoon and Mr Ruddle, the assistant to Mr Cunningham of the established church Dunse, preached his text was Luke XXI 7-24. He read a great many extracts from Josephus about the seige [sic] and final destruction of Jerusalem.

The minister's name was Henry Riddell. He was originally trained for the law and became a Writer to the Signet. He conducted a case for the Marchmont family before the House of Lords. He became minister of Longformacus in 1830 and Duns in 1843. The Rev. George Cunningham, born 1766, served at Westruther and then Duns from 1797. He died in 1847, the senior minister of the Duns church. It was he who wrote the article on Duns for the *New Statistical Account*.

MONDAY 3 AUGUST 1846. 70°. Uncle put up the swing this morning. Isa and I went up to Dunse in the afternoon with a parcel for Mother.

TUESDAY 4 AUGUST 1846. 71°. Uncle and I went to the Whiteadder, 3 miles away, to fish. We went down to the river but could not catch any. I went up to the bridge and met Father on the outside of the coach he brought news that all were well at home. We fished for a long time but could not catch any trout. I caught 16 minnows. At evening we went up to Cairnbank and met Mr Currie.

Cairnbank was an adjoining property to Peelrig and Berrywell. The proprietor in 1834 was Douglas Ainslie, most likely the son of the farmer of Berrywell who was the host to Burns. In 1846 Mr Currie was the resident. The Whiteadder river rises in the Lammermuir Hills in East Lothian and flows 34 miles to join the Tweed about 2 miles from Berwick-upon-Tweed.

WEDNESDAY 5 AUGUST 1846. 70°. Father, Uncle, Isa, Mr Currie and I went to Dunse Law. There are the ruins of a beacon raised when the Scotch expected an invasion from the French in AD 1809. And also the remains of several camps on the top of Dunse Law. From thence we went to Dunse Castle. Dunse Castle belongs to Mr Hay of Drumelzier. This is a fine building and part of it is very old the date on one part being AD 1326 but part of it is quite new. We then went

to the Gardens and got some fruit and flowers from the Gardener. Mr Currie went away at a ¼ to 4 by Coach to Reston.

At the time of the Napoleonic wars a chain of beacon stations was set up on prominent hillsides throughout the Borders to signal any danger of invasion. Duns Law was one of these, some 650 feet high. The Covenanters had a camp under General Leslie in 1640 on the level area at the summit. Archaeological remains of enclosures and homesteads have been recorded at Duns Law and on the hills of the neighbourhood. Duns Castle is a comparatively modern building with flanking towers and battlemented walls constructed by James Gillespie Graham (1777-1855) but it incorporates the original tower house bearing the date 1320. It is said to have been a gift from Robert the Bruce to his nephew, Randolph, the Earl of Moray.

William Hay, the eldest son of Robert Hay of Drumelzier, succeeded to the estates in 1807. He served in the 16th Light Dragoons, taking part in the Peninsular War 1805-1811. He was colonel of the Berwickshire Militia, a Justice of the Peace and Deputy Lieutenant of the county.

THURSDAY 6 AUGUST 1846. 70°. Father went away This morning.

FRIDAY 7 AUGUST 1846. 69°. We had a great deal of Thunder and Lightning and a heavy shower of rain.

SATURDAY 8 AUGUST 1846. 66°. There was a great deal of Thunder and Lightning today.

SUNDAY 9 AUGUST 1846. 65°. Mr Ruddle was preaching in the forenoon, his text was Luke 25 to the end.

MONDAY 10 AUGUST 1846. 65°. Isa and I went to Mrs Hownams then to the Castle Gardens with Tom and William Hownam and home again.

TUESDAY 11 AUGUST 1846. 65°.

WEDNESDAY 12 AUGUST 1846. 65°.

THURSDAY 13 AUGUST 1846. 65°. Mr Hownam began to shear today.

The only Hownams in Duns recorded in the 1841 and 1851 censuses were the proprietors of the White Swan Inn or Hotel which is still in

existence. They had a son Tom but he would only be five in 1846 and there is no mention of a William. On the other hand, it seems possible that Mr Hownam of the diary was the grieve or farm manager for Captain Ainslie who was rather a gentleman farmer. A Mr Thomas Hownam became the farmer at Brieryhill on the A6105 road to Berwick, near Manderston House, and was elected a member of the Berwickshire Naturalists' Club in 1875.

FRIDAY 14 AUGUST 1846. 65°. Aunt, Isa, and I went down to Wedderburn. The House is very large and it has a great many windows it has one for every day of the year. Then we went through the gardens and home again.

Wedderburn House or Castle was the property of David Milne Home of Billie and Wedderburn whose principal residence was at Milne Garden near Ladykirk. He also held Paxton House. He succeeded his father Admiral Sir David Home, GCB, in 1845. He was called to the Scottish bar in 1826 and appointed advocate depute in 1838, a Justice of the Peace and a Deputy Lieutenant of the county. He was interested in geology and astronomy and wrote on these subjects.

SATURDAY 15 AUGUST 1846. 62°. There was a procession in Edinburgh for the inauguration of the Scott Monument.

John visited the monument on his return to Edinburgh on 19 September 1846.

SUNDAY 16 AUGUST 1846. 63°. Mr Ruddle was preaching in the forenoon, today his text was Luke XXII, a few verses at the beginning.

MONDAY 17 AUGUST 1846. 68°. Uncle Tom arrived from Edinburgh at ½ past XII am.

I imagine John meant pm as it is unlikely his uncle would arrive after midnight.

TUESDAY 18 AUGUST 1846. 66°.

WEDNESDAY 19 AUGUST 1846. 68°.

THURSDAY 20 AUGUST 1846. 64°. We went to the Blackadder to fish. Uncle Ainslie only got four trouts. Mother got a son at XI pm.

The River Blackadder rises in the Lammermuir Hills in Berwickshire near Longformacus and flows some thirty miles past

Greenlaw and Fogo to join the Whiteadder by the village of Allanton. The son was George who was described as 'a stout wee chap' when John first saw him on 18 September.

FRIDAY 21 AUGUST 1846. 66°. Uncle Tom, Uncle Ainslie and I went to Dunse Castle and saw the gardens &c today.

SATURDAY 22 AUGUST 1846. 68°. We walked 5 miles with the gun but did not get anything.

SUNDAY 23 AUGUST 1846. 66°. We did not go to church as it was so wet.

MONDAY 24 AUGUST 1846. 68°. Uncle Tom, Uncle Ainslie and I walked 7 miles and home again.

TUESDAY 25 AUGUST 1846. 66°.

WEDNESDAY 26 AUGUST 1846. 66°. This is Dunse Fair and we went to see what was going on but it was very dull. After we came back and got our dinner we went to Wedderburn but we could not get round the House.

Duns, as a market town, held a market every Wednesday. In the 1840s there were fairs annually in June, August and November for the sale of cattle and horses and four quarterly markets for sheep in March, May, July and September.

THURSDAY 27 AUGUST 1846. 65°.

FRIDAY 28 AUGUST 1846. 68°. Uncle Tom, Uncle Ainslie and I went up to Dunse Castle Gardens and back again.

SATURDAY 29 AUGUST 1846. 66°. Uncle Tom went away this morning at a ¼ to IX am.

SUNDAY 30 AUGUST 1846. 66°. Mr Ruddle was preaching on the forenoon today his text was Luke XXII, 24-26.

MONDAY 31 AUGUST 1846. 66°. Mr Hownam was leading today and we got fine fun helping the men and getting rides in the carts.

'Leading' is the farming term for bringing in the hay or crops from the fields to the stack yard. It is also used in the Highlands for bringing in the peats from the moor for the winter.

TUESDAY 1 SEPTEMBER 1846. 68°.

WEDNESDAY 2 SEPTEMBER 1846. 67°. The two Miss Watsons came down to tea tonight and we got fine fun round the stalks at night.

John means playing games in the cornfield around the stooks or groups of sheaves set up in the field to dry before being taken to the farmyard. The two Miss Watsons are unidentified but may have been the young daughters of James Watson, of The Clouds, Duns, a writer, procurator and notary public.

THURSDAY 3 SEPTEMBER 1846. 66°.

FRIDAY 4 SEPTEMBER 1846. 66°.

SATURDAY 5 SEPTEMBER 1846. 68°. Mr McWatt and Jessie came down to tea and we got some fine fun.

The McWatts, also mentioned on 8 and 12 September, were lawyers in Black Bull Street. According to the county directory and the census returns, David McWatt was a writer and procurator before the Sheriff Court of Berwickshire. There were eight children of whom Archibald and Jessie were the youngest. Peter P. McWatt was also in law as a writer and procurator, practising in Murray Place in the 1851 census return. Another son, Robert C. McWatt, MD, became a medical practitioner in the Haymarket of Duns.

SUNDAY 6 SEPTEMBER 1846. 69°. Mr Proudfoot of Fogo was preaching in the forenoon today his text was 1st Peter I. 8.

The Rev. Robert Forester Proudfoot, son of the minister of Shotts, was minister of North Esk and moved to Fogo in 1845.

MONDAY 7 SEPTEMBER 1846. 72°. It was very warm and I could not get my Kite to fly it was so calm.

TUESDAY 8 SEPTEMBER 1846. 66°. Isa and I went up to Mr McWatts at ½ past X am. We went up to a window in the new town and saw Hughes' Grand Procession. It was very pretty but hardly so splendid as they said it was to be. Mr P. McWatt took us to see Hughes Equestrian Establishment in the Evening the

Horsemanship and the rest of the things were very nicely done.

Hughes' Great Mammoth and Grand Oriental Equestrian Establishment went on tour from Edinburgh, where it performed on 1 and 2 September, by way of Dalkeith, Musselburgh, Haddington and then Duns. The advertisement in the *Courant* says, 'The immense corps will form a Grand Procession . . . giving the public the opportunity of witnessing one of the most magnificent cavalcades ever seen in Europe. Headed by the sacred Egyptian Dragon Chariot, drawn by four gigantic camels, followed by the whole of the male and female artists on their richly caparisoned steeds. Two splendid carriages are also added to the above - the Royal male and female elephants drawing the Rath or Burmese state carriage and throne, bringing up the rear of this extensive train.' The *Courant* of 3 September reported that the equestrian performance in Edinburgh took place in a pavilion at the Dean Bridge. 'It would appear that the temporary gallery which is usually put up by Mr Hughes was placed on a sloping piece of ground and the same not having been properly sparred was observed by some of the attendants to be giving way, who, for the purpose of making it more secure, got a waggon to prop it up, instead of warning the people of the danger which it was their duty to have done. The consequence was it came down with a crash severely bruising a number of those on the platform. One man was carried away.'

WEDNESDAY 9 SEPTEMBER 1846. 66°. Uncle William Ferguson and I changed the swing from the Shed to the Grove.

Uncle William Ferguson is not identified. It seems that he may have been a friend who received the complimentary title from the children.

THURSDAY 10 SEPTEMBER 1846. 66°. My kite got fastened up on the trees this morning but when we got it down it was all torn so we had to make a new one which flies splendidly.

FRIDAY 11 SEPTEMBER 1846. 67°.

SATURDAY 12 SEPTEMBER 1846. 66°. Archibald and Jessie McWatt came down today and we got fine fun.

SUNDAY 13 SEPTEMBER 1846. 66°. Mr Ruddle was preaching in the forenoon today his text was Luke XXII. 47.

MONDAY 14 SEPTEMBER 1846. 66°.

TUESDAY 15 SEPTEMBER 1846. 68°.

WEDNESDAY 16 SEPTEMBER 1846. 66°. Isa and I went up to Dunse and got a letter which said that Father was coming out, so Uncle and I went up and met him at a ¼ past XII am.

THURSDAY 17 SEPTEMBER 1846. 66°. Uncle and Aunt Father Isa and I left Peelrig at ½ past in a two Horse Chaise for Kelso it is 16 miles from Dunse we arrived at Kelso at XII o'clock we went and saw the abbey then we paid a halfpenny and went across the bridge and saw the Tweed it is very pretty but the water was very small, then we went to Roxburgh Castle and ate our lunch there. We had a splendid view from the old ruin but Fleurs Castle the seat of the Duke of Roxburgh was the most splendid of all it is a very large and Magnificent building near the Tweed having a very pretty lawn before the door. Then we left the Ruins and went to the Cross Keys and got a biscuit. We left Kelso at ½ past 2 to go to Coldstream which is 8½ miles from Kelso and arrived at Coldstream at IV o'clock we drove through the town and saw the monument to Sir Charles Marjoribanks. We then went across the bridge over the Tweed and we were in England. We went from Coldstream and arrived at Peelrig (10½ miles) at VI o'clock.

This picnic was obviously intended to show the children the sights of Kelso and neighbourhood. Little remains of the Abbey originally founded by David I. The present building was destroyed in the Hertford invasions of 1544 and 1545.

Roxburgh Castle was a Royal castle of Alexander II and III. It was destroyed by the Scots after their victory in 1460 to prevent it again falling into English hands. It was at this siege that James II was killed by the bursting of his great cannon, the Lion. The town of Roxburgh which was beside the castle has entirely disappeared although it was one of the four ancient burghs of the kingdom.

Floors Castle was built by William Adam in 1721 and remodelled by W. H. Playfair about 1840. It has been described as the largest inhabited house in the country. It is the seat of the Dukes of Roxburgh.

The five-arched bridge across the Tweed was built by John

Rennie in 1800. It was the model for his Waterloo Bridge in London which was demolished in 1934. Tolls were common on bridges in the mid 19th century.

The Cross Keys Inn, now a hotel, in the centre of Kelso, was an ancient coaching-inn.

Coldstream became associated with the Coldstream Guards who were a regiment of General Monck of the Commonwealth period. In 1660 he marched them south from Coldstream to lay down their arms for the Commonwealth and to pick them up again for the King. Sir Charles Marjoribanks was the Member of Parliament for Berwickshire and stands on his column with speech in hand, as someone said, still addressing his constituents. Coldstream Bridge is at the boundary with England and once had a marriage house for runaway marriages which rivalled Gretna Green.

FRIDAY 18 SEPTEMBER 1846. 66°. Father Isa and I went from Peelrig at a ¼ to IX on top of the coach to Reston. We reached there at 20 min past Ten. We had to wait till the train from Edinburgh came up for Father had promised to take Isa and I to see Berwick. The train came up and we arrived at Berwick at a ¼ past XI there is a very pretty station at Berwick and it is almost all finished. Father took us round the walls which are very broad you get a splendid view from the top of them. Then we went down to the shore and saw the Harbour we crossed over the mouth of the Tweed in a small steamboat for 1d to Spittal. We went through the town to the sea shore the waves were very large although it was a calm and the roar was like thunder the waves were three times as large as those of the Firth of Forth we crossed over again in the same steam boat and went up the town to the Salmon Inn where we got our dinner and we went through some of the streets it is a very pretty town. We went up to the railway station but as we were rather too soon we went back to the station house and had a pretty view of the Tweed it is twice as broad as it is at Kelso or Coldstream and we saw the bridge over the Tweed which has fifteen arches we then went and got our tickets and took our seats. The train left Berwick at ½ past III and we arrived at Edinburgh very tired having travelled 72 miles. we were home and found Mother and the rest quite well and little George a stout wee chap.

The earliest surviving defences of Berwick which was a Scottish town were erected by Edward I in 1296 but much of the present fortifications are of the time of Elizabeth of England. The harbour was the main port of supply for Edward and successive English rulers in their attacks on the Borders of Scotland. There is a mention of a Berwick Bridge as early as 1620. The bridge of 15 arches was the through road route to the south but the regular crossings in the 1840s were by ferry. Spittal was a fishing community and is now almost a suburb of Berwick.

The railway had only just come to Berwick in 1846 and the Royal Border Bridge was being constructed by Robert Stephenson to continue the line to Newcastle and London. It has 28 arches, is 2152 feet long and has a height of almost 139 feet. It was officially opened by Queen Victoria in 1850 although the *Scotsman* reported that it expected the whole line to be opened to London by 1 February 1847. The Salmon Inn and Posting House was in Hide Hill, in the centre of the town. It would be quite an important and busy establishment before the railway was extended to Newcastle.

George was the child born on 20 August. John and his sister had obviously been sent on holiday to be out of the way for the birth.

SATURDAY 19 SEPTEMBER 1846. 65°. The Brockies and us walked down to Portobello in the forenoon but we were never out for it was so wet. We came home by the Portobello coach and William Brockie and I went along and saw the statue of Sir Walter Scott it is very pretty we went over to Grandmother's and got our supper and came home.

The Scott Monument in Princes Street was inaugurated on 15 August 1846 when John was on holiday in Berwickshire. The statue in Carrara marble is the work of Sir John Steell and represents Scott with his dog, Maida. Grandfather and grandmother Gulland lived at Meadow Place until his death when she went to live with her unmarried son James at Barony Street.

SUNDAY 20 SEPTEMBER 1846. 66°. Mr Tweedie was preaching in the forenoon today his text was John X. 27 to the end I went to Dr Gordon's with Uncle James in the afternoon a Mr Bryden was preaching his text was Proverbs XII. 11.

The Rev. Mr Bryden cannot easily be identified but may have been Robert Bryden (1792-1860) who was minister of Dunscore from 1822.

MONDAY 21 SEPTEMBER 1846. 65°. Betsy, Maggie Isa and I went out to Sheriffhall Mains at XII

o'clock by the Railway we got there at a ¼ past One because the driver took us to Sheriffhall Station and we took some time to walk back again. Isa Betsy and Maggie went away by the four o'clock coach but I stopt there. I went to Dalkeith a message for Uncle in the evening.

The nearest station to Uncle George Seton's farm at Sheriffhall Mains was Millerhill, not Sheriffhall. The railway line came from Waverley via Portobello to Millerhill and Dalkeith with a branch from Millerhill to Gilmerton and Loanhead. There was a station beyond the Sheriffhall roundabout at the railway bridge at the junction of the Dalkeith and Eskbank roads, just before the line divided to serve Dalkeith and Eskbank. The farm was located between the Loanhead and the Dalkeith lines. John used three methods of reaching Sheriffhall in the diary, by train, by stage coach and walking. The farm was just over six miles from his home. It was situated in Newton parish.

TUESDAY 22 SEPTEMBER 1846. 66°. I got some fine fun about the farm.

WEDNESDAY 23 SEPTEMBER 1846. 65°. Uncle and I went to Edinburgh at XI o'clock. I went over to St Andrew Square a message & when I was back Uncle Seton came in & he wanted me back so we went away at IV o'clock, & Aunt was so surprised when she saw me back again for she did not expect me.

THURSDAY 24 SEPTEMBER 1846. 65°. Uncle Andrew came out to see Aunt in the forenoon as he was going to the market, so he and Uncle Seton & I went to Dalkeith. We went through the markets and After that we went to the cattle show and saw the Duke of Buccleuch there he is a very nice looking man but he is very pale. Then I left Uncle & went to Mr Currie's and got my dinner. then I went to Mrs Seton's and got my tea and got Aunt Seton there. I walk home myself at XI o'clock.

Uncle Andrew Gulland was the brother of Aunt Seton and John's father. He was a corn merchant at 20 Greenside Street who visited the Dalkeith market each week. In 1855 John Gulland bought out his uncle Andrew and continued the business becoming thereby a corn merchant and baker. In his later years, John's biographer tells, he

was a regular attender at the Dalkeith market and 'his railway carriage was always lively with fun and argument'.

William and John Currie were wholesale and retail grocers, wine and spirit merchants in the High Street, Dalkeith.

William Francis, the 5th Duke of Buccleuch and 7th Duke of Queensberry, KG, was born at Dalkeith Palace in 1806. He became a Privy Councillor and Captain-General of the Royal Company of Archers. It was he who built Granton harbour in 1835. He died at Bowhill in 1884. Dalkeith Palace, no longer a ducal residence, was built in the early 1700s incorporating older features. Architecturally it is one of the better classical houses in the country. The estate came into the Buccleuch family in 1642. It was in Dalkeith Palace that the Duke entertained George IV on his first visit to Scotland and Edinburgh in 1822. Queen Victoria also stayed at Dalkeith Palace on her first visit to Scotland in 1842. Tradition has it that here, also, Queen Victoria tasted porridge and finnan haddocks for the first time.

Mrs Seton was Christian Gillies of Inveresk, the mother of Uncle Seton. She had married George Seton of Newton in 1796. She and her daughter Miss Seton lived locally in the Dalkeith area.

FRIDAY 25 SEPTEMBER 1846. 66°.

SATURDAY 26 SEPTEMBER 1846. 66°. Isa & Lisbeth and Isa Brockie came from Edinburgh in the forenoon and we had some nice fun in the stalkyards and we came in to Edinburgh at 1 o'clock.

SUNDAY 27 SEPTEMBER 1846. 66°. Mr Tweedie was preaching both forenoon & afternoon his text was John XI. 1-10 in the forenoon & in the afternoon John XV. 5.

MONDAY 28 SEPTEMBER 1846. 66°.

TUESDAY 29 SEPTEMBER 1846. 64°. I went to Dr Cowan's with mother as it was very wet we came home in a coach.

No initials are given for the doctor. There were three entries in the street directory under the name Cowan but they probably represented only one practice with different locations. Dr George Cowan, MD, surgeon, had a surgery at 30 Clerk Street with his house at 14 Rankeillor Street and Dr James Cowan, MD, surgeon, with surgery at 4 Keir Street and home address 14 Rankeillor Street.

WEDNESDAY 30 SEPTEMBER 1846. 65°. I went up to the school and got my matriculation ticket, and in

the afternoon I went to Bruntsfield Links to see the Gymnastic Games I was rather late so I did not see many of the Games.

Up to the 1930s boys paid a matriculation fee at the Royal High School in addition to the normal tuition fees. In the mid 19th century it was 5s. It was assumed that the matriculation fee covered expendables used in classes for apparatus and the like. An additional fee was charged for the library, which not all boys paid.

The *Scotsman* reported that, shortly after Leith had gymnastic games which were successful, the Bruntsfield Gymnastic Club suggested that it would be 'gratifying to all admirers of athletic exercises to get up yearly in Edinburgh competitions of a similar kind'. The first games were held on 30 September in the presence of the Lord Provost and magistrates. The weather was good but the ground was difficult because of recent heavy rains. The games began at 9 am and finished at 5 pm and included competitions for quoits, running high leap, hop-step-jump, throwing hammer, running distance leap, wrestling. 'An instrumental band which was in attendance tended in no small degree to enliven the sports.'

THURSDAY 1 OCTOBER 1846. 65°. We went to the school today for the first time this session but we got away soon.

The normal practice in the school was to meet in classes on the first day, obtain a list of the books required and then be free to go and obtain them. In the 1920s Edinburgh booksellers like Thin (South Bridge), Baxendine (Chambers Street) and Bryce (Lothian Street) were crammed by boys seeking books, secondhand if possible; presumably it was similar in 1846. From a later entry in the diary we learn that John bought secondhand if possible. He also frequented book sales.

FRIDAY 2 OCTOBER 1846. 65°.

SATURDAY 3 OCTOBER 1846. 65°. We got away from the School at ½ past ten.

The Royal High School met on Saturdays in 1846. Saturday school was not abolished until 1851 when it was said to be 'principally in consideration of the severe and trying nature of their studies during the other five days of the week and with a due regard to the health and reasonable recreation of the boys'.

SUNDAY 4 OCTOBER 1846. [No entry]

4 October is the first date which John left blank with no comment. There is no further entry in the diary until 29 July 1847 – the whole school session.

PART II : 29 JULY 1847 TO 11 MARCH 1848

THURSDAY 29 JULY 1847. The Examination of the High School. Went there at ½ past 10 am there were a great many people among the principal of these were Dr Carson, Professor Dunbar, Dr Candlish, Mr Guthrie, Dr Cunningham, Mr Davidson &c went to the hall at 3 and heard a few essays read then the Lord Provost distributed Prizes the one which I got, being the tenth one, was *Notes during a visit to Egypt, Nubia The Oasis Boeris, Mount Sinai and Jerusalem* by Sir Frederick Henniker, Bart. One of the rector's boys read an address and the Hon. T. B. Macaulay gave a speech, and it closed near 5 o'clock. Christopher Russell Scott got the Macgregor and City Medals for being dux in the Rector's Latin and Greek classes. Edward Little Nelson gained the Macdonald Medal in our class.

Dr Aglionby-Ross Carson became a master in the School in 1806 and was appointed Rector in 1820. He was in charge when the

School moved from High School Yards to the Calton Hill. After 25 years as head he retired because of ill health. His memory is continued by a coveted medal, now prize, for an English essay assessed by someone outside the School. George Dunbar was Professor of Greek at Edinburgh University for 46 years, from 1806 to 1852.

Dr Robert Smith Candlish, minister of St George's Church, Edinburgh, was a leader of the Disruption along with Dr Chalmers, on whose death he guided the movement. In 1862 he became Principal of New College. His name is commemorated in the Candlish Hall in St George's West Church in Shandwick Place, previously St George's Free Church.

Dr Thomas Guthrie became minister of Free St John's at the Disruption. In 1845-46 he raised some £116,000 to provide manses for Free Church ministers. He was much involved in social work among the poor and in the provision of 'ragged' schools. On his statue in Princes Street, opposite Castle Street, he is seen sheltering a poor boy under the folds of his gown.

Dr William Cunningham was minister of Trinity College Church in 1834. He joined the Disruption and became first Professor of Theology in New College in 1843 and then Church History in

1845. On the death of Dr Chalmers in 1859 he became Principal of the College.

Dr George Ramsay Davidson joined the Free Church and became minister of Lady Glenorchy's Free Church in 1843. He had held the charge of Lady Glenorchy's Established Church and continued worship there as the Free Church until interdicted in 1844. The congregation then moved to the Royal High School Hall until their own building was built, at Greenside Place, whose tower remains in the reconstruction next the Playhouse.

The Lord Provost was Adam Black.

Sir Frederick Henniker (1793-1825) succeeded to the baronetcy in 1816. He travelled through France to Malta, Egypt, Jerusalem, Constantinople, Athens and Vienna. He was attacked and left for dead on his way to Jericho. He died, aged 32, in 1825.

The Hon. Thomas Babington Macaulay, of Scottish ancestry, came into prominence by his work for the *Edinburgh Review*. He became legal adviser to the Supreme Court of India and in 1839 he was elected a Member of Parliament for Edinburgh and secretary for war in Lord Melbourne's government. He was defeated in the election of 1847. His essays for the *Edinburgh Review* and his *History of England* are valuable contributions to the literature of history. He is also remembered for poems like *How Horatius kept the Bridge*. In 1849 he was Rector of Glasgow University. He was given a peerage in 1857.

Col. John Macdonald, the son of Flora Macdonald of Bonnie Prince Charlie fame, gave the Town Council the sum of £50, the interest of which to be used for the purchase of a medal for the dux of the third class. He attended the school for one year only and that was in the third class.

John Gulland was tenth in his class whereas he was twenty-second in the previous year. His pal, William Brockie, was ninth against twelfth the year before. Both boys had apparently improved.

FRIDAY 30 JULY 1847. Went down to Portobello on the train at ½ past 11 and expected to see the Yeomanry review but was much disappointed as it began earlier and I was just in time to see them going away. The Duke of Buccleuch reviewed them. It was such a splendid day and the water looked so nice I went and got a bathe at a ¼ past four. Mother and the rest came down to Maryfield in the afternoon. After a strong contention Mr Cowan and Mr Gibson Craig were elected as the members of Parliament for the city and Messrs Macaulay and Blackburn were rejected, the state of the poll at the close being. Cowan 2063: Craig 1834: Macaulay 1477: Blackburn 980. Father voted for Macaulay.

It was common for reviews of troops in the Victorian era to be held on the sands at Portobello. What was described as 'the grandest military spectacle ever before witnessed in Scotland in modern times and beyond comparison the most interesting' was the military review by George IV on 23 August 1822 on the sands. Sir Walter Scott is said to have composed the Flodden canto of *Marmion* when he was drilling on the sands with the Yeomanry. Drilling on the sands was common into the 1890s.

Maryfield, no longer existing, adjoined Wilson's Park at the east end of Bath Street, Portobello, near the Tower and the present Towerbank School. They were on the lands of Figgate, feued from William Jameson, the pioneer of the brickworks of Portobello. According to William Baird, in his *Annals of Duddingston and Portobello*, Mary was Mr Wilson's wife.

The Brydens or Brydons, spelt both ways in the diary, are mentioned on 38 occasions. The Gullands and the Brockies were very friendly with the various branches of the family, who seem to have had houses or premises in the Canongate, Canonmills, Portobello and St Boswells. The 1841 census return gives Brydens living at Maryfield. William Bryden is described as a bellhanger. His premises were J. Bryden and Sons at 80 Rose Street, bellhangers and venetian and spring roller blind manufacturers. They also had premises at 17 Exchange Place in Glasgow. John Gulland and his cousin spent holidays with the Brydens at Portobello and at St Boswells. They were looked after by Miss Bryden whose death he records on 11 March 1849.

In the 1840s Portobello was a fashionable place for holidays and saw the growth of villas as seaside and country residences. Whole families, complete with servants, would take over these houses for holidays. Often the head of the family would travel to town to business daily. This was comparatively easy after the railway came to Portobello. A number of parents of his schoolfellows seemed to have taken houses in Portobello also if we can judge by the boys John met or with whom he bathed or played.

Charles Cowan of Valleyfield, Penicuik, elected an MP for the city, was the paper manufacturer. He was a prominent member of the Free Church movement.

SATURDAY 31 JULY 1847. Went and bathed before 8 this morning along with J. Haswell and W. Brockie, very fine bathe but air rather cold. Went up to Duddingston with Haswell and spent a very happy day.

James Haswell and his brother were schoolfellows. They were the sons of James Haswell, wine merchant and grocer, with premises at Greenside Street, Lawnmarket and Grassmarket. They had the house Rose Ville, at Duddingston, which John visited again on 27 December 1847. By 1860 the Haswells lived in Gayfield House.

SUNDAY 1 AUGUST 1847. Walked along the sands and went to the Free Church, heard Mr Burns preach from Deut. XI. 18-21 and in the afternoon Mr Smeaton of Auchtermuchty. His text was Luke XXIII. 39-43. at night went up part of the Edinburgh road with Uncle James and Uncle Brockie. This is Isabella's eleventh birthday.

Dr Thomas Burns, born at Mossiel, Mauchline, was the son of Gilbert Burns and a nephew of Robert Burns. He came out at the Disruption and became the leader of the Free Church party which set out for Otago. Along with Thomas Cargill, he founded Dunedin in New Zealand. He was minister of Portobello for one year while arrangements for the departure were completed. He became the first Chancellor of Otago University.

John seems to have mistaken Auchterarder for Auchtermuchty. Dr George Smeaton left his parish of Falkland along with his elder Dr Chalmers at the Disruption. He became minister of Auchterarder in 1843. Later he was Professor of Divinity at the Free Church College in Aberdeen and of New Testament exegesis in New College, Edinburgh.

Portobello Free Church was situated in Regent Street. Hugh Miller, the stone mason from Cromarty turned geologist, was a seat-holder in the church. He edited the Free Church periodical called the *Witness*.

MONDAY 2 AUGUST 1847. Went to the railway with a Portmanteau for Father, bathed at 9 and got a walk up and down the Duddingston road. Went to the Joppa Rocks for bait but the tide was rather far up and we were nearly drenched but we all got off but Willie. Met Father at the railway at ¼ past 7.

TUESDAY 3 AUGUST 1847. The dragoons came down to the sands in the forenoon to exercise, they stayed a good time there. They went through a great many exercises. Bathed at 2 and played on the sands the rest of the day. Agnes Gulland was down for a short time today.

WEDNESDAY 4 AUGUST 1847. A very wet day. Bathed before 1. Agnes Gulland came down to spend the day and she stoped [*sic*] all night. I went and got my tea at Mrs Bryden's and went over to shop with William Brockie.

Agnes Gulland and Elisabeth Gulland lived in Morningside and were cousins.

THURSDAY 5 AUGUST 1847. Bathed at ¼ past 7. Went to Drem by the North British Railway at 10 min past 9 with Father, Uncle and William Brockie and the Dirlton Bowling Club. They had engaged a first class carriage so we got into it. Walked from Drem to Dirlton a distance of about 3 miles. Went to the Bowling Green and played a little. It was a very capital game. Mr Wemyss gained the silver medal of the Club. Went up to Dirleton Castle a very old place. There are a great many old rooms and dungeons in it and it seems once to have been a place of great strength from the thickness of its walls and fine position. Saw part of the very pretty garden which Mrs Ferguson leaves gratuitously open to the public. William and I went to the Inn and got a very nice dinner by ourselves, and we went up and heard some toasts afterwards. Walked to Drem and got some refreshments at the station waited for the train which should have arrived at 25 min past 7 but it did not come till about ¼ to 8 so that by the time we were at Portobello it was about ½ an hour behind its right time which was 6 min past 8. We got a very cheap trip the whole expenses for me being only half a crown. There was a little rain through the day.

The present Dirleton Bowling Club, which he spells wrongly on two occasions and correctly the third, was founded at the end of last century and plays today on the ancient green of Dirleton Castle. There must, however, have been a club of some kind fifty years before although no records are available. The green, sheltered by some fine trees, is just outside the actual castle walls but within those of its precinct. In the guide to the castle Dr Richardson suggests that the area of the bowling green was probably the site of the raised central feature called a 'knot' seen at Stirling and other castles in Scotland. The toasts were to the various victors in the bowling match.

Dirleton Castle goes back to the 13th century and the de Vaux family. It came into the possession of the Halyburtons in the 14th century and the Ruthvens in the 16th. In the 17th, Erskine of Gogar became Lord Dirleton. The estate was bought in 1663 by Sir John Nisbet, Lord Dirleton of the Court of Session, who vacated the castle for his new house at Archerfield. Nisbet of Dirleton also had a house at 80 Canongate. The Castle Inn at Dirleton was built about 1820 by

architect William Burn, typical of the period with its dormer windows. It is still a hotel at the corner of the Green and the place the bowlers of today still frequent for refreshment. While the garden of Mrs Ferguson no longer exists one elderly resident recalls such a garden in his boyhood.

FRIDAY 6 AUGUST 1847. Bathed at ½ past 7. Walked twice up and down the Duddingston Road went in and got a drink of milk from Mrs King.

SATURDAY 7 AUGUST 1847. Bathed at ¼ to 8. Walked the length of Niddry with Miss Brydon, and at night went up to Duddingston Gardens and got some berries from Mr Wilson.

SUNDAY 8 AUGUST 1847. A very wet day. Went to the UP Church in Bath Street in the forenoon and heard a sermon from Luke XX 17-22 and in the afternoon to the Free Church and heard Mr Smeaton preach from John IV. 31-34. As it cleared up a little at night Walked along the sands with Uncle James.

Mrs King was the wife of the miller of Duddingston Mills. Portobello UP Church in Bath Street became in time Windsor Place Church.

MONDAY 9 AUGUST 1847. Rose at 6 and went to catch Sand eels with Father, Uncle James and Willie caught 130 some of them were very large. Bathed about 9 the sea came upon us very quick as it was pretty rough we had to stand on the forms to put on our clothes but we had a very nice bathe. The Dragoons came down to review at ¼ 10 but I had to go up to Edinburgh to meet Uncle and Aunt Ainslie, went up on the van to St Andrew Square and saw Uncle William & Uncle Tom. Met Uncle and Aunt at 25 min past 1 they should have arrived at 1 and they were intending to go to Portobello by the train at 25 min p 1 but as they were too late we hired a noddy and got down a little past 2. got a walk on the sands and met Mrs Ruddiman who is down here just now.

Mrs Ruddiman who was apparently on holiday at Portobello was the mother of Jane Ruddiman who married Thomas Brumby Johnston, John's geographer uncle. Her husband, Thomas Ruddiman, was a

descendant of Thomas Ruddiman, the celebrated Latin grammarian whose textbook was used widely in schools throughout Britain and beyond, became keeper of the Advocates Library and owner for a time of the *Caledonian Mercury*. The noddy was a light cab with a door at the back.

TUESDAY 10 AUGUST 1847. Bathed at ¼ past 11. In the afternoon Uncle and Aunt Thomas Mrs Ruddiman and the children came to tea.

WEDNESDAY 11 AUGUST 1847. Bathed at 10. Went to Musselburgh Fair with Willie and were there at 11. There were a great many lotteries and tents. We expected the races to begin at 1 but they did not commence till 4. The Caledonian Youths walked through the town. I saw 4 races 2 right ones 1 carthorse and 1 pony race Willie went with the ½ past 4 train but I stopped longer and walked home at 20 min past 6.

The reference to Musselburgh Fair must refer to the Riding of the Marches at St James Fair which was held in August annually. Processions are recorded from the west end of Bridge Street, headed by members of the incorporated trades, the Caledonian Youths, an army band, members of the Musselburgh Town Council and others. On the Links the Royal Company of Archers compete for the Musselburgh silver arrow, perhaps the oldest sporting trophy in the world. While the fair and the Riding of the Marches have had a chequered career and have appeared in various forms, the Royal Company have preserved the annual competition.

THURSDAY 12 AUGUST 1847. Bathed at ¼ past 10. Went to Edinburgh by 10 min past 2 train with Mother and Uncle went to Library with Uncle but found it shut till the 23rd. Went to Leith by the E. L. & G. Railway we only took three minutes to go through the tunnel and ten for the whole distance. Went through the docks and found a good Dutch vessel there. Saw MacLeod and Douglas sailing in the harbour in a small boat. Went up by the ¼ past 4 train Went to the High Street shop and got some biscuit and went to Portobello by the 5 min past 7 train.

In the 1847-48 street *Directory* there are listed three possible libraries that John may have visited. The Edinburgh Subscription Library was at 24 George Street; the Mechanics Subscription Library at 7 James Court; the Select Subscription Library at 26 Waterloo Place. There was no free library in 1847. From a future

reference it would seem that John went to the Mechanics Subscription Library and the Select Subscription Library. The Mechanics Library, founded in 1825, was created originally for the students at the School of Arts, later to become Heriot-Watt College and now University. In the middle of the century it was the largest library of its kind in Britain. The Mechanics Library was latterly in Victoria Terrace and only disappeared after the founding of the free Edinburgh Public Library in George IV Bridge.

The Edinburgh, Leith and Granton Railway ran through the tunnel from Canal Street Station, which was parallel to the present Waverley Bridge, under St Andrew Square to Scotland Street. It was opened on 17 May 1847. The train from Canal Street to Scotland Street was on rope haulage controlled by brakemen. As one train went down the other came up. When John travelled to Granton in 1846 he joined the train at Scotland Street as the tunnel was under construction. The Leith branch left the Granton line in Warriston Cemetery. It was opened in 1846. There were trains every half hour from 8 am to 9 pm. The fare was 1st class 4d; 2nd class 3d; and 3rd class 2d.

FRIDAY 13 AUGUST 1847. The Dragoons came to the sands about 10 General Riddle reviewed them. Met E. Nelson, bathed at 12. Went up to Duddingston Mills with Father Uncle Ainslie and Willie. Went up to the Railway with the Misses Mills and Willie and met Uncle Brockie and Miss Brydon.

Major General Henry James Riddle, KH, was Governor of Edinburgh Castle and Officer Commanding the Forces in Edinburgh. He lived at 25 Melville Street. He received his decoration of Knight of the Royal Hanoverian Order, sometimes called the Royal Guelphic Order, while a Lieutenant Colonel in 1832 and on the staff of the Quartermaster General. The collar of the order, which has an attractive jewel featuring the white horse of Hanover, bears the motto *nec aspera terrent*. The award of the Hanoverian Order ceased with the accession of Queen Victoria.

Edward Little Nelson was dux of his class and won in 1848 the prize for English prose with an essay on Alexander the Great. His brother, the Rt Hon. Sir Hugh Muir Nelson, became premier of Queensland and later Lieutenant Governor of the state. He was opposed to Australian federation. The Misses Mills will be mentioned later in the diary. They came from the Borders and were related to Mrs Bryden.

SATURDAY 14 AUGUST 1847. Bathed at ½ past 11. Went to the Links and played at cricket after tea.

SUNDAY 15 AUGUST 1847. In the forenoon Went to Portobello Chapel and heard Mr Caird of Lady

Yesters Edinr preach from Luke XXIII. 42 and In the afternoon went to the Episcopalian Church and saw a child baptised by Mr Boyle we heard a sermon read by a different minister from Psalm XXXVII. 25. Got a walk along the sands in the evening.

The Rev. John Caird belonged to Ayr and came to Lady Yesters in 1847. He moved to Errol and later became Principal of Glasgow University. The Episcopal church was St Mark's at the eastern end of the High Street. It was built in 1824 and has its own graveyard. It was consecrated by Bishop Sandford. Roman Doric columns are at the entrance and the church has a domed roof. The Rev. John Boyle, BA, LLB, was minister of the church from 1842 to 1852. It is interesting that John mentions that the sermon was read rather than preached. Read sermons were not favoured in the Free and UP churches but men like Dr Chalmers were known to read sermons.

MONDAY 16 AUGUST 1847. Bathed at 4 past 10. Went up to Edinburgh with Uncle Ainslie at 11 got a walk along Princes Street and went into Crichton's and saw a very good painting of Landseer's went to the High Street Shop. Went and saw Elizabeth Gulland she was a good deal better than the last time I saw her. Went to New Street and got a portmanteau filled with things arrived at Portobello at 25 min to 2. Played at cricket at the links in the evening.

The firm of Alexander Crichton were printsellers, publishers and picture-frame makers at 54 Princes Street, immediately west of Jenners. Edwin Henry Landseer (1769-1852), later knighted, was the popular painter of animal scenes at the time. Perhaps his most famous picture is 'The Monarch of the Glen', not painted till 1851.

TUESDAY 17 AUGUST 1847. Bathed at ¼ to 10. Met Aunt Alexr and the children at 11 and Uncle at 25 min past 5. Went to the links and played at cricket at night.

WEDNESDAY 18 AUGUST 1847. Bathed at ¼ past 10. Went up to the coach with Mother and Aunt at 2 and to the railway with Uncle at 3. Went to the links and saw the opposite side play their innings. Went up to the railway at 7, came back to the links and was just in time to play my innings.

THURSDAY 19 AUGUST 1847. Bathed at ½ past 10. Went to Duddingston Loch to fish for perch with the Haswells, Laurie, J. Edmonston, T. Scott & Willie at 11. We caught none home at 3 and saw Mrs Archibald there, went up to the railway with her at ½ past 4. Went to the links and played at cricket, at 6 o'clock Our side made 4 and the other 38.

Aunt Alexander, wife of John's mother's brother of geography fame, had in all eleven children of whom seven were alive in 1847. Duddingston Loch in the 1840s was a favourite place for fishing in summer and for skating in winter and remained so till 1923 when the whole area was turned into a bird sanctuary.

FRIDAY 20 AUGUST 1847. Bathed at ½ past 8, and set off for Sheriffhall Mains at ½ past 9 got there at 11 and found them all quite well. Went and saw them shearing. Uncle has not many Irishmen this year, they expect to be done tomorrow. Left at ¼ past 3 to go to Pinkiehill we waded the Esk and went up a pretty footpath that leads to Inveresk Church. Went to the railway and met Uncle Brockie and Mr Brown they had missed Father and Mr Proudfoot of Portobello so we went and saw the shearers Mr Proudfoot has 42 as went up to the house met Father and Mr P got our tea and Willie and I got some fun in the garden. Walked to Musselburgh. Left by the railway at 20 past 9 and were at Portobello by 25 to 10 pm.

By the 1840s Irish labour was becoming more common on farms and in work on industrial sites. The farmer at Pinkiehill, Musselburgh, was Mr J. Proudfoot. It was situated just off the Inveresk to Crookston road. The church at Inveresk, St Michael's, was built in 1805 by the architect Robert Nisbet, on the site of a much earlier building. The most famous minister was the Rev. Alexander (Jupiter) Carlyle.

SATURDAY 21 AUGUST 1847. Bathed at ½ past 9 got some books from the Library Went to the links at 2 pm and played all our side was beaten again. It was raining a good deal today.

SUNDAY 22 AUGUST 1847. A very windy day Went to the Episcopalian Chapel in the forenoon and heard a sermon from ... and in the afternoon to the Free

Church and heard Mr Burns preach from 2 Kings V. Went along a part of the Edinr Road with Uncle James and George Brydon.

MONDAY 23 AUGUST 1847. Went to the Railway with Father and Uncle Brockie. They and Uncle Andrew were going to Mr James Gulland's near Dysart by the steamer at ½ past 9. Bathed at 9. Played at cricket in the links till 12. Went to the coach with Aunt Ainslie and Agnes, she went to Morningside to stop with Lisabeth. Uncle Ainslie went with the 10 past 2 train. Uncle and Aunt are going to stop with Uncle Tom for two nights to see Mademoiselle Rachel. Went to Mr Aitchison's at 5. Willie and I went to the railway to get Aunt's parasol that she had left in a coach but the guard said we would get it at 7. So we went and got our tea at Mr Aitchison's and Willie got the parasol at 7. Went up to the railway with Mr and Mrs Mackie at ½ past 9. At 4 saw the Dragoons firing at marks along the sands.

The steamer to Dysart left on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays from Leith. Mr James Gulland was born in 1803 and farmed at Newton, near West Wemyss, Fife. He was an uncle of John's father and his Uncle Andrew. He married Lucy or Mary Perfect in 1840 and had eight sons and daughters from 1841 to 1862. When the Ainslies came from Duns to Edinburgh they seemed to stay with Tom, Mrs Ainslie's brother.

The advertisement in the *Courant* said that 'the eminent tragedienne Mme Rachel will give two representations at the Theatre Royal supported by the entire cast from St James Theatre, London'. The report later read: 'On Tuesday evening Racine's Tragedy of Phoebe was produced which afforded full scope for the display of that depth and tenderness of feeling that belong to Mme Rachel ... While Mme Rachel is powerful in the expression of the terrible and more tragic passions she is not less effective in those milder parts of character and more delicate shadings of feeling that mark the quieter scenes of the drama.'

There were four Aitchisons, bakers, in the town as well as a grocer and a watchmaker. Mr and Mrs Mackie have not been traced.

TUESDAY 24 AUGUST 1847. Willie and I caught 4 flukes with a casting out line in about an hour. Bathed at ½ past 11. Went and dug a hole in the sand and made a fire in it but we had to put it out for it smoked so much.

WEDNESDAY 25 AUGUST 1847. Bathed at 11. Fished at the harbour but caught nothing. Played at cricket on the Links at night.

THURSDAY 26 AUGUST 1847. Fished along the sands a piece and caught none, Willie caught 3 flounders. Stopt at home at night and got two or three games of backgammon with Willie. I bet.

His 'I bet' is the confession of the young boy growing up. He was surely proud of it that he recorded it. Maybe he thought confession might absolve him from his sin if such it was.

FRIDAY 27 AUGUST 1847. Father came with us to the fishing we fished at the mouth of the burn and caught 1 each but we forgot them. So left two on the sands. Bathed at ½ past 12. Got a game at cricket at night.

The harbour of Portobello was constructed in the late 1780s. Situated at the mouth of the Figgate Burn it was intended for the import of coal and whiteware clay from Cornwall for the potteries which existed in the town until 1972, when they were moved to Crieff. The entrance to the harbour was narrow and the basin quite small. Only three or four vessels could be accommodated at a time. At least two ships are known to have been built at Portobello, the *Fox* and the *Five Sisters*, which were small schooners but large enough to undertake an Atlantic voyage. The harbour remained in existence till the 1860s. A picture of it is seen in James Grant's *Old and New Edinburgh* (1880-83). The Figgate Burn was the name of the Braid Burn as it passed Duddingston to the sea. The 'fluke' was the common word in fishing villages for the flounder.

It is noticeable that John always records that he played 'at the cricket' whereas today we say 'played cricket'. Again he played 'at the kickball' and not 'played football'.

SATURDAY 28 AUGUST 1847. Laurie, T Scott, Willie & I Went along the sands Intending to go to Leith to see the Dutch Frigates that came in on Thursday but we turned when we were at Seafield and Bathed at ¼ to 12. After dinner George and John Robertson wanted me to bathe with them so I went and got a very good one. Went to the Links at 3 and played at cricket till ½ past 4 came back and played till near 8.

The presence of a Dutch naval squadron in Leith Roads created general interest in the press. Several steamboats were engaged

plying between the squadron and the Chain Pier with passengers, as well as numerous small boats. The Chain Pier was built at Newhaven in 1821 and destroyed in a storm in 1898; it was never rebuilt. Prince Henry of the Netherlands was entertained at a reception at Edinburgh Castle. He attended St Mary's Church along with the Dutch consul. The reference is to St Mary's Church in Leith, commonly known as South Leith Parish Church.

The amount of bathing in which John engaged at Portobello must surprise, considering the present state of the beach and facilities. A description of the town in the middle of last century spoke of 'the beautiful level sands free from rocks, gravel or shingle and with no dangerous sandbanks or shoals . . . recognised as most suitable for sea bathing'. That was before so much sand was carted away for house building at the end of the 19th and the beginning of the 20th century. Maryfield was only a few yards from the beach.

SUNDAY 29 AUGUST 1847. Went to meet Uncle James but did not get him. Went to Mr Dean's Church and heard Mr Robertson of the Vennel preach from 2 Corinthians VI. 13. it was a very good sermon. In the afternoon Went to the Free Church and heard a Mr Paterson of Kirkcaldy from Luke XXIII. 42-43. I have heard a sermon preached thrice from the same text since we came to Portobello and did not think this was the best one. Mr Heiton and Uncle James came down in the afternoon. Went up with them and Mr Archibald part of the road.

The Rev. George Dean came from Ford in 1836 to the church at Bath Street, Portobello, which, later in the century, moved to a new church at Windsor Place. Bath Street was a Secession church which became United Presbyterian in 1867.

Portsburgh UP Church was founded in 1790 and had a place of worship in the Vennel which was rebuilt in 1828. The Rev. James Robertson of Vennel was appointed in 1833, having served in Glasgow. The Rev. Mr Paterson of Kirkcaldy has not been identified. The text Luke XXIII 42-43 was the story of the malefactor on the cross who pleaded with Jesus to remember him when he came into his kingdom.

Mr Heiton was the partner of James Gulland, Uncle James, in the firm of Heiton and Gulland, drapers, hatters and hosiers, at 23 South Hanover Street. The partnership was dissolved in 1848.

MONDAY 30 AUGUST 1847. Bathed at ½ past 10. Willie was going to Edinburgh at 12 so I went part of the road with him. Went to the Links with Laurie, and Tom Scott Eadie told us that the Links belong to Mr

Livingston of Joppa. Went up to Duddingston Mills with Father and met Uncle & Aunt & Willie & John Brockie but Mr and Mrs King were not at home. Went to the Links and got a game at cricket at 7 pm. It is a very cold night.

The Livingstone family owned brickworks at Abercorn, by Fishwives Causeway, and Joppa. They had a flourishing trade with Edinburgh and London. When Edinburgh Gasworks chimney stack was built in 1848 the bricks were supplied by Livingstone. The family name was given to Livingstone Place in Portobello but the name was changed to Adelphi Grove in 1966 to avoid confusion with Livingstone Place at the Meadows, called after David Livingstone, the missionary explorer. According to Boog Watson, Allan Livingstone had his house on the site of the street.

TUESDAY 31 AUGUST 1847. Bathed at 10. Mother, Isa Maggy George Betsy and I set off for Leith at 1 pm. Willie was going to Edinburgh so he came with us we got a drink of Ginger Beer at the first place we came to. walked along to the end of the pier and saw the Dutch Fleet consisting of 4 frigates and 1 schooner commanded by his Royal Highness Prince Henry, 3rd and youngest son of the King of the Netherlands. We saw some Dutch sailors in white jackets and trowsers, sailing out to the fleet in a small boat, they looked very pretty. The docks were very crowded. Went to Mr Mathie's shop he is very busy having to make 1200 Loaves to the fleet on Thursday. Was back at Portobello by ½ past 5 pm.

The King of the Netherlands was William II, son of William I. He reigned from 1840 to 1849. Mr Robert Mathie was a baker at 31 Shore with his house at 24 Charlotte Street, Leith. He had a large enough business to obtain the contract to provision the visiting Dutch vessels.

WEDNESDAY 1 SEPTEMBER 1847. Bathed at ten am, the water was very cold it was such a blowy day. Played at Uncle Brockie's at night.

THURSDAY 2 SEPTEMBER 1847. Went to Craigmillar Castle for the first time with other 7 we were on the outside but we could not get in. We saw the two fir trees which Queen Victoria planted on her visit to Scotland in 1843 were home at 2 pm. Went to the

battery, past Joppa, intending to bathe but as the water was not far enough up we did not do it. Went along and saw them playing at cricket at night.

Craigmillar Castle was originally a tower house built about 1374 by Sir Simon Preston of Gorton. Gradually extended it was able in the 16th century to receive Mary, Queen of Scots, after the murder of Riccio. By the 17th century the barony had passed to Sir John Gilmour. His successor, Sir John Little Gilmour of Craigmillar and Liberton, handed over the guardianship of the castle in 1946 to the then Ministry of Works, now Historic Scotland. At the time of John's visit in 1847 the castle was still in the private ownership of the Gilmour family.

FRIDAY 3 SEPTEMBER 1847. Bathed at 11 am. Walked to Brunstain in the afternoon at night played at cricket in the Links.

Brunstain, generally spelt Brunstane, is situated on what is now Brunstane Road South. It belongs to various dates but was the residence of the Duke of Lauderdale in the late 17th century. It has now been subdivided.

SATURDAY 4 SEPTEMBER 1847. Saw Tom Laurie away to Edinburgh by the 10 o'clock coach. Went to the railway with James and Joe Sutherland, they were going to Dalkeith. Bathed at ½ past 11 am with George, John & Sinclair Robertson They came up and got their dinner with us. Went to the Railway with them at 10 min past 2 pm. It came on a heavy shower when we were coming down. Went to the Links and got a nice game at cricket we beat the other side by 18.

SUNDAY 5 SEPTEMBER 1847. Willie and I went up part of the Edinburgh road to meet Uncle James but he did not come down. Went to the Free Church both forenoon and afternoon and heard Mr Burns preach from Isaiah XXV. 6-8 both times Uncle James and Mr Bowie came down in the afternoon Uncle Brockie and Willie went up to town as they were going to Weirgate at ½ past 5 am tomorrow morning.

Weirgate House and farm were approximately in the centre of St Boswells village. The house is still occupied although the farm lands of 56 acres, employing two men, a boy and a woman, have been developed for housing. The Brydens had occupied Weirgate from some time in the 18th century. Andrew Bryden, in his seventies in the

1840s, is described as a landed proprietor and farmer. Mrs Bryden is mentioned as poor in health. The Brydens also owned property in Portobello at Maryfield and seem to have been very friendly with the Gullands. No relationship, however, has been found. Miss Bryden is frequently mentioned in the diary, at St Boswells and in Edinburgh. Mr Bryden had a house at Canonmills to which Mrs Bryden came when very ill. David Bryden is recorded in the 1851 census as a lawyer in Lessudden, the earlier name of St Boswells.

MONDAY 6 SEPTEMBER 1847. Isa and I went up to Edinburgh with Father at 8 am. Got our breakfast at New Street. Walked to Morningside with Isa. Lisbeth is a good deal better since the last time I saw her. We took her in a coach a good piece past the Hermitage. It is a very pretty place. When we came Mrs Walker was sitting with Aunt she is as talkative as ever. Left Morningside at ¼ past 3 pm. Agnes would have Isa to stop with her so she is to stop till Wednesday. They came to Bruntsfield Links with me. Got to New Street at 4 pm. Went to the S. S. Library and got out *Adventures of a Young Rifleman* and *Battles of Drumclog and Bothwell Bridge*. Went to St Andrew Square and saw Uncle Tom. He showed me a great many new maps. Came away at 5. Mrs Scott Aunt Brockie and Mother walked to Musselburgh.

John must have risen early each morning. He bathed early and, on this occasion he went to the city before breakfast. The Hermitage of Braid, now an information centre, is in the care of the local authority. The Braid Burn flows through the estate which is well known for some fine trees. It was built in 1785 by Robert Burn, the architect. It was the home of Charles Gordon of Cluny. For many years it was used by the Boy Scout movement.

Bruntsfield Links is the remaining open ground of the old Burgh Moor of Edinburgh. The S. S. Library was the Select Subscription Library situated at 26 Waterloo Place.

TUESDAY 7 SEPTEMBER 1847. Bathed at 11. Went to the Links and got some fun. It got very cold at night.

WEDNESDAY 8 SEPTEMBER 1847. Walked to the Brunstain Burn with T. Laurie Morison and Scott. When I came home at ¼ past 1 pm. Mother had got a letter from Miss Brydon asking me to come out so I had

to prepare as fast as I could. Isa and Agnes came from Morningside Lisbeth was always keeping better she was coming to Portobello at the beginning of next week. My shoes were very worn and I went to every shoemaker's shop in town but could not get a pair that would fit me. Mother and Aunt Brockie came to the railway with me at 10 min past 3 got to Fushiebridge at 4 pm. Met Uncle and Aunt Alexr there, they had been seeing Uncle William's new place and said it was very pretty. Got on the outside of the *Border Watch* and got a very nice ride reached St Boswell's Green at ¼ past 7 pm. Met Miss Brydon and Willie coming to meet me

The Brunstane Burn has various names in its course from the Pentlands to the sea. It begins as the Swanston and Lothian Burns becoming the Burdiehouse Burn till it passes Little France and the Greendykes area when it becomes the Niddrie Burn as far as Brunstane Road and then takes the Brunstane name to the sea at Magdalene bridge.

Presumably he tried to obtain his shoes in Portobello. There were at the time some 161 boot and shoe makers listed in the *Edinburgh Directory*!

The Border railway line to Carlisle by Galashiels and St Boswells had only reached Fushiebridge by 1847. Hence the change to the stage coach there. These stage coaches were given names just as railway engines at a later date. The line was extended to Bowland (Stow) in 1848, to Newtown St Boswells in March 1849 and to Hawick in October 1849.

Uncle William Johnston's new place was Kirkhill House, now a hotel. The long avenue leading to the house is about a quarter of a mile from the junction of the B704 road to Gorebridge and the A7 to the south. The house was built in 1828 by Thomas Hamilton, the architect of the Royal High School building on Calton Hill. It stands beside the River South Esk. It has a central tower with an upper balustrade above which chimneys act like finials; the tower links the two end blocks. It obviously incorporates an older building. When William Johnston was knighted in 1851 at the end of his Lord Provostship he took the title of Sir William Johnston of Kirkhill, Kt. After Lord Provost Johnston opened the new Corn Exchange on the south side of the Grassmarket in 1849 he sold barley from his estate at Kirkhill and paid the appropriate custom duty to the City Chamberlain.

THURSDAY 9 SEPTEMBER 1847. Willie and I pulled down some apples for Miss Bryden. We got a ride on Mary. In the afternoon went and got a walk by the banks of the Tweed it is very pretty walk but the

river is very small. We saw a great many trouts at the Weelbrae Well.

The *Second Statistical Account* says the Weel Brae Well was chalybeate and attracted notice of visitors for its reputed virtue in scorbutic complaints. It was not far from the church and cemetery.

FRIDAY 10 SEPTEMBER 1847. In the forenoon we set off for Dryburgh Abbey we crossed the Tweed in a little boat and payed a halfpenny to get over. A boy shewed us through the Abbey founded by Hugo de Morville Chancellor of Scotland in 1132. We saw the tombstones of Sir Walter Scott and his Lady they had arrived very recently and are made of Aberdeen granite. The Abbey is a very beautiful old building and the walks around it are very pretty. At night Mr Bryden brought news that they were all well.

This Border visit lasted till 2 October. John seems to have picked up a considerable amount of Scottish history during this stay in Borderland or he was applying what he had learnt at school or through his reading. The de Morville family were granted the lands by David I. Hugo endowed Dryburgh and Kilwinning Abbeys and made gifts to Melrose. He was Constable of Scotland, not Chancellor as John writes. The remains of Dryburgh Abbey were presented to the nation in 1918 by Lord Glenconner. Sir Walter Scott and later Earl Haig were buried in the chapels of the north transept.

SATURDAY 11 SEPTEMBER 1847. Wrote to Mother in the morning. Went and saw Mrs Honeyman she is a little better than she used to be, and is able to sit up for a few hours. At 12 Mr Bryden drove us to Melrose in the gig we were there at 1. Met John Manuel he is in Curle and Erskine the writer's office. Willie and I set off for Abbotsford. We were intending to go and see Mr Brockie at Tweedbank but we had no time. After looking about us for a long time as we did not know what door to go in at, a phaeton drove up with a lady and gentleman, so we went into the house with them. The entrance hall was full of curiosities among which were, The key of the old Tolbooth, Two suits of armour from Waterloo, A grate which belonged to Archbishop Sharp &c. The windows are of stained glass and look very well. We were next shown his armoury in which were, Rob Roy's ..., Charles I

sword, a brace of Napoleon's pistols, Queen Mary's alms box &c. Next the Breakfast Room. Then the Drawing room in which were very neat set of Ebony chairs presented by George IV which belonged to George II, and the portrait of Sir Walter which is said to be the likest. Then the Dining Room where Sir Walter died, and in which there is a very good portrait of Mackay in the character of Bailie Nicol Jarvie. Then the Library the roof of which is of oak beautifully carved. There is a very neat table that moves for references and above it a lamp from Herculaneum. Then we were shown his study in which he wrote and in it there is one arm chair made of the wood of the house in which Wallace was betrayed. There is a small closet off the study in which are the clothes that he wore last. The walls of the entrance Hall are made of the wood of the abbey of Dunfermline and the fireplace is a copy taken from Melrose Abbey. We put down our name in the book and came away at 25 min past 3. We were at Melrose at 4 pm Was at Weirgate at ¼ past 5 pm. Got a letter from Mother.

David Honeyman, a labourer in Lessudden, and his wife, Agnes Brockie, had a daughter, Helen born on 31 May 1816. The Honeymans were thus related to Willie Brockie but how is not clear.

There were many types of carriages in the 1840s. A noddy has already been mentioned. A gig was a light two-wheeled carriage while a phaeton was an open four-wheeled carriage which could be drawn by either one or two horses.

Sir Walter Scott had died in 1832. Lady Scott predeceased him in 1826. Abbotsford House was not yet the busy museum tourist attraction of today but from John's description little seems to have altered. It was Rob Roy's targe which was on display. Charles Mackay was the actor in the stage version of *Rob Roy* which was popular in the theatre of the mid 19th century. The play was performed on the occasion of the visit of George IV to Edinburgh in 1822. It is said that the King rocked with laughter at Mackay's performance and that Scott fell so rapturously in love with Mackay's Bailie Nicol Jarvie that he wrote to the actor in the most enthusiastic terms about it. The play was revived at the time of the state visit of King Olav of Norway to Edinburgh in October 1962.

John would be specially interested in Archbishop Sharp because of the family tradition that his direct ancestor, probably great-great-grandfather, Andrew Gullan or Guiland, a weaver from Balmerino, was executed on 13 July 1683 for his part in the murder of the

Date	Signature	Residence
Sept 6 th	Mr. Inverdale	Glasnevin near Dublin
11 th	Mr. John Inverdale	Edinburgh
1847	Mrs. J. Baillie & family	Lippington Lincoln
	Miss J. Bowring	Dorking Surrey
	Mr. W. Combes	Dorking Surrey
	Mr. Ward	London
	Joshua La Herfield	Manchester
	Miss La Herfield	
	William Brockie	Edinburgh
	John Gulland	
13 th	E. Menzies	Lille
	J. Hill	London
	Walter Fiddes Wilson	Hawick
	J. S. Wilson	Hawick

Fig. 2. Signatures of John Gulland and William Brockie in the Visitors Book at Abbotsford, 11 September 1847. (By courtesy of Mrs Patricia Maxwell-Scott, Abbotsford.)

archbishop in 1679. The family believe that he had no hand in the killing and was merely the fellow who held the horses, an accessory to the deed. James King Hewitson in his *Covenanters* says that Gulland 'was sentenced to have both hands chopped off, then to be hanged, to have his head cut off, and with one hand to be publicly set up on the Netherbow, the other hand set up at Cupar Tolbooth and to have his body carried to Magus Muir and there being in chains on a high pole'.

The Visitors Book of 1847 still exists at Abbotsford and shows the signatures of the two boys (fig. 2). On the day of John's visit there were only eight entries in the book, an Edinburgh gentleman, a minister and family from Lissington in Lincolnshire, friends from Dorking in Surrey, a gentleman from London, and Joshua Herzfield and his wife from Manchester who seem to have been the lady and gentleman to whom the boys attached themselves.

The firm of Curle and Erskine, solicitors, had their chambers in Market Place and High Street. The Curles were procurators and

notaries public. The firm were the agents for the Edinburgh Life Insurance Society. John Manuel, a schoolfellow at the High School, had become one of their employees, described as a solicitor's clerk. He was the son of David Manuel the innkeeper of the George Inn, now hotel, in the High Street, Melrose.

SUNDAY 12 SEPTEMBER 1847. Went to St Boswell's Church at 12 o'clock and heard Mr Somerville preach from Jeremiah XIII. 21 the church came out at 2 pm Mr J Miss Bryden and I got a walk round by Crossflat we called in at Mrs Traquair's as we were passing.

The Rev. Robert Somerville was educated at Edinburgh University. He was ordained in 1845 and inducted to St Boswells. His old parish church of St Boswells was restored in the 18th and 19th centuries but

was demolished in 1952. The foundations in the cemetery show it to have been cruciform.

Mrs Christine Traquair is described in the 1851 census return as a grocer, draper and spirit dealer at Lessudden. Her assistant was Mary Lawrie whose name occurs several times in the diary. The farmer at Crossflat was Andrew Bryden, related to the Brydens of Weirgate.

MONDAY 13 SEPTEMBER 1847. Got a ride on the pony the length of Newton and back again (about 6 miles) Got a letter from Mother and one from Aunt Ainslie. Miss Bryden, Willie and I were intending to go to Bouchiecoate and were down the length of the Onstead when it came on a heavy shower and we had to turn back.

Bouchiecoate or Buchicote was the local pronunciation of Butchercoat, a farm not far from Smailholm Tower. The word 'onstead' in Scots means the farm steading or homestead. On the intended visit to Butchercoat the shower of rain came on before they had left the Weirgate onstead or farm steading, where the boys played the following day.

Newtown St Boswells prospered as a railway centre and is presently the headquarters of Border region. With the growth of Newtown St Boswells the older village lost some of its importance. The railway through Newtown St Boswells was closed in 1969 and the community was by-passed by a new road in 1990.

TUESDAY 14 SEPTEMBER 1847. Went to the Weelbrae Well and fished for minnows but we only caught one. Played about the Onstead in the afternoon.

WEDNESDAY 15 SEPTEMBER 1847. Wrote to Isa at 11 am. Went and saw Mrs Honeyman she is much the same as when we last saw her. Miss Bryden, Willie and I went to Halidean Mill were there at 3 went and saw the Places round about and came into tea. A Mr Purves from Jedburgh and his son were there. Left at 6 pm Called at Beamerside our Miss Bryden's old nurse and as it was raining heavy she gave us the loan of an umbrella. It got very dark at 8 when we got home, on the road to Halidean Mill we went and saw a statue of William Wallace built by the Earl of Buchan it is seemingly sculptured out of one block and is very coarse.

Hallidean Mill is a farm on the road from Bemersyde to Leaderfoot, by Scott's famous view, on the Hallidean Burn which flows into the Tweed opposite Old Melrose. John misspells Bemersyde which is two miles from St Boswells on the road to Dryburgh Abbey. It has been the family seat of the Haig family since the 1100s. It was alienated from the Haigs in the 19th century and gifted by the nation in 1921 to Field Marshal Earl Haig of the 1914 war. The present building consists of a tower of the late 15th century with additions of later date. Earl Haig is buried in Dryburgh Abbey in a grave adjacent to that of Sir Walter Scott.

The more than lifesize lofty statue of William Wallace, over 22 feet high, stands on Bemersyde Hill overlooking the Tweed. The Earl of Buchan who commissioned the statue had verses inscribed on an adjoining urn in praise of the patriot whom he greatly admired. It was inaugurated in 1814 on the anniversary of the Battle of Stirling Bridge in 1297.

THURSDAY 16 SEPTEMBER 1847. A very wet morning. We were intending to go to St Leonard's but could not get for the rain. It cleared in the afternoon. Miss Bryden, Willie and I went to Manse and drank tea. Mr Somerville was not at home. Saw a navie funeral in the churchyard there are a great many tombstones of the Kyles.

The farm of St Leonard's was some two miles south of Lauder on the road to Earlston and St Boswells. It was the home of Mr Fletcher, a friend of the Brydens who is mentioned several times in the diary. Later in the diary John describes a fishing expedition from St Leonard's. Aerial photography shows that on St Leonard's Hill there was a temporary Roman camp, although nothing can be seen on the ground.

There are many tombstone references to the Kyle family. The connection with the Bryden family goes back to the previous century when George Bryden of Lessudden had married an Agnes Kyle. Their tombstone records his death in 1800 aged 76 and hers in 1803 aged 78. The navvies had come to the neighbourhood for employment on the railway works.

FRIDAY 17 SEPTEMBER 1847. Got a ride on a pony up to the Manse. Mr Somerville saw us and he asked us in he took us to the garden and gave us a great many apples and pears. He said he had seen Father at a dinner of the Magistrates of the Canongate when he was chief Bailie. Miss Bryden and Willie and I went to Thornielaw in the afternoon as we went up we went into a Mrs Kyle's house. When we had got our tea

Willie and I looked about the steading. Mr Thomson had not got all his crops in yet. Left at 7. Just as we were going away to St Leonard's in the morning Mr Fletcher came on this road to Kelso as he thought Mr Bryden would feel dull himself.

John's father was George Gulland who was a magistrate in the Canongate before the Canongate was absorbed in Edinburgh. He had the distinction in 1842 when Queen Victoria made her first visit to Scotland to be the first magistrate in the country to welcome her at Abbeyhill as she went on her way to Dalkeith Palace. The Edinburgh magistrates, under Lord Provost Sir James Forrest, should have received her but, Her Majesty arriving early, they were too late for any ceremony. Later George Gulland became a magistrate in the extended city. He was honoured with a presentation copy of Sir Thomas Dick Lauder's *Royal Progress in Scotland* (Edinburgh 1843) which was gifted by his great grandson, John Gulland Osborne, to Huntly House Museum in 1971.

Thornielaw is about two miles from St Boswells. James Thomson farmed the 540 acres with the assistance of fifteen farm labourers. His mother, Mrs Isabel Thomson, is mentioned later in the diary.

Greenend is a farm of some 500 acres on the road from St Boswells to Lilliesleaf. George Mills was the farmer who, besides having help from members of his family, employed eight farm labourers. The Mills and the Brydens were related through the senior Mrs Bryden who was a Miss Mills before her marriage. It was at the farm of Greenend that the railway company stabled their horses while they constructed the deep cutting adjacent to the farm. The farm is actually in the adjoining parish of Ancrum, although much nearer St Boswells.

SATURDAY 18 SEPTEMBER 1847. Left Weirgate at 25 min. to 10 am We met Mr Fletcher with the gig and he and Mr Bryden drove us to his new farm, Jeanfield. Willie and I went down to the Mill and saw through the whole of it. Went to the Leader it is very small just now. Went to the house and got our dinner as Mr Johnston from Kelso was there. After tea Willie and I went and saw Heading it is a very old place. We got a hold of a pair of stilts and walked on the ... Left at ¼ past 6 and was home at 8.

The name of the farm is Jeaniefield, not Jeanfield. It is situated some 900 feet high by the road from Lauder to Blainslie, about three or four miles from St Leonard's. The Southern Upland Way now passes the farm. Heading is not known as a place to the present inhabitants of the area nor can it be found on maps. The present farmer whose

family has worked this area for over a century says that locally the term merely implies the head of the field. There is no very old place visible where the boys might have played.

The Leader Water having come through Lauderdale joins the Tweed about the Leaderfoot Bridge of the old railway which ran from Newtown St Boswells by Earlston, Greenlaw and Duns to the main line at Reston. It was opened in the 1860s and closed in the 1960s. The high viaduct at Leaderfoot is preserved for its architectural interest. John comments on the 'smallness' of the rivers he visited but it must be remembered that the summer was an exceptionally dry and warm one.

SUNDAY 19 SEPTEMBER 1847. Wrote to Mother in the morning and at ½ past 11 got a letter from her stating that they were all well. Went to the church in the gig. Mrs Bryden and I went into the Manse and got a drink. Mr Somerville preached from Acts XI. 23. Waited in the churchyard till Mr Bryden came out of the Session house when we walked home. It rained a little today.

It is interesting to note that John several times mentions getting letters on a Sunday as well as posting others even in the country districts. The modern postal system with the penny stamp had been established just a few years before in May 1840.

MONDAY 20 SEPTEMBER 1847. Went to the Weelbrae Well and caught 9 minnows. In the afternoon Miss Bryden, Willie and I went to Mr Thomson of Maxton. Willie and I took a walk along the banks of the Tweed. There were some workmen making a small addition to the Manse. Got tea at 6. There were Three ladies there besides the two Miss Thomsons. We were back at 8 pm.

Maxton is a village on the road to Kelso from St Boswells. The lords of Maxton were the Kers of Littledean. Maxton church is by the Tweed and is an ancient foundation much altered. The Rev. John Thomson, minister, born 1776, was minister of Maxton from 1810. He wrote the account of the parish for the *Second Statistical Account*. He died in 1865, aged 89.

TUESDAY 21 SEPTEMBER 1847. Got a ride on the Pony round by the green she was very fidgetty and would not go any further. Mr and Mrs Somerville and Mrs Trygnari came to Weirgate to tea. It was very wet at night when they went away.

WEDNESDAY 22 SEPTEMBER 1847. It was very wet in the morning for a short time. Went to The Green to ask for Mr Lowrie and Robert. Mr Lowrie was better and Robert's cut was a little better. He cut his thigh very deeply with a scythe when he was running about the smithy. Went to the Library and got another book. Played about the Mains in the afternoon. At night the hind's wife got a son and they had to send to Melrose for a doctor as Mr Bailie was out. Mr Somerville came to Weirgate at night. he quarrelled with us for not going to the Manse this morning but we told him we forgot. The pony got herself bitten very much last night by the horse breaking his collar and biting her.

The Green at St Boswells was one of the largest village greens in Scotland. Here used to be held the greatest livestock fair in the Borders until it was transferred to Newtown St Boswells after the coming of the railway. There was a subscription library in St Boswells. The *Second Statistical Account* says it was instituted in 1799 under the patronage of Sir David Erskine of Dryburgh Abbey and by the 1820s had some thousand volumes. Jean S. Laurie, in her book on *Old St Boswells* (1974), says the smithy at the green was built for Mr Laurie, the great great grandfather of the owner in the 1970s. The blacksmith was Thomas Lawrie who had eight of a family by 1841. The son Robert followed his father and is recorded in the 1851 census as, aged 21. a blacksmith working with his father, then aged 69.

The *Statistical Account* says that, at the annual fair, the Green presented 'very gay and animated scenes. The whole space being planted with tents with a profusion of goods, Scotch and Irish linen, hardwood, toys, crockery, shoes, horses and horned cattle'. The fair was the scene of a fight in 1853 between Irish navvies working on the railway who had drunk too well. A local boy, Willie Lauder, was killed by an Irishman who fled from the scene to escape the country. Another Irishman, found with some blood on his clothing, was hung at Jedburgh for the crime he did not commit.

THURSDAY 23 SEPTEMBER 1847. Went up to Mr Somerville's and got a great many Apples and Pears. Went to the Weelbrae Well and caught a few Minnows. Went to Mr Mills of Greenend in the afternoon in his steward's house as his own is repairing. He was out at the time we came but came in in a few minutes. He took us out with him and showed us the place. The Railway Contractors stables are there and

they have 38 horses. He has a very big stable yard and there are 70 stalks in it. There is a cutting for the Railway at Greenend 48 feet deep and 24 feet wide. Went back to the house and got our tea and left at ½ past 6. We called at Mrs Lowrie's in the passing she said Robert was still keeping well. Mr Macintosh Seedsman from Edinburgh was at Weirgate when we came home.

Robert T. McIntosh was a seedsman and florist at 7 North St Andrew Street, Edinburgh.

FRIDAY 24 SEPTEMBER 1847. At ½ past 11 received a letter from Uncle James asking us to go to Old Mr Heiton's at Darnick Tower and another from Isa. Mr G. Mills came to dinner at 1. He and Mr and Mrs Bryden went to Melrose in Mr Mills gig. Willie and I went to the Weelbrae Well and caught 3 Minnows. They came home from Melrose at 7 pm.

Darnick Tower, about a mile from Melrose, was originally built in the 15th century but was rebuilt after the Hertford invasion in the next century at the time of the 'rough wooin'. It was occupied by the Heiton family for some five hundred years. Sir Walter Scott fancied Darnick at one time and he became familiarly known as the Duke of Darnick. Mr Heiton, however, was unwilling to part with his old tower. John Heiton, though the owner of the tower, chose to live in the smaller and more easily managed cottage. While John does not make the point in the diary it would seem that the Heitons of Darnick were connected with the Heitons of Edinburgh. There were several Heiton businesses in the city. One of them was a partnership with James Gulland at 23 South Hanover Street as Heiton and Gulland, woollen drapers, hatters and hosiers, the partnership which was dissolved four months later on 7 February 1848, mentioned in the diary at that date. It was this Uncle James who asked the boys to visit Darnick.

One wonders what John did with the minnows he caught almost daily.

SATURDAY 25 SEPTEMBER 1847. Left Weirgate at ½ past 12 pm and walked to Melrose (about 4 miles) as these are very bad roads in consequence of the rain we did not get there till ¼ past 2 pm We met Mr G. Mills going to the market and Mr Bryden in Mr Lindsay's gig as the pony was lamed. Went to Isaacs with a parcel for Miss Bryden and put my letter in the

post office. Willie went to Mr Manuel's Inn (The George) and George had newly arrived by the *Chevy Chase*. Went and saw the stables and the garden. The railway is just at the back of the Garden and they are building a beautiful station house. George took us to Melrose Abbey he opened the gates and we went in and saw the place the old man bade him take us through, we went up the stairs to the bell which strikes every hour by the clock with stone weights. Then we went through the aisles they are all beautifully carved. They say that King Robert the Bruce's heart is before the altar. The old man took us into a place at the back and gave us a beautiful piece of Sweet William he is a real nice old fellow. Went into the churchyard and came away at ¼ to 4 pm. Walked along the Tweed part of the way to Tweedbank as we had not time to go to Darnick Tower got there at 5 pm. We saw old Mrs Brockie and Mrs W. Brockie got our tea and came away at ¼ past 6 pm. Went and saw the railway bridge over the Tweed it is not finished yet got to Melrose at 20 min past 6 pm. Went and bought some Envelopes at Walkers and Willie went to Mr Manuel's and told him we were going away. It got very dark and we got home at ½ past 7 pm. We met a great many Irishmen up the road.

James Isaac was a general draper who had his premises at Market Place in Melrose. He had seven children by 1851. George Manuel was a younger brother of John Manuel, son of the proprietor of the George Inn at Melrose. The *Chevy Chase* was the name of one of the stage coaches to the Borders.

Melrose Abbey was founded in 1136, the first Cistercian monastery in Scotland. It succeeded the monastery of Old Melrose whose first prior was St Boisel, after whom St Boswells is named. In the 1840s the abbey was in the private hands of the Earls of Haddington who sold it to the Duchess of Buccleuch. In 1919 the Buccleuchs passed the property to the then Ministry of Works, now called Historic Scotland.

Tweedbank is now the site of the new housing development of Melrose. The 1841 census showed James Brockie and his daughter Catherine at Tweedbank.

SUNDAY 26 SEPTEMBER 1847. Went to Church at 12 and heard Mr Somerville preach from Isaiah VI.

5-7. Went to Newtown and took our tea at Mrs Mills; Mrs Bryden's sister-in-law.

MONDAY 27 SEPTEMBER 1847. Went to Maxton Manse with a note from Miss Bryden. Then to Greenend Saw the two Mr Mills' sons of Castle. Mrs Mills was going to Jedburgh with Miss Bryden. Started for Butchercoat at ½ past 2 were there at 4. The heat was very oppressive. Found Mr and Mrs Dunlop at home. Went up to Sandyknowes and saw Smailholm Tower. It seems a very old place. There is only one staircase through the whole. Went back and got our tea and left about 6 pm. As we were coming home we met Mr Somerville and Mr Dickson but as it was dark we did not see each other till we were past.

Sandyknowes was his grandfather's farm where Sir Walter Scott spent some of his childhood. Smailholm Tower belongs to the 15th century period and was originally owned by the Pringle family. It passed into the Scott family and was the home of Sir Walter Scott of Harden whose son was involved in the story of 'Muckle Moud Meg'. Smailholm Tower is now administered by Historic Scotland. John spells Butchercoat correctly on this occasion for the Dunlop's farm which he previously calls Bouchiecote, the local pronunciation. It was adjacent to Smailholm Tower and Sandyknowes farm.

TUESDAY 28 SEPTEMBER 1847. Went to Mr Somerville's with Willie and Then to Thornielaw to ask Mrs Thomson to come down to tea tonight. Asked at the *Chevy Chase* and the *Abbotsford* for a parcel but there was none. A few gentlemen and their ladies came to their Tea and supper. We had a nice party. Mr Fryer of Tans and his son Mr Richard came to breakfast in the morning.

Like the *Chevy Chase*, the *Abbotsford* was the name of another stage coach. The Melrose hotel is now named The George and Abbotsford.

WEDNESDAY 29 SEPTEMBER 1847. Went to Camiston with Miss Bryden and Willie. On our road up we met Mr Williamson the Duke of Buccleuch's Huntsman airing the fox-hounds. They are all very pretty beasts reached Camiston at one. Willie and I walked about the time Miss Bryden was in. As Miss Blackie is going to be married she met Miss Mills there

but she was out. In the afternoon Mr Andrew and Miss Mills drove to Weirgate and Willie and I got into the phaeton and they took us to Hiltonshill and then we walked to Greenend. They had got there before us. Went and saw them Threshing, with Mr Mills. Got our Tea and came away at 6 pm.

Carniston, or Camieston, lies between St Boswells and Bowden on one of the side roads about three miles from the Green. In the 1840s it was renowned for its considerable extent of plantation of trees. In the 1841 census Mrs Blackie and her sister Isabella lived there with their four children. Margaret, the eldest, would be 26 in 1847. Thomas Blackie, the farmer, employed ten farm labourers on his 300 acre farm.

The Duke of Buccleuch's kennels were at St Boswells, adjoining what is now the Buccleuch Arms Hotel. They were built from 1826 onwards as a branch of the Duke's kennels at Dalkeith Palace. Mr Williamson who had been a huntsman with the Duke from 1827 came to take charge. When he retired after 35 years' service he remained in the neighbourhood, buying the farm of Laretburn.

Hiltonshill, a farm of 132 acres employing three farm labourers, is situated just to the west of the main A7 road south of St Boswells about a mile from the Green.

THURSDAY 30 SEPTEMBER 1847. Miss Mills came to breakfast in Mr Mills' dog cart. Miss Bryden and her were going to Kelso. Willie and I started from Weirgate at 9 and were at Darnick at 11 am. Went to Tower Cottage and saw Old Mr Heiton working in the garden. He gave us some apples and pears and took us through the old Tower which was built by the Heitons in 1569. Went into the cottage and saw Mrs Heiton they are both very kind people got our dinner and afterwards walked up by the side of the Tweed. There were two or three navies fishing and one boy had caught 4 one of which was very large came back and got tea and left at $\frac{1}{4}$ past 5. Came through Melrose and got a tin case for Miss Bryden at Paterson's and was home at 7.

The dog-cart was a two-wheeled horse-drawn carriage with seats back to back, originally used, it is said, for conveying sporting dogs.

FRIDAY 1 OCTOBER 1847. Willie and I left Weirgate at 9 am To go to Belses and as Mrs Bryden was

rather worse she told us to tell Miss Bryden to come home after dinner. When we came to Greenend the housekeeper told us the way. We went along the railway till we came to Belses. Mr Mills had lost power of his legs and a man has to walk with him, he shewed us the garden and took us down to the meadows, there is a burn called, the Jordan, that runs through them. Went through a plantation with Bob a bull terrier of Mr Mills, and missed a hare as it was on the other side of the hedge and we could not see it. Mr G. Mills of Greenend came to his dinner. Miss Bryden and us along with the Misses Mills left Belses after dinner. Went to Greenend and saw through the new house. The Misses Mills left us at Greenend and we reached Weirgate at 6.

Belses was a hamlet and railway station on the line that went from Newtown St Boswells to Hawick. It was the station for Lilliesleaf and Ancrum. The line was in process of construction at the time of John's visit. It was much quicker then to walk by the railway track than to go round by the road. The line was not opened for traffic till 1849. The Jordan Burn is a small tributary of the River Ale. There are a number of Jordan streams in Scotland, including that in Edinburgh. John would reach Belses Mill first just over a mile from Greenend and in another mile or so New Belses and the station and then Old Belses.

SATURDAY 2 OCTOBER 1847. Went to the Mains and saw the pony she is hardly so lame. As I was looking at a man mending a pump I saw a hare running down the road gave it chase but it got away. Went and saw Old Mrs Bryden and Mrs Honeyman. We bade farewell to Mrs Bryden at XII And as Mr Bryden was going to Melrose Market he drove us to the green in the gig and Miss Bryden came with us to see us away. Left by the *Abbotsford* Coach at $\frac{1}{2}$ past 12. Met Mr Williamson and two grooms on horseback airing the foxhounds between Melrose and St Boswells. Dr Fyfe came on the coach at Old Melrose Met Mr Bryden at the Bogle Burn. Spoke to John Manuel at Melrose he had just newly arrived by the *Chevy* he is going to the office on Monday. Saw Mr Mills on horseback at Darnick. Two sons of Captain Elliot came on

between Melrose and Galashiels. We had four horses between Torsonce and Mr Govenlocks farm arrived at Fushiebridge at ¼ to 4 pm The train left at 10 minutes to 4 and we were in Edinburgh at 20 minutes to 5. Mother was waiting at the station to meet us. Found all well at home. Wrote to Miss Bryden and Aunt Ainslie. Went up and saw The Maxwells and Willie Main was there they had been at the school on Friday.

The Bogle Burn is a small stream which rises in the Eildon Hills and joins the Tweed at Melrose. Melrose as a market town held regular markets. There were three fairs in the town, in June, August and Martinmas, all cattle markets. The Lammas, August, sale grew in importance to rival the great sheep market of St Boswells.

The Hon. Charles Elliot, son of the Earl of Minto, was a captain in the Royal Navy.

Torsonce House is some five miles north of Galashiels on the A7 road. The road becomes more hilly from there on its way towards Heriot and the extra horses were required for the load over the summit. Torsonce Inn, built in 1819, was a convenient stopping place for the stage coach.

SUNDAY 3 OCTOBER 1847. Went to Church and heard Mr Tweedie preach both forenoon and afternoon his text in the forenoon was John 16. 22-28 and in the afternoon Malachi III. 6.

MONDAY 4 OCTOBER 1847. Willie Brockie came over at ½ past 9 and we went to school at 11. The dux of the Rector's class gave out the Matriculation Ticket my number was 342. Went to Mr Macmillan's and got myself entered. Went to the Rector and asked if he had made any arrangement so that we could attend both the Mathematics and French, he said we would see tomorrow. Went to Mr Macmillan's till 12 and came home then came back to the school at 1 and left at 3 pm After dinner Willie and Haswell came over and we went and got our Class books at St Andrew Square. We had to wait a long time or they came so went to Uncle James' shop. Mr Heiton was in at the time and Uncle was at home. Went to Willie's and got my tea and came home at 7 pm The new classbooks were, High School *Grammar* by Schmitz 4/-, Sallust 2/6, Vergil 3/6, Carson's *Greek*

Exercises 3/-, Mair's *Introduction* 3/6 and I had Adam's *Antiquities* at home.

The School session had opened on 1 October and the boys were late through being on holiday in the Borders. Dr Stevens gives the total school roll in 1847-48 as 443. Mathematics was taught in the School from the 1830s. In 1834 William Moffat was appointed, first for a fixed term of five years but he was continued thereafter. Mr Moffat had been a teacher at Heriot's Hospital prior to taking up his duties at the High School. He lived at 63 South Bridge where he also did private tuition. French was also introduced in the 1830s and the post of teacher was held by M. Victor de Fivas whose home was at 53 George Street where he also did private teaching.

The High School *Grammar* (1846) was the work of Dr Leonhard Schmitz, the Rector of the school. He was the first foreigner to be appointed to the rectorship. He was born at Eupen, a village near Aachen in the Rhineland. He lost an arm in a machinery accident in his schooldays. He studied at Bonn University and obtained the degree of Doctor of Philosophy in 1842. He had married an English lady and came to England where he began an intensive study of English, and took a post of tutor to a family. He succeeded Dr Carson as Rector in December 1845. His publications are numerous, principally translations of classical works. The *Grammar* was also an abridged translation of the *Grammar of the Latin Language* by Professor Zumpt of the University of Berlin. Dr Carson of the *Greek Exercises* was Dr Schmitz's predecessor. Dr Alexander Adam was Rector from 1786 to 1810. His *Antiquities* continued to be a classic work into the 20th century.

TUESDAY 5 OCTOBER 1847. We were intending to draw lots today but Mr Macmillan had forgotten to make them. There were 55 boys in the class today. Went to De Fivas in the afternoon and he told us if we wished we would come to his house on Mondays, Wednesdays & Fridays. Entered Mr Moffat's Class for Mathematics at 3. Went to St Andrew Square in the afternoon and got my Geometry book it was 2/6.

WEDNESDAY 6 OCTOBER 1847. Drew lots in the forenoon mine was 63 but as there were 71 tickets and only 55 boys I was about 49th Dux. Went with Mother to Uncle James' Shop and got a suit of clothes. Went to Herr's the taylor in Register Street but he was at his dinner. Went to Mr Cowans and found him in so he took the measure for my jacket and waistcoat which he sent over on Saturday night. Went to St Andrew Square

and got some paper at night and then to Mr Herr's and got my measure taken.

THURSDAY 7 OCTOBER 1847. Went to Mr Anderson the bootmaker with my shoes to be mended and he took the measure of my foot for a pair of boots. Met Mr Martin and John Brown they are both in banks. Went to Mr Glachlans and bought a cheese.

Enrolment at the School was slow in 1847. To encourage learning and assiduity boys were graded regularly for their work. It is interesting that in these days boys thought of their position from the top of the class – 49th Dux – rather than their position from the bottom – 6th from bottom.

The tailor whom John calls Herr was really Herr Frederick Wunsch, a German in origin. His shop was at 48 West Register Street. Robert Cowan, tailor and clothier, had his shop at 44 Leith Street. The bootmaker was John Anderson at 5 South St Andrew Street, although there was another bootmaker John Anderson further away at St Patrick Square. There is no shopkeeper Glachlan in the street directory of the time but John would seem to have made an error for Don McGlashan, wine and spirit merchant and grocer at 39-41 Broughton Street and 1 Mansfield Place. Thomas Martin was an accountant at 2 Hanover Street and John Coltman Brown had been a fellow schoolboy.

FRIDAY 8 OCTOBER 1847. Went to Willie Brockie's after tea and found Willie Main there. After we had played a few games at cards we left. Bought a 4d version book at Sutherland's in Calton Street. Mr Macmillan made some of us stay in for a fortnight for blocking up the Tunnel and not letting the boys past and he was to keep me and 4 others in for looking at them.

John Sutherland & Co., music sellers, booksellers, stationers and newsagents, of 12 Calton Street, advertised that they could provide 'the latest editions of the London newspapers direct from London with the greatest regularity' and would provide them 'to all parts of the U.K. at the same price as charged in London and Edinburgh'.

The Tunnel was the passageway under the podium in the front of the School. It was a comparatively narrow passage and easily blocked by any group of boys who wished to stop other boys getting through. Off the tunnel were the lavatories. It was, at least in the 1920s, the place where illicit smoking took place and homework was cribbed or even notes of excuse written. Mr Macmillan seems to have used detention as a punishment. John reports, later in the diary, only one occasion on which he used corporal punishment.

SATURDAY 9 OCTOBER 1847. Got up 9 places at the school today. Made arrangements to go to the Park and play at cricket with the Greigs and Maxwell, W Main and Willie Brockie. But I went to the Commercial Bank with some money for father. I had to get the loan of 3 pounds at the High Street shop, met Mr King at the bank. They were very busy and I had to wait a long time or I got in to pay the money. Went to Uncle's shop in St Andrew Square and asked for Uncle Tom they said he was upstairs but when I went up he was not there, so, I had to wait a long time. Uncle William came in and I asked him if he could tell me where I could get a case of Mathematical instruments but he said he couldn't. I went out to try to get Uncle Tom and met him coming from Macgills but he went back with me and we got a 12/- case for 10/- He got my name engraved for me at the shop and a Greek Testament that was 5/- and I got it for 3/10d. Was too late to go to the Park so went over to Willie's and we got a walk to the end of George street. They came over at night and shewed me a case of Mathematical instruments that he had got for 5/-.

The Commercial Bank was situated at 142 High Street, adjacent to the present Cross Post Office. The Mr King may have been the band box manufacturer of 359 High Street whom he probably knew but it might have been Mr King the miller of Duddingston Mills whom he visited for his father. William Macgill, artists, colourmen and print sellers, at 7 Hanover Street. The Uncles mentioned were the map makers of St Andrew Square.

SUNDAY 10 OCTOBER 1847. Went to the church in the forenoon and heard Mr Tweedie preach from John XVI. 28 – end, but did not go to it in the afternoon as I had a bad cold and took a pill in the morning.

MONDAY 11 OCTOBER 1847. As my cough was not much better I stayed from the school today. William Brockie came over at night and we learned our lessons together. He told me we were all let off from our Poena on Friday.

It was common in the 19th century in classical schools like the Royal High to use Latin words like poena for punishment.

TUESDAY 12 OCTOBER 1847. A very foggy day. Went to the school but found my cough rather worse.

WEDNESDAY 13 OCTOBER 1847. I was at home all day and finished the 39th part of the Chinese Puzzles. Aunt Thomas got a son at 4 o'clock this morning. Willie came over after tea and as his sisters were here and Betsy's sister from Castlecraig we had two or three nice games at cards.

THURSDAY 14 OCTOBER 1847. Staid at home all day. Willie came down at night and we had a game at Bagatelle each of the sides won a game.

FRIDAY 15 OCTOBER 1847. Did not get up till one pm and when I got downstairs Mrs Campbell from Dunfermline was there. She was very agreeable. She went over to Uncle Brockie's to her dinner along with Father and Mother. She went across to Dunfermline again in the afternoon. The Maxwells and Willie came down at night and as Uncle Brockie was over at the time he and Father played a game or two at Bagatelle with us. Agnes Gulland came down afterwards and we had some games at cards till 9.

Mrs Campbell of Dunfermline was likely to use the normal method of travelling to Dunfermline in 1847, by Croall's coach via Queensferry at 7.45 am and 4.45 pm. Alternatively she might have travelled to Burntisland by ferry and travelled by coach from there.

SATURDAY 16 OCTOBER 1847. Did not rise till 12 pm. Was intending to go to the S. S. Library but found that it was shut. Went over to Willie's and went to Bridge a message for Aunt, and, Willie went to Richmond Place a message for his Grandfather, to see where his lodgings were. They were in Chapel Street. He got a coach to go there and, as Willie had to buy a Greek Testament we went with him. The lodgings are very good ones he has a room and a bedroom. Went to MacIntosh in College Street and got the book came home and learnt our lessons together. Willie went up to the Library for me at night and got 2 books.

James McIntosh was bookseller at 5 North College Street. That street disappeared at the making of Chambers Street in the 1870s.

SUNDAY 17 OCTOBER 1847. In the forenoon went to the church and heard a Dr McEllor preach from John X. 28-29 Stayed at home in the afternoon.

The Rev. Angus Makellar was a native of Perthshire, born 1780, the son of a farmer. He was ordained at Carnunnock and was Moderator of the General Assembly in 1840. He received a doctorate from Glasgow University in 1835. He joined the Free Church in 1843 but never had a charge although he was Moderator of the Free Church Assembly in 1852.

MONDAY 18 OCTOBER 1847. Went to school today and found my cough almost better.

TUESDAY 19 OCTOBER 1847. When I came from the school I heard there had been a great fire at the Gas Works which had destroyed two houses. The Maxwells came down at night and we had a game at cards together.

Gas was introduced to the city in 1820 when part of the High Street was lit. Princes Street was lit in 1822. By the middle of the century gas lighting was common throughout the town. There were two main gas companies in Edinburgh. The Gaslight Company had their premises at New Street, where John lived, and, in 1849, to satisfy protesting citizens, the directors built the high chimney, 329 feet high, to prevent pollution. The Scott Monument is 200 feet and the Calton Hill 355 feet. That is the chimney depicted on the cover of Volume 1 of the second series of the *Book of the Old Edinburgh Club* (1991). The other gas works was at Tanfield, Canonmills, erected in 1823 by the Edinburgh and Leith Gas Company. That company was supported by Sir Walter Scott. No mention has been found in the local press of any fire at the gas works but even a minor one at New Street would have interested John.

WEDNESDAY 20 OCTOBER 1847. Got up 2 places at the school.

THURSDAY 21 OCTOBER 1847. I got up to 28th today. The Maxwells, Willie and John Thom, the son of Mr Thom the dissenting minister at Anstruther, came over and we had some games at Bagatelle. They left at 9 pm.

The Rev. John Thom came from Tarbolton to be the first minister of Anstruther (Burgher) United Presbyterian Church in 1825. He resigned in 1847 owing to ill-health and came to reside in Edinburgh at Union Street. He offered his services as supply preacher. He died in 1864, aged 76. His son John Thom was a fellow schoolboy who,

in the Rector's class in 1846, won the prize for Latin verse and went to University to read literature.

FRIDAY 22 OCTOBER 1847. At the Xenophon I got up to 7th Dux. We drew lots at the geometry my number was 22 and there were 31 in the class. I was going to the S. S. Library with the books I got out last Saturday but it is shut on Fridays. Went over to Willie's and wrote down some of the questions in Adams *Antiquities* as they are not in my book. Old Mrs Bryden came home from St Boswells tonight. She says they are all well. Left at ½ past 8 pm I broke the glass of the case of Birds as I was opening my desk and it will be very ill to get it in again.

Xenophon flourished from about 400 BC, a Greek historian who was also a military commander in the Persian wars. His principal book used in schools, because its language is comparatively plain and easy for beginners, was the *Anabasis* which is the story of his expedition with Cyrus to Persia.

It was common in Victorian homes to have glass cases with birds or animals and also to have others of butterflies or birds' eggs. Some of these had decorative shapes and the glass would be difficult to replace if broken.

SATURDAY 23 OCTOBER 1847. At ½ past 11 just as I was going to St Andrew Square Willie and Haswell came over asking me to go and see the Regalia with them but I told them to meet me at the Royal Exchange after they had got the order I went to Mr Hay's and told him to put in a glass in my watch and I would call for it in the afternoon. Met them opposite the High Church and we went up to the Castle at 12. Went in and saw the Regalia. They are very splendid but they are in a close and dark room lighted by a few oil lamps and are surrounded by railings. There is the crown in the centre and the Sceptre, Sword and case at the sides and in front there is a necklace of Queen Mary's and a ring, and two brooches on one of which St George and the dragon is represented in diamonds, and one side of the other is a portrait of herself and on the other side, St Andrew. And there is also at the end of the room the oaken box in which they were found. Saw Fortune an old school fellow he shewed us the way into Queen

Mary's room and told us we would get in but the boy that keeps it said we could not get in so we went away. Met R. Maxwell and James Beveridge going to see them but as there were some persons before them and they would have had to wait they came away without seeing them. Saw an old Raven which had come from Wales and always goes with the regiment which is the ... Went to Mr Hay's and got my watch. Went down to Willie's and we went a message for Uncle Andrew to the Physic Gardens. Walked round the Calton Hill with John Thom and him. John told us that the Anstruther boat *Stirling Castle* did not arrive till 10 today and did not get at 10 yesterday as the wind was against them they had to go to North Berwick for the night. Went to the Library at night.

The Royal Exchange was designed by John Adam in 1753. It was created in place of derelict buildings in the High Street so that merchants and others could do their business in comparative comfort instead of completing their transactions in the street, which was the common practice up to then. The idea was not a success; the property was acquired by the Town Council and became the City Chambers, as it is today.

The High Church is the correct name of St Giles which was only a Cathedral for short periods in the 17th century. In the mid 19th century the High Church was one portion of the four meeting places into which the church was divided. St Giles did not become one place of worship again till the 1870s. John's parents worshipped in the part known as the Tolbooth Church until the Disruption of 1843 when they left the established church for the Free Church.

The Regalia, crown, sceptre and sword of state, were sealed in the Crown Room of Edinburgh Castle at the Union of Parliaments in 1707. It was not till 1818 that the room was re-opened to reveal for the distinguished company the oaken box which was found to contain the regalia intact. Among those present and instrumental in having the room opened was Sir Walter Scott. The other jewels were gifted by George III in 1830. John is not quite right in his explanations. There is no necklace of Mary, Queen of Scots. The George jewel was a pendant worn with the collar of the Order of the Garter and is sometimes attributed to James VII. The St Andrew jewel from the Order of the Thistle has, on one side, a cameo of St Andrew and, on the other, not Mary, Queen of Scots, but Princess Maria Clementina Sobieska, the wife of James, the Old Pretender. The finger ring with the large ruby surrounded by diamonds was not that of Queen Mary but of some other royal personage.

The regiment in the Castle at the time of this visit was the 76th Regiment of Foot, commonly known as the 'Hindoostani' from its

service overseas. There is no raven mentioned in their history and the Scottish United Services Museum has found no record of any regiment of the time with a raven as mascot. Peter Hay was a watchmaker and jeweller at 39 Leith Street. The Physic Garden was originally the herb garden of the monastery and was situated on the site of the Waverley Station. It was moved in 1766 to Haddington Place, Leith Walk, where it became known as a botanical garden. In 1823 it moved to Inverleith where the Royal Botanic Garden is today. The Ordnance Survey map of 1852 still shows 'Botanic Cottage' at Haddington Place. The *Stirling Castle*, the Anstruther boat, sailed on Fridays from the back of the Customs House at Leith.

SUNDAY 24 OCTOBER 1847. Heard Mr Tweedie both in the forenoon and afternoon. His text was, in the forenoon John XVII. 1-5 and in the afternoon Micah VI. 6.

MONDAY 25 OCTOBER 1847. When I came home at 12 Dr Cowan was there and before I left Miss Ruthven came. Mrs Graham came in the afternoon with her son. Grandmother has turned ill this morning and she is confined to bed.

The Ruthvens were neighbours who lived at 23 New Street. The family were partners in Forrest and Ruthven, engineers. John Ruthven was described in the directory as engaged in patent press and rotatory steam engine manufacture while M. W. Ruthven was an engineer.

TUESDAY 26 OCTOBER 1847. Willie Brockie came over at night.

WEDNESDAY 27 OCTOBER 1847. At 12 o'clock when I came from the school and I had just got my dinner when Uncle Seton came in and he asked me to come out to Sheriffhall tonight and to bring Willie Brockie and he would give us a ride in his gig but I told him I was not sure if I could get as I had to go to the Mathematics. But both Willie and I stayed from ... as he said he would leave at $\frac{1}{2}$ 3 we were as quick as we could Willie was to be at New Street at $\frac{1}{4}$ past 3, but, as he did not come, I went over for him and we left at $\frac{1}{2}$ past 3, the time we were to be there, but we walked quick and were at Maitland's Stables at 20 min to 4 pm He had not come so we

had to wait for a while looking at a man clipping a horse it stood very quietly all the time. At last Uncle came at 4 and told us that as he was not sure whether we could come or not he has asked a Mr Gibb to go with him so as he came at 20 min past 4 we had to go away. And we told him we would be out tomorrow. Went to Willie's at night and wrote my version in Sallust. Uncle James came to Uncle Brockie's and I went over to see Grandmother with him she is no worse tonight. Uncle James came to New Street with Isa and I as he was going to Aunt Gulland's.

Robert Maitland was a livery and stable keeper at 51 Rose Street. Aunt Gulland was Mrs Laurence Gulland of the bakery business in the Canongate.

THURSDAY 28 OCTOBER 1847. The Fast Day. Went and saw how Grandmother was. She is a little better this morning. Met Uncle James and Willie at New Street. Left at 20 min past ten for Sheriffhall Mains. There were a great many people on the road. Uncle left us at a large tree near the third milestone. We got to Sheriffhall at $\frac{1}{2}$ past 12 pm. Uncle Seton was just going to the Market. And Mr Gibb drove Aunt up to the Church at $\frac{1}{2}$ past 2. He left Dalkeith by the 5 o'clock train. The time they were at the church Willie and I got some rides in the cart with Jamie Dunn and he told us a great lot of stories about the hunters of the Duke's. The Pole, Monsieur Yasyinski, is still there and he came down to his dinner and tea. He is a very well informed man but he cannot speak well.

The third milestone from Edinburgh on the old Dalkeith Road was at Fernieside, almost at the entrance to the drive to Edmonstone House, about half-a-mile up the hill from Little France. The old milestones were measured from Crosscauseway. Later milestones were measured from the General Post Office.

Fast Days were observed in the old church prior to the usual communion seasons. Services were normally held in the churches on the Thursday and Friday preceding the communion Sunday and a thanksgiving service was held on the Monday following. Until the 1950s and 1960s many churches continued to hold a preparatory service on the Friday evening before the communion service and a few still do. It was to one of these services that Aunt Seton was driven.

It is interesting that a Pole was employed as a farm servant. John presumably meant that he spoke with a foreign accent. Boys like John would not have much opportunity to meet foreigners in the 1840s.

FRIDAY 29 OCTOBER 1847. Rose at $\frac{1}{2}$ past 7 am We took it into our heads to cut some turnips by the new machine and did fill 2 carts full. At 11 am Went and got a walk and saw the new road we went as far as the bridge over the Esk. Aunt Seton went in to Edinburgh by the 10 min past 10 train. Went down and saw the new water pump which the Railway had made. It works very well, Met Aunt at the Railway at 5 pm.

SATURDAY 30 OCTOBER 1847. They were threshing wheat in the morning and we went and saw the machinery &c. The engine is of 4 horse power. We left Millerhill by the train at 10 min past 10 and were in Edinburgh at 20 min to 11 am. Went to the Church with Mother and heard a strange minister preach from Genesis XV. 17-18. Mother went to see Grandmother and I got William to come over with me and we wrote part of our Exercise in Porteus together.

Porteus is not identified. There is no Latin author of that name. It may be an error for Porteous, the editor of some text used in class.

SUNDAY 31 OCTOBER 1847. As this was the Sacrament Sabbath we went to church at $\frac{1}{2}$ past 10. Mr Tweedie's Text was Jeremiah XXXI. 3 We came out at $\frac{1}{2}$ past 12 in the forenoon and in the afternoon went in at $\frac{1}{4}$ past 2. A Mr Nairn assisted.

The Sacrament was held in the Church in Scotland generally twice a year in October and April with often an additional celebration in July. The service on this occasion lasted two hours in the forenoon and the congregation was back in church within another two hours. John does not say how long the afternoon session lasted but it would generally be about the same as the forenoon. The Rev. Charles Nairn was born in Leith in 1803. After study at the University of Edinburgh he was ordained in Newport, Fife. After the Disruption he resigned in 1846. He undertook duty in Madiera and retired to Scotland to become minister of St David's, Dundee. He died in 1873. He married Janet Edmonston, the daughter of Thomas Edmonston who became senior elder of the Tolbooth Church and whose death is noticed on 23 January 1848.

MONDAY 1 NOVEMBER 1847. As I had to write of my version in Porteus I did not go to church at 11 am. Mother, Isa and I went to the Railway at 3 and we met Father and Uncle, Aunt and William Brockie and Miss Fletcher and we could scarcely find room in the train it was so crowded but we did get in at last when the train was just starting. Got to Portobello in 9 minutes. Walked up to Duddingston Mills and found both Mr and Mrs King at home. Willie and I played about for a short time. Went in and got our tea and left at $\frac{1}{2}$ past 5. We were too soon for the train so we stayed in the waiting room till it came up. Left at 12 min past 6 and were in Edinburgh 20 minutes past. Willie, Isa and I Went up to the High Street shop and got a pot of Marmalade for Grandmother. Willie came down with us and we douched for Apples as it was Halloween.

TUESDAY 2 NOVEMBER 1847. Father, along with Mr Ridpath was chosen a Councillor for the first Ward of the city to the exclusion of Mr Falkner. Miss . . . from Dalkeith came to tea, she left at 8 o'clock.

By entering the Town Council John's father was following in the footsteps of his own father in local affairs, something which John himself was to do in later years, and later still one of his sons. The First Ward included most of the Old Town from the Castle Esplanade to St John's Cross and from the Cowgate to Princes Street Gardens including Grassmarket and the Mound. There were five councillors for the ward, Messrs Gulland, David Ridpath, R. Millar, R. Anderson and D. Young. By 1849 Councillor George Gulland was a member of the Lord Provost's Committee and the Treasurer's Committee. David Ridpath was a confectioner at 36 Nicolson Street and 3 Forrest Road. He was appointed to the Markets Committee, the Plans and Works Committee. Mr Falkner who lost the seat was on the Gillespie Hospital Committee. There were father and son of that name. The senior was at 63 South Bridge while the junior was a writing master at 11 South St Andrew Street.

WEDNESDAY 3 NOVEMBER 1847. Wrote to Aunt at night and sent the circular I got at the Library about the late Mr Smith along with it.

The late Mr Smith is not identified but there was a J. L. Smith, stationer, circulating library and stamp collector at 1 Antigua Street.

THURSDAY 4 NOVEMBER 1847. Isa did not go to school today as she has both the earache and a sore throat. Mr McMillan told those who wished to go to the French from 12 to 1 to remain for a little at 3 o'clock and he asked us why we had not gone and we told him the reason and he said he would inform the Rector of it.

FRIDAY 5 NOVEMBER 1847. Fever is still very bad in the town. One of our old bakers was taken to the Infirmary today at $\frac{1}{4}$ past 12. He lived with one of our men, Jamie Thomson. Willie and Lisbeth and Isa Brockie came over at night and we had a game or two at cards. Mother and Father were at Mrs A. Gulland's and they came home near 1.

The *Courant* said: 'Dr Taylor, on the part of the Medical Committee, reported that the number of new cases of fever during the week ending 30th October was 120 - six more than the previous week. There were 118 cases in two fever wards and 68 in convalescent homes. In the month of October there were 440 cases. The total number of cases for the quarter ending 30th September was 898. For four weeks to October 1338 cases were visited by medical men. Fumigating of houses was going on most vigorously but Dr Taylor added they were filled up with dirt as soon as they were cleaned.' The Infirmary was in Infirmary Street and High School Yards. The fever hospital part was in the old High School building.

SATURDAY 6 NOVEMBER 1847. Got away from the school at $\frac{1}{2}$ past 10 as Mr McMillan had to attend a meeting. Went to the Clydesdale Bank and then to Willie's and he was going a message to New Street so I went with him. Willie and Haswell were going to Duddingston and asked me to come and take my dinner there but I only went to Willow Brae with them. Went to Dublin Street with a parcel for Dr Brown. Went to Willie's at night, as Agnes Gulland was going to Mr Hay's and she did not wish to go alone. He was out a message and did not come in till near 9. I shewed him my Mathematical Exercise.

John Brown, DD (1784-1858) supported himself at university by teaching at Elie. He was licensed in 1805 at Biggar and was outspoken, attacking schemes of David Owen at New Lanark and supporting those for evangelising the Highlands. The *Dictionary of National Biography* reports that his hearers 'knew almost every

word for that minister does not preach grammar'. He obviously used the vernacular. He was minister of Rose Street Free Church and then Broughton Place. His DD was from Jefferson College, Pennsylvania. In Edinburgh he refused to pay the annuity tax which was levied for the support of the ministers of the established city churches. Hence in 1838 his goods were seized and sold. He became Professor of Exegetical Philosophy. His eldest son was John Brown, MD, the author of the *Horae Subsecivae* who gave the world stories like *Rab and his Friends*.

SUNDAY 7 NOVEMBER 1847. Mr Tweedie preached in the forenoon from Isaiah LIII. 11. There were Deacons and Elders elected. Went with Uncle James to Dr Gordon's in the Music Hall there was a stranger preaching. He was quite a young man, his text was Revelations VII. 14. It was very windy and rainy when we came out of church. Got my tea at Mr Andrew's there was a clerk of Mr Mackie's at tea. Went up and saw Grandmother she was sitting up in her chair and is a great deal better. Miss Fletcher and Mrs Bryden are very ill with a severe cold.

MONDAY 8 NOVEMBER 1847. Mr McMillan told us in the morning that Mr Stewart of Cromarty who was to have succeeded Dr Candlish died very suddenly they think it was caused by the great state of Mental excitement he had been in. Mr McDougal was elected to be Professor of Hebrew in the College. This is Hallow Fair.

The Rev. Alexander Stewart was born at Moulin in 1794. He became minister of Cromarty in 1821. He joined the Free Church in 1843 and was minister of the Free Church of Cromarty till 1847. He was elected to Free St George's Church in Edinburgh as Dr Candlish's successor but died before his induction on 5 November 1847. Hugh Miller wrote warmly of his great gifts as a preacher.

Patrick Campbell Macdougall was the son of a minister. He taught classics in Edinburgh Academy. In 1844 he was appointed Professor of Moral Philosophy in New College and in 1853 to the same chair in Edinburgh University. He was the first convener of the Free Church Widows and Orphans Fund.

At Hallowe'en in Edinburgh was held All Hallows Fair. In 1847 notice appeared in the local press that the fair was held at the farm of Gorgie Mains on the banks of the Union Canal. The amount of stock entered amounted to 6221 animals. Among previous advertisements Mr William Steel 'begs to intimate to the Nobility, Gentry, farmers

and others that he will offer for private sale upwards of 50 horses consisting of hunters, hackneys, carriage and single harness horses . . . also gigs, dog-carts, phaetons, saddlery . . . also clothing'. The fair was held in the Grassmarket from the middle ages until the early 19th century when the venue was changed to Gorgie. The well known painting by C. H. Robertson, about 1820, shows the scene in the Grassmarket, with all its activity, horses, cattle, sheep, stallholders and entertainers, with the White Hart Inn in the background.

TUESDAY 9 NOVEMBER 1847. Mr & Mrs Mathie, Mr & Mrs Just, Uncle and Aunt Brockie came to their tea tonight. Uncle Andrew was to have come too but he was very sick and Uncle James came before supper. They all left at ½ past 11. We enjoyed ourselves very much. We played at cards and bagatelle but we had no dancing. Mr Just is an Englishman but he went to Canton as a merchant he married lately to Miss Mackenzie Mrs Mathie's sister.

WEDNESDAY 10 NOVEMBER 1847. I lost two places on the class which makes me 11th. Went up for a coach at 6 o'clock for Mother and Father to go to Mr Scott's inn.

J. Scott & Co. were the proprietors of the Waterloo Hotel in Waterloo Place, the fashionable place of entertainment in the 1840s.

THURSDAY 11 NOVEMBER 1847. At ¼ past 12 Miss Brown came from Dalkeith to New Street, she is going to the High Street shop instead of Miss Lowrie who is going to Mrs Traquair's in St Boswells. Father and Mother went to Mr Mathie's at Leith, tonight, to their tea and supper. As I wanted a Notebook and some version books I went up to McDonald Brothers in the North Bridge and got a shilling version book for 8d and a few pens. Met Main and Willie there.

Mrs Traquair has been noted at St Boswells with a grocery and drapery business. Miss Mary Lawrie who had been shop assistant in the Gulland bakery shop was still Mrs Traquair's assistant in the 1851 census. Macdonald Brothers, stationers and booksellers were at 43 North Bridge.

FRIDAY 12 NOVEMBER 1847. Got our versions on Porteus returned to us and it took Mr McMillan till 11 o'clock, delivering I got the play tomorrow for

mine. Uncle James and Uncle Brockie came over at night. Uncle James and Grandmother have taken lodgings in a house at Barony Street.

SATURDAY 13 NOVEMBER 1847. Went over for Willie but he was out, so I went to Uncle James' shop and got him there. I wanted him to come to the park and get a game at cricket but he wouldn't come. As it was a dull like day I did not go to the Queen's Park but to McDonald Brothers sale and bought some envelopes and pens, left at ¼ to 2, Came home and got my dinner. Met Aunt Seton in Leith Street at ½ past 11 she had newly arrived by the railway. Old Mr Bryden went down to his house at Canonmills. Mrs Bryden is still very weak, Miss Lowrie went with her. Went to get an account paid from a person in Adam Square but as he was not there I went to his office in Princes Street and found him out there too. I was to call again at 6. Went to St Andrew Square with some books for Uncle Ainslie and some music to get bound. Saw Uncle Alexr there. Uncle Tom asked me to come to Great King Street and see the things he had brought from the continent. Came home and got a cup of tea and left at 6. Went to Princes Street to get the account paid but his office was shut. The little baby's name is William after Uncle, he is a stout little fellow although only a month old. Uncle shewed me after tea all the engravings of the different towns he was at, there were above two hundred views. And he is writing along with things taken from his journal an account of all the places of importance he was at. Afterwards I saw a beautiful model of a Swiss cottage and some smaller ones. Their tops lift and they are neatly finished inside. A Splendid bronse horse and knight by a Parisian artist. A bronse Medalion of the Swiss Lion the original is cut out of the solid rock. A model of a Venetian gondola with all the appurtanences. And a Daguerotype of Venice, besides a great many other things too tedious to mention. They are indeed a splendid collection. Got a little supper and came away at 11 pm.

Adam Square was situated at the east end of Chambers Street and was cleared when that street was built. Adam House of the University now stands roughly at the site. In one of the houses the School of Arts was begun in 1821 which in time became Heriot-Watt College and now University. It would appear that certain customers in the 1840s were slow to pay their bills. John was frequently sent to collect money after a reasonable time had elapsed as future references in the diary show.

The Swiss Lion of Lucerne was completed in 1821 in memory of officers and men of the Swiss guard who died at the defence of the Tuileries in 1792. The dying lion, transfixed by a lance with a Bourbon lily in its paw, lies in a grotto hewn out of the natural sandstone while a spring flows down and forms a pool at the base.

Daguerrotype was an early process of photography devised by Louis Daguerre (1789-1851) from about the late 1820s. He used in his camera a sensitised polished silver plate treated with iodine which he developed by mercury vapour and fixed with potassium cyanide. The first images were somewhat fragile and there was the disadvantage that extra copies could not be made. It was Fox Talbot in 1841 who invented the calotype process which produced a negative from which prints could be made.

SUNDAY 14 NOVEMBER 1847. Mr Tweedie delivered his usual lecture in the forenoon from John XVII. 6-11 and in the afternoon Mr Simpson of Leith Wynd preached from Psalm XVIII. 1-2. Went over and saw Grandmother she is quite better now although a little weak. At 6 o'clock went to the Post Office and got two letters for Father met William Main there.

From 1821 the General Post Office was in Waterloo Place just beyond the Regent Bridge. It did not move to its present location till 1866. On Sundays letters could be collected personally. Hence the many journeys on Sundays to the Post Office mentioned in the diary.

It is puzzling to distinguish between what John calls Mr Tweedie's lecture and on other occasions his sermon. During November and December and up to March Mr Tweedie preached on chapters 16 to 19 of John's gospel, the chapters leading up to the Crucifixion. Sometimes John said he gave his usual lecture. This may have been part of his study in connection with his book on *The Atonement of Christ, the Hope of the People*, which reached its second edition in 1848 at the price of 1s.6d.

The Rev. William Simpson was a Dundee man ordained at Arbroath. After a charge at Dairsie he came to Leith Wynd in 1824 and came out at the Disruption.

MONDAY 15 NOVEMBER 1847. Young David Calder died this afternoon it was very sudden and it is thought that his heart or lungs were affected. Broke my

watch glass very unfortunately. Went over with Willie Brockie and got a new one and on the road went into Macdonalds sale for a quarter of an hour but bought nothing. Miss Lowrie went away to St Boswells this morning at 8 o'clock by the *Chevy Chase*.

TUESDAY 16 NOVEMBER 1847. Mr Macdonald from George Street was in the house at 4 o'clock and he staid to tea. Uncle Brockie and Father were at Duddingston Mills but they came home before he went away. Went up to Chambers Wareroom and bought Chambers' *Mechanics*. Mr McMillan gave us a letter to write out before Monday next.

Mr Macdonald who visited on Tuesday was the master of the school in George Street which John's sister Isa attended, and to which John was sent before going to the High School as he was, according to his biographer, picking up unsuitable language at the local Canongate-school. Chambers' Wareroom was at 339 High Street. When their father experienced adversity in Peebles the Chambers family moved to Edinburgh. William Chambers and his brother set about making their living in the city. William was apprenticed to the bookseller, John Sutherland and Company, Calton Street, already mentioned in the diary. He read all he could and finally combined with his brother to create the firm of W. & R. Chambers, publishers, producers of dictionaries, encyclopaedias and works of reference besides cheap editions of the classics and good literature. The *Mechanics* was one of these publications.

WEDNESDAY 17 NOVEMBER 1847. Was at home all night. Richard Maxwell came down and we wrote a translation of the first Chapter of Sallust.

Sallust was the Roman historian who lived from 86 to 34 BC. It was he who recorded the famous Cataline conspiracy to assassinate Cicero.

THURSDAY 18 NOVEMBER 1847. We had some nice fun in the Yards with a kick ball. Father & Mother were at Uncle Brockie's at their tea. Young Mr Calder was buried today.

The yards was the term for the High School playground. The name survives in the High School Yards street off Infirmary Street.

FRIDAY 19 NOVEMBER 1847. We got the Greek verb at the school all day. At night Willie came over and we went up to Macdonald's Sale and bought a

writing pad and a notebook for 3½d. Went up to the Maxwell's and saw Richard's letter it is very well written and is about his jaunt to Wanlockhead during the vacation.

Wanlockhead is a village in the Lowther Hills on the border of Lanarkshire and Dumfriesshire. It is claimed as the highest village in Scotland. It gained its importance from its lead mines which were worked from the 17th century to the late 1950s. Gold was discovered in the area and, as a result, it received the name of 'God's treasure house in Scotland'. The village was also noted for the longevity of its villagers.

SATURDAY 20 NOVEMBER 1847. Eight of us collected 1/3d and we got a kick-ball at that price in Princes Street went down to the Queen's Park and got it sorted with a great deal of difficulty as the bladder had got quite hard. Got some fine fun with it in the Park and in the Valley and left at 2 o'clock. Went over to the New Town aurepage and at night after I had written my letter to Mr McMillan went up to the High shop for Father to see it but Mr Dodds and Bailie Arthur were there so I left it there and went down to the sale on the Bridge, but bought nothing. Met William Brockie there and afterwards Uncle James came in for a short time. Went to the Shop and got any letters and was home at ½ past 10. Maggie was very ill today and she has a bad cough.

The word *aurepage* cannot be found in any of the recognised dictionaries or encyclopaedias or in advertisements in the local press of the day. It would seem, however, to have been some kind of panorama. Panoramas are advertised, and models of cities with accompanying lectures. The Valley mentioned in the Queen's Park was Hunters Bog. It is noticeable that the word football does not appear in the diary - 'kick-ball' is the description. Bailie William Arthur was at one time Treasurer of the Canongate.

SUNDAY 21 NOVEMBER 1847. Maggie was a great deal better today but Miss Gibson, Jeanie and Isa have all got sore throats. Mr Tweedie preached in the forenoon from John XVII. 11-16 and in the afternoon from 1 Samuel XVI. 17.

Jeanie was one of his mother's maids and Miss Gibson the shop assistant.

MONDAY 22 NOVEMBER 1847. Maggie and Isa are both very ill with the cold today. Grandmother and Uncle James have gone to their lodgings in Barony Street.

TUESDAY 23 NOVEMBER 1847. Maggie was so ill tonight as to get a warm bath and an injection.

WEDNESDAY 24 NOVEMBER 1847. Uncle Ainslie came here at 10 o'clock he had got a drive to Grant's house in Mr Thomson's gig and he left by the train at ¼ past 4. He was out at 12, when I came home, so I did not see him at all. Aunt's maid is still very ill. The doctor was at Maggie in the afternoon and he said it was a severe cold she had got.

THURSDAY 25 NOVEMBER 1847. The cold or rather a sort of influenza is very prevalent in the town at this time and today there were about 60 boys absent from Mr Carmichael's class and a great many from the rest of the classes. Wrote to Aunt Ainslie asking if Uncle had got safe home last night and, just as I had finished writing it, a letter came to Mother from Aunt saying that Uncle arrived safe last night at 8 pm.

The normal route from Duns to Edinburgh until the railway line reached Duns was via Reston. The route by way of Grantshouse was alternative but hillier. William Walker Carmichael came of a teaching background. At Edinburgh University he studied literature and theology. He became a master at George Watson's Hospital and at Madras College, St Andrews. In 1843 he joined the staff of the High School. On his sudden death he was succeeded by his nephew, John Carmichael, in whose honour the Carmichael Medal or prize was endowed.

FRIDAY 26 NOVEMBER 1847. There were no less than 22 absent from our class today and as there were so many absent we spent the day at school in reading over the letter which we had written. William Brockie was absent so I had to read his over. Old Mr Brockie is very ill and his mind is so deranged that he requires two men to keep him down. We are not to come to school tomorrow as there are so many absent.

The influenza epidemic of 1847 seemed of a milder type without lasting effect. Right into December the local press reported on the spread of the disease. 'The class which has been principally affected is the more youthful portion of the population and the consequence has been a very extensive diminution of the numbers in attendance on the various educational seminaries. In several of the towns in the neighbourhood also the same epidemic has manifested itself with like result, but it is not very serious in its effects.' A letter writer of 4 December offered a remedy for the prevailing epidemic. 'The following safe, simple and extremely efficacious remedy for the influenza ... is recommended viz. to wear a large plaster of Burgandy pitch over the chest: this will not only subdue the distressing cough and other uneasy symptoms attendant thereon but, if applied in time, act as a sure preventative.' Still later the paper recommended Ford's *Pectoral Balsam of Horehound*. There was still trouble about the number of fever cases in the town according to the *Courant* of 2 December. 'We regret to state that no improvement is apparent in the general sanitary condition of the city notwithstanding the remedial measures which have been adopted by the authorities ... with regard to the fever there is no perceptible diminution to the extent of its ravages. In the Infirmary there are 550 fever patients.' The Lord Provost and magistrates issued a proclamation enjoining the removal of nuisances in the city.

SATURDAY 27 NOVEMBER 1847. At 11 o'clock I went over to get Willie but I met him and James Beveridge going a message to Clerk Street, and I went along with them. Just as we were going to the Park to get a game at kick-ball met Jamie Maxwell and he said that Willie Main and him were sent away by the keeper. So we went to the Calton Hill but did not play much as the grass was damp it was a very misty day.

SUNDAY 28 NOVEMBER 1847. Mr Tweedie lectured from John XVII. 12. and in the afternoon preached from 1 Timothy I. 17.

MONDAY 29 NOVEMBER 1847. There were a great many absent from the school today, more than 50 from the first class and 27 from ours. And on account of that we got the play till next Monday. In the afternoon I went over to Uncle Brockie's and Willie was just coming over to ask Father and I to go to Duddingston Mills at 3, but found Mr King out. We came back by the train at $\frac{1}{4}$ past 4 it was a good deal behind its time. Miss Gibson has been very ill

for a few days back and the doctor thinks it is modified smallpox.

TUESDAY 30 NOVEMBER 1847. As Miss Gibson is in her bed I had to stay in the house with Maggie but I got out in the afternoon as it was such a fine day and went to St Andrew Square. They are all ill with the cold there too. At night went to Uncle Brockie's and got Willie to come down to Grandmother's with me as I had never seen her new house it is a very nice convenient place and neatly furnished. Waited till Uncle James came in. He did not come till 9 pm and we did not see him long.

WEDNESDAY 1 DECEMBER 1847. Went up to Macleod sale of Books in the South Bridge but it was not open. Willie and I went down to the Grassmarket and saw the ... there for the first time in my life, came back to the sale bought nothing as the booksellers bought almost all the books. Willie, Jamie Maxwell and I, went up to the Calton Hill and played a little at the kick-ball. It was very windy. At 7 pm Father took Isa and I to see Baunetti's model of Jerusalem it is very neatly constructed and gives you a nice idea of the place. The fares were reduced to 6d in the evening and it is at Tait's Saloon.

D. McLeod and Son, booksellers, were at 29 Nicolson Street, no South Bridge as stated by John. Nicolson Street is, of course, merely a continuation of the South Bridge street southwards. Baunetti's model of Jerusalem was one of the attractions of the town at the time. The advertisement claimed it was 'elaborately minute and exceedingly correct. The edifices of Roman art are mingled with the structures of Hebrew origin.' It was so popular that the exhibition period was extended. Descriptive lectures on the model were given daily at 12, 3, 7 and 9 o'clock. Admission was one shilling and a pamphlet and map an additional sixpence. Tait's Royal Saloon was at 19 Princes Street, in the part opposite the Waverley Steps. The exhibition was previously at the Waterloo Rooms in Waterloo Place.

THURSDAY 2 DECEMBER 1847. There was a great fire at Blackhall & Fox's place and burnt down a large house of theirs but as it was at its height near 5 am. I did not see it as I was in my bed. Went to Uncle

Brockie's and they told me that Old Mr Brockie had died at ½ past 5 this morning. Miss Lowrie had heard from her Mother that Elisabeth was very ill and the doctor thinks it is fever. Went to Randolph Crescent to try to get payment of an account but I did not get it paid. Father and I went into the 1st Division of the Court of Session and heard the case of Mr James Gulland against Captain Wemyss of Torrie. It is to be decided tomorrow as the judges left at 1 pm. The Judges were Lord Boyle, Mackenzie, Fullarton and Lord Jeffrey. Mr Rutherford Lord Advocate and Mr Macfarlane were Mr Gulland's Lawyers and Mr Deas and ... Mr Wemyss's.

Blackwell and Fox were grocers at 211 Canongate, round the corner from New Street. Mr William Brockie, senior, was Willie's father's uncle. In the 1841 census he is recorded as living with the Brockies at Greenside. He died at 4 Huntley Street, Canonmills, aged 70. He is mentioned in connection with Tweedbank earlier in the diary.

FRIDAY 3 DECEMBER 1847. Willie Brockie came over and we went to the Court with Father. As we were too soon we saw the parliament House it is a large room with a very rich roof and in it are several marble figures of eminent lawyers. The case was decided, after a deputation, was sent to the Lord Ordinary, against Mr Gulland with costs. Met George Wood and went to Macleod's sale but did not wait long. Uncle Tom came in at 2 and they are all well. Staid at home all night.

The court case was reported by the *Courant* of 4 December. 'The suspender is Captain Wemyss of Wemyss and Torrie, Fife and the respondent is Mr James Gulland, farmer, Newton, a tenant of Captain Wemyss. It originally came before the Court in the shape of an interdict, craving that Mr Gulland might be interdicted from hunting, pursuing or scaring game on the farm of Newton, by means of muzzled dogs or by discharging firearms loaded with blank cartridges and likewise from entrapping game, killing or injuring game on the said farm by means of snares, set under the pretence of killing rabbits.' The Lord President held 'that the tenant was not entitled to protect himself against the supposed evil (increase of game) by the adoption of what he held to be illegal proceedings'. Lord Jeffrey did not think the interdict should apply to the firing of guns generally for whatever purpose on the estate but the respondent should not do it with the animus and end maintained as justifiable on

his part, the extermination and clearing of the whole farm of game. 'The court unanimously decided to adhere to the interdict with some modification as to the intention attributed to the respondent of killing game with expenses.'

David Boyle (1772-1853) when he represented Ayrshire became Solicitor General, then Lord Justice Clerk in 1811 and Lord President in 1841. He lived at 28 Charlotte Square. Lord Mackenzie of the 1st Division of the Court of Session lived at Belmont, Murrayfield. Lord (John) Fullarton of the 1st Division lived at 27 Melville Street. Lord Francis Jeffrey, also of the 1st Division, lived at Craigcrook Castle. He along with others established and became editor of the *Edinburgh Review*. The Rt. Hon. Andrew Rutherford was the Lord Advocate. He was MP for Leith and lived at 9 St Colme Street. Robert Mcfarlane, advocate, lived at 6 Fettes Row. George Deas, advocate, lived at 42 Heriot Row.

SATURDAY 4 DECEMBER 1847. Went to the Commercial Bank with some money at ½ past 11. Went up to the Mechanics' Library with James Maxwell. He got out Wilson's *Lands of the Bible*, a beautiful book and quite full of engravings. Went up to the High Street and ordered some pass books from Mackenzie. Mr Brockie was buried at ½ past 2 in Warriston Cemetery.

Warriston Cemetery was new in 1847. Grant's *Old and New Edinburgh* tells it was opened in 1843. An illustration shows a tidy, well-kept necropolis, compared with its paths of dereliction today.

SUNDAY 5 DECEMBER 1847. Mr Tweedie preached from John XVII. 21 to end and in the afternoon from Psalm LXII. Uncle James came tonight after tea and staid to his supper.

MONDAY 6 DECEMBER 1847. There were comparatively few absent from school, only about 12. Gave in our letters. It was a very stormy day and the night is no better it is so very windy. It was snowing a little in the morning and Arthur's Seat is covered with snow.

TUESDAY 7 DECEMBER 1847. It was such a rain last night that the snow is quite away from Arthur's Seat and the rain has made the streets nice and clean. There were only 6 or 7 absent today and we got an accession to our numbers by a new scholar from

Rossshire. Went to the Savings Bank and put in a pound to Isa and one to myself. Went to a sale in Bank Street and bought a small copy of Johnson's *Dictionary* for 4d. Went to Macleod's sale and met Willie there but we bought nothing.

The Savings Bank was entitled the National Security Savings Bank of Edinburgh. It was established in 1835 and had its office at the head of The Mound. There were 25,831 depositors in 1847 of whom 21,082 had balances averaging £4.2s.8d. After seven years' labour, Samuel Johnson's *Dictionary* was published in 1755; many later shortened versions claimed to be derived from it.

WEDNESDAY 8 DECEMBER 1847. Miss Lowrie got a letter from her Mother saying that Elisabeth was very ill and that the doctor says it is fever.

THURSDAY 9 DECEMBER 1847. It had been snowing during last night but there was rain after that washed it all away. Got a little geography in the school from 11 to 12.

This is the only mention of teaching of geography in the diary although the prospectus indicated that 'the maps of Africa, America, England, Scotland' would be studied and 'Ancient Geography incidentally'.

FRIDAY 10 DECEMBER 1847. Father and Uncle Brockie went to Haddington Market at 11 and they returned by the train at ½ past 2. Mrs Reston and Ann came to their tea.

At this particular Haddington Market the principal sales were grain crops, probably the reason that John's father and uncle, being bakers, attended. Of 420 quarters of wheat 379 were sold: of 435 quarters of barley 429 were sold: 369 of 384 quarters of oats: and 48 of 64 quarters of beans.

SATURDAY 11 DECEMBER 1847. Read over some of Chambers' *Mechanics* and took notes from the book of Mr Macmillans at the school. Went up to the High Street shop and paid George his wages. Stayed at home the rest of the day.

SUNDAY 12 DECEMBER 1847. Mr Tweedie gave a beautiful lecture from John XVIII. 1-9 in the forenoon. In the afternoon I went to St Andrew's Church with Uncle James and heard Mr Clark preach

from Hebrews X. 25. Got my tea at Grandmother's she had been at Mr Gray's Church. Willie came down after tea. I left at 7 o'clock.

This is the first time in the diary that John applies an adjective to the sermon by Mr Tweedie – it was a 'beautiful' lecture. The Rev. Thomas Clark, DD, was joint minister of St Andrew's Church with the Rev. T. J. Crawford, DD. The former lived at 7 Queen Street and the latter at 18 Northumberland Street. The Rev. Henry Grey, DD, was minister of St Mary's Free Church and lived at 24 Warriston Crescent. When the congregation left St Mary's Parish Church at the Disruption a small building was built in Barony Street which was replaced by the fine Gothic structure, since demolished, known as St Mary's and later as Barony Church. This would be convenient for grandmother who now lived in Barony Street.

MONDAY 13 DECEMBER 1847. We got nothing but Greek Testament at school. Agnes and Lisbeth Gulland came down for the first time this month about ...

TUESDAY 14 DECEMBER 1847. We are to get no play tomorrow, although it is quarterday as we have got so much during the last quarter; but, to make up for it we are not to meet on the Monday after New Year's day. Father was hearing Mr H. Russel, the American composer, and he thought a great deal of his performance on the piano. The *Royal Adeline* from London did not get into Leith till this morning at ½ past 5. She should have been here about a week ago but the storm on Monday 6th had compelled her to anchor in Yarmouth Roads.

Quarter days in the High School in the 1840s were, according to William Stevens in his *History of the High School of Edinburgh* (1849), 1 October, 15 December, 1 March and 15 May.

Henry Russel's performances in the Music Hall were widely advertised. He was an American composer of songs. 'His aim is to endeavour through the medium of song to arouse the mind and to appeal to the best and noblest feelings of the audience by the aid of music and poetry.' The whole performance was interspersed with anecdotes of negro life and character. Among the songs he sang were *Away with the Lash for ever*, *The Felon's last Night*, *The Three Despots*, and *Woodman – Spare that Tree*. At the concert there would be 'used Kirkman and Sons newly invented grand Fonda piano brought specially from London which will be sold after the performance'.

The *Royal Adeline* should be *Royal Adelaide*. Along with the *Royal William* and the *Royal Victoria* they were steamships belonging to the London, Leith, Edinburgh and Glasgow shipping lines. The advertisement in the press for the ships states: 'The Directors of the Company respectfully intimate that their splendid and powerful steamships are appointed to sail from Granton Pier every Saturday and every alternate Wednesday. Fare which includes provisions: cabin £3: Second Cabin £1.15s.: Deck £1: Horse £5.5s.: Dog 10/- and puppy 5/-.' The *Royal Adelaide* sank in a storm off Margate in April 1850.

WEDNESDAY 15 DECEMBER 1847. Payed my fees at the school. Mr C. Cowan was formally elected today between 12 and 2 o'clock, as there was a dispute about his former one. Went to the tailors to ask for my greatcoat but it was not ready. Met Wylie, he is in the Scottish Provident and likes it very much. It was raining a little in the afternoon.

There was a dispute about the election of Charles Cowan as MP for the city and his election was declared null. The *Scotsman* wrote that 'the Sheriff has approved Wednesday for the nomination of a successor for the vacancy' and added that 'under the circumstances there is no likelihood of any opposition to Mr Cowan'. He was re-elected.

William Wylie, one of John's schoolmates, was dux in 1847. He had left to take up a post in the Scottish Provident. The Scottish Provident Institution for Life Assurance and Annuities was at 14 St Andrew Square with James Watson as manager. The Company still has its head office in St Andrew Square.

THURSDAY 16 DECEMBER 1847. Willie Brockie came over at ¼ to 7, and after we had looked over our lessons we had some games.

FRIDAY 17 DECEMBER 1847. I began the Vergil at school, and he asked me so many questions that I lost from 10th to 15th but I got up to 12th again. Richard Maxwell came down at night with a translation of Vergil into verse by Wharton he had got it out of the Mechanics' Library.

Publius Virgilius Maro, the great Roman epic poet, was born in 70 BC and flourished under Emperor Augustus. Besides writing the pastoral *Eclogues* and the *Georgics* dealing with husbandry, he was the author of the *Aeneid*, the story of Troy and the adventures of Aeneas, legendary founder of Rome. Virgil is generally regarded as the Homer of the Roman world.

SATURDAY 18 DECEMBER 1847. It is a very wet day it rained during the whole day and it is far worse tonight. Staid at home all day as it was so wet. There were nearly 12 absent from school so the division had to be changed. Mr McMillan heard 5 of us say a revise of Vergil got up 1 place. Wrote to Aunt Ainslie.

SUNDAY 19 DECEMBER 1847. Mr Tweedie gave his usual lecture from John XVIII. 10-18 in the forenoon and in the afternoon preached from Job VIII. 3 Mr Taylor our own precentor away today for the first time this 2 or 3 months, as he had taken a shock of palsy. Mrs Lowrie came in after tea.

MONDAY 20 DECEMBER 1847. At school we read the Greek Testament all day. Miss Rose came for a chat with mother and staid till past 8 pm. Got a letter from Aunt Ainslie. they are all well.

TUESDAY 21 DECEMBER 1847. At ½ past 4 went to St Andrew Square and found Uncle Tom in. He had no books to send to Uncle Ainslie but *Dombey and Son*. Went to Wallace's in Register Street a message for Uncle Ainslie too. There is a Bazaar and a Photographic place in the wooden house down in Greenside Street.

Most of the works of Charles Dickens were produced in parts. *Dombey and Son* was issued from 1846 to 1848. R. Wallace and Co. were printers at West Register Street.

WEDNESDAY 22 DECEMBER 1847. Willie Brockie and his father came over by chance tonight. Willie and I wrote our exercise in geometry together.

THURSDAY 23 DECEMBER 1847. Got up to second dux in the Mathematics.

FRIDAY 24 DECEMBER 1847. I am 7 in latin and 5 in mathematics. Mr Macmillan whipt a boy yesterday for the first time he has done so this year. There was a row about smoking today and he says he is determined to put a stop to it. Father and Mother went to their dinner at Uncle Alexander's. Went over to Willie's

and Haswell was there, and had a game at epelikeres. Uncle James came over at 6 on his way to the shop. Left at 9 pm.

Unlike some of the other masters in the school Mr Macmillan seems to have been sparing with the rod. Smoking was practised by boys right up to the time the school vacated the premises in 1968. The game of epelikeres has not been identified. The word does not appear in any recognised dictionary or encyclopaedia or in any books on games published last century which have so far been traced. It would seem to have been some kind of card game. However, the name may be a trade name for the game which did not come into popular usage in the language.

SATURDAY 25 DECEMBER 1847. As this is Christmas Day we are not to go to school till Tuesday week. Went over to get Willie out he was out. Got my watch regulated at Mr Hay's. Went some messages and came home to dinner. Isa and I left here at 5 pm to go to Uncle Thoms. He showed us a great many New books. He has got a splendid Chandelier made of Prisms. We spent the evening very happily and left at ½ past 10 pm. John Thom had called at New Street when we were at Uncle's asking us to our tea on Thursday at 5.

SUNDAY 26 DECEMBER 1847. Mr Tweedie preached from John XVIII 19-27. Met James Brown and he says that Aunt Gulland had got her leg severely sprained by stumbling against a bath. Went to Mr Bruce's church in George Street, with Uncle James and heard a Mr Watson, his text was Jonah II. 4. Got my tea with Grandmother she is quite well. Aunt and Willie Brockie came down after tea and I went home with them at ½ past 7.

Christmas day was a working day in the 1840s. It is noticeable, also, that none of the sermons in the whole advent period was on the Christmas theme. The sermon on Boxing Day dealt with the denial by Peter. Festivities were held around Hogmanay and Hansel Monday, the first Monday in the new year, the day for the exchange of presents.

The Rev. John Bruce was minister of St Andrew's Free Church, having left St Andrew's in George Street at the Disruption. The congregation worshipped first in the Waterloo Rooms but in 1844 opened a church at 80 George Street. Later in the century the

attractive building in Drumsheugh Gardens was opened, now demolished for offices. The Rev. Charles Watson, DD, was born in 1784. He resigned his charge at Burntisland in 1837. He joined the Free Church in 1843 and served as an elder in St Andrew's Free Church, Edinburgh. He died in 1866. His grandson was Charles B. Boog Watson, the Edinburgh historian and distinguished member of the Old Edinburgh Club, in whose honour the Club now presents the Boog Watson lecture during each presidency.

MONDAY 27 DECEMBER 1847. Went to the Commercial Bank and paid in some money. Met Willie and Haswell at the Low Calton. They were going to Duddingston and wished me to come with them; after I had gone to the bank, I left New Street at ½ past 11, and met J. Smith and Milne at the Queen's Park, was at Rose Ville at 10 past 12 and they were in the garden we pulled some evergreens for Haswell and left at 1. It is very cold today and it is a strong frost.

TUESDAY 28 DECEMBER 1847. Paid some accounts and when I was at Mr Mackie's the dragoons were coming along Princes Street they seemed as if they were going to the Links. Met the Elephant of the Zoological Gardens in the High Street, there was a man on its back giving out bills to the people. Willie was to call at ½ past 5 but as he did not come I went over for him and we did not leave Greenside Street till 10 min to 6. Called at Mrs Archibald's, they are all well. Did not get to Charles' till past 6 and we were the latest there were none of our class there but Alexr Brown. There were the Revd Mr Main and Mrs Main there, and Michael Dodds whom I have seen before and a few others. We had very few amusements and very little fun. Left at ½ past 9 pm. Aunt Gulland's leg is nearly better. A very cold day.

Rose Ville was at Duddingston, the home of the Haswells. The firm of J. W. Mackie, confectioner and purveyor of rusks to Queen Victoria, 108 Princes Street, was well known for shortbread and continued to trade into the middle of the present century. In the 1840s there was a Zoological Park in Broughton Park which was situated where now are Claremont Terrace and Bellevue Street. Grant in *Old and New Edinburgh* says it was a small imitation of the old Vauxhall Gardens in London. The Rev. Thomas Main, DD, was born at Slamannan in 1816. He was at Kilmarnock and then

St Mary's Free Church in Edinburgh. He was Moderator of the Free Church Assembly in 1881 but died during the assembly after declaring it open.

WEDNESDAY 29 DECEMBER 1847. There was a great deal of snow but as there was rain in the morning it did not lie well on the ground. Went up to the Clydesdale Bank with money. At night went to the High Street Shop and helped them a little.

THURSDAY 30 DECEMBER 1847. Went over to Greenside Street and paid Mr Ross's account. Went in for Willie and he was going to the Bank of Scotland we first went there and then took a walk round by the back of the Castle West Port &c. Home at ½ past 1 pm. Isa and I went over to Uncle Brockie's and Willie and John and their sisters came with us to Mr Thom's in Union Street. There was nobody there but ourselves, John did not come in till after tea. His sister is quite blind but she is clever. Mr Thom is a nice old man. He shewed us some of his books and after playing at two or three games we left at ½ past 9 pm. Willie went to a party in Gayfield Square after that.

This party consisted of seven children besides the Thoms. There were five children in the Brockie family in 1847. William was the eldest born in 1834: John was born in 1840: Elisabeth and Isa were in 1837 and Joan in 1839. Isa Gulland, John's sister, was born in 1836.

FRIDAY 31 DECEMBER 1847. Went up to the Clydesdale Bank and paid in some money. At 4 o'clock went up with Father to the High Street shop to help them as this was Hogmanay night. Between 5 and 6 pm the engines went down to a fire in Fullarton & Co's printing office, Steels Place, Leith Walk. The fire was very destructive and was not got under control till about ½ past 11 pm when it had burned almost all the premises. There was another but less destructive fire in Hill Street Lane. Then down the High Street and got tea at 6. They were very busy tonight so much so that three or four men had to come up from New Street and bake shortbread and about 9 although the shop was crowded with currant loaves in the afternoon they were all away.

I went to Uncle Brockie's to see if he had any to spare but almost all his were away too. Went round by New Street and called at Aunt Gulland's and she sent up a few. Left the High Street Shop at 10 pm Went to bed about 1 in the morning. The streets were very throng with people 'first-footing'.

Hogmanay was much more of a festival in the 1840s than Christmas. Parties were given for the young people in the homes of relatives and friends. Aunt Gulland was Mrs Laurence Gulland, baker, 216 Canongate.

Messrs A. & R. Ross were bootmakers at 15 Greenside Street. Messrs Fullerton's premises were in Stead's Place, Leith Walk, not Steel's Place. The firm were printers, stereotype founders, publishers and booksellers. The premises are described as being in an open space consisting of a range of houses of three stories in height with attics. The fire was discovered about 4.30 pm in a small aperture adjoining the boiler house. There were few workmen on the premises as they had been granted a Hogmanay half holiday at 3 pm. The supply of water was found to be inadequate although an engine was placed at the burn which flowed nearby. The roof fell in but the fire was not subdued before the ground floor with the printing presses, stereotype plates and several copper and steel plates were destroyed. In order to get a better supply of water the main pipe was turned off from the houses in Leith to increase the supply for the firemen. The fire was not fully extinguished till 4 am on New Year's Day.

About 11 o'clock the premises of Messrs Hay and Addis in Hill Street Lane went on fire, believed to have been caused by the overheating of the furnace. The engines all being at Stead's Place left the fire unchecked and the building was wholly destroyed. Captain Robertson and 50 men of the 71st Regiment stationed in the Castle came with their engine and lent valuable assistance to prevent the fire spreading.

1848

SATURDAY 1 JANUARY 1848. Went over to Willie's and as Haswell and he were going to Canonmills Hall I went with them Dr Begg Mr Davidson and Mr Campbell from Melrose addressed the meeting. Mr Jaffrey was in the chair, he read a letter from Dr Wilson, Bombay and Mr Campbell read another from Danjiboy Nouroji who is also at Bombay, having been lately ordained by the presbytery as a missionary to that station. We saw a Parsee, an Arabian and an Esquimaux dress besides a great many idols and

curiosities. It was very interesting. Came up part of the road with David Paterson. As Johnie Brockie was over here playing with Maggie I went home with him after 7 pm. John Tom came over and we had a game or two at cards. There were a great many drunk men on the streets and I was sorry to see two or three little boys lying on the ground quite drunk. Met John Brown in the forenoon and he had been at the Zoological Gardens but they were too crowded to see anything well. A strong frost today. Some skating on Duddingston Loch but the ice is not thick.

Canonmills Hall was at Tanfield where the first meeting of the Free Church was held after the Disruption in 1843. The hall was demolished during the building of new headquarters for the Standard Life Assurance Co. at Canonmills in 1991. The Rev. James Begg, DD, was an Ayrshire man who held charges as assistant at Lady Glenorchy's and minister of Liberton. At the Disruption he secured a site at Newington where was erected Newington Free Church in South Clerk Street in 1843. The Rev. James Campbell, DD, was an Edinburgh boy. He was ordained in Melrose in 1843. Later he went to Australia where he became Moderator of the Presbyterian Church of Victoria in 1867. The Rev. John Jaffrey, 60 Frederick Street, after serving at Glamis, Dundee and Paisley, became in 1801 the agent of the schemes of the Church of Scotland. He continued to hold the same position in the Free Church, especially in connection with the missionary work of that church. He retired in 1863. The Rev. John Wilson, DD, FRS, was born in Lauder in 1804. In 1835 he became a missionary of the Church of Scotland. He left at the Disruption. He took a deep interest and an active part in the establishment of universities in India. At his death he was Vice-Chancellor of the University of Bombay. The Rev. Danjiboy Nouroji was born of Parsee parents in 1823. He trained at the Missionary Institute of Bombay and New College, Edinburgh. He was the first Parsee convert of the mission. He was ordained in 1847 as a missionary in Bombay. Skating was allowed on Duddingston Loch until the area was declared a bird sanctuary in 1923.

SUNDAY 2 JANUARY 1848. Mr Balfour, our church missionary preached in the forenoon. His text was Luke XVI. 22 And in the afternoon Mr Tweedie finished his twelve discourses on the attributes of God by preaching from Psalm CXLVI. 5-6.

Mr Balfour, missionary, cannot be identified with certainty. It is just possible that he was a missionary of the Tolbooth Church during his period of training at Edinburgh University and New College. If

so, he became minister of Holyrood Territorial Free Church Mission in Edinburgh in 1849. He is recorded as preaching for Mr Tweedie three times in the period of the diary.

MONDAY 3 JANUARY 1848. Went to Willie's and Haswell and us went with some accounts and I went to Commercial Bank paying in money. Met Tom Scott in Nicolson Street. Father, being a councillor, got an annual ticket to the College Museum and he promised to meet us at Uncle Brockie's to take us there; however, he did not come till ½ past 1 so Willie came over to New Street with us and got our dinner there. We got to the Museum at ½ past 2 pm. There were a great many stuffed beasts in the first room and at the south end we saw the mummy, its case is quite entire yet. In the second room upstairs, were a immense number of beautiful birds and a great many different kinds of stone and ore. In the big best room are some very well executed models of different places and a number of fossil remains; but there are too many things to be mentioned here. It is well worth a visit. Professor Jamieson had all the trouble of arranging and collecting the many things to be seen there. I wondered at there being no skeletons there as I expected to see one or two. This was the last day of our Christmas holidays. Isa was at a party at Mr Scott's Roxburgh Place.

John's father, now Councillor Gulland, was a member of the College Committee and of the Treasurer's Committee. The University Museum was housed in the Old College but ultimately its exhibits became the nucleus of the extensive collection in what has become known as the Royal Museum of Scotland in Chambers Street, after that was opened in the 1860s as the Museum of Science and Art, with a bridge across the street between the University and the Museum. The skeletons John expected to see were in the Anatomy Museum, a separate museum in the adjoining NW corner of the College. Robert Jameson, Professor of Natural History from 1804 till 1854, was keeper of the museum, whose exhibits were also used for teaching purposes. J. Scott was a leather merchant at 6 Roxburgh Place.

TUESDAY 4 JANUARY 1848. Went to school at 9 as usual. Read nothing but Greek Testament. Mrs Archibald came in for a short time after tea.

WEDNESDAY 5 JANUARY 1848. As Isa wished to see the Pantomime Father was going to take us tonight but Mother had been unwell through the day and he did not care much about going but he intended to go however. And we went over to see Aunt Seton and Uncle Brockie and when we were there Betsy came over telling Father to come back as she was worse, so I went up to the Tron Church and got a coach and found Dr Cowan in he came and saw Mother but she was not very critically ill. Got a coach to take the Doctor back again at 8 pm.

There were cab stands at various points in the town, just as there are taxi stances today. The Tron Church was the nearest to New Street. The doctor could not have had a conveyance of his own as the coach was hired to fetch him and he was conveyed back in another.

THURSDAY 6 JANUARY 1848. Mother was not much better at night but Isa and I went over and got Uncle James to come with us. Saw *Nicholas Nickleby* acted very well but it ends abruptly. Mr O. Tellet acted Smike very well indeed and Mr Murray's Newman Noggs could not be better. *Box and Cox*, a farce, was performed by Murray Loyd and Miss Nicol. Was very pleased with both these two. Saw the Pantomime next. It is far too short and not so good as last year's one but the last scene was very beautiful. Came home at ½ past 11 pm.

The Theatre Royal was situated in Shakespeare Square at the end of the present Waterloo Place, the site of the present General Post Office. The pantomime was entitled *The Children in the Wood*. It was common in the theatre to have several different plays or items in the programme. *Box and Cox* was a farce written by J. M. Morton, adapted from the French and published in 1847. John Maddison Morton was the son of Thomas Morton, the dramatist who introduced the name of Mrs Grundy. The theme was taken many years later for the operetta *Cox and Box* by Sir Francis Burnard in 1867 and set to music by Sir Arthur Sullivan. *Nicholas Nickleby* was produced in parts and finished in 1839. The stage adaptation was well received by the critics. It is noticeable how late the children seem to have gone to bed. John frequently writes of 11 and 12 o'clock and even after midnight.

FRIDAY 7 JANUARY 1848. Isa was at her tea at Bailie Stott's, and father did not come home till 12

o'clock at night. Mother's a little better. Uncle Thom sent Isa her picture framed and a very pretty pair of Venetian Glass hairpins and gave Mother a neat Swiss representation of Tell and his son in a glass case. We also got *Illustrations from Pickwick*, these are very beautifully executed.

Bailie J. H. Stott was a leather merchant at 12 Niddry Street but his house was at 19 Meadow Place. The houses at Meadow Place on the south side of the Burgh Loch were built around the end of the 1820s. They were really in the country. The Loch had been drained in the previous century and the Middle Meadow Walk created in 1743. Streets like Melville Drive and the laying out of the Meadows had not been begun in the 1840s. It was at Meadow Place that John's grandfather Gulland died in 1839.

The gifts would be Hansel Monday offerings. The publication of the twenty monthly parts of *The Posthumous Papers of the Pickwick Club* began in 1836 with the appropriate illustrations. It had been the proposal of the publisher Chapman and Hall to produce a series of illustrations of Cockney sportsmen but Dickens persuaded them to be of the Pickwick Club. It was the success of the Pickwick venture which assured Dickens his fortune. Presentation sets were made and became popular presents.

SATURDAY 8 JANUARY 1848. Went with Willie to the Clydesdale and Bank of Scotland. Got a gravat at Uncle James's and paid an account to Uncle Thom. Dined at Uncle Brockie. At ½ past 7 Willie and I went to Rutherford's sale of books but got nothing.

The Bank of Scotland began in 1695 in Parliament Square, moved to Old Bank Close and then to the Mound in 1805 into a building designed by Robert Reid. That was the building where John did his business. The present building by David Bryce, dating from the 1860s, incorporates the original building.

SUNDAY 9 JANUARY 1848. Mr Tweedie was unwell today and instead of him we heard Mr Balfour in the forenoon. His text was Matt XVI. 24 and In the afternoon Mr Simpson preached from Romans VIII. 25-27. Mother is rather better today. Aunt Gulland and Mrs Archibald came to see her. And Uncle James came to his tea. John and James Hay came to Mrs Henry's yesterday and are to leave tomorrow but I have not seen them.

The Rev. William Simpson was a retired minister who lived at 8 Bruntsfield Place. He had been minister at Leith Wynd Church. The

Church ceased at the Disruption in 1843 when Mr Simpson retired. Mrs Henry was a former employee who lived upstairs at New Street. She was the mother of Johnnie who is mentioned later.

MONDAY 10 JANUARY 1848. At 4 o'clock pm Went over to Uncle James' with a message, had to wait a short time till he came. Went up to Uncle Brockie's with him and got tea there Grandmother was with us. Got cloth for trousers at Kerr's in Register Street and bought a scent bottle for Mother who is still keeping better. Came home at ½ past 6. Got a ticket from Uncle James to admit two to a meeting in the Music Hall against Capital Punishment tomorrow at 7 pm.

TUESDAY 11 JANUARY 1848. Came away from Willie's 10 min to 7. Called in for William Main but he had gone. Got into the Hall at the time the Chairman Mr Wigham was addressing the meeting. Mr Cowan, MP, spoke next and I did not think much of his speech. Mr C. Gilpin and Mr H. Vincent addressed us in very eloquent speeches especially the latter who was very eloquent. Uncle James was on the platform. Got away at 10 pm. Mother was up at her tea tonight.

This was a public meeting for the purpose of promoting the abolition of capital punishment. John Wigham, the chairman, was a silkman and shawl and tartan manufacturer at 52 Nicolson Street. Charles Cowan, one of the city's MPs, moved the first resolution which was to the effect that punishment by death was opposed to the spirit of Christianity, that it was demoralising in its effect and tended to promote the crime it was intended to repress. Charles Gilpin of London seconded. Andrew Arthur, a businessman, one of the pastors-elders of what is now Bristo Baptist Church, then in Bristo Place, next moved a petition to Parliament founded on the resolution which was seconded by Henry Vincent who maintained there was no scriptural warrant for punishment by death. A campaign was proposed for the purpose of carrying on the agitation.

WEDNESDAY 12 JANUARY 1848. Aunt Gulland came to see Mother at night. She is rather better and sat up to her tea tonight also. Wrote a good piece of the Translation of 3 Chapter Book 1st Xenophon.

THURSDAY 13 JANUARY 1848. Got my letter back at the school. There were some good essays read but Edward Nelson's was by far the best. It was upon

the Sciences. Mother is a great deal better tonight and sat up till 9 pm. Finished the translation of the 3rd Chap of Xenophon at home.

FRIDAY 14 JANUARY 1848. At twelve o'clock the boys of Greenside School came up and threw stones into the yards at Mr Macmillan and some of our boys and they sent for a policeman and got some of the boys identified. They are to get a summons on Monday. Mother is hardly so well today. Got the play tomorrow for my exercise in verse of Vergil. Spent all day in reading over exercises. At 4 o'clock went to St Andrew Square and left the numbers of *Pickwick* to be bound.

This episode is reminiscent of the 'bickers' of the 17th century when groups or gangs of different parts of the town or different affiliations attacked each other with stones, snowballs or whatever was handy. The Greenside School was situated in the hall underneath Greenside Parish Church. It was a Dr Bell's School. When the proposal was made to erect Greenside Church, one of the city churches built by the Town Council, it was also agreed to provide a schoolhouse for the Bell or Madras system of education. The hall was built first and it was agreed that when the church was opened the schoolhouse would be reconveyed to the Lord Provost, magistrates and council as trustees for the fund mortified in their hands by the late Rev. Dr Andrew Bell for the purpose of erecting schools for the poorer classes of the city to be taught upon the Madras system of education. There was also a Bell's school at Niddry Street. Bell's schools were favoured by many heritors because they required fewer teachers which saved expense on salaries. Another Dr Bell's School was built in 1839 in Great Junction Street, a building still in use. There was also a Greenside Subscription or Free School at 42 Greenside Row at the time.

SATURDAY 15 JANUARY 1848. At 11 am went to Upper Gray Street with Willie Brockie and Main with an account. Bought some India rubber bands at Sutherland's in the South Bridge went along Princes Street to a Mr Muir's with an account. Met Aunt Brockie, Annie, and Joan going to Mr Low's dancing rooms to see them. Aunt Andrew Gulland got a son at ½ past 4 pm.

Joseph Lowe's Dancing Academy for dancing and callisthenic exercises advertised: 'Mr and Mrs Lowe beg leave to announce, that for the accommodation and comfort of their Pupils, they have built

Large and Well-ventilated Class Rooms, with comfortable Dressing Rooms at 52 Frederick Street'.

SUNDAY 16 JANUARY 1848. Mr Tweedie preached from John XVIII. 28-35. Went with Uncle James in the afternoon and heard Dr Gordon from 2 Kings. Got tea at Grandmother's. Willie came down to his tea and we did not leave till past 7 o'clock. Betsy's little sister died at Castlecraig yesterday. Mother is almost quite better and rose in the forenoon.

MONDAY 17 JANUARY 1848. The Policeman came to the school but none of the boys were summoned. Aunt Andrew is very ill with inflammation. Aunt Gulland came down to see mother after tea.

TUESDAY 18 JANUARY 1848. Went over to Uncle Brockie's after tea. Aunt Gulland, Agnes and Isa were there at tea. Willie and I went out past 7 o'clock intending to go to Rutherford's Sale of Books, in Princes Street but there was to be none tonight. Went up to a sale in Bank Street but did not stay long. Came home at 9 pm. Jane Archibald was there.

William Rutherford, auctioneers at 45 Princes Street.

WEDNESDAY 19 JANUARY 1848. Read Mair's *Introduction* all day and I lost down to 13th with it. Aunt Andrew was seized with Inflammation today. Lisbeth Gulland came down at night. Began an exercise for school.

THURSDAY 20 JANUARY 1848. Got away from the Latin at 2 pm as Mr McMillan had to go to the Police Court about the boys throwing stones. The Sheriff was there and had all to find caution for 10/- But it was mostly intended to frighten them. Aunt Andrew is no better.

There is no report in the press of the court proceedings. If the fine was 10/- for each boy their parents would find it steep as wages were not high at the time. From various sources it would seem that a fully qualified tradesman might earn up to £40 or £50 a year but servants received only £13 to £15 and many women about half that amount. A Free Church minister was considered fortunate to receive £150 per year. You could, however, keep a servant or two on £200.

FRIDAY 21 JANUARY 1848. From today we are to have separate places in the class for Greek & Latin. I am 11th in Latin and in the afternoon I lost to 14th in Greek. Willie Brockie came over at 7 o'clock and We went along to Rutherford's sale in Princes Street at 8, after we had learned some of our lessons. We saw John McGilchrist there. I only bought one book, *Cyrus' Travels*, and was a little cheated in it but it was only 3½d. Left at 9 and went to Aunt Brockie's to see how Aunt Andrew was. Miss Lowrie told us she had died at 10 minutes past 7 o'clock. She was quite insensible before death. Father and Uncle Brockie had been looking for a nurse for the baby but did not choose one.

Cyrus' Travels was a version of the achievements of Cyrus and the Persian wars, as related by Xenophon. This book was no doubt a translation or 'crib' which John would find useful. He had begun Xenophon on 22 October last year.

Aunt Andrew was Elisabeth, the wife of Andrew Gulland, the corn merchant at 20 Greenside Street whose home was at 21 Broughton Street. Mrs Gulland was 28. The funeral is recorded on 25 January 1848. The baby did not survive and was buried on 31 January 1848.

SATURDAY 22 JANUARY 1848. Got the play today to go to the ice. At ½ past 10 went over to get my black clothes with Father but he went and got himself and Willie Brockie and I went to Uncle Andrew's and helped Uncle James and him to write some cards of intimation. They got a good nurse for the baby. After dinner Willie and I went with the cards to the Post Office. I got my measure at Mr Cowan the Tailors and then went with the remainder of the cards. We had to go to almost every part of the town and as the numbers of the streets were not on all we did not get home till ½ past 6 pm When we were both very tired. Aunt Seton was in Town all day.

This was a skating holiday that John did not enjoy because of his aunt's death. It was customary to issue invitations to funerals. As there was no telephone or quick method of making the intimation these had to be posted or delivered by hand. In country areas, even yet, notices of intimation and invitation are posted in the local shop window. Houses were not normally numbered in the suburban areas. In the 19th into the 20th century, up to the 1939 war, it was expected

that mourners would wear black. This often caused great expense to mourning families. The custom died out to a large extent because of the difficulty of sparing clothing coupons for the purchase of blacks during and after the 1939 war.

SUNDAY 23 JANUARY 1848. Mr Tweedie preached from John XVIII. 36-40 and in the afternoon He preached a kind of funeral sermon for Mr Edmonston one of our oldest elders who was elected in 1806 and died on Monday 17th. His text was Luke XII. 32. In the morning I went over to see how Uncle's baby is and went into the room and saw him. It is very small and delicate but has a pretty face it was still keeping better today.

Thomas Edmonston was senior partner in Thomas Edmonston and Sons, iron merchants and seedsmen at 110 West Bow. He had been ordained an elder in 1806 in the old Tolbooth Church in St Giles. He helped to form the Tolbooth Free Church at the Disruption and was hence an elder for 42 years.

MONDAY 24 JANUARY 1848. Got play at 12 for the ice. Willie and I, after going to Charlotte Square went to Duddingston Loch with Uncle Brockie and Father. Got there at ½ past 3. Had some splendid slides and came away at ¼ past 4 went down to the Curling Pond in the Marquis of Abercorn's Policy and saw them curling but they were just leaving of so we left and were home at ½ past 5. Father and I went to get my hat at Foyer's but as he had none to fit me I got one at Wright's on the North Bridge. Went down to Uncle A's with some funeral biscuits and saw the child again. Wrote an exercise for Mr McMillan on 'The Advantages of Steam'.

The *Courant* reported 'The prevailing frost having completely frozen this fine sheet of water it presented a very animated appearance on Saturday, from the large assemblage that had congregated including several of our most distinguished inhabitants eager to witness or participate in the elegant and bracing amusements of the day. The ice was in fine condition . . . no accidents occurred . . . the apparatus of the Humane Society was on the loch but happily there was no occasion for its services.'

John Foyer, satin hat manufacturer, 10 South Bridge and 10 Hunter Square. William Wright, hatter, 65 North Bridge and 13 Commercial Place, Leith. Funeral biscuits, provided for the

mourners, were hard and crisp, sometimes with almonds. They could be cooked at home but were generally purchased commercially from bakeries. They were usually wrapped in small packets which were sealed with black sealing wax. Sometimes an appropriate verse was printed on the packet. Alternatively the packet was tied with black ribbon. Mourners took the biscuits home as remembrances of the deceased. The practice which continued into my childhood was gradually discontinued and ended with rationing in the 1939 war when the ingredients and black sealing wax or black ribbon could not readily be obtained.

TUESDAY 25 JANUARY 1848. Went away from School at 12 to go to Aunt Andrew's funeral at 2 o'clock. Went over to Broughton Street at ¼ to 2. Dr Brown and the Rev Mr Harper of Leith prayed and we went into the coaches of which there were only five as none but relations were invited – her remains were laid in Warriston Cemetery. The grave was 16 feet deep. After the funeral was over Mr Cockburn from Fife Uncle James, Seton & Uncle Brockie came over to dinner with us. Went to the N.B. Railway with Uncle Seton at 4 o'clock. Met Willie there with Aunt Seton so he came over and got tea with me & we went to Rutherford's sale but it was not opened as he was ill with cold.

The Rev. Dr John Brown was noticed on 6 November 1847. Uncle Andrew was a member of his church in Broughton Place. The Rev. James Harper was minister of the Leith Church in Coburg Street. He was inducted in 1819 and was minister of the church till his death, sixty years later. In his memory the church was renamed after him, the Leith Harper Memorial. He was a professor in the United Presbyterian College and received a DD from Glasgow University.

WEDNESDAY 26 JANUARY 1848. Staid at home tonight.

THURSDAY 27 JANUARY 1848. Kept the shop all night to let Miss Gibson out. Mrs Archibald came in after tea.

FRIDAY 28 JANUARY 1848. Uncle Andrew's little baby died today at 3 o'clock having lived about a fortnight. Went over to Willie's at 7 and after we had written our exercise for Mr Moffat we went to

Rutherford's Sale and got nothing although we waited till past 9 pm expecting that he would put up some books that we would have wished. I bade for Adam's *Biography* but it was sold to a student like fellow for 9d. Went into Mr Hay's and got a chain of Mother's making which was getting a clasp. A good deal of snow fell tonight and it was a tremendous strong frost.

By Adam's *Biography* is probably meant Dr Adam's *Classical Biography* which was published in 1800 and was a valuable reference book of the time. Dr Adam was, of course, the rector of the High School from 1768 to 1810. Mr Hay was a silversmith with his premises at 23 Potterrow.

SATURDAY 29 JANUARY 1848. Jamie Maxwell, Willie and I left here at ½ past 10 am and we soon walked to Duddingston Loch. Met a good many schoolfellows and got capital slides. Richard Maxwell got a pair of skates in a present but both he and James made bad hands at the skating. There was a little snow on the ice and it was not therefore in the best state. Came away myself at 2 pm as Willie had left before, but met some fellows on the road so I could hardly be said to be quite alone. After dinner I went to get payment of 2 accounts but both the people were out.

SUNDAY 30 JANUARY 1848. All the clocks in Town were changed to Greenwich time, 12½ minutes fast, last night between 11 and 12 o'clock. This is the Sacrament Sabbath and Mr Tweedie's sermon was from Romans VIII. 24. and 1st cl of 25. Mr Kirk of Arbirlot assisted. Went to the Post Office at night and got a letter to Mother from Aunt. They are both unwell, Uncle with something like Ague. We had a great quantity of snow both last night and today so that it is about a foot deep and it was besides a regular drip.

The following notice appeared in the local press. 'The Lord Provost and Magistrates have intimated their intention of adapting our local time to that at Greenwich, which will thus require an advance in the real time of 12 minutes and a half. This important change is made on the public clocks of the city on Saturday evening and is in accordance with the desire of the Post Office authorities and the various railway companies to have a uniform system throughout the country. A

similar alteration is to take place at the same time in Glasgow which, however, will require a difference of about 17 minutes ... Some difficulty may be anticipated before it will be carried out in some districts and numerous awkward and amusing mistakes may be expected to ensue till the practice is generally adopted.'

The Rev. John Kirk was a St Andrews man who became minister of Arbirlot in 1837. One of his sons, Dr John Kirk, was surgeon to the expedition of David Livingstone. He subsequently became consul-general at Zanzibar.

MONDAY 31 JANUARY 1848. The snow is still very deep on the ground and it is a strong frost. Uncle Andrew's little baby was buried at 3 o'clock in the Warriston Cemetery.

TUESDAY 1 FEBRUARY 1848. It is a thaw today and it has melted almost all the snow making the roads very disagreeable.

WEDNESDAY 2 FEBRUARY 1848. Stayed away from School today as I had caught a very bad cold. Lay in bed till about two. Read a good part of *The Talisman* one of Sir Walter Scott's novels.

THURSDAY 3 FEBRUARY 1848. Was in bed till about ½ past 3. Forgot to mention on Monday that Father got a very old book connected with The Tolbooth Kirk, some parts as old as 1690. He was the Collecting Elder and had to write in it the collections &c on last Sacrament Sabbath.

Referring to the Tolbooth Church in *Kirks of Edinburgh* Ian Dunlop says: 'The congregation after 1690 became the outstanding evangelical congregation in Edinburgh and the building was generally packed'. The old book to which John refers would be one of the Session records which dealt with the church's liberality.

FRIDAY 4 FEBRUARY 1848. Went to school in the forenoon but I coughed so much that I did not go in the afternoon.

SATURDAY 5 FEBRUARY 1848. Rose about ½ past 1. Before I got up James Maxwell came and told me the lessons. My cold is almost quite better. Read through *The Talisman* to the end. And began *St Ronan's Well*. At night Agnes Gulland, and Willie

came down, and we had some games at Cards and Backgammon after our lessons were learnt.

Scott published *St Ronan's Well* in 1824 and *The Talisman* in 1825.

SUNDAY 6 FEBRUARY 1848. Although the cold had almost left me, yet it was so very wet I did not go to church. Uncle James came to dinner and Mother asked him to go to the Post Office at 6 o'clock and went and got one from Aunt Ainslie saying that they were not coming in to town just now. Isa got her tea at Grandmother's.

MONDAY 7 FEBRUARY 1848. Stayed from school today also and took some medicine. Today the partnership between Uncle James and Mr Heiton was dissolved with the consent of both so that Uncle has now got the business to himself. Willie Brockie came over at night and we learnt some of our lessons together.

Heiton & Gulland were woollen drapers, men's mercers and hatters, and had their premises at 23 South Hanover Street. The shop continued in the name of James Gulland.

TUESDAY 8 FEBRUARY 1848. Went to school today. On Saturday 29 our janitor Mr Gladow was struck severely with palsy.

WEDNESDAY 9 FEBRUARY 1848. Kept the shop for Miss Gibson at night, to let her out to hear The Rev Mr Thomson give his lecture.

The Rev. Andrew Thomson was minister of Broughton Place United Presbyterian Church from 1842. He came from Lothian Road Church as colleague and successor to Dr John Brown. Mr Thomson obtained a Glasgow DD in 1851.

THURSDAY 10 FEBRUARY 1848. After tea went over to Willie's and we took all night to our lessons in Sallust and Xenophon. Maggie and George have not been very well a few days back. Maggie has got a bad cold, George is troubled with his teeth.

FRIDAY 11 FEBRUARY 1848. At 2 o'clock there was a regular riot in the College, nearly as bad as the

famous snowball riot of 1845. Some of the students and Policemen were badly hurt but none dangerously. About 14 students were taken up by the Police. After fighting for about 3 hours the crowd at length separated. They brought down a fire engine, and some supposing there was a fire chose rather to follow it than remain at the College. Willie came here about 7 o'clock on his road to the Church Library and I went there with him. There were still a few people in front of the College. The Lord Provost and Magistrates were there at the time of the mob and Father was there too, being a Councillor. Willie and I went to the sale in Bank Street. I bought wax. Met Thom Scott. He is perhaps going to a writers office as he has a chance of getting in to a bank.

A number of snowball 'riots' are recorded. In many cases they were a continuation of the 'bickers' of the previous century between rival groups. Professor D. B. Horn in his *Short History of the University of Edinburgh* (1967) records a number of these snowball fights and includes a cartoon of the most famous one in 1838. The *Courant* report of the events at the College or University in South Bridge in 1848 reads: 'We regret that a disturbance of a rather serious character and which at one time had an alarming appearance, occurred yesterday afternoon. The principal parties in the affair were the students attending the university and the police, between whom a series of violent conflicts took place, in which serious injuries were sustained by both sides. The origin of the disturbance was extremely simple and began by an act of thoughtlessness on the part of some mischievous boys who, about two o'clock, having found the dead body of a dog on the South Bridge which some time previous had been killed by a carriage passing over it. After amusing themselves with it for a few minutes, they threw it among an assemblage of students congregated on the steps of the College. The body of the animal was thrown back at the assailants between whom and the students it was repeatedly interchanged to the disgust and annoyance of the numerous passengers on the Bridge until Mr Murray, Inspector of Cleansing, who chanced to be passing, had the body of the dog removed. Two policemen reached the scene immediately afterwards whose appearance seemed to irritate the crowd which every moment received fresh additions by the dismissal of several classes in the university and also by large numbers of mechanics on their way to dinner. The Lord Provost and the professors of the university tried to quieten the students. Some ringleaders were arrested. The riot lasted about three hours. 14 were apprehended and afterwards released on bail. About 50 police were involved and shops in the neighbourhood closed during the disturbance.' On

14 February the students appeared in court and expressed their regret. Each of the accused had to pay £20 security to keep the peace for twelve months or be imprisoned for ten days.

It was common in many churches to have a little library for their members. Most of the books were of a religious nature. That in the church I attended as a boy lasted till the 1920s.

SATURDAY 12 FEBRUARY 1848. Went to the Clydesdale Bank and to several other places. There was a great crowd opposite the Post Office in the High Street, most of whom were students, at ½ 11 am. Went to Uncle James's and to St Andrew Square. At about 1 o'clock we met a great band of Students walking on the pavement two by two, as a sort of bravado after their great Achievement (!!!) yesterday. After dinner Willie Brockie came over and we went to Mr Arnot's in the Pleasance and got some papers of Father's about Incorporations. This is the first day of the Exhibition at the foot of the Mound.

There was a march including some of the accused down North Bridge, along Princes Street, up the Mound, down the High Street and along the South Bridge to the College and then by Nicolson Street to the Queen's Park and St Leonard's. The press added: 'With what object it is difficult to define'.

It was John Gulland's father who, as a freeman of the Canon-gate, was forbidden to trade in Edinburgh by an interdict of the Edinburgh Incorporation of Bakers. He fought a national campaign for the abolition of incorporation privileges and with the support of Lord Macaulay had a bill passed through Parliament so that tradesmen could conduct business wherever they chose. In recognition of his services the trades presented George Gulland with a large decorative silver jug which the family gifted to Huntly House Museum in 1992 along with a letter from Lord Macaulay to Mr Gulland. This event had far reaching consequences in trade and industrial relations in the remainder of the century.

The exhibition was held in what today is known as the Royal Scottish Academy but at that time as the Royal Institution. From 1827 it had housed an annual exhibition.

SUNDAY 13 FEBRUARY 1848. There was a collection for the Infirmary and although Mr Tweedie was away at Perth yet they drew about £ ... Mr Edwards an Independent minister from Brighton preached from II Peter I. 12 in the forenoon and a Mr McKellar in the afternoon preached from Galatians I. 4. Father went

over with Uncle James to Dr Brown's Church and staid to tea at Grandmother's.

Until the introduction of the National Health Service, the Royal Infirmary of Edinburgh was almost entirely self-supported by voluntary contributions from people through churches and other bodies, legacies, subscriptions and donations. The students of the university held an annual collection on its behalf and had processions through the city for the purpose. It became known as the largest voluntary teaching hospital in the country at the time of the change in 1948.

MONDAY 14 FEBRUARY 1848. Took Greek Testament almost the whole day at school. There was a sort of mob at the College in the afternoon but they dispersed without any fighting. Our old Janitor, Mr Gladow, died today at the Royal Infirmary.

TUESDAY 15 FEBRUARY 1848. The Caledonian Railway opened for the conveyance of Goods and Passengers but yesterday the Directors and others went on it as far as Beattock. Last Night Father and Isa were at the Reid Commemoration Concert. It was hardly so splendid as it ought to have been and there was no public sale of the tickets but they were given by The Professors to their own friends, the Town Council, &c.

The Caledonian Station was in Lothian Road adjacent to what is now Film House. A new station at the west end of Princes Street was opened gradually but not completed till the opening of the Caledonian Hotel in 1903. This was the start of the west coast route to Carlisle and London, via Carstairs, Symington, Abington and Beattock.

General John Reid or Robertson was a flute player and a composer. He left £50,000 to the University of Edinburgh in 1808 to found a chair of Music, which was instituted in 1839. The first professor was John Thomson but it was Professor John Donaldson who is criticised by John in his diary. There was held each year a memorial concert which opened with the playing of General Reid's composition *In the Garb of old Gaul*. At this period the Reid Concerts were held in the Music Hall attached to the Assembly Rooms in George Street. The Reid School of Music concert hall was built from Reid's bequest to designs by David Cousin in 1858 in Park Place (now beside Bristo Square). Donaldson had to sue the Senatus in the Court of Session before the University would release the funds to provide adequate facilities for its Professor of Music.

WEDNESDAY 16 FEBRUARY 1848. There are already a great many applications for the Janitorship of the High School vacant by Mr Gladow's death. Got a valentine today but I don't know who it is from.

St Valentine's Day is 14 February. So John was late in receiving his Valentine. Tradition says that birds chose their mates on the saint's day. When the celebration of Valentine's Day began is unknown. It is referred to by the poets Chaucer, Donne and Shakespeare. It is thought to have had its origins in pagan celebrations connected with Juno.

THURSDAY 17 FEBRUARY 1848. Kept the shop at night to let Miss Gibson get out. Mr Taylor our church precentor came in twice or thrice to see Father, as he is candidate for the Janitorship, but he had given his vote to a Mr Sinclair a Japanner in the High Street.

FRIDAY 18 FEBRUARY 1848. Did not go out at night but staid at home and learnt some of my lessons for Monday next.

SATURDAY 19 FEBRUARY 1848. After School, Willie Brockie, James Haswell and I went up part of Arthur's Seat. There is still some snow on it and the grass was rather damp and in some places it was very s... Came home to dinner at 2 pm. At 3 o'clock father and I went to the N.B. Railway about some wheat and on our road it came on a very heavy rain but by good luck we had umbrellas. after the shower we went to Mr Brackinrig's mills at Fountain Bridge. He has rather an unusual way of moving his machinery viz. by the united power of two steam engines one a high pressure, and the other a low pressure engine. Were home to tea at ½ past 5 and was very well appetized for it after my walk. Mr Gladow was buried today at 3 o'clock pm. It was a very large funeral.

The millmaster of the mills at 129 Fountainbridge was William Brakinrig, not Brackinrig.

SUNDAY 20 FEBRUARY 1848. In the forenoon heard Mr Tweedie preach from John XIX. 9-12. In the afternoon went to the Music Hall with Uncle James. Dr Gordon's text was Isaiah I. 1. Got tea with

Grandmother. Willie came down and we sat speaking till 25 min. past 6 pm. Went up to the General Post Office but got no letter from Aunt Ainslie. Met William Wyllie; He came to The head of the High Street with Willie & I.

MONDAY 21 FEBRUARY 1848. George Rogers from Newcastle came into the shop as I came home from school. He is still very stout. He called back again, as Father was not in then, at ½ past 8 o'clock and stoped till after supper. He has been at Paris and some other places on the Continent during last summer. He was going to Stirling tomorrow on some business.

TUESDAY 22 FEBRUARY 1848. Mrs Archibald called in for a short time at night. Isa got a note from Aunt Alexander asking us to tea on Friday first. Jeanie and Betsy's Mother and Father came in to town, from Castle Craig, Yesterday afternoon. Mrs Swan slept here last night.

WEDNESDAY 23 FEBRUARY 1848. Mr and Mrs Swan went away home by the stage Coach in the morning. By today's papers it seems that the people of Paris were perfectly quiet on Monday the 21st and there was not much likelihood of a disturbance in consequence of the Reform Banquet, against which a prohibition had been issued by The French Government.

THURSDAY 24 FEBRUARY 1848. Today's *Caledonian Mercury* contained an account of a great commotion in Paris on Tuesday. There had been a carriage full of wounded persons had been carried to the Hospital. Of 25 persons who were applying for the Janitorship of the High School The College Committee chose 5 out of whom one is to be elected by the Town Council on Tuesday next.

George Rogers of Newcastle and Miss Rogers of Kirkcaldy were familiar friends of all the family. Mr Rogers was concerned with horses and took the boys to the coachworks on 28 February.

The electric telegraph was first introduced into Edinburgh in

1848. The press report said that from 'accounts from Paris by means of that wonderful result of improved science – the electric telegraph – the state in France is alarming'. Renewed disturbances are mentioned since the change of ministry in France. 'The National Guard refused to act against the people and the regular troops began to waver. The French king and his ministers appear to have completely miscalculated their power. If they had been determined to put down the cause of electoral reform they ought to have taken measures earlier ... It cannot be sufficiently regretted that Louis Philippe and his ministers should have committed themselves in a dangerous collision with the people ... If we can place reliance on the accounts received last night, France has witnessed another revolution ... Feeling himself unable to contend with the factions opposed to his government he is reported to have abdicated in favour of his grandson, the Comte de Paris, who is in his tenth year. The Duc de Nemours, being unpopular with the now dominant party, has been deprived of the regency during the minority of the young prince and a provisional government appointed.'

It is noticed that the appointment of a janitor was made finally by the whole Town Council. The College Committee was responsible for the school as well as the university. John's father was a member of the committee.

FRIDAY 25 FEBRUARY 1848. There is great excitement here, everyone eager to get more news from France. Isa, Maggie and I went to Uncle Alexander's in a coach and were there at 5 o'clock pm. They were all little ones, so there was no dancing or games. Neither Uncle's Magic Lantern nor his diorama could be exhibited rightly as he had lost a tube that was needed for the gas. The little Johnstons had not been very well all day; they had a bad cold. Got our supper and a coach came to take us home at ½ past 8 pm.

Uncle Alexander Johnston lived at 8 Lauriston Lane, at that time a quiet country residential street of a few villas, leading down to the Meadows, now lost in the Royal Infirmary grounds.

The magic lantern, powered by limelight, must have been a very modern one at that time. Magic lanterns, until the development of the carbon arc lamp, received their illumination generally from paraffin lamps. Limelight was produced by the use of the oxides of certain metals which, when heated, gave off an intense light. The suitable flame was produced by the use of a cylinder of hydrogen or the like, presumably the 'tube' which Uncle Alexander had mislaid. The system was said to have been invented by an Edinburgh boy, Thomas Drummond (1797-1840) in 1824, whose name was originally given to the process, 'Drummond light'. Drummond became an Irish statesman who was concerned in the Daniel O'Connell agitations.

The diorama was a device for showing translucent pictures through an opening with suitable lighting effects.

John mentions dancing at parties more than once but does not indicate which dances were performed, nor does he say how the music for the dances was provided. Advertisements in the press of the time by teachers of dancing mention various waltzes, gallops, polkas and quadrilles. The music must have been provided by the piano or perhaps the violin, for Edison did not invent his phonograph till 1877 and the first gramophone record was not introduced till 1888. It is possible John was referring to country dancing.

SATURDAY 26 FEBRUARY 1848. At Paris on Wednesday Mr Guizot and his colleagues in the Ministry resigned their office. And on Thursday Louis Philippe abdicated and fled thus the Parisians obtained their great desire 'Reform' and that the Comte de Paris (The ex-king's heir and grandson and the son of the Duke of Orleans) was made king, and a Provisional Government is installed consisting of seven persons. The Comte de Paris is only 9 years old. Miss Jane Duncan died at Leith on Thursday night. Went to the Clydesdale Bank and to St Andrew Square and saw Uncle Thom; The little ones are none the worse after last night.

SUNDAY 27 FEBRUARY 1848. Mr Tweedie preached from John XIX. 13-22. and in the afternoon from Romans VI. 23. Mr and Mistress Rogers and their little girl and Miss Jessie Rogers, from Kirkcaldy, Aunt & Uncle Brockie and Uncle James came to their dinner at 4 pm and staid till between 7 & 8 o'clock. Went up to the Post Office to get a letter from Aunt Ainslie, but I only got some papers for Uncle James. No news from Paris; all the rails are torn up.

The *Morning Chronicle* wrote: 'Another catastrophe must be added to the long series of dynastic vicissitudes in France. The revolution of July exists only in the old almanac of the past. Another place of exile must pair off with St Helena or with Holyrood.' France had been declared a republic at the Hotel de Ville in Paris, dissolving the Chamber of Deputies and forbidding the Chamber of Peers from assembling.

MONDAY 28 FEBRUARY 1848. We had just been waiting a few minutes at the school when the Rector

came and told us that as Mr McMillan's youngest child died yesterday he would be unable to come so we were not to come to school till Thursday, as Wednesday was quarter-day. Willie and I went to Grandmother's and she was very anxious for us to go to Kirkcaldy, but, as Miss Rogers went away home early in the morning, we could not think of going. At ½ past 10 am Mr Rogers took Willie and I to see Russel and M'Nee's coach work. It is a very large place but not half the size of their other place near the Glasgow Railway. He showed us some of the machinery and all the different departments. Went also to Mr Brooks, Coachbuilder in Princes Street and saw his place too. Left Mr Rogers at ½ past 11 am. As Aunt Brockie and them were going to Sheriffhall Mains at ½ past 12 Willie and I left Edinburgh by the North British Railway at 3 and got to Portobello in 7 minutes and walked up the Duddingston Road reading some books and we put off so much time that we did not get to the Mills till about 4 pm. Mr King is very unwell, and has been in his bed since last Thursday. Father and Uncle came to the Mills at 20 min past 4. They had been at Miss J. Duncan's funeral; she was buried in the Warriston Cemetery. We got some cheese and bread from Mrs King and left by the 5 o'clock train. Willie came over to New Street with us and after tea we had a game at bagatelle and some games at draughts.

Messrs Russel and M'Nee's coach works were at 4 Princes Street, on a site at the corner of West Register Street. Messrs A. Brooks, coachbuilders, was at 61 Princes Street. William Creech, the bookseller and publisher at the Luckenbooths who became Lord Provost, tells us in his *Fugitive Pieces* (1791) that, although there was no coach-building in Edinburgh in the 1770s and coaches were bought in London and Paris, by the end of the century Edinburgh was producing fine coaches which were exported to Paris, London, St Petersburg and the cities of the Baltic. In 1848 there were 22 coach and harness makers in Edinburgh and another 22 coach hirers.

TUESDAY 29 FEBRUARY 1848. I went over to Willie's at ¼ past 11 and he and I left Greenside Street at ½ past 11 and walked to Sheriffhall Mains by the Dalkeith Road. It was a very fine day and we had an

excellent walk. We walked at a very moderate rate and went the five and a half miles in about an hour and a half, being there at 1 o'clock. Aunt Seton and little Lisbeth were away at Dalkeith spending the day with Miss Seton. After dinner Willie and I walked about and saw all that was going on about the farm and then were intending to walk as far as the Esk but we were not far on the road when a shower came on and we had to turn again, but it soon cleared up, so we set out once more and got there at length. The river is much swelled on account of the late snow and rain. Were back again in time for tea. Aunt Seton came home at ½ past 5 pm. We spent the night with reading, drafts &c and went to bed before 10 o'clock.

WEDNESDAY 1 MARCH 1848. Rose at ½ past 7. After breakfasting and running about for a while Willie and I left and we reached Millerhill Station of the N.B.R. in time for the train at 10 min. past 10 am but not, however, to escape a heavy storm of wind and rain. The station-keeper gave us a seat in his box till the train came up. We took a third class ticket. There were no others came on here but us. When we reached home, Isa, Willie and I went to the Exhibition of Paintings. It is a very good Exhibition, but hardly as nice a one as last year's. I think among the best are Noel Paton's 'Christ bearing the Cross' and two others of his. Sir William Allan's 'Waterloo' besides and two or three of John Faed's. Met a great many schoolfellows there as it is quarterday. Isa and I left Willie, as we had to be home at 2 o'clock and it was now a quarter past it.

Sir Noel Paton was born in 1821 and studied at the Royal Academy, London. He would be 27 at the time of this exhibition and displaying his earlier works. Many were of a religious nature. At the 1848 exhibition he showed 'Christ bearing his Cross as in Luke xxiii. 26', 'Meeting of Zephyr and Aurora as in L'Allegro', and 'Silenus surprised by Aegle as in Virgil'. He continued to exhibit until the 1890s.

Sir William Allan, RA (1782-1850) lived at 72 Great King Street. He was President of the Royal Scottish Academy. His picture of 'Waterloo' was described in the press as large and animated. He also had other pictures in the exhibition depicting scenes from

the Highlands, 'The Gathering of the Clans, 1745' and 'Leaving Home - a Highland Scene'.

John Faed was born in Kirkcudbrightshire in 1819. In 1841, at the age of 22 he came to Edinburgh. He was elected ARSA in 1847. He was considered by the art circles of the time as one of the leading younger artists. At this exhibition he had four portraits of gentlemen, two of ladies and two others, 'The Trysting Place - Evening' and 'The Shelter'.

THURSDAY 2 MARCH 1848. There are no word about Louis Philippe. A great many of the French nobility have come over to England and the English residents in Paris are generally leaving. Paid my quarter's money at school.

The French troubles and the departure of British residents from France created widespread interest, so much so that an exhibition, Marshall's Panorama of Views of the City of Paris was crowded by people anxious to become acquainted with the localities where the disturbances were taking place.

FRIDAY 3 MARCH 1848. Monsieur De Fivas the French teacher had made arrangements for a few of us to come to his class from 12 to 1 pm. So Willie, R. Greig and I went up to him and he told us to get our books and we would commence on Monday. Staid at home all night.

SATURDAY 4 MARCH 1848. Willie Brockie came over with me and we first went to the Clydesdale Bank, next to Uncle James's, and afterwards to Uncle Thom's and told them to send for our French books. We then walked along the South Bridge and by the Queen's Road, met William Sinclair there he came along a short distance and left us. We were home in good time for dinner. Our books came about 4 o'clock. The price of the three was 8/3d. Willie stopped till 9 pm and we played a game at draughts.

SUNDAY 5 MARCH 1848. Heard a young man called Balfour from Psalm LI. 1.2. in our own church and in the afternoon we went with Uncle James as we were rather late we went to the Waterloo Rooms and heard Mr Melroy. His text was Revelations XV. 3.4. His sermon was principally with reference to the

diplomatic relations with the pope about which there is much spoken just now and there is a petition being signed to be sent to Parliament disapproving of the Bill. Willie Brockie was down at Grandmother's. she is quite well. Came away a little after 6 pm.

The Rev. Andrew Milroy (not Melroy) was minister of Henderson Free Church from the Disruption. He came from Crailing Free Church in 1844. Henderson Free Church in due course became Craigmillar Park Church in Suffolk Road, now occupied by St Margaret's School. A Bill was before Parliament to authorise diplomatic relations with the Pope. There was concern about what title would be applied to the Pope by which he was to be addressed. The Pope was Pius IX under whom in 1850 the Roman Catholic Church was re-established in Britain.

MONDAY 6 MARCH 1848. Went to De Fivas for the first time. He is a regular queer fellow. We will have to write a French version every night.

TUESDAY 7 MARCH 1848. Father bought the *Edinburgh Advertiser* of today and there are news in it that Louis Philippe arrived at Newhaven [South of England] on the coast of Sussex on Friday the 3rd a short time before 12 o'clock am. He had gone from Havre in a small fishing-boat and was picked up in crossing the Channel by a steam Packet which had been cruising for the purpose of looking for the Ex-king. Both he, and the Queen, who was with him were in complete disguise while the King passed as an English gentleman, having for this got an interpreter. They are now staying at Claremont House. There was a great riot in Glasgow both Yesterday and this morning. The mob had broken into a great many shops and out of some of them they got firearms; A body of the Local pensioners fired on the mob, which consisted principally of unemployed workmen, and killed one man on the spot besides wounding other five one of whose lives - a Mr Alexander - is despaired of. At night Miss Hay and Miss Brown came from the High Street they told us there was a great rumpace on the streets that all the shops were shut and a band of people mostly prentice boys were breaking every lamp they came to.

Father's two apprentices came in after 10 o'clock. We heard them quite distinctly breaking the glass at Leith Street and the Calton Hill. Father did not come in at his usual time and we were getting anxious about him. When he came home at last at ¼ to 1 am He had been acting as a special constable – all night from 9 o'clock. He told us that at first the pensioners had been called out but at length the mob got so furious that they had to send for a detachment of the Dragoons from Piershill who soon succeeded in clearing the streets when one man got his nose cut off, and a woman had her leg broken by a horse. The crowd was dispersed when he left.

John's report of the arrival of the ex-king of France tallies with that of the newspapers of the day. Indeed it would appear that he made use of the phraseology of the papers in his diary. The additional information is given that 'Paris was perfectly tranquil yesterday evening. The public were paying the taxes in advance with unqualified cheerfulness.'

Claremont House, not far from Esher and Sandown Park, was originally built by Vanburgh in 1708 and rebuilt later. In the early 19th century it belonged to the King of the Belgians. It was there that Louis Philippe, of France, found asylum. He died there in exile in 1850. King Leopold I of the Belgians had married, in 1816, Princess Charlotte, the only child of George IV, and, with her, lived at Claremont. She died a year later. He was King from 1831 to 1865. He was the uncle of Queen Victoria and recognised as a patron of the arts and music. The Regent Bridge in Waterloo Place was formally opened on the occasion of a visit by Leopold and Charlotte on 22 September 1819, although it had been in use for about two years.

WEDNESDAY 8 MARCH 1848. Upon a rough calculation it is said that no fewer than a thousand lamps were broken last night. The lamps are nearly all broken opposite the High School. At night went over to Willie's and he and I went to Cowan's in Princes Street and bought a version book for the French. All the constables were on the alert tonight but although there was a considerable crowd collecting yet they cleared them all away so that they were allowed to go home at 11 o'clock pm. All the shops were shut early at night.

The leader in the *Courant* indicated that the rioting in Glasgow appeared to be alarming and 'the multitude that assembled were numerous and formidable'. The tumult is said to have originated in

political causes. People were suffering from the depression of trade.

The Edinburgh rioting was different. The same paper reports that it was of a more wanton and mischievous character. 'It does not appear to have arisen from any premeditated cause but its origin from a number of urchins in the High Street about 8.30 hallooing and running after one another which soon collected all the idle men and lads who at that hour are lounging in the street. Some of them, more bent on mischief than the rest, proceeded down the Mound and tore a number of boards from a mason's shed which they broke and split up into batons and with these armed a great many of the crowd. They then went along Princes Street and in their progress broke the public lamps and the windows of the Royal Institution. Returning up the Mound they separated into bands and proceeded along High Street, South Bridge, Regent Bridge, Hanover Street, Heriot Row, Nicolson Street, Cowgate, Canongate, St John Street, Arthur Street, Richmond Street and George Square breaking all the public lamps as they proceeded and with stones smashing the windows of many houses in these streets. The windows of the College were nearly all broken and a great number of the panes in Dr McCrie's church in Richmond Street shared the same fate. The mob consisted principally of boys who were hounded on by a few thieves and blackguards who had their own ends to serve.' By 10 o'clock the Lord Provost had mustered not only citizens but the pensioners from the Castle and a party of cavalry from Piershill Barracks. The mob of some 600 were driven to the Calton Hill by the dragoons and it is reported that 'some of the most daring climbed up and threw stones at the dragoons'. By 2 am quiet had been restored. It is said that upwards of a thousand of the public lamps were broken and that about fifty persons were taken into custody.

At the court proceedings that followed, the nature of the accused, their ages, and employment became clear. The following are examples of the sentences delivered. Alex. Dawson, a painter, aged 17, was given 60 days as a ringleader: McKay, a 'fellow of a low and dirty appearance' was dismissed. A gentleman's servant got 30 days: a theatrical performer who called out 'A Republic for ever' got 30 days: a youth aged 17 got 40 days: a tailor was fined £5 or 20 days: 'a gentleman of highly respectable appearance' 10 days: a youth named Ferguson who shouted 'Vive la Republique – Down with the Government ...' 30 days: a law clerk who attacked the Dragoons 60 days. The *Courant* reported that on the Wednesday night there was 'a brief conflict on the Mound between a body of special constables and a party of the crowd. Several stones were thrown and many of the lamps were broken again.' On the Thursday evening rain prevented 'the assemblage of idlers'. The court sentences for the period of the disturbance were recorded. Six persons got 60 days imprisonment: five got 40 days: six received 30 days: three 20 days: one of 15 days and twelve 10 days. Forty were ordered to find caution for their good behaviour, failing which they would be imprisoned. Two were fined. Ten were dismissed and four were found not proven while five were deserted by the prosecutor.

There were 94 cases in all. Among those apprehended on the Wednesday evening was 'an urchin of nine or ten years of age who was found parading the streets armed with a cutlass'.

THURSDAY 9 MARCH 1848. The streets were perfectly quiet today and no disturbances took place.

FRIDAY 10 MARCH 1848. It appears that riots were attempted in London on Tuesday and also at Kilmarnock on Wednesday night but the mob confined themselves to breaking windows and lamps and now they are all quiet. Isa went to a party in Montague Street. Willie and I went to a sale in Princes Street and bought some drawing books.

The *Courant* report of the riot in Kilmarnock said the mob smashed 'windows in the victualling shop of Mr Templeton'. Special constables were assailed with stones but the constables managed to

clear the streets. 'The sole object of the rioters was undoubtedly mischief.' Riots were also reported in Ayr, Leith, Glasgow and some of the mining districts. The year 1848 in history books is generally described as one of revolution which affected many of the thrones of Europe. The fall of the French king was paralleled in many of the states of Germany and in Italy. There was revolt of Italians and Hungarians against the Austrian government. Chartism and the Young Ireland movement affected Britain.

SATURDAY 11 MARCH 1848. After school went up to the Clydesdale Bank with some money. The mob had broken some beautiful panes of glass in the new front of the Bank.

No entries are made in the Diary for eleven months from 12 March 1848 to 12 February 1849. No reason is given but John left school at the end of the session 1847-48 and continued his education privately.

PART III : 12 FEBRUARY 1849 TO 17 APRIL 1849

MONDAY 12 FEBRUARY 1849. At 9 went as usual to Mr Moffat's Classes South Bridge for Mathematics Algebra &c. At 11 Willie Brockie and I went home and wrote our German exercise together; little George is scarcely so well today. Dr Cowan was sent for and thinks it is only a slight derangement of his stomach. Before dinner got a short walk round Regent Terrace, Queen's Park and home. Dinner at 1 pm. Went to German Class (Dr Nachots, Princes Street) at 2 and to French class (Mr Cornillon's Queen Street) at 3 pm Home at ½ past 4 pm Intended to go to hear Elihu Burritt speak at a meeting in French's church, College Street but Aunt Ainslie had been calling at Uncle William's (at present Lord Provost) who invited us to tea at 7 pm. Isa and I went there at 7 besides us there were only Uncle and Aunt Ainslie and Uncle Thom, and, of course, Uncle and Aunt William and Elisabeth. After tea we had some music from Miss Johnston and then getting tired of speaking we had a game at bowls in the drawing room. Elisabeth and I won two games from Uncle and Isa. Went down to supper at ¼ to 10 pm and after a tumbler of toddy and a crack

we left at 11 o'clock. I at least having enjoyed a very happy evening. On going home saw the meeting in College Street Church coming out. Father had gone to it and heard Elihu Burritt speak thought a great deal of him.

William Moffat was the teacher of mathematics in the High School but practised privately at 63 South Bridge. Dr H. W. Nachot of the Scottish Naval and Military Academy, Edinburgh Academy and elsewhere taught German at 113 Princes Street. Hippolite Cornillon was teacher of French at 62 Queen Street.

The Rev. Dr John French was minister of College Street Church. He had come from Strathaven in 1833. He was awarded DD by Glasgow in 1846. The meeting was arranged by the Peace Society to petition Parliament in favour of arbitration treaties between Great Britain and other countries and in support of a motion to be brought before the House of Commons in support. Mr Miller, engraver, of Hope Park was called to the chair and the meeting was addressed by Elihu Burritt of America and the Rev. Henry Richard of London as a deputation from the Peace Congress Committee of London. The motion was unanimously approved to forward the petition to the Members of Parliament for the city. A collection was subsequently taken for support of the movement.

Uncle William, William Johnston, was elected Lord Provost in 1848 in succession to Adam Black. He was a Liberal in politics. He was knighted in 1851 at the end of his term of office. Elisabeth was his only daughter. Bowls in the drawing room refers to carpet bowls.

TUESDAY 13 FEBRUARY 1849. After our class at 11 William and I took a walk down the Granton Road by Newhaven and Leith, at Newhaven it rained very heavy for a short time but soon cleared up. In Leith Docks there seem to be a good many ships; walked home by Leith Walk. It is very blowy. To French Class as usual at 3 pm. No German Class today. Father got two tickets for Reid's Concert which is to be tonight but as I have gone with one of them but as Aunt and Uncle Ainslie were very anxious to get They got both of them. The Exhibition of Paintings opened today. It was not so crowded as is usual on the first day of opening as it used to be on a Saturday. Supposed to be a very fine Exhibition. Georgie is a great deal better today.

The local press was critical of the concert. 'There was comparatively little worthy of notice. We might launch out on the merits of the College Court in connection with the chair of music ... as regards the arrangements on Tuesday evening. They were decidedly bad in more respects than one. For future occasions we would suggest to the management that the doors be opened fully an hour before the performance commences instead of 25 minutes as on Tuesday and further that the back stairs may no longer be open and patent to the friends of the Senatus who thus secure the best seats to the disappointment of many who had stood in the street for nearly an hour to obtain a favourable position in the room. Through the kindness of Professor Donaldson all the male and female inmates of the Blind Asylum, Nicolson Street, were admitted to the orchestra, immediately behind the screen around the organ to hear the music.' At this period the Reid Concert was held in the Music Hall that was added, in 1843, to designs by William Burn and David Bryce at the rear of the 18th-century Assembly Rooms in George Street. The Exhibition was at the Royal Scottish Academy, which John visited on 17 March and commented on. Its full title in 1849 was the Royal Scottish Academy of Painting, Sculpture and Architecture.

WEDNESDAY 14 FEBRUARY 1849. At 11 got a walk round by the Queen's Park up part of Arthur Seat and home by Regent Terrace. On the Portobello Road it is very disagreeable as it is very windy and there is a great quantity of dust on the road. To German and French Classes. At home all the evening. Aunt Ainslie was over at dinner. The concert last night was very

much crowded and a great many ladies fainted, so that I was well away from it.

THURSDAY 15 FEBRUARY 1849. I must give up now mentioning going to my classes as it will get rather tedious so it must be understood unless it is mentioned otherwise. Saturdays and Sundays are the only days on which I do not go to any. At 11 am went home and got the *Scotsman* of yesterday in which there was an advertisement for a clerk that Uncle Brockie thought might be a good opportunity for his cousin William Brockie who lives at present at Portobello and has been in want of a situation for some time back. So we agreed to take a walk there to show him it. Went round by the Queen's Park and the Fishwife's Causeway and I walked slowly along to the toll to meet William there and read some of *Barnaby Rudge*. Met him in Brighton Street were intending to go home by Duddingston but as it was very windy and we were rather late we walked home by the same road. All night at home & kept the shop to let Miss Gibson out as she has not been out for a month except on Sundays.

The advertisement was for a trustworthy person for employment in 'Collectors Accounts'. This William Brockie was a cousin of William's father. There can be confusion in the rest of the diary between Willie and William. Fishwives Causeway was the road used by the fisherwomen of Musselburgh and Fisherrow to Edinburgh. It followed what is thought to have been a Roman road. It was cut by the North British Railway but a new road was completed to preserve the right-of-way.

FRIDAY 16 FEBRUARY 1849. At eleven. Went round part of the Queen's Drive and across the valley of Arthur Seat. This was a beautiful day although the wind was high and rather cold. As William had been at the Theatre last night he was telling me all that he had seen. At 7 pm Went over to Greenside Street and Willie and I went to a society of which he was made a member last Friday, called a 'Society for mutual Improvement' begun about 2 and a half years ago and composed mostly of some fellows who were in the Rector's Class High School some years since and a few of these were

in Macmillan's Class with us. There are nearly twenty members. Each one has to write an essay in turn so that each will have to write one about twice in a Year. Mr I. Boyd read his essay tonight. The subject was 'Insects' And in exemplification of what he had written he showed us some specimens of Insects of his own collecting &c. The essay was very well written indeed. There is also a manuscript Journal with the Society called the *Weekly Miscellany*. The things in it are written entirely by members. At 8 pm went and got my supper at Uncle Brockie's. Uncle Ainslie, Father and Uncle Andrew were there left at ¼ past 10 pm. Forgot to mention that at 4 went to Gardner SSC in Dundas Street with a letter about Mr Stillie's Account to see if he can get it from him. Then I went to see Grandmother she is much about the same today. Aunt Brockie was there at the time. Mother had been over a short time before.

The programme at the Theatre Royal on the 15th consisted of three items, 'Marguerite's Colours', 'Catharine and Petruchio' (the subject of the play in Shakespeare's 'Taming of the Shrew') and 'Don Juan'.

Societies for Mutual Improvement were common during the 19th century, and a few had manuscript magazines. Few continued after the 1914 war. One at Bristo Place Baptist Church existed until the 1939 war and its magazine, entitled *Leaves and Blossoms*, is in the Edinburgh Room of the Public Library. So far as can be discovered no copies survive of the *Weekly Miscellany* written by Willie Brockie's society.

James Stillie was a bookseller at 78 Princes Street with his home at Jessfield House, Dewar Place. John Gardiner, solicitor, was at 25 Dundas Street. He was not admitted SSC until 1850.

SATURDAY 17 FEBRUARY 1849. At ¼ past 11 William Brockie and William Main came over for me and we had a walk by the Water of Leith crossed the Dean Bridge through the Dean Cemetery, not so pretty a place as it is said to be. Round by Coltbridge and home by Princes Street. Home at 2 pm. Got dinner and afterwards went with Willie to the Queen's Park hand in a card at Greig's accepting his invitation to tea on Friday next. Walked up part of Arthur Seat and

read some of Goldsmith's *Natural History* came home ½ past 4 got tea at Five. Went to the High Street and paid Gardner's Account, in coming home picked up a small paper full of Coffee in the Canongate dropped it at the head of New Street for some poor body to pick up as I had no particular use for it. This has been a beautiful day although there was very much wind. Aunt and Uncle Ainslie went away home to Peelrig at 9 this morning. They were staying at Uncle Thom's when in Town.

This is the first mention of John's wanderings in the West End of the town. The Dean Bridge was opened in 1832. The Dean Cemetery had only recently been laid out in 1845 after Dean House was demolished. Coltbridge at Roseburn was in the country in the 1840s. There is no mention of a *Natural History* by Oliver Goldsmith, though he produced his *History of Animated Nature* in 1774. James Gardner was a grocer at 225 High Street.

SUNDAY 18 FEBRUARY 1849. Went to Church (Mr Tweedie's Infirmary Street) forenoon and afternoon. Mr Tweedie was away to the Country and preached neither of the times. In the forenoon we had a very prosy Sermon from Mr Black from the text John XII. 27-33 and in the afternoon the Rev. Mr Jeffrey delivered a very excellent sermon from I Galatians IV. 17. Wrote a great deal of it down. Father was over beside Grandmother all afternoon. She is no better today.

The Rev. Dr Black was of the Free Church College. There was a Rev. John Jeffrey, probably a retired minister, living at 60 Frederick Street. It was to the old Secession church of 1822, in Infirmary Street, next to Lady Yester's, that Mr Tweedie's Tolbooth congregation moved in 1844 after a short stay at the Freemason's Hall in Niddry Street after the Disruption in 1843. The Secession building was later used by the Protestant Institute and then by the Working Men's Institute and is now in the hands of the University. It is numbered 13 Infirmary Street.

MONDAY 19 FEBRUARY 1849. It was a very wet day did not go for a walk today. Came home and translated a piece of German. Cleared up about three the street soon dried and it was a beautiful day but the wind was very high. Called at Uncle James's shop

(Hanover Street). Saw in the *Caledonian Mercury* an account of the dreadful calamity in Alexander's Theatre, Glasgow, on Saturday night where upwards of sixty people (mostly young apprentice boys &c) were killed and an immense number wounded. A false alarm of fire had arisen from some very trifling cause. All scrambled to get out and as the doors which opened inwards were shut the more they crushed only hindered them from being opened. The crush was so great that some were shoved out of the windows and fell into the street and were killed. All this took place in the Gallery. In the pit, boxes &c no one was killed although many were hurt, upwards of 54 dead bodies were already found. In the evening went over to Grandmother's she is rather better tonight. Aunt Seton was with her and is to stay with her all night as the nurse is unwell. Went with William to Rutherford's Sale in Princes Street. He bought two French books to teach his Sisters French and a French Testament all for 5d. Home at 10 pm.

The press reported the disaster at the Theatre Royal in Dunlop Street, Glasgow, as 'a melancholic affair'. 'About 8.15 at the conclusion of the first act of the play an alarm of fire was raised in the upper gallery which occasioned a tremendous and simultaneous rush to the doors. The origin of the alarm was the glare of light and dense smoke which proceeded from a piece of paper in a state of ignition thrown upon the floor in a most culpable manner by a man sitting near the front after he lighted his pipe.' The fire was extinguished quickly by a few buckets of water without difficulty. Mr Alexander was the manager of the theatre.

TUESDAY 20 FEBRUARY 1849. Walked along with William round by the Links, we saw a tree pulled down in the Meadows which took the full strength of nine men after the roots had been cut with axes &c for a considerable time before it came down. Although some of the branches seemed to be rotten yet the tree must have been very tough. Round by Lovers' Loan, Grange Loan and Links and home at 1. Went to Stoddart's to try to settle his account but he was not at home. George is very well today indeed almost as well as he had been since he was ill. Called on Will, Abbey

Mount at 5 pm said he would try to pay his account in ten days or so. Miss Scott was nice helping Isa to knit a polka for herself. Went home with her at 10 o'clock.

Lovers' Loan is an old right of way, a path, leading now from Sciennes Road to Grange Loan, outside the high wall of what was Grange House, originally to the Blackford Hill area. James Stoddart was a coachbuilder whose account was finally settled on 1 March. Will is probably Edward William Bruce, the hatter at Abbey Mount. A polka was a type of lady's jacket popular in the 1840s. It was said to have taken its name from the dance which was invented in the 1830s. Miss Scott assisted in the shop.

WEDNESDAY 21 FEBRUARY 1849. At 11 o'clock went to Greenside Street & met Tom Scott there, we had a walk round by the Granton Road, Newhaven and came back through Warriston Cemetery. Was home at ¼ past 4 pm And were rather late for German Class at 2 o'clock. Father's leg is very sore today he hurt it slightly about a month ago and he stayed in at night with it.

Perhaps John's greatest understatement was that he was 'rather late' at 4.15 for his German class at 2 o'clock!

THURSDAY 22 FEBRUARY 1849. As it was very wet today did not get a walk at all, but William came home with me and we read &c. In the evening went over to see grandmother she is much the same as formerly, Aunt Seton was with her.

FRIDAY 23 FEBRUARY 1849. Came home at 11 and at 12 went to the Savings' Bank and paid in ten shillings for Isa and 10/- for myself the interest for last year came to 3/- and I have altogether £5.17s. Went to the Commercial Bank and paid in an order from J. Gulland for £200 went with some letters and was home to dinner at 1 pm. As we were coming from Cornillon's after 4 pm went in to Uncle James's and got some patterns of cloth for a shooting coat which I was to get made next week. At ½ past 5 pm Isa and I went to the tea party at Greig's there were not a great many there, not many above twenty. We spent a very happy evening there was no dancing but all games and we had a few charades. Came home at ¼ past

11 pm. Rained a little in coming home. Father's leg not much better.

SATURDAY 24 FEBRUARY 1849. In the Afternoon went down and saw Grandmother. she is not much better. Agnes and Lisbet Gulland came over when I was there. Went up to Greenside Street with Aunt Brockie and them. Wrote my French and part of my German Versions with William, came home at ½ past 8 pm. Father's leg is no better.

SUNDAY 25 FEBRUARY 1849. Went to Church both forenoon and afternoon and heard Mr Tweedie each time in the forenoon from Exodus ... and in the afternoon from ... At 4 pm Went to the Post Office with Bill who wished to get a letter from Miss Brydon but there was none. Were going to Grandmother's but on the road down met Aunt Brockie who had just come from there so we did not go. She is much the same today. Uncle Brockie and Uncle James came over at night and had a crack with Father who was not at the Church today.

This is the first time John does not give the texts of both sermons.

MONDAY 26 FEBRUARY 1849. Went to the Commercial Bank with some money as Father was unable to go out. At night went over to Greenside. Went down and saw Grandmother she is rather better tonight. Came up and revised our Latin together, went over the nouns, some of the verbs and look at part of the Grammatical Exercises. At ½ past 8 went along to Rutherford's Sale in Princes Street I bought the 6th volume of the *British and Foreign Review* for 6d. William bought nothing. Home at ¼ past 10.

The *British & Foreign Review* or *European Quarterly Journal* as its sub-title indicated was published by Richard and John Edward Taylor of Fleet Street. It was not the kind of magazine one would expect a young lad to read. Volume 6 was issued in 1836 and was therefore 13 years old. Its contents included a discussion of trade in the Levant and the danger of war with Russia. A long article on Persia urged the importance of maintaining the independence and integrity of Persia. A Manchester manufacturer described his experiences of the life of the Russian people. Other articles and notes

dealt with property in France, Spain after its recent revolution, the practice of the English courts of common law and the state of education in Lancashire. Books were reviewed, and the meeting of the British Association in Bristol.

There is no other mention of Latin after John left school.

TUESDAY 27 FEBRUARY 1849. Willie and I came to New Street as it was a very wet forenoon and kept Georgie, read books &c. was home at night. Father's leg is some better tonight, the inflammation is greatly away from it.

WEDNESDAY 28 FEBRUARY 1849. Went to Mr Ruthven's in the South Bridge, teacher of Ornamental and Architectural drawing, as I was intending to go to it. My Uncle Alexander's recommendation. His hours are any time from 9 to 4 pm And fees for Two hours 5 times a week £2.5/- and for 1 hour do £1.7s.6d. About 1 pm Uncle and Aunt Thomas came in and they sat till past 2. At home at night. Father's leg is still keeping better and he hopes he will be able to go out tomorrow.

James Ruthven, 44 South Bridge, was an architect and teacher of drawing. The advertisement in the press at the beginning of his session offered drawing classes for architecture, civil engineering, perspective, etc. From his biographer we learn that John hoped to become an architect. Hence his start on drawing classes.

THURSDAY 1 MARCH 1849. At 11 went to Mr Stoddart, Coach Builder, to settle his account found him in at last & he paid it all. As Mr Gulland of Kirkcaldy had paid the £100 he was due father yesterday I went to the Commercial Bank with it and some more money, and got a dividend from the North British Railway of £3.0s.8d. at the British Linen Co's Bank. Came home at ½ past 1 pm Father had not come to his dinner yet. So I went down to Macleod of the Burgh School and he promised to pay his account today but he has not done it yet. There was a ticket sent to us admitting two to see the Panorama at 2 pm today but as I did not get dinner till past 2 I could not get and had to lose the opportunity, got a walk round by the Queen's Park and home by Norton Park Place &c. At

night kept the shop as Miss Gibson and Jeanie were away to see the Panorama with some tickets Miss Hay had got. Uncle William called at night but Father was at his dinner.

As a dividend was received from the North British Railway Company father Gulland must have had shares in the company. The chairman of the railway company was John Learmonth of Dean, the coachmaker in Princes Street, who had been Lord Provost in the 1830s. The British Linen Bank was in St Andrew Square. This would be the present building now occupied by the Bank of Scotland at 37-38 St Andrew Square. It took the place of an earlier building in 1846. It was largely the work of David Bryce who had the six tall Corinthian columns surmounted by statues representing navigation, commerce, manufacture, science, art and agriculture.

John B. McLeod was a teacher in the Canongate Burgh School, situated at 155 Canongate, next to Canongate Church. He lived at 3 Mayfield Loan. As future entries in the diary show he was a bad payer of debt.

The *Courant* advertised that 'Mr Marshall respectfully intimates that he will open his Rotunda on the Mound newly and elegantly fitted up, similar to the Cyclorama in London, with a new Panorama of the City of Berlin, together with views of Rome, Vienna, Naples and the recent war in India'. Seats in boxes cost one shilling while the pit was sixpence. The performances were given between 12 noon and 4 pm and between 7 pm and 10 pm. Each display was accompanied by a commentary.

FRIDAY 2 MARCH 1849. Went to Ruthven's for drawing at 10 am. Paid his fees for two hours a day £2.5/- I intend to go from 10 to 12. My classes are 9-10 Algebra and Arithmetique, 10-12 drawing, 2-3 German 3 times a week & 3-4 French. At Ruthven's did nothing else than putting on the sheet on the board. The sheet was first well damped with a sponge then taking a piece of glue in a cake and wetting it in cold water rubbed it along a small part of the side on all the four sides, and as the paper was still damp did no more today, came away about 11. At 12 went over to William Brockie's who was at Scott & Green writing masters for the first time. he is going from 10-12. Went down to Grandmother's (in Barony Street) with him. Aunt Seton was there, and Mrs Anderson looked in for a short time. She is much the same today. The doctor thinks that most of the bad symptoms are away from

her but she can't get sleep at all. At 4 went to Uncle Thom's and spoke to him about a pair of pencil bows which I require at Ruthven's. He went along to Maggil's in Hanover Street with me and got a pair for 5/6d. At 6 pm Isa and I went to a tea party at Mr Scott, Writer, Hanover Street, had a very pleasant evening, dancing all night. The very opposite of last Friday's party at Greig's.

Scott and Son and J. M. Green were writing masters at 50 George Street. Writing was so important in legal and other offices as no typewriters or mechanical aids had been produced for their use. William Macgill were artist's colourmen and print sellers at 7 Hanover Street. Robert Scott was a solicitor with premises at 63 North Hanover Street. He was admitted SSC in 1850.

SATURDAY 3 MARCH 1849. At 11 went to the Clydesdale Bank with money and then to St Andrew Square to get some books for Agnes Gulland who is going to the Southern Institution with Isa. Paid Uncle Tom for the compasses, he sent for the books which are to be sent to Aunt Ainslie in Dunse, and I had to wait for these coming and as they were very long I did not get away till near 2. Got also a drawing pencil HHH from him. Price of books for Agnes 5s.4½d After dinner William came over and we went to try to get a second hand Copy of De Fivas' Grammar as I intend to teach Isa and Agnes, French. Went to Brunton, Tailor, in the High Street and got my measure for a pair of trousers as he is in father's debt. After going through a good many old book shops got the Grammar at last in a shop near the College paid for it 2s.6d selling price 3s.6d but it was nearly new and quite clean.

The Edinburgh Ladies' Institute for the Southern Districts was situated at 1 Park Place, now included in Bristo Square. This was an offshoot of the Scottish Institution for the Education of Young Ladies founded in 1834. The Edinburgh Institute opened in 1833. In his *Chronicles of Edinburgh* (1851) R. H. Stevenson tells that there were 16 teachers besides assistants and that lectures were given in mathematics, natural history and physical science. In the original prospectus the new school was advertised 'for the children of the higher and wealthier classes of the community'. The committee of management visualised some 200 children. This school should not

be confused with the Edinburgh Southern Academy which was situated at 5 George Square.

SUNDAY 4 MARCH 1849. In the forenoon at our church we had a stranger who preached a very commonplace sermon from ... and in the afternoon Mr Tweedie preached from Matthew I. 23. The second of a series of 9 or 10 discourses on the offices &c of Christ. Went to the Post Office at 4 but there was such a crowd that we could not get in so we took a walk round Calton Hill came back and got in. Some letters for both William and I but none from Aunt Seton from whom we expected one as she was unwell on Saturday when she went home, with a slight bowel complaint.

MONDAY 5 MARCH 1849. At Ruthven's drew in pencil and also part with ink Two Entablatures of the Tuscan Order one a copy and the other from a scale of my own. At 12 walked round part of the Queen's Road & back by the Abbey Hill home at 10 past 1. Read some of *Barnaby Rudge* as I was walking. At 7 pm Agnes came down and she and Isa got their first lesson in French from me they have been at it for some time before but Agnes has forgot a great deal of it. Got on very well indeed for the first time, and I intend having it on the evenings of Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays about 7 for an hour.

This is the second time that John has failed to mention the text of the preacher. The Rev. W. K. Tweedie by 1848 had written at least three books advertised in the Street Directory. *The Atonement of Christ*, *the Hope of the People* had a second edition at 1/6d: *Calvin and Servetus* translated from the French at 3/6: and *The Sacrament of Baptism* in its second edition at 1/6d. There are several references in the diary to reading when on walks. John's biographer says he regularly carried some book with him. Dickens published *Barnaby Rudge* in 1841. It came out in parts in 1848-49. There were 24 parts at three-halfpence each.

TUESDAY 6 MARCH 1849. At drawing finished the Tuscan Entablature and put on a sheet for tomorrow by which time it will be dry. Know a good many of the fellows there. Gorie who was at McMillan's for a year or so. Buchanan who was in the Rector's class.

Bell and some others. Went down and saw Grandmother with Aunt Brockie, She scarcely slept so well last night.

WEDNESDAY 7 MARCH 1849. Began to draw the Tuscan Order Entablature, Capital, Base pillar &c. Uncle Andrew sent away his servant today she has a very bad temper and was always quarreling with the shop keeper who is confined to bed with a very bad foot and Uncle was in the shop himself. We were over and got a good laugh at his description of her. And advising us to have nothing to do with women they have such horrid tempers. Father's leg is rather better today he is at the market with it. forgot to mention yesterday that William and I were at an Auction of Stationery &c in Victoria Place and bought some pencils, pens and Two transparent Slates each. And afterwards father went up and bought a great many envelopes, Cards, pens &c altogether about 6/- worth. Mr Brown was down at night and got a tumbler of Negus and a crack with him. Heard Isa and Agnes their French.

The auction of stationery was at Victoria Place which was off Holyrood Street, part of the South Back of Canongate as the present Holyrood Road was called in 1849. It was approximately opposite the junction of Holyrood Road and Dumbiedykes where Moray House College now stands. Negus was a sherry or port drink with hot water, sweetened and spiced, said to have been named from Colonel Negus who was its originator in the early 1700s.

THURSDAY 8 MARCH 1849. At Ruthven's had the drawing almost finished and was going to take it off the board when he told me to make some of the lines thicker so I had to leave the finishing till tomorrow. After 12 pm it snowed a good deal and was very frosty, but it soon cleared up and was a beautiful day although very cold. Intended to take a walk with William to Leith but as the snow kept us for a time we just went round the Queen's Park and Regent Terrace and home. At night kept the shop to let Miss Gibson out. Uncle Brockie and William came over at 8 o'clock. As Tom Wagner was over looking at the lock on the stable door he saw some person running up some stairs next which

leads to Brydon's place for keeping his rags. He and Brydon went through all the place but the thieves (for they were so) had escaped by a window at the back. They had been there some nights ago and stolen about 10/- worth of rags.

This is the first mention of a stable. Stables were common in parts of the Canongate. The Gullands did not possess a coach but hired one when required. They did, however, have a van for their bakery business in which John mentions 'getting a ride' on one occasion. It is possible there was more than one stable, another probably belonging to J. Bryden, whose rag and metal warehouse was at 225 Canongate, Jack's Close. There would be room at that part of New Street at that time.

FRIDAY 9 MARCH 1849. Went to McLeod at the Burgh School to try and get his account paid and was unsuccessful although as usual I got plenty of promises. Went to Mr Brown at the foot of the Canongate with a note for him to take to Duddingston Mills. In the afternoon went to M'Niven's in Blair Street and got some pasteboard and some coloured paper and to Currie and Lambs and got some leather to make a portfolio as the one we have is too small for my drawings &c. Got the pasteboard and paper for 1/2d and the leather for 1/6d. Father and I made the whole of it tonight but the strings at the sides and the inside paper. Agnes could not come down tonight so I did not give them French.

P. & W. Macniven were wholesale and retail stationers and pasteboard manufacturers at 19 Blair Street. This is one of the origins of the firm Macniven and Cameron, existing into the present, the makers of the famous penpoints, 'The Pickwick, the Owl and the Waverley pen'. Currie and Lamb were leather merchants and bookbinders at 10 Hunter Square.

SATURDAY 10 MARCH 1849. Went to the Clydesdale Bank with £20 and afterwards to Leith with William Brockie we went all through the Docks and saw 2 vessels go out of them. Saw the new docks and came home by Newhaven, Bonnington, Pilrig Street and Leith Walk at 2 o'clock just in time for dinner. Little Johnie Henry, Maggie Hay our old shopkeeper's son, who lives above us is very ill with

what the Doctor thinks is Hooping Cough unformed. They have very little hope for him. In the afternoon went round by Duncan and Flockhart's for some Ointment for Father's leg, Powders &c and to Caldwell's in the Regent Bridge for paper to cover the inside of that Portfolio. Heard Agnes and Isa their French lesson.

Whooping cough was regarded as a very serious complaint in the mid 19th century, especially when the whoop was difficult. It is not clear what John means by the new docks at Leith. In 1849 there were only the two old docks, the East and West docks constructed in 1806 and 1817 respectively. The Victoria dock was not opened till 1852 but construction had begun by the date of his visit as well as other improvements to the dock area. He is probably referring to the works in progress. Duncan & Flockhart and Co. were chemists to H. M. The Queen at 23 North Bridge and 139 Princes Street. It was the firm of Duncan and Flockhart which supplied the chloroform for Sir J. Y. Simpson's experiment. Caldwell Brothers were wholesale stationers and publishers at 15-17 Waterloo Place.

SUNDAY 11 MARCH 1849. Mr Tweedie preached today forenoon and afternoon from Exodus and from . . . Father was not at church today. Johnie Henry is still very bad. He's supposed with unformed hooping cough. He is not expected to live. He is very much reduced. Georgie is not very well but it is just a cold that he has got. Miss Bryden of Weirgate died on Friday last.

MONDAY 12 MARCH 1849. Began to draw a new thing at Ruthven's, the Roman Doric order. Went to the Commercial Bank with £20. Did not get Mr Robertson's money as he was out. As Willie and I came home at 4 went for a short time to an Auction of Books &c in Register Street, met John Thomson there. Bought nothing. Little Johnie Henry died this afternoon very suddenly at last. Mrs Hay from Fife was over beside Margaret since yesterday. Miss Hay is very much put about with it. Heard them their French from 7 to ½ past 8. Georgie is a good deal better today.

TUESDAY 13 MARCH 1849. Between 12 and ½ past 1 put in the strings in my portfolio and wrote my German lesson for tomorrow. Went to French

Class. At night finished the portfolio it looks very well to be made by the hands of amateurs. Jeanie is in her bed very ill with Rheumatism. She has not been able to work all day and Mother is very much bothered with so many children to look after. Georgie is quite better today.

WEDNESDAY 14 MARCH 1849. As they can't get on well with only one servant And as I was not at drawing today since Mr Ruthven is unwell I went over to Mrs Lawson's to see if she knew any person out of place who would be willing to come. She promised to send today for some niece of hers but she did not come. Heard them their French. Jeanie is all better.

THURSDAY 15 MARCH 1849. Ruthven's classes were not open today he will not be able to come till Monday. He had a very sore throat. Went along with William as far as St Andrew Sqr. Came home. Went to the Clydesdale Bank with £20. Went round by Greenside Street and asked Mrs Lawson about her niece she said she could not come. Got a walk with William by The London Road. Met James Grant who was at M'Donald's with us. had a long talk with him about the Soldier's pay, ranks, &c. Came home by Queen's Park &c. William stopped to dinner and went along with me to the French Class. Johnie Henry was buried today at ½ past 2.

An infantry soldier's pay in the mid 19th century was basically a shilling a day, plus a beer allowance of a penny a day. From this various deductions were made for messing, laundry, hair-cutting and the like so that the soldier could receive as little as a penny a day. He could, however, supplement his income by special work according to his skills or by service as batman or mess attendant. A corporal earned 1s.4d per day and a sergeant two shillings. These payments of some £19 to £20 per annum compared favourably with the wages of many workmen in civilian life. It is difficult to estimate how well off the Gullands were. They certainly had at least two servants and Mrs Gulland complained of the work of looking after the four children when the servant, Jeanie, was ill. Mother was Isabella Johnston, the sister of the Lord Provost and the other brothers of the map-making business which seems to have been a very profitable undertaking. They all lived in superior houses. The bakery business of her husband which employed at least five bakers seemed to have been

extensive if judgment can be made from the addresses of those who had accounts with him and the amounts of money John deposited in the Clydesdale and other banks on behalf of his father. There is no mention in the diary of pocket money but John seems to have had enough ready cash to enable him to attend auctions and sales and be able to make purchases, mostly books and stationery.

FRIDAY 16 MARCH 1849. Was not at Drawing. Went at 11 ½ to M'Leod at Burgh School promised again to pay in a week or so. Went to Mr Brown's to tell him that the Haddington Train leaves at 2 ¼ pm. Father and he and some others are going to Mr More's to their dinner. Walk round all the Queen's Drive, at Dunsapie met a gentleman who asked me the nearest way to the top of Arthur Seat. he said that it was twenty years since he had been in Edinburgh and he wished to say he had been once more on the top. He perceived a great change for the better in Edinr a great many streets and buildings have been made in that time. Father came back by the Railway from Haddington about 7 pm. This was a beautiful day far superior to summer weather.

The changes in Edinburgh between, say 1829 and 1849, included the construction of the railways, stations and yards. The Royal High School was opened on Calton Hill. Several monuments had been erected including that to Burns on the Calton Hill, George IV and Pitt in George Street, and the Scott Monument in Princes Street. The Dean Bridge had been built. New churches were built at Greenside, Dean, St Leonard's, St John's, and the Tolbooth as the Assembly Hall of the Church of Scotland at the Castlehill with the highest spire in the city. The Meadows had been completely drained. The Music Hall was opened in George Street. The statue of Queen Victoria was erected on the roof of the Royal Institution at the Mound. Many new streets were built on the north side of the town on the gap between Leith and Edinburgh while the town was extending southwards into Newington.

SATURDAY 17 MARCH 1849. This is another splendid day. At ½ past 10 am William Brockie came over for me to go to the Exhibition of paintings with him. He had got the loan of Thom Scott's ticket. I went with him and got Uncle James's ticket and Catalogue. Stopped in the Exhibition from 11½ till 1½. There are not so many paintings as last year but they are very

good. 'Dou ... passing the Cape of Good Hope' by Scott is said to be the best but it is very large and covers the whole side of the middle room. 'Blowing bells or The past & the present' by Harvey is very good, the scene is in Greyfriars Churchyard. The painting by Gourlay Steel 'Returning from a day's shooting' with the portrait of Capt Ainslie in it is pretty good. The figures are very fine but the Inn at the side makes it look very stiff. Got my dinner at 2. Then Took *Barnaby Rudge* in my pocket and had a walk first by South Bridge, Newington, Dalkeith Road, near Craigmillar across the Dalkeith Railway and home by the road at the side of Duddingston Loch here the sun shone out most beautifully before it sank in the East. Altogether I had a delightful walk.

Tickets for the Exhibition of Paintings could not have been marked 'Not Transferable'! The large painting by David Scott, RSA (1806-1849) which covered the whole side of the room depicted 'Vasco da Gama encountering the spirit of the Cape of Good Hope'. It was later hung in Trinity House in Leith but not without opposition. The minute of Trinity House agreed to the purchase 'in consideration of this work being a representation of an epoch in the life of Vasco da Gama the discoverer of India from whose perseverance and exertions our own maritime may safely be said to have derived so many advantages'. David Scott had three other paintings in the exhibition, 'A Scene from the great Fire of London, 1666', 'Domestic Arcadia' and 'Delusive Pleasures - an Allegory'. He died in the year of the exhibition 1849.

George Harvey, RSA (1806-1876), later Sir George, was the artist of 'Blowing Bells - the Past and the Present' which was described in the press as 'one of the most remarkable in the exhibition'. The scene was set at the east end of Greyfriars Churchyard and showed a group of children engaged in blowing soap bells or bubbles. 'The drawing is masterful and natural, the colour rich and clear and the concept at once simple and original.' The painting was loaned by Mrs W. T. Taylor of London. George Harvey lived at 15 Brunswick Steet.

Gourlay Steell (1819-1894) exhibited two works. 'Return from a Day's Shooting, Glenochsie Lodge, Perthshire' was lent by David Ainslie of Costerton. The second painting was a pastoral 'Peggy and the Gentle Shepherd - Ramsay's Gentle Shepherd'. Up to 1846 Gourlay Steell lived in Pitt Street but moved to 33 East Claremont Street in 1847. John no doubt recognised the name of David Ainslie of Costerton and noted that the picture showed Captain Ainslie returning from the shoot. This would give him a special interest in the picture. Costerton is an estate a mile or two from Upper Keith in

East Lothian. David Ainslie, the owner, left his estate in 1876 to 'erect, endow and maintain a hospital or institution for the relief of the convalescents of the Royal Infirmary of Edinburgh'; this became the Astley-Ainslie Hospital. John's uncle at Peelrig, Uncle Ainslie, also Captain Ainslie, was a distant cousin of David Ainslie - a first cousin of a first cousin.

The Dalkeith Railway was the Edinburgh and Dalkeith Railway, the 'Innocent Railway', Edinburgh's first, from St Leonard's station at St Leonard's Lane to Dalkeith with branches to Leith and Fisherrow. John is able to change nature when he says the sun set in the east!

SUNDAY 18 MARCH 1849. At Church twice. Mr Tweedie both times. He preached in the forenoon from Ephesians V. 2. At night went over to Grandmother's, got tea & at 7 went with Uncle James and William Brockie for some medicine to Grandmother from Duncan Flockhart's. Left them and came home.

MONDAY 19 MARCH 1849. In Forenoon at Home, learned my German. At 2 went to German. Had a conversation in that language chiefly about the Exhibition. At night heard French.

TUESDAY 20 MARCH 1849. At 12, very wet, went to Grieve's Castle Hill about Account, not in. Went to New Street got from Father £8.16/- to pay police on Assurance with Provident Institution St Andrew Square. Paid it and came Round by Greenside Street looked at part of Uncle Andrew's *Barnaby Rudge*. Willie went down to Grandmother & went with her in a coach as far as Easter Road. She is a good deal Better today but will not allow it to be said. Beautiful day.

Robert Grieve, 599 Castle Hill, was a coach currier, patent leather and oilcloth manufacturer. The Scottish Provident Institution for Life Assurance and Annuities was at 14 St Andrew Square. John has apparently written 'police' for 'policy'. In the Company's advertisement they declare they give no commission to law agents and others for business. An office is still maintained in St Andrew Square.

WEDNESDAY 21 MARCH 1849. Was to meet Willie at a sale of books in Princes Street at 12 pm but when I went down it had not begun so I came

away. Get shop at night to let Miss Gibson out. Heard French at 7 pm.

THURSDAY 22 MARCH 1849. Raining a little. Stopped at home & bound a cash book for the High St Shop. Bill came over at night.

FRIDAY 23 MARCH 1849. Got dinner at Green-side Street and helped Willie to make out a description of a Visit to Abbotsford for the magazine of the society of which he is a member. At night helped father to arrange his papers &c Made 3 little books for Isa and Agnes to write their French on. We had no French tonight as Agnes could not get down from her mother having a very bad toothache.

The society was the Mutual Improvement Society mentioned on 16 February 1849. John and Willie Brockie visited Abbotsford during their holiday at St Boswells on 11 September 1847.

SATURDAY 24 MARCH 1849. William Brockie came over at 11 & we left a little after 11 for Corstorphine arrived there at ½ past 12 went through the village & then up part of the Corstorphine Hill. Left by the Edinburgh and Glasgow Railway at 20 min past 1. 2nd Class, paid 4d. On Thursday Aunt & Uncle Brockie and Uncle Andrew had gone to Corstorphine & engaged lodgings for Grandmother with a Mrs . . . at Mr Leishman's Lodge. After dinner went up to the High Street & paid Mr Greig the Carpet manufacturer's account & also Mr Burns Provision Merchant. Agnes came down and I gave them their French lesson at night.

The railway station at Corstorphine village was not opened till 1902. Corstorphine station was a halt on the Edinburgh to Glasgow line at Saughton, a mile or so away. Miss A. S. Cowper of the Old Edinburgh Club provided the information that John Leishman of Corstorphine House had lived in Halifax, Nova Scotia, where he conducted a successful business as a merchant. He returned to Scotland in the 1840s and from this house a daughter was married in 1842. He befriended the Rev. George Patterson of Nova Scotia who belonged to the Secession Church when he was studying at the University of Edinburgh. Corstorphine House was built in 1832, a Georgian building with additions, numbered 13 and 14 Corstorphine House Avenue. A small residential group of houses has been built in

the policies of the house. It is situated off the west side of Station Road, Corstorphine, opposite the site of Corstorphine railway station. Andrew Greig & Co. were carpet manufacturers with their cloth and carpet warehouse at 178 High Street. James Burns was a provision merchant at 168 Fountainbridge.

SUNDAY 25 MARCH 1849. As I had caught cold yesterday I did not go to church today. Father was at Lady Yester's along with the Magistrates in the forenoon in the afternoon Father & Mother went to see Grandmother. She is not much better.

The 'Kirkin' o' the Council' was an event for the congregation concerned. Generally the Council paraded to the church of which the Lord Provost was a member, but not necessarily so.

MONDAY 26 MARCH 1849. At Ruthven's finished the drawing of a pillar from the Parthenon at Athens. Went to Uncle James's and chose cloth for a surtout, invisible green. Cowan, Tailor, was unwell & the shopman was out went home and after tea went over to Cowan's found the man in Took my measure. To Uncle Brockie's met Uncle there told him the quantity of cloth &c & home. Heard French lessons.

It seems that Cowan, the tailor, was employed merely to make the surtout, the cloth being supplied by Uncle James. Though normally now a surtout would be regarded as an overcoat, in the 19th century it was a close-bodied frock-coat which was in the 1840s the appropriate wear for men at church and on similar occasions. John would no doubt consider himself a bit more grown-up with the possession of a surtout.

TUESDAY 27 MARCH 1849. Met Willie at High Street at 12 had a walk by the Queen's Drive & across the valley of Arthur Seat. After our french class Willie & I walked to Corstorphine to tell the woman that Grandmother was coming out on Thursday she was not there herself but we met her on our road back and told her of it. Got tea at Aunt Brockie's at 7 & home.

WEDNESDAY 28 MARCH 1849. Wet day. at 12 wrote German version &c Heard their French. Aunt Gulland down at night.

THURSDAY 29 MARCH 1849. Very wet at 12 went up to Greive's about account but he was out.

FRIDAY 30 MARCH 1849. Grandmother went to Corstorphine in a coach along with Aunt Brockie in the forenoon. As Agnes was unwell had no French.

SATURDAY 31 MARCH 1849. About ½ past 10 am Willie & I walked along the Old Glasgow Road near Hermiston, pretty place, I don't think I was ever there before. Went by a road that leads to the other side of Corstorphine, took a sketch of Willie standing on a little bridge. Saw Grandmother she has a nice comfortable little room in the Lodge at Mr Leishman's gate. Aunt Seton was there. Grandmother not any better speaks about the noise disturbing her. Aunt Seton walked home to Edinburgh with us. Splendid day so mild & clear. Heard French.

The old Glasgow road left from the Grassmarket, West Port, to Gorgie, and on to Midcalder and Glasgow. The distances walked by John and his friends would surprise the modern youth accustomed to transport. Hermiston is over five miles from his home at New Street and Corstorphine about the same. So on that day he walked about twelve miles as he had done two days before when he walked to Corstorphine and back and earlier on that day he had walked round Arthur Seat. His walks to Portobello and Duddingston Mills were also considerable. In the 1882 *Ordnance Gazetteer of Scotland* Corstorphine is still described as 'a fashionable resort of Edinburgh citizens' and as 'a pleasant little place with a few old houses and many more good cottages'.

SUNDAY 1 APRIL 1849. Mr Tweedie was away from home. In the forenoon heard a Mr Millar preach from Romans VIII. 11. In the afternoon went to Mr Begg's Church Newington with Father & Uncle & Aunt Brockie. Got a seat in the front of the gallery. Mr Begg's sermon was from Matthew V. 10-12. Not so good a preacher as Mr Tweedie. Very neat Church in the Gothic style, not very well filled. Went to the Post Office got 2 business letters for Father. Beautiful day. Had on my surtout for the first time today.

Newington Free Church was in South Clerk Street. It was opened in 1843. Dr Begg came from Liberton Church at the Disruption. There are so many Millers or Millars listed in the Church of Scotland, the Free Church, the United Presbyterian, the Secession and Independent church histories that it would be speculation about who the Millar preacher was.

MONDAY 2 APRIL 1849. At home in the forenoon. At 1 pm went to Ruthven's & finished the Drawing of the Roman Doric Pedestal & Base. A Good many of his evening classes. Took seats for Georgie & Betsy in the Linton Coach. Georgie is going tomorrow to Castle Craig to improve his health.

The Linton coach left from Taylor and Co., 1 North Bridge, at 4 pm arriving at Linton via Penicuik at 6.30 pm. This is the West Linton of today. Castle Craig was off the A72 road from Blyth Bridge to Peebles. It was the home of Betsy Swan.

TUESDAY 3 APRIL 1849. At 12 went to the Clydesdale Bank and paid in £25. Stillie paid his account today after putting off for two or three years back. Went to Mr Grieve's said he would pay as soon as possible. Willie and I went to Sutherland's in the South Bridge & bought a box of Rowney's paints price 3/6d. At ½ past 4 pm saw Betsy & Georgie away in the coach it is not a very fine day for them but they are inside. Got tea at Greenside St. Wrote my versions there. Willie Main called he is at present at College but during the Summer recess he is going as tutor to a gentleman's son near Hawick.

By College is meant the University of Edinburgh. His former schoolfellow, Willie Main, was an undergraduate. It was customary for students to take summer posts to supplement their income. In the 1840s the money was mostly used to pay fees and buy books.

WEDNESDAY 4 APRIL 1849. Began to shade the Corinthian Entablature at Ruthven's. At night heard French.

THURSDAY 5 APRIL 1849. Went over to Greenside at 12 o'clock to arrange about going to the fishing as tomorrow is Good Friday & we get away from our classes. It was a very bad day but, however, we intend to go. Went home and got dinner then to Cornillon's. I brought over my things at 2. At 4 o'clock we got our tea at Greenside and at 5 we left with our fishing rods & baskets and started by the North British Railway for Stow. Uncle Brockie and Willie and I reached Stow at 25 mins past 6 the darkness was then coming on and the

Gala and small streams we passed appeared to be swollen with the rain. At Stow we met a gentleman who had come in the same train & whose name was Mr Scott a draper in Lauder. He directed us which way to go & in a short time he made up to us. The road is very bleak and dreary & over hills turns the whole way nor were we favoured with the weather which was far from being agreeable. When we were only about half way over it got quite dark and a very heavy mist came on so that we could not see a yard before us but luckily Mr Scott knew the road perfectly well we walked pretty quick to keep ourselves warm & about 7 o'clock we had the pleasure of finding ourselves descending the hill at the bottom of which lies Lauder which we reached at $\frac{1}{4}$ to 8 pm. The town is very quiet & desolate & of course it appeared far more so to us on such a night. However everything must have an end & so had our journey for at $\frac{1}{2}$ past 8 we reached St Leonard's, Mr Fletcher's Farm, just as it was commencing to rain very heavily. They were rather surprised at our appearance but they very quickly made ready some supper so that at 10 o'clock or so we were in our beds. I slept with young Mr Messer son of Dr Messer of Edinburgh.

The railway line to Stow and Galashiels had not long opened. The light railway to Lauder which connected at Fountainhall with the Stow line was not constructed till 1901, and closed in 1932. The road across the hills from Stow to Lauder rises to some 1100 feet and in wintry weather can still be very bleak. The distance from Stow to Lauder is about six miles. The farm of St Leonard's was some two miles to the south of the town on the road to Earlston. The address of Adam Messer FRCSE is given as 142 Princes Street.

FRIDAY 6 APRIL 1849. Rose at $\frac{1}{2}$ past 5 am. It was a beautiful morning, the sun was just rising over the hills & everything looking revived and refreshed after the showers. After getting a bowl of excellent milk we arranged our fishing tackle & set out to the Leader which is only 2 or 3 minutes walk from St Leonard's. We thought that after the rain the fish would take best with bait accordingly we tried it but with little success & at $\frac{1}{4}$ to 9 we left to go to breakfast

I being the only person in the least successful having caught one trout. Got breakfast at $\frac{1}{2}$ past 9 & set off again. Almost immediately opposite the house Uncle Brockie caught about 6 in one pool fished down for a short distance & separated from each other. Uncle Brockie meanwhile had crossed the river and then called on me to get Willie who had fallen behind. In my hurry to get away I snapped my fishing rod at the joint which helped in some degree to spoil the sport. We now crossed over and fished up the side of a tributary burn called Bourick Burn. This is a very pretty burn among some hills & we had a splendid day to enjoy the scenery. This was almost the only gratification as I never got a single nibble which was far more tantalizing when we saw Uncle returning with nearly 3 dozen trout in his basket. At 3 we had our dinner & after some toddy we again went out to fish and again met with some success. Uncle only catching one fish. At 6 pm we three left for Mr Allan's of Allanbank. Mr Fletcher accompanied us part of the way but meeting an acquaintance he had to turn back. Mr Allan's house stands in a good situation and has a fine lawn in front which, if better kept would much improve its appearance. Met there besides Mr Allan, his son and a Mr Crawford from Duns. We had for supper an excellent piece of raw beef & a glass of toddy. We left at 11 o'clock. The moon was shining brightly and after a walk of a mile & a half we reached St Leonard's pretty well prepared for bed.

What John calls the Bourick Burn is shown on the Ordnance maps as the Boondreigh Water and the Brunla Burn. Allanbank is a property just off the road from Lauder to Stow in a park a few hundred yards from the centre of Lauder. It was the residence of William H. Allan, JP. Mr Crawford from Duns was concerned with cattle and had come for the cattle show next day. He is recorded as a member of the Berwickshire Naturalists' Club in 1862.

SATURDAY 7 APRIL 1849. Rose at 7 and found it a very wet morning. Today there is to be a cattle show near Lauder & Mr Fletcher & Messer were busy making preparations for sending away some of their

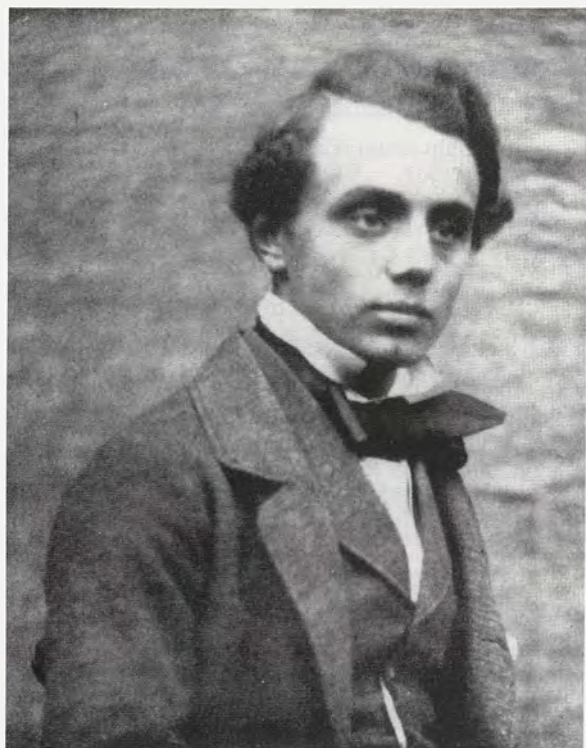


Fig. 3. Photograph of John Gulland as a young man. (From *John Gulland, A Memoir*, printed for private circulation by W. and A. K. Johnston, Edinburgh, 1903.)

cattle to it. A Mr Dickison & another farmer breakfasted with us. Notwithstanding the rain we went to try our luck at the fishing. Were compelled to leave in consequence of the rain which was now very heavy. Uncle was the only successful party having caught 6 or 7 good trout. Dined at 1 o'clock & after a glass of toddy to strengthen us we set out at 2 o'clock. It was raining very heavy & although we had our greatcoats on we were soon completely soaked. We were very strange looking customers going through Lauder with our portmanteaus slung on our back with our sticks and all dripping with the rain, however, we went by a back road and I daresay were not much observed. The roads across the hills were very bad and our shoes were quite filled with water and mud. The only person we met was a shepherd who greeted us with 'an awfu' coorse day, Sirs' and even he looked dreadfully blue with the wind and the rain. After this tedious walk of 7 or 8 miles we

came in sight of Stow at 25 min past 4 o'clock. Got off our wet stockings and shoes at Mr Ovens's Inn and made ourselves a little more comfortable. Started by the Railway at 5 o'clock. There were a good many anglers on the Coach with us who were as unsuccessful as ourselves arrived at Edinr at ½ past 6 pm. Found them all well. Mother had got a letter from Mr Swan saying that Georgie is very well. My travelling expenses back & forward amounted to 5/-.

In 1845 there were five fairs at Lauder. Three were sales of cattle and sheep while the others were for the hiring of hinds, herds and servants. The fishing party were soaked in their overcoats and footwear. Protective clothing had not yet become common. Charles Mackintosh (1766-1843) who was a chemist patented Professor Syme's method of waterproofing clothing in 1823 and began producing the clothing which bore his name in Manchester. In 1895 his business was taken over by the North British Rubber Company.

SUNDAY 8 APRIL 1849. In forenoon heard Mr Tweedie from Exodus XXIV & in the afternoon from Romans. Very cold & wet day. After tea Father prepared part of a speech he is to deliver at the Council on Tuesday about the Amalgamation of the Canal & Edinr & Glasgow Railway.

MONDAY 9 APRIL 1849. At 12 o'clock wrote German Exercise. After our french class I went down to Greenside with Willie. Aunt Brockie had been at Corstorphine & she thinks Grandmother is no better. While there, James Beveridge came over & we went up to the Calton Hill with him & had a game at Cricket. At night heard Agnes & Isa their French.

TUESDAY 10 APRIL 1849. At Ruthven's finished Corinthian Entablature & brought it home. I Then went to Clydesdale Bank & paid in £35 then to British Linen Bank & paid £5 as share in Northern Rly. As it was a beautiful day after 4 o'clock we went to Calton Hill with Beveridge & played at blockie for some time. At the Town Council today There was a dispute about the Canal Amalgamation Bill & it was proposed to send a deputation to London to endeavour to get it thrown out. Father brought forward an amendment that they should

rather help them to bring it about than hinder them in any way but after some disputing he thought it best to withdraw it.

The Union Canal was begun in 1818 and opened in 1822 from Port Hopetoun in Lothian Road to join the Forth and Clyde Canal at Falkirk, a distance of some 31 miles. The Edinburgh and Glasgow Railway was opened in 1842 to Haymarket and four years later to Waverley Station, then called North Bridge Station. The opposition was concerned about loss of revenue to the city by any amalgamation. John's father moved that as 'an agreement had been come to between the Council and the Union Canal Coy by which the annual amount of revenues from dues was guaranteed and the city's funds secured against loss: and further that as Mr Blackburn's letter [Mr Blackburn was chairman of the Edinburgh and Glasgow Railway Company] contains a fair and reasonable offer as regards the maximum tolls to be charged after the passing of the bill, the Council agrees that it is unnecessary and inexpedient to offer any further objection to the bill now before Parliament'. The Council had actually received a deputation from the coalminers of the area who wanted a deputation to London and were prepared to pay £50 towards expenses. The subject continued in the Council and the last entry in the diary indicates that Councillor Gulland would travel to London as a witness for the Union Canal Company. Later in 1849, however, the railway company did take over the canal but in their act there was a clause by which the railway company guaranteed to the city an minimum annual payment of £529.11s.1d. in respect of lost revenue from the canal. As was expected the canal declined for the speedier railway.

The Northern Railway was the Edinburgh and Northern which had absorbed the Edinburgh, Leith and Granton line and which itself changed its name in 1849 to the Edinburgh, Perth and Dundee railway, using the ferry at Granton.

In the game of blockie the batsman attempted to stop the ball by keeping his bat upright on the ground. The object was to stop as many balls as possible while maintaining position with the bat.

WEDNESDAY 11 APRIL 1849. Began the ground plan of a house at Drawing. At 4 o'clock Willie and I went round by Jock's Lodge. Heard French at night. Mother got a note from Mr Swan stating that Georgie is quite well.

THURSDAY 12 APRIL 1849. William & I met at the High Street Shop & went along George IV Bridge to the Agricultural Society's Museum which is open to visitors without charge we were astonished to see so many there and among these was William Brockie

from Ireland who told us that a gentleman supposed to be the Earl of Erroll required a steward and had requested the applicants to meet him here. There were above 50 of them some of them very respectable men. At home they were very busy all day cleaning the drawing room beating all the carpets &c. &c.

The Highland Society, which became the Highland and Agricultural Society, and now the Royal Highland and Agricultural Society since 1948, had its premises at the corner of George IV Bridge and Victoria Street, partly occupied now by the Edinburgh Public Library. This was one of the earliest buildings on the Bridge which was opened in 1836. The carving above the door shows Caledonia on a pedestal flanked by a Highland reaper and a ploughboy and the motto *Semper armis nunc et industria*. The building housed a museum and rooms for meetings (see illustration in *Book of the Old Edinburgh Club*, NS Vol. 1, p. 24).

William Brockie from Ireland would appear to be a third William Brockie mentioned in the diary. There is no indication of his relationship.

William Henry, the 19th Earl of Erroll, born 1823, was a soldier. He served in the army from 1841 to 1860 and was severely wounded in 1854. The Earls of Erroll are hereditary Lords High Constable of Scotland and Knights Marischal of Scotland.

Spring cleaning in the mid 19th century was more a ritual than in the present day. Everything was turned out. Carpets were conveyed to an open space and beaten with specially shaped beaters, usually made of interwoven bamboo cane. The carpet sweeper was not invented till 1876 by Reuben Bissell (1843-1889) and the vacuum cleaner by Hubert Cecil Booth of London, cumbersome and heavy for commercial purposes, in 1901. Made lighter in 1907 and 1908 the rights were sold to William Hoover who manufactured it for domestic use from 1919 onwards.

FRIDAY 13 APRIL 1849. Got a letter from Castle Craig. Georgie is a good deal better since he went out. At 6 o'clock heard french & at 8 went along with Father to the Waterloo Rooms & heard Mr Magill Crichton lecture on the Game Laws. He gave some very good reasons for having them repealed & at the end of his address he broke out violently against the Lord Advocate for The Public Health Bill, the Marriage Bill &c. &c. advocated stoutly the cause of Financial Reform. Altogether we had a very good lecture although perhaps rather too boisterous. The room was also well filled.

The Waterloo Rooms were at the Leith Street end of Waterloo Place. The city held social functions and receptions there. The congregation of St Andrew's Free Church also met there until their church was ready. The rooms should not be confused with the Waterloo Hotel at 23 Waterloo Place which was the largest and grandest establishment in the city in 1829 when it was built. It had a coffee room, 80 feet by 40 feet and a dining room of the same dimensions. It cost £30,000 at the time. Nor should there be confusion with the Calton Convening Rooms at 27 Waterloo Place, the corner of Waterloo Place and Calton Hill, presently a restaurant (as in *Book of the Old Edinburgh Club*, xxxv, p. 118, n. 128). Public meetings were frequently held in the Convening Rooms of the Incorporation of the Trades of Calton. The Incorporation really managed the affairs of Calton at the bottom of the hill but built the new rooms after Waterloo Place and the Regent Bridge were begun. Their rooms were also used at different times for exhibitions, a dancing school, the choral union, the congregation of Trinity College Church till their building at Market Street was ready, and more recently by the Water Trust.

D. M. Makgill Crichton of Rankeillour was the speaker at the request of the Committee of the National Anti-Game Law Association. Rankeillour is in Fife some three miles from Cupar off the Cupar to Auchtermuchty road. He spoke of the evils of the Game Laws and especially their 'pernicious influence on landed proprietors and the aristocracy'. He continued that 'simple though the Game Laws appear they condemned within their substance evils as multiform and pestiferous as those in Pandora's box'. He argued that the overstocking of game throughout the land destroyed more than a tenth of the produce of the soil. He said 'there was a fearful oppression of the tenant farmer which became a bone of contention between landlord and tenant'. It was 'evil that the man who ought to be the patron and benefactor of the tenantry became the oppressor and spy'. He blamed farmers themselves for the slow progress of their opinions among the aristocracy, showing that certain members of the aristocracy would rather depopulate entire districts than that the wild animals should be molested. He enjoined farmers to help themselves instead of hanging on the skirts of their landlords. Much of that speech might have been made by an agitator of today.

The Marriage Bill dealt with the degrees of affinity. The Bill proposed that relief should extend to marriage between a man and the sister or the daughter of the brother or sister of his deceased wife and that clergymen would no longer be liable to penalty for solemnising between such parties.

The Public Health Bill (Scotland) proposed that the General Board of Health in London for England and Wales should also be the Board of Health for Scotland and that the business in Scotland should be done exclusively by and through a resident secretary. The Bill concerned sewerage, drainage, water supply, and burial grounds. It was the intention that the Town Council would be the local board of health. It was considered meaningful that, in erecting

any new house or rebuilding an old one or occupying such, there must be a covered drain constructed to the satisfaction of the board. The board was to have general supervision of street cleaning and have power to cause offensive drains and ditches to be covered. All common lodging houses were to be registered and the board was to have the power to fix the width of all new streets. In this Bill can be seen the introduction of many of the conditions which are applicable today.

At the end of his speech Mr Crichton looked at local issues. He expressed sympathy with the inhabitants in their efforts to obtain the use of Holyrood Park for games and the like, the Meadows, the gardens in Princes Street and he advised a memorial to the Queen on the subject. He criticised the merits of the financial reform question and accused the Whigs for the increase in national expenditure at a time of profound peace to keep up their class interests and to pay their dependants.

SATURDAY 14 APRIL 1849. About 12 o'clock went to the Clydesdale Bank & then distributed some of father's communion Tickets. Got Willie at Greenside & then came home & got some dinner. Father got a letter from Castlecraig wishing him to go out immediately and fetch Georgie as he was rather unwell. He & Isa started in a cab at ¼ to 1 o'clock. Willie & I went to Roland's fencing in the Music Hall. Uncle William in his capacity as Lord Provost was in the chair. The place was quite crowded and there were a great many ladies there. Went up by the High Street, Miss Hay had hurt her side very much by falling against the back of a Chair. It was raining a good deal today. Father & Isa came home at ¼ past 11 at night along with Jeanie & Georgie who had only a light cough but they were very easily alarmed about him.

In October 1843, because of the wishes of a number of the parents, George Roland and his son were appointed joint teachers of gymnastics and fencing at the Royal High School. They also had their private pupils at 17 Dublin Street. They held an annual meeting and demonstration in the Music Hall. Single tickets were 2/- and double 3/-. The press reported that 'the hall was filled by a most brilliant and fashionable assemblage of ladies and gentlemen'. The report added that some eighty boys engaged in a scene of great animation and interest. The assault of the pupils and the Naval and Military Academy cadets excited admiration. The perfection of the gymnastics was admired. It was noted that Sir James Dunlop, Bart. and other gentlemen took part. Sir James Dunlop was born in 1830

and succeeded his father Sir John Dunlop of Dunlop, Ayrshire, in 1839. George Roland was fencing master at the Royal Academy at 86 South Bridge. Right up to the 1939 war the gymnastic master at the Royal High School was entitled 'fencing and gymnastic master'. The school kept a supply of epees and other necessities the use of which was encouraged.

SUNDAY 15 APRIL 1849. Mr Tweedie preached in forenoon from Exodus 25 & in the afternoon heard a stranger from I Cor. 2. Georgie is today as well as ever and quite brisk. Uncle James & Andrew over at night.

MONDAY 16 APRIL 1849. No class at Ruthven's. Went over to Commercial Bank with £20. At 7 in the evening Willie & I to Argyll St Chapel & heard Henry Vincent & Mr Mills give addresses in behalf of the anti-state Church Association. The chapel was filled and the people seemed very enthusiastic, at least they made noise enough. They are both excellent speakers. Mills speaks quietly and argumentatively while Vincent is vehement and sometimes very humorous. Dr Peddie was in the chair. The meeting broke up

at 10 o'clock and when we left there was some snow on the ground.

Argyll Square Chapel was in Argyll Square, one of the squares which were cleared when Chambers Street area was redeveloped. It was an independent Congregational Chapel with the Rev. W. L. Alexander, DD, as minister. The Royal Museum of Scotland now covers the site. The advertisement in the *Witness* says that a deputation from the British Anti-State Church Association consisting of Edward Miall, Editor of the *Non-Conformist*, and Henry Vincent would address the meeting. A collection was to be taken for the funds of the Association. Alexander Peddie, MD, FRCP, of 11 Rutland Square was the chairman.

TUESDAY 17 APRIL 1849. Not at Ruthven's. went and paid Uncle Andrew's a/c and at 12 Willie & I walk down to Leith & through the docks in which there are a great many vessels at present. got up to Edinr & dined at 2 pm. Mr Ellis has agreed with father that he shall go to London next Thursday to be a witness for the Union Canal Co in the case of the Canal & Rail.

The Diary ends at this point though there were a number of blank pages left.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The principal sources consulted for this article include the local newspapers, *Scotsman*, *Evening Courant*, *Edinburgh Advertiser*, *Caledonian Mercury*, *Witness*, *Morning Chronicle* and *Times*, the Edinburgh street *Directories*, the *Fasti* or histories of the Church of Scotland, Free Church, United Presbyterian Church, Independent Church, Secession Church and Episcopal Church, along with Ian Dunlop's *History of Edinburgh Churches*, *The Dictionary of National Biography*, *Burke's Peerage*, *Proceedings of the Berwickshire Naturalists' Club*, *Encyclopaedia Britannica*, 11th and current editions, Scottish and English dictionaries, Ordnance Survey large scale and ordinary maps for locations of places mentioned, and the Rt Hon. John W. Gulland's privately published *Memoir* of his father (1903). Book references appear in the notes.

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Reference Departments of the Edinburgh City Libraries, Huntly House Museum, the Museum of Childhood, the Main and New College Libraries of the University of Edinburgh, the Library of the United Services Museum in the Castle, the Royal High School Library, the Library of Abbotsford House, the Berwick Library at Berwick-upon-Tweed, the Borders Region Library Headquarters and Archive, the Scottish Record Office for census and old parish records, to Miss E. Seton and Miss A. S. Cowper of the Old Edinburgh Club for information about the Setons and Corstorphine respectively, to the descendants and great-grandchildren of John Gulland, Mrs Elspeth Russell of Kent, Mrs Elisabeth Donaldson of Perthshire, Mrs Jean Fraser and Mr Ian Callender of Edinburgh. Mr R. D. Birch, former Director of Education for Berwickshire, the Rev. G. Taverner and Mr G. V. Oliver of St Boswells provided additional information.