

Returns of Cotton Mill Apprentices  
to Derbyshire Quarter Sessions 1841



#### Introduction

By an Act of Parliament (42nd Geo. III cap. 73) in 1802 entitled 'An Act for the Preservation of Health and Morals of Apprentices and others employed in Cotton Mills and other Mills and Cotton and other Factories', regulations were brought in that limited the hours that apprentices could be made to work. In addition apprentices were, for at least for the first four years of their apprentices to be instructed in the 3 'R's. To ensure that the regulations were being complied with a panel of pairs of Visitors was empowered to make annual checks on the Mills, the act specifying that a pair of Visitors was to be appointed per specified district with one being a magistrate and the other being a Reverend.

By 1841, one of the County Magistrates, Edward Sacherevell Chandos Pole, being interested in the matter, requested details of apprentices in Derbyshire cotton mills that had been bound from a distance, ie had come in from outside the County. He managed to persuade the County Quarter Sessions to mount an enquiry into the matter, which was recorded in the Quarter Sessions Order Book for the January Sessions 1841 as follows [Q/80 1/37 Page 142]:

#### Cotton Mills.

It is ordered by this Court on the Motion of Edward Sacherevell Chandos Pole, Esquire, that certain enquiries be made by the Clerk of the peace of the Visitors of Cotton Mills within the different Hundreds of this County with a view to obtain information relative to the treatment and employment of Children or apprentices from distant places.

The enquiries were carried out immediately, as at the next Quarter Sessions, those for April 1841, the following entry appeared in the Order Book [Q/80 1/37 Page 288]:

#### Cotton Mills.

The Returns made under an order of the Court last Sessions from the different Hundreds of the County relating to the Apprentices in the Cotton Mills were laid before the Court.

This typescript is a transcript of those returns for which details of apprentices were given, a majority of mills not having had any apprentices for the enquiry period, which was the 10 years ending at Christmas 1840. A summary for each return (with document reference) is as follows:

Appletree Hundred	None	[Q/AG 17]
Ashover - Lea Mill	None	[Q/AG 18]
Bakewell - Calver Mill	None	[Q/AG 19]
Castleton - Edale Mill	Transcript	[Q/AG 20]
Crich - Fansley Mill	None	[Q/AG 21 & Q/AG 22]
Darley Abbey	Transcript	[Q/AG 23 & Q/AG 24]
Glossop	Transcript	[Q/AG 25]
Glossop - Mellor Mill	Transcript	[Q/AG 26]
Hope - Brough Mill	None	[Q/AG 27]
South Wingfield	None	[Q/AG 28]
Tideswell - Cressbrook Mill	Transcript	[Q/AG 29]
Tideswell - Litton Mill	None	[Q/AG 30]
Wirksworth & Matlock	None	[Q/AG 31]
Wirksworth	None	[Q/AG 32 & Q/AG 33]



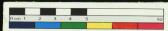
An abstract of returns [Q/AG 36] which is undated shows that there was a return made for the Strutt Mills at Belper, but the return is not extant: fortunately the abstract shows the mills had no apprentices.

As information was requested on apprentices at each of the mills in the last 10 years ending Christmas 1840, certain of the returns include details of apprenticeships that started considerably before 1840, the extreme case being Mellor Mill in the parish of Glossop which has details of apprenticeships starting as early as 1823, which because they ended in 1831 brought them into the 10 year period of the survey.

Both Mellor Mill and Cressbrook Mill obtained all of their apprentices from the Royal Military Asylum, based at Chelsea and Southampton. According to the PRO guide 'Tracing your Ancestors in the Public Record Office', the Royal Military Asylum was founded in 1801 at Chelsea, as a boarding school for the children of serving or dead soldiers. Later on most entrants appear to have lost at least their father and quite frequently both parents. Girls were admitted to the female branch until 1840: this was abolished in 1846. Children were admitted between the ages of 2 and 10, and were discharged in their mid-teens. Most of the girls not claimed by their parents were apprenticed, while the boys went into the Army or were apprenticed if unfit for military service. It is probably significant that both Mellor Mill and Cressbrook Mill only took female apprentices.

The Public Record Office has admission and discharge registers for the Royal Military Asylum (WD 143/17-26) which are arranged by date of admission. The information for the girls is: number, name, age, date of admission, from what regiment, rank of father, parents' names and if living, parochial settlement, when dismissed and how disposed (eg died, retained by parents while on pass, apprenticed). The discharge registers give more information on apprenticeship, regiment or other fate. Given that the date of the commencement of the girls' apprenticeships at the two mills is given in the returns it should be possible to trace the girls in the admission and discharge registers at the PRO, if so interested.

There are both surname and location indices at the end of this typescript, with the apprentices indexed by both place of origin and location of mill.



A Return of the Apprentices in the Cotton Mills within the Parish of Castleton in the Ward of High Peak

Name of Parish: Township of Males in the Parish of Castleton

Name of Mill: Male Mill

Name of Proprietors of Mill: Lawson Christie

Names of Apprentices in each Mill during the last ten years ending Christmas 1861	Where from if out of the County	When Bound	Between Whom Indentures Made	When they left or where sent to	Whether Parish Apprentice or not	Remarks
Jane Crain	Do	11 Jan 1816	Governor & Guardians of the Poor	Dead	Parish Apprentice	
Mary Leighton	Do	Do	Do	Not left	Do	
Isaac Middleton	Do	Do	Do	Dead	Do	
Eliza Butcher	Do	Do	Do	Returned to her friends in 1848	Do	
Ann Livingston	Do	Do	Do	Not left	Do	
Mary Stocks	Do	Do	Do	Dead	Do	
Elizabeth Ringrose	Do	Do	Do	Not left	Do	
Isabella Hutchinson	Do	Do	Do	Do	Do	
Jane Marshall	Do	Do	Do	Went to Barnsley in 1818	Do	
Mary Bee	Elthorough	1 Jan 1816	Treasurer of City Workhouse	Dead	Do	
Elizabeth McLayne	Do	Do	Do	Do	Do	
Jessie Ferguson	Do	Do	Do	Do	Do	
Elizabeth Linsaid	Do	Do	Do	Not left	Do	
Mary Logan	Do	Do	Do	Do	Do	
Jean Thomson	Do	Do	Secretary of West Hill Workhouse	Do	Do	
Margaret Thompson	Do	Do	Do	Dead	Do	
Sarah Douglas	Do	Do	Do	Not left	Do	
Johanna Glenn	Do	Do	Do	Do	Do	
Frances Grier	Regal Military Appln. Southampton	20 Dec 1816	The Colonel Commandant	Do	Not Parish Apprentice	
Mary Phillips	Do	Do	Do	Do	Do	
Mary Clarke	Do	Do	Do	Do	Do	
A. Loph	Do	Do	Do	Do	Do	
E. Miller	Do	Do	Do	Do	Do	
Ann Bea	Do	Do	Do	Dead	Do	
Fanny Cannon	Do	19 Dec 1817	Do	Not left	Do	
Julia Swenson	Do	Do	Do	Do	Do	
Mary Bagn	Do	Do	Do	Dead	Do	
M. L. Barnes	Do	1 Jan 1817	Do	Not left	Do	
Mary Helwood	Do	Do	Do	Do	Do	
Ann Woodward	Do	Do	Do	Do	Do	
Marie Wainman	Do	Do	Do	Do	Do	

It is not strict justice towards Mr Christie, to state that the treatment of the Apprentices in Male Mill has called forth strong approbation, both from the Inspector of factories & some of the authorities, by whom the children were bound.

Charles Cecil Bates



A Return of the Apprentices in the Cotton Mills in the Township of Darley Abbey

Name of Parish: St. Almond's, Derby  
 Name of Mill: Darley Abbey  
 Name of Proprietors of Mill: William & Samuel Evans

Name of Apprentices in each Mill during the last ten years ending Christmas 1840	Where born if out of the County	When bound	Served Whom	When they left or where went to	Whether Parish Apprentice or not	Remarks
Thomas Peat	Derby	5 Feb 1814 [Q/NG 23] or 5 Sep 1814 [Q/NG 24]	Walter Evans & Co.	30 Aug 1819	Not	

S. S. Thomas Peat did not consent to the satisfaction of Messrs. Walter Evans & Co. Ltd., & his Indentures were cancelled with the consent of all parties August 10th 1819 & the following Memorandum made on the back of the Indentures etc.

Ag<sup>ed</sup> 10 1819 We hereby consent to cancel these Indentures

Thomas Peat Jun<sup>r</sup>  
 Thomas Peat  
 Walter Evans & Co.

Witness: Will<sup>m</sup> Whiston Jun<sup>r</sup>

Lawrence Greenwell	Darley Abbey	30 May 1814	Do	Not	Behaves very well
John Allen	Do	22 Jan 1814	Do	Not	Behaves very well

On visiting the Mill at Darley Abbey, I was much pleased to find the Houses so clean with thorough Ventilation, & the absence of all offensive smells. The people employed appeared generally healthy.

R.F. Forester M.D. March 9th 1841 [Q/NG 23]

I hereby Certify that I in company with R.F. Forester Esq., Justice of the Peace, inspected the Darley Abbey Mill, on Tuesday 9th day of March 1841 and was much pleased with the striking cleanliness and the thorough Ventilation of the said Mill as also the healthy appearance of the Apprentice whom we saw.

Signed

James bowdler Gibson

Vicar of Darley st. Derby 17th March 1841 [Q/NG 24]



A Return of the Apprentices in the Cotton Mills in the Parish of Glossop

Name of Parish: Glossop  
 Name of Mill: Woolley Bridge  
 Name of Proprietors of Mill: Henry Lees

Name of Apprentices in each Mill during the last ten years ending Christmas 1840	Where from if out of the County	When Bound	Between Whose Indentures	When they left or where went to	Whether Parish Apprentice or not	Remarks
John Winterbottom	Bedfield	May 1816	Henry Lees & John Winterbottom	Now employed at Woolley Bridge	Not	Mechanic
Thomas Hampshire	Bedfield	May 1834	Henry Lees & Thomas Hampshire	Now employed at Woolley Bridge	Not	Mechanic

Name of Parish: Glossop  
 Name of Mill: Brookfield  
 Name of Proprietors of Mill: Samuel Shepley

John Roberts	Brookfield	1 Jan 1825	John Roberts & Samuel Shepley	Not expired	Not	Mechanic
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Name of Parish: Glossop  
 Name of Mill: Wray Heat  
 Name of Proprietors of Mill: Francis Sumner

Joshua Barnes	Glossop	Oct 1819	Francis Sumner & Joshua Barnes	Not expired	Not	Joiner
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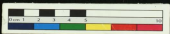
A Return of the Apprentices in the Cotton Mills in the Parish of Glossop

Name of Parish: Glossop  
 Name of Mill: Meller Mill  
 Name of Proprietors of Mill: John Clayton & Co.

Names of Apprentices in each Mill during the last ten years ending Christmas 1848	Where from if out of the County	When Bound	Between Whom Indentures made	When they left or where sent to	Whether Parish Apprentices or not	Remarks
Mary Ryan	Royal Military Asylum, Chelsea	7 May 1823	Lt. Colonel Williamson & Samuel Gibbons	7 Aug 1831	Not	
Ann Swift	Do	Do	Do	7 Sep 1831	Do	
Eleanor Carrigan	Do	Do	Do	7 Nov 1831	Do	
Margaret Lenaghan	Do	5 Jun 1823	Do	5 Jan 1832	Do	
Ann Lynch	Do, Southampton	2 Apr 1825	Do	2 Apr 1832	Do	
Mary C. Ryan	Do	11 Jan 1825	Do	13 Jan 1832	Do	
Letitia Pugh	Do	21 May 1825	Do	21 Aug 1832	Do	
Ann Jones	Do	15 Nov 1825	Do	Abandoned	Do	
Ann Vazline	Do	29 Nov 1825	Do	29 Nov 1832	Do	
Jose Rowley	Do	1 Dec 1825	Do	1 Dec 1832	Do	
Ann Moore	Do	14 Aug 1825	Do	14 Aug 1832	Do	
Sophia Howard	Do	12 Jan 1826	Do	12 Jan 1833	Do	
Margaret Sampson	Do	11 Feb 1826	Do	11 Feb 1833	Do	
Mary Galvin	Do	30 Mar 1826	Do	30 Mar 1833	Do	
Mary Rogers	Do	26 Apr 1826	Do	26 Apr 1833	Do	
Ann McGowan	Do	25 May 1826	Do	25 May 1833	Do	
Margaret Cowley	Do	25 May 1826	Do	25 May 1833	Do	
Jose Marshall	Do	7 Jun 1826	Do	7 Jun 1833	Do	
Sarah Balfell	Do	5 Jul 1826	Do	5 Jul 1833	Do	
Catherine Swift	Do	27 Jan 1827	Do	27 Jan 1833	Do	
Charlotte Malony	Do	13 Jul 1827	Do	13 Jul 1834	Do	
Charlotte Dasher	Do	9 Aug 1827	Do	9 Aug 1834	Do	
Elizabeth Hill	Do	17 Jul 1827	Do	17 Jul 1834	Do	
Mary Lynch	Do	8 Nov 1827	Do	8 Nov 1834	Do	
Margaret Cooper	Do	23 Nov 1827	Do	23 Nov 1834	Do	



Mary Rough	Do	14 Feb 1818	Do	18 Feb 1835	Do
				- Married	
Ann Carroll	Do	15 Feb 1818	Do	25 Feb 1835	Do
				- Dead	





A Return of the Apprentices in the Cotton Mills in the Parish of Tidenwell

Name of Parish: Tidenwell

Name of Mill: Cresbrook Mills

Name of Proprietors of Mill: McConnell Brothers purchased the Mill in March 1835

Names of Apprentices in each Mill during the last ten years ending Christmas 1840	Where from if out of the County	When Bound	Between Whom indentures made	When they left or where sent to	Whether Tenth Apprentice or not	Remarks
Phillips Southford		21 Jan 1829				
Mary Burns		3 May 1829				
Mary Holmes		1 Jan 1829				
Mary Henry		1 Mar 1829				
Harriet Elmes		11 Aug 1829				
Maria Gilbert		15 Sep 1829				
Margaret Wilson		10 Aug 1829				
Maria Griffin		29 Oct 1829				
Elizabeth Morris		17 Apr 1830				
Mary Lloyd		6 Feb 1830				
Jane Crossin		12 Jan 1830				
Ann Deason		20 Jan 1830				
Elizabeth Holmes		25 May 1830				
Elice Marshall		19 Mar 1830				
Mary Muir		12 Apr 1830				
Elizabeth Woodfall		6 Jul 1830				
Catherine Smith		14 Oct 1830				
Isaac Clarke		14 Aug 1830				
Ann Griffin		6 Dec 1830				
Ann Warral		10 Dec 1830				
Ann Pittsford		1 Mar 1831				
Catherine Riley		13 Feb 1831				
Mary Walsh		5 Mar 1831				
Mathilda Hamilton		14 May 1831				
Catherine Dudley		1 Apr 1831				
Ann Francis		18 May 1831				
Elizabeth Stanton		2 Jul 1831				
Mary McGuire		24 Jul 1830				
Mary Lyle		6 Aug 1831				
Mary Ann McGorran		4 Sep 1831				
Mary Gilbert		23 May 1832				
Mathilda Blair		25 Oct 1832				
Mary Woolley		2 Dec 1832				
Sarah Ward		16 Mar 1833				
Jane Plunkett		14 Oct 1832				
Mary Dillon		13 Nov 1833				
Catherine Gasson		13 Nov 1833				
Maria Chambers		21 Sep 1833				
Elice Trankins		13 Nov 1833				
Elizabeth Rabet		10 Oct 1833				
Mary Anne Riley		17 Mar 1833				
Catherine Miller		14 Feb 1834				
Mary Ann Turner		27 May 1834				
Elizabeth McCarty		28 Feb 1834				
Elice Dudley		26 Apr 1834				
Bertha McKay		12 Jan 1834				

The original indentures of these girls were made with Mr William Hewitt, formerly occupying the Cresbrook Mills; and in March 1835 when he left Mr Messrs. McConnell Brothers became proprietors they were transferred to the latter by the Commissioners for managing the affairs of the Military Asylum, Southampton.



truly served until the end of their term, and some went to other  
as who are still apprentices are, with one or two exceptions, now here.

1 Apr 1835  
10 Mar 1834  
14 Apr 1834  
16 Aug 1834  
17 Sep 1834  
22 Apr 1835  
2 " 1834  
28 Apr 1835  
22 Mar 1835  
17 Feb 1835  
30 Jan 1835  
30 Jan 1835  
7 Jul 1835  
21 Sep 1835  
2 " 1835  
6 Jun 1835  
9 Feb 1836  
18 Feb 1836  
22 Feb 1836  
3 Jan 1836

and Brothers by the Southampton Commissioners since March 1835.



## Surname Index

Allen	John 2.
Bader	Elizabeth 6.
Baines	Mary 1.
Banham	Elizabeth 6.
Barnes	Joshua 3.
Bashford	Philippa 6.
Belford	Margaret 7.
Benson	Ann 6.
Biven	Harriet 6.
Blair	Mathilda 6.
Bowden	Lavinia 7.
Burcholt	Elisa 1.
Carrol	Ann 5.
Chambers	Maria 6.
Christie	Lorenzo 1.
Clarke	Mary 1. Susan 6.
Cooper	Margaret 4.
Corrigan	Eleanor 4.
Cowley	Margaret 4.
Crain	Jane 1.
Desmond	Julia 1.
Devoy	Elizabeth 7.
Dillon	Mary 6.
Don	Mary 1.
Douglas	Sarah 1.
Dudley	Catherine 6. Ellen 6.
Dunbar	Charlotte 4.
Emery	Mary 6.
Estall	Sarah 4.
Evans	Sasuel 2. William 2.
Farrel	Ann 6. Mary 7.
Ferguson	Jesse 1.
Flannegun	Maria 1.
Fraser	Ann 6.
Galvin	Mary 4.
Gannon	Fanny 1. Catherine 6.
Gibbons	Rosemary 7.
Gilbert	Maria 6. Mary 6.
Glass	Johanna 1.
Grady	Catherine 7. Margaret 7.
Greensmith	Lawrence 2.
Grier	Frances 1.
Griffin	Ann 6. Maria 6.
Hagun	Mary 1.
Hamilton	Mathilda 6.
Hampshire	Thomas 3.
Hill	Elizabeth 4.
Holmes	Mary 6.
Horsfall	Elizabeth 6.
Hough	Mary 5.
Howard	Sophia 4.
Hutchinson	Isabella 1.
Hynes	Mary C. 4.



Jamieson	Mary A. 7.
Jones	Ann 4.
Lee	Anna F. 7.
Lees	Henry 3.
Leighton	Mary 1.
Lenaghan	Margaret 4.
Linning	Elizabeth 1.
Livingston	Ann 1.
Logue	Mary 1.
Lomax	Mary 7.
Loyd	A. J. Mary 6.
Luck	Ellen 7.
Lyle	Mary 6.
Lynch	Ann 4, Mary 4.
Marsh	Jane 4.
Marshall	Eliza 6, Jane 1.
McCasey	Elizabeth 6.
McGorren	Mary Ann 6.
McGowen	Ann 4.
McGriff	Mary 7.
McGuire	Mary 6.
McIntyne	Elizabeth 1.
McKay	Martha 6.
McLean	Elizabeth 7.
McMahon	Mary 7.
Middletom	Susan 1.
Miller	E. J. Catherine 6.
Molony	Charlotte 4.
Moore	Ann 4.
Morris	Elizabeth 6.
Muir	Mary 6.
Nurse	Mary 6.
Orrons	Jane 6.
Peat	Thomas 1(2).
Phillips	Mary 1.
Plunkett	Jane 6.
Pritchard	Ann 6.
Pugh	Letitia 4.
Rea	Ann 1.
Redwood	Mary 1.
Riley	Catherine 6, Mary Anne 6.
Ringnose	Elizabeth 1.
Roberts	John 3.
Rogan	Mary 4.
Rowley	Jane 4.
Ryan	Catherine 7, Mary 4.
Sampson	Margaret 4.
Shepley	Samuel 3.
Simmins	Lucinda 7.
Small	Catherine 7.
Smith	Catherine 6.
Stocks	Mary 1.
Sumner	Francis 3.
Swift	Ann 4, Catherine 4.



Thompson	Margaret 1.
Thomson	Jean 1.
Timings	Ellen 6.
Tooth	Isabella 7.
Turner	Mary Ann 6.
Vanpine	Ann 4.
Walsesley	Mary A. 7.
Walton	Charlotte 7.
Ward	Sarah 6.
Welsh	Mary 6.
Whiston	William 2.
Wilson	Margaret 6.
Winterbottom	John 3.
Woodward	Ann 1.
Woolley	Mary 6.



Location Index

Chelsea MDX

- Royal Military  
Asylum

Corrigan 4. Lenaghan 4. Ryan 4. Swift 4.

Cressbrook

Banham 6. Bashford 6. Benson 6. Siven 6. Blair 6.  
Chambers 6. Clarke 6. Dillon 6. Dudley 6. Emery  
6. Farrel 6. Fraser 6. Gannon 6. Gilbert 6(2).  
Griffin 6(2). Hamilton 6. Holmes 6(2). Horsfall  
6. Loyd 6. Lyle 6. Marshall 6. McCorren 6.  
McGuire 6. Morris 6. Muir 6. Nurse 6. Orrens 6.  
Plunkett 6. Pritchard 6. Wile 6. Smith 6.  
Tinnings 6. Ward 6. Welsh 6. Wilson 6. Woolley 6.

Darley Abbey

Allen 2. Evans 2(2). Greensmith 2.

Derby

Peat 2(2).

Edale

Baines 1. Burcholt 1. Christie 1. Clarke 1. Crain  
1. Desmond 1. Dun 1. Douglas 1. Ferguson 1.  
Flannegun 1. Gannon 1. Glass 1. Grier 1. Hagun 1.  
Hutchinson 1. Leighton 1. Linning 1. Livingston  
1. Logue 1. Loyd 1. Marshall 1. McIntyne 1.  
Middleton 1. Miller 1. Phillips 1. Rea 1. Redwood  
1. Ringnose 1. Stocks 1. Thompson 1. Thompson 1.  
Thomson 1. Woodward 1.

Edinburgh SCT

Don 1. Douglas 1. Ferguson 1. Glass 1. Linning 1.  
Logue 1. McIntyne 1. Thompson 1. Thomson 1.

Glossop

Barnes 3. Hampshire 3. Lees 3(2). Roberts 3.  
Shepley 3. Summer 3. Winterbottom 3.

Hadfield

Hampshire 3. Winterbottom 3.

Hall YKS

Burcholt 1. Crain 1. Hutchinson 1. Leighton 1.  
Livingston 1. Marshall 1. Middleton 1. Ringnose  
1. Stocks 1.

Mellor

Carrol 5. Cooper 4. Corrigan 4. Cowley 4. Dunbar  
4. Estall 4. Galvin 4. Hill 4. Hough 5. Howard 4.  
Hynes 4. Jones 4. Lenaghan 4. Lynch 4(2). Marsh  
4. McGowen 4. Molony 4. Moore 4. Pugh 4. Rogan 4.  
Rowley 4. Ryan 4. Sampson 4. Swift 4(2). Varpine  
4.

Sawley

Senhouse 2.

Southampton HAM

- Royal Military  
Asylum

Baines 1. Banham 6. Bashford 6. Blair 6. Benson  
6. Siven 6. Carrol 5. Chambers 6. Clarke 1. 6.  
Cooper 4. Cowley 4. Desmond 1. Dillon 6. Dudley  
6. Dunbar 4. Emery 6. Estall 4. Farrel 6.  
Flannegun 1. Fraser 6. Galvin 4. Gannon 1. 6.  
Gilbert 6(2). Grier 1. Griffin 6. Hagun 1.  
Hamilton 6. Hill 4. Holmes 6(2). Horsfall 6.  
Hough 5. Howard 4. Hynes 4. Jones 4. Loyd 1. 6.  
Lyle 6. Lynch 4(2). Marsh 4. Marshall 6. McCorren



6, McGowan 4, McGuire 6, Miller 1, Molony 4,  
Moore 4, Morris 6, Mair 6, Nurse 6, Orrens 6,  
Phillips 1, Plunkett 6, Pritchard 6, Pugh 4, Ree  
1, Redwood 1, Wiley 6, Rogan 4, Rowley 4, Sampsco  
4, Smith 6, Swift 4, Vanpine 4, Ward 6, Welsh 6,  
Wilson 6, Woodward 1, Woolley 6.

