

William Thomas BLACKLOCK



Baptised: 25 September 1816

Died: 29 June 1870

*PRINTER
PUBLISHER*



WILLIAM THOMAS BLACKLOCK - (1816 - 1870)



*In Affectionate
Remembrance of
William Thomas Blacklock
of Hopefield, Pendleton,
who died suddenly
June 29th 1870
aged 53 years*

1816: Baptism of **William Thomas Blacklock** at the Collegiate Church of Manchester on 25 September 1816. **William Thomas Blacklock** was also a son of John and Mary Blacklock of Salford, a calico printer. He was baptised three years before his brother *Henry* (q.v., and one of eight baptisms that day).

No. 2117.	<i>of Hopefield</i>					
1056	<i>William John</i>	<i>Thomas</i>	<i>Blacklock</i>	<i>Salford</i>	<i>Calico</i>	<i>Printer</i>
No. 2118.	<i>of Mary</i>					

1842:

Burial: 28 November 1842 St Stephen, Salford, Lancashire

Mary Maria Blacklock

Age: 21

Abode: London

Buried By: J.K. Field, Minister

1841:

Burial: 8 October 1841 St Stephen, Salford, Lancashire

Mary Maria Blacklock

Age: 7 mo.

Abode: Broughton

Buried By: R. Frost

1840: Marriage of **William Thomas Blacklock** and *Mary Maria Davies (alias Wood)* at the parish church of St. Peter, Bolton-le-Moors, on 2 January 1840. [She died in November 1842, aged 21, and was buried at St. Stephen. Salford]

No.	When Married.	Name and Surname.	Age.	Condition.	Rank or Profession.	Residence at the Time of Marriage.	Father's Name and Surname.	Rank or Profession of Father.
68	2 nd January 1840.	William Thomas Blacklock Mary Maria Davies alias Wood	Full Minor	Bachelor Spinster	Engraver & Printer —	Salford Bradshaw	John Blacklock	Agent
Married in the <i>Parish Church</i> according to the Rites and Ceremonies of the <i>Established Church of England</i> by me, <i>Gladius</i>								
This Marriage was solemnized between us,		<i>William Thomas Blacklock</i> <i>M^{rs} M. Davies</i>			in the Presence of us,	<i>James Holburnworth</i> <i>Robert Blacklock</i> <i>John Davis</i>		

1841: *Manchester Courier* – Saturday 17 April 1841.

THE NEW LOCAL PERIODICAL.

On Saturday the 1st of May, and on every following Saturday morning, will be published, price three-halfpence; and in monthly parts (stitched, with cover,) price sevenpence.

BRADSHAW'S MANCHESTER JOURNAL.

Illustrated with Engravings.

An Engraving of Victoria Bridge will accompany the first number; and a beautifully executed Plan of Manchester will appear in No. 1 of the Pictorial Advertiser of the Journal.

Published by BRADSHAW & BLACKLOCK 27, Brown-street, Manchester; and sold by all the Manchester Booksellers.

Agents—London: R. Groombridge, Panyer Alley.—Liverpool: J. G. Smith, Cleveland Square and Scotland Place.—Rochdale: Jones and Croskell.—Bolton: Bradbury, jun. and Co.—Oldham: J. Dodge.—Stockport: Claye.—Ashton: Thos. Cunningham.—Stalybridge: Daniel Cunningham.

This is a copy of the first advert to appear in a Manchester newspaper that featured the Bradshaw & Blacklock publishing business.

From 1842 onwards, **William Thomas Blacklock** devoted a great deal of his time and wealth to all classes of the underprivileged in the city. In January 1842, the firm of *Bradshaw & Blacklock*, together with other trades people, opened on 19 January a PUBLIC SOUP KITCHEN in Bale Street, Lower Mosley-street, for the 'Daily Supply of Soup to the Poor'. 'It is respectfully recommended to the purchasers of tickets that they give them to none but such as are in necessitous circumstances.'

The business continued to subscribe to this charitable act. And by September 1842 the number of tickets issued was 360,450. By August 1847, Blacklock was already taking an interest in the expansion of the railways and spoke at a meeting of the East Lancashire Railway Co. And then in September the firm of *Bradshaw & Blacklock* was a signatory to a petition to the Mayor to hold a special meeting at the Town Hall to discuss the drain on the public finances occasioned by 'heavy calls made for railway purposes,' which were affecting the trade of the district. In February 1848, he seconded a motion to limit travel on the Sabbath Day on the East Lancashire Line.

On Tuesday 22 February **1848**, a boy named Jas. Moore, formerly employed at the firm of *Bradshaw & Blacklock* appeared at the Borough Court charged with robbery of a large quantity of printed Railway Timetables which he sold to a Salford shopkeeper. He also pleaded guilty to stealing a pair of new boots belonging to **Mr. Bradshaw** the previous August. He received a light sentence. In March **1848**, he attended the annual meeting of the “Association of Members of the Established Church, for Promoting a Reform in the Ecclesiastical Provision for the Parish of Manchester.” The first reference to Bradshaw’s Railway Almanack appears to be 23 December **1848**, published by the firm. There were further reports of robbery from the firm, and sadly a report of the death of a boy aged 12 who had slipped between some machinery. By August **1850 William Blacklock** had become a director of the East Lancashire Railway.

1846: Marriage of **William Thomas Blacklock** and Mary Anne Lord in the 1st qtr. of **1846** in Bolton registration District.

1851 census: Greenfield House, Church Lane, Kearsley.

William Hinmers	Head	M	29	General Carrier
Bessie Hinmers	Wife	M	26	
Robert W. Hinmers	Son		6 mo.	
William T. Blacklock	Vis.	M	34	Publisher
Mary A.	Vis.	M	25	
Emily	Daur.		1 mo.	

+ 2 servants.

The series of thefts and robberies from *Bradshaw & Blacklock* was to continue. In January **1851**, a 16 years old errand boy appeared at the Borough Court, charged with robbing his employers of several sums of money. Another appearance at the Borough Court happened in September of the same year - yet a further occurrence of theft. And so it continued! **William Blacklock** continued his benevolent and business work. He became a director of the St. Helens and Southport Railway. He became a member of the local branch of the *British and Foreign Bible Society* and of the *Christ Church Young Men’s Mutual Improvement Society*. He was constantly appearing at meetings at which discussions were taking place about the amalgamation of different railway companies and always presented a business case for accepting or rejecting proposals. He was also a vigorous proposer on behalf of the *Manchester and Salford Permanent Building and Investment Association*. He was furthermore a committee member of the *Church of England Education Society*. He was also associated with the *Manchester Juvenile Refuge*, the *Ragged and Industrial School for Salford*, the *Young Men’s Christian Association*, the *Religious Tract Society*, and countless other organisations. These connections (and others) remained with him throughout this life. In addition to these railway and church connections, he was a committee member of the *Salford and Pendleton Royal Hospital*. These involvements were longstanding.

1861census: Hopefield, Pendleton.

William T. Blacklock	Head	M	44	Paper Manufacturer	b. Manchester
Marianne	Wife	M	35		b. Kersley (sic)
Mary	Daur.		12	Scholar	
Emily	Daur.		10		
Joseph Herbert	Son		6	Scholar	
William James Sinclair	Son		5 mo.		
Louisa	Niece	S	26		

+ 5 servants.

All four children were baptised at Christ Church, Salford - a chapelry in Acton Square, Eccles.

Mary Lord Blacklock	19 October 1848	Christ Church, Salford
Emily Blacklock	21 March 1851	Christ Church, Salford
Joseph Herbert Blacklock	16 March 1855	Christ Church, Salford

By **1861**, he was on the general committee of the *Clinical Hospital and Dispensary for Children*. In **1863**, he appeared as a magistrate at the *Salford Quarter Sessions*. In **1866**, he was elected a vice-president of the *Clinical Hospital*, Stevenson Square. **William Thomas Blacklock** was evidently a man of many talents, with a tremendous amount of drive and energy. His interests were so wide and varied – religious, judicial, medical, social, transport, all with the sole aim of serving the people.

The parish church of Worsley, dedicated to St. Mark, was officially consecrated on 2 July 1846 by the Bishop of Chester. It had been founded by the first Earl of Ellesmere, Francis Egerton, and its patronage remained in the hands of the Egerton family for nearly 80 years. When the family eventually moved from the area, the patronage passed to the Diocese of Manchester. Since then, the upkeep and general maintenance of the church has fallen upon the parishioners and the church council. The church receives no financial help from the Manchester Diocese or the Church of England.

All the daily running costs are now borne by the parish. For many years, we were able to raise sufficient funds from various sources to keep the church and the parish in a healthy state. This was due mainly to the generosity of parishioners and various fundraising efforts conducted by them. For the past one hundred years, the people of Worsley have contributed enormously to the costs involved in keeping this historic and beautiful church.

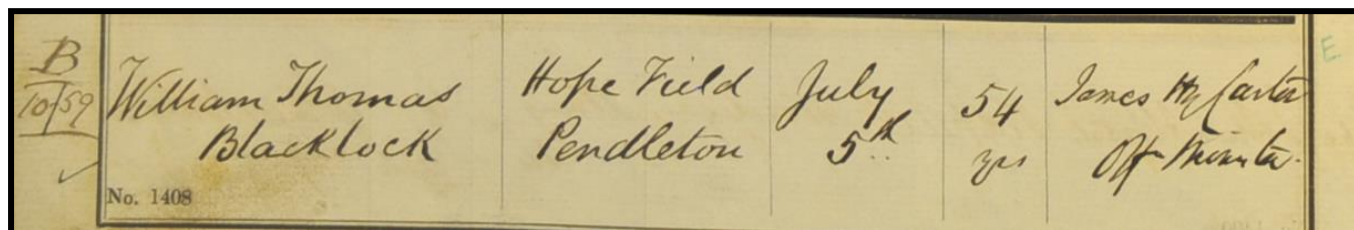
Today, the situation is quite different. For a host of reasons, our income has declined and yet the costs of keeping the church open have grown considerably, particularly since Covid. The church is now struggling, not just to keep open, but to undertake all the necessary repairs and maintenance to the building and its structure to guarantee its safety, security and longevity. In addition, we are invited to pay the parish share of £105,000 per annum (subject to review), which enables the Diocese to provide ministry throughout the district - and this is before we pay our own bills. Every week our costs amount to £3,000 (or £429 per day) just to keep the doors open.

The relatively brief history of the church is littered with numerous moments of special interest. In its early years, eminent people visited the New Hall – starting with two visits made by Queen Victoria in 1851 and 1857, the Duke of Wellington, Sir Robert Peel, James Nasmyth and several politicians of the time. The names of Egerton and Ellesmere can be found in so many different ways around the area highlighting the immense importance of this family. The church itself was designed by (Sir) George Gilbert Scott, the foremost architect of church buildings in the nineteenth century.

Inside the church, there are rich stained glass windows which originated in the 17th century, of German origin. Some of the glass was designed and installed by Augustus W. N. Pugin, assisted by (Sir) Charles Barry. The memorial tomb to the first Earl is a thing of beauty and was totally refurbished in 1957 as a final, charitable work by James Attwood, who had spent six years overseeing the restoration of the church. The Burne-Jones window, designed by him, was made and installed by William Morris & Co. The marble and mosaic Reredos behind the altar was installed by Salviati & Co. of Venice, in remembrance of Harriet, the wife of the first Earl. And the famous clock, gifted for the centenary of the church in 1944, strikes thirteen chimes at 1pm! Unique! The church was granted Grade 1 status as a listed building in 2003

Sadly, we are now at a point at which extensive work needs to be done to keep the church in a safe condition. In 2021, a team of surveyors from English Heritage came to conduct a thorough survey of the state of the building, and concluded that extensive work needs to be done throughout the church, at an estimated cost of £500,000. This is a figure that is beyond the means of the parish to raise and we are seeking to gain advice, guidance and support, both financial and advisory, on how best to secure the church's future. Beyond this, we are struggling to retain possession of the original rectory, built in 1850 to attract the first incumbent, the Rev. St. Vincent Beechey.

1870: Death of **William Thomas Blacklock** on 29 June **1870**. He was buried at St. Mark's on 5 July **1878**.



THE WILL of William Thomas Blacklock, late of the city of Manchester, and of Hopefield, Pendleton, in the Parish of Eccles, in the County of Lancaster, Esquire, deceased, who died 29 June 1870 at Hopefield aforesaid, was proved at Manchester by the oaths of Henry Blacklock of Albert Square in the City aforesaid, Printer and Publisher, the Brother, and Mary Ann Blacklock of Hopefield, aforesaid Widow, the Relict, two of the Executors. His effects were under £250,000.

His death occurred on the day of his daughter Emily's marriage at St. Mary's, Eccles. She married Francis Henry Cheetham, of full age, Gentleman, Bachelor, of Woodlands, Staley Bridge. When she died on 4 March 1916 at Triscombe House, Somerset, she left her effects to her husband. His father was John Cheetham, Manufacturer, and the marriage was by licence. Their elder daughter, Mary Lord, had already married Haden Corser, a Barrister, of Pimlico on 15 June 1870, at St. Luke's, Weaste, at the age of 21. Her husband had a highly successful career in the law and she died on 26 June 1942, her husband having predeceased her in 1906.

SUDDEN DEATH OF THE BRIDE'S FATHER.

*On Wednesday the nuptial knot was tied at the Parish Church, Eccles, between Francis Henry, younger son of Mr. John Cheetham, of Eastwood, Stalybridge (late M.P. for Salford), and Emily, younger daughter of **W. T. Blacklock, Esq., Hopefield, Pendleton.** The wedding, which was a most brilliant affair, was attended by a most melancholy circumstance, no less than the sudden death of the bride's father. The wedding feast had been prepared with the greatest sumptuousness, and the bridal party, consisting of a long train of wedding and private carriages, left Hopefield House for the Parish Church. The bride and bridegroom were very richly dressed, and the marriage rite was conducted by the Rev. J. P. Pitcairn, M.A., vicar, assisted the Rev. J. H. Carter, M.A., and the Rev. R. C. Moncrief, B.A. The scholars in the Sunday-school class, of which the bride is the beloved teacher, strewed flowers in her path as she left the altar, and the marriage bells rung a merry peal as the bridal party left the church amidst the cheers and congratulations of a large assembly. However, almost immediately upon the arrival of the joyful party at Hopefield, they were met with the intelligence of the sudden death of **Mr. Blacklock** from apoplexy.*

*He was one of the most widely known and most respected citizens of Manchester. The news of his death was received, in many and diversified circles, with deep regret, which was intensified by the peculiarly painful circumstances with which it was accompanied. As father of the bride he had intended to be present to give her away, but when the party was about setting off for church he complained of illness, and deputed his brother, **Mr. Henry Blacklock,** to take his place in the marriage ceremony. Mr. Blacklock at this time still contemplated following the party to church and to join in the marriage service, but Dr. Whitehead, who had been sent for, dissuaded him from carrying out his intention. As he did not recover, he was put to bed, and when the wedding party returned from church he was asleep. **Mr. Blacklock** had been subject to fainting sicknesses, which hitherto had been temporary in their effects, and, as no serious results were anticipated from the attack he was now suffering from, the wedding festivities were about to be proceeded with. The process of photographing the bride and bridegroom, which was commenced on the lawn immediately on their return from church, was interrupted,*

however, by the terrible announcement of **Mr. Blacklock's** sudden death in bed. The guests at once dismissed, the festivities were closed, and a messenger was sent to Eccles to stop the ringing of the bells. **Mr. Blacklock** may be called a self-made man, and had attained first rate rank in Manchester through his own ability and industry. He was for many years principal of the firm of **Bradshaw and Blacklock**, publishers of the railway time tables and guides, but for some time had retired from the active management of the business. His increased leisure was devoted to promote the interests and success of many charitable societies and institutions in the city and borough, of which he had long been a munificent patron. He was a justice of the peace, a director of the Lancashire and Yorkshire Railway, a supporter of the Liberal interest in politics, and an active educationist; but, as a public man, he will probably be chiefly regretted on account of the blank his loss will cause in the management of nearly every important and charitable work carried on within the reach of his generous assisting hand.

1871 Obituary

[*Grace's Guide*; also, *Minutes of the Proceedings of the Institution of Civil Engineers*]

Mr. WILLIAM THOMAS BLACKLOCK, son of John Blacklock, calico-printer, of Kersal, was born in July, **1815**.

At the age of fourteen he was apprenticed to the late Mr. George Bradshaw, of Manchester, engraver and letterpress-printer, to learn the art of engraving. Before he had completed his apprenticeship he was offered a share in the business by Mr. Bradshaw, and from that period, about forty years ago, the well-known firm of Bradshaw and Blacklock dates its existence.

Taking advantage of the opportunity offered by the introduction and extension of the railway system, they laid themselves out for and secured so much of the work required by the railway companies as to become popularly known as the railway printers. The merits of their '*Railway Guide and Shareholder's Manual*' are so well known to the members of the engineering profession, that no mention need here be made of the labour and exactitude with which it has always been prepared.

In **1850 Mr. Blacklock** was elected a director of the East Lancashire Railway Company, and in **1859**, on the amalgamation of that company with the Lancashire and Yorkshire, a director of the latter, at the board of which he held a seat until his death. Upon assuming the responsibilities connected with an efficient discharge of his duties as a railway director, he retired from the firm in which he was the active partner, but soon after, finding that his energy demanded further occupation, he entered into partnership with Mr. George M'Corquodale, of Newton-le-Willows.

He was also a county magistrate, a borough magistrate, a commissioner of taxes, treasurer to the Manchester and Salford branch of the British and Foreign Bible Society, treasurer to the Religious Tract Society, trustee of several churches, savings' banks, &C., and energetically exerted himself in the advancement of the education and social condition of the working classes. His death was very sudden, he being seized with apoplexy on the occasion of his youngest daughter's marriage, on the 29th of June, **1870**.

Mr. Blacklock was twice married, on the second occasion to Miss Lord, of Farnworth, by whom he left two sons and two daughters.

He was elected an Associate of the Institution on the 7th of April, **1868**.

William James Sinclair, the younger son, married Kate McCorquodale at St. Peter, Newton-in-Makerfield, on 28 August 1883. Her father and new husband were partners in the old-established printing firm of McCorquodale & Co. In Kelly's Directory, he was residing at Newnham Hall, (near Daventry), Northants., '*pleasantly situated on a slope commanding a view of the village and surrounding country.*' In 1891, Mr. and Mrs. Blacklock undertook a round-the-world tour, during which they passed through India. There they were met by Captain Henry Sinclair Horne (later to be a general on the Western Front), who showed them the delights of the Raj. On 29 November 1894, William J. S. Blacklock died, aged 34, as a result of injuries sustained in a tragic hunting accident. Then, on 1 July 1897, the widow Kate agreed to marry Horne.

The elder son, **Joseph Herbert**, was educated at Harrow and admitted as Pensioner to Jesus College, Cambridge, in October **1873** and migrated to Magdalen on 4 February **1874**. He became a Lieutenant in the 3rd (Militia) Battalion, N. Staffs. Regt. He was also a J.P. for Northants. He and his family variously lived at Overthorpe House, Banbury, Oxfordshire, and also at 3, York House, Kensington, London. He died on 24 January **1935**, aged 79, at 3, York House. (*Harrow Sch. Reg.; The Times*, Jan. 28, 1935). He had married Julia Corser (sister of Haden Corser, above) at St. Peter, Pimlico, in **1876**. He was buried at St. Mary's, Banbury, on 29 January **1935**.

In **1871**, Mary Anne (45) was visiting William Hinners and his family, who now resided at Cleveland, West Cliff Road, Birkdale, and was with her son William J. S. (10). William Hinners, formerly a general carrier, was now a magistrate.

In **1881**, eleven years after the death of her husband, William, Mary Anne was this time staying with her daughter Mary Lord, now married to Haden Corser, a Barrister, and living at Penkridge, Staffs.

In **1891**, Mary Anne (now 65) was living at 'Sea View', Lord Street, Southport, with several domestics. According to the National Probate Calendar, she died on 7 October **1899** at Southport. Probate was granted on 24 January **1900** to Joseph Henry Blacklock, esquire, Haden Corser, esquire, barrister-at-law, Francis Henry Cheetham, esquire. Her effects were in excess of £48,000.

