

BRITISH MINING No.72

# THE MINES OF YORKSHIRE

Metalliferous and associated minerals

by

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A  
MONOGRAPH  
OF THE  
NORTHERN MINE RESEARCH SOCIETY  
MAY 2003

## CONTENTS

<b>Preface</b>	5 - 6
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### **Introduction**

I	The Mineral Statistics	6 - 9
II	Yorkshire Mineral Production	10 - 14
III	The Mine Tables	15 - 33

<b>Bibliography</b>	34 - 38
---------------------	---------

### **The tables of Mine Production, Ownership, Management and Employment**

A.D. Mines	-	Ayton Banks	40 - 58
Bacco Rake	-	Bycliffe	58 - 101
Calf Garth Rake	-	Crowder Rake	101 - 136
Damrigg	-	Duck Street	137 - 142
Eagle	-	Eston	142 - 152
Faggergill	-	Fryup	152 - 168
Galloway Vein	-	Grove Sty	168 - 205
Hag	-	Hutton	205 - 226
Ingleby	-	Invalid	226
Jacob Bailey	-	Justice Vein	227 - 228
Kelber Gate	-	Knucklebone	228 - 239
Lambert Pasture	-	Lunehead	239 - 263
Maizebeck	-	Musgrave Flat	263 - 278
Netherdale	-	Nuthole	278 - 284
Old Gang	-	Oxnop Gill	285 - 292
Parkhead	-	Punchard	292 - 306
Ragg Hill	-	Rushbob	306 - 321
Sargill	-	Sykes	321 - 370
Tanner Rake	-	Twenty Meers	370 - 381
Underedge	-	Upsall	381 - 383
Venture	-	Virgin	383 - 385
Walden Head	-	Wynch Bridge	385 - 399
Yarnbury	-	Yorkshire Mine	399 - 403
ZZ - Sundries			403

<b>Index</b>	404 - 416
--------------	-----------

### **Figures**

1.	National Production of coal from 1854 to 2000	30
2.	Yorkshire coal production from 1854 to 2000	33

### **Maps**

1.	Ironstone mines in Cleveland	84
2.	Mines in Wharfedale and Nidderdale	207
3.	Mines in Wensleydale	291
4.	Mines in Swaledale	375

## PREFACE

In 1975, Roger Burt and his colleagues in the Department of Economic History at the University of Exeter began a project, supported by the Social Science Research Council, to analyse the mine-by-mine returns of production, ownership, management and employment that appeared in the annual *Mineral Statistics of the United Kingdom* (1845 to 1913). The data was assimilated and stored in what was probably one of the earliest computerised data-bases of historical information, and was also used to produce a series of county-based volumes of mineral statistics. The first of these, for Derbyshire, appeared in 1981 and was soon followed by others for the various Pennine counties, the Isle of Man, South-West England and, finally, central and north Wales. By 1990, ten county volumes had been published and the first stage of the project was drawing to a close. Work has not stopped, however, and it is intended to publish the *Irish Mineral Statistics*, also as part of the *British Mining* series, in 2003/4. Moreover, all of the published data, together with new material on Wales, will shortly be made freely available, in searchable form, on the world wide web. More importantly, a new generation of greatly expanded county data sets – of which this is the first – are planned to appear in the next few years. Mike Gill first proposed this latter extension project back in 1985 and this pilot on the pre-1974 county of Yorkshire has expanded progressively ever since. Clearly, further additions could continue almost indefinitely, but in 2002 it was decided that the data now provided a major new research tool and should be published.

There is over four times more data in this volume than in the original *Yorkshire Mineral Statistics*. Although it is presented in a broadly similar way, some changes have been made. Most significantly, there has been a far greater editorial input to exploit Mike Gill's extensive knowledge of the county's mining history and to give a clearer view of what is now a very much longer period. Similarly, whilst aware of Seneca's comment that "*anything that is divided into minute grains becomes confused*", entries have been made for the small mines which made up larger titles, such as the AD, Arkengarthdale and Grassington Mines. There are also new headings to include a wider range of data.

The successful progression of this project was achieved only with the active help and collaboration of a wide range of private and professional researchers, librarians and archivists. Many thanks are due to: Lawrence Barker (Swaledale), David and Margaret Carlisle (Arkengarthdale), Ray Fairbairn (Scargill), Dr Edmund Green (Swaledale, Wensleydale and Middleton Tyas), William Houston (post-war period), Alan King (Malham), Hazel Martell (Chatsworth Archive), Dr Jack Myers (Malham), Alasdair Neill (C20th returns), the late Dr Arthur Raistrick (Wharfedale), Dr Jim Rieuwerts (Calderdale), Ian Spensley (Swaledale and Wensleydale), Malcolm Street (Nidderdale) and Les Tyson (Swaledale, Arkengarthdale and Wensleydale). Thanks are also due to Professor Bernard Jennings for allowing the inclusion of data from his MA thesis

(see bibliography). The late John Owen gave invaluable help with the Cleveland ironstone mining industry, including detailed comment on the author's interpretation and expansion of the first volume, the provision of new data on mining before 1858 and the National Grid references of mines.

Mike Gill would also like to acknowledge the great amount of assistance given to him by the Chatsworth Estate, in particular Mr J.M. Sheard, the Agent at Bolton Abbey, and Mr M. Pearman, the Archivist at Chatsworth. Thanks are also due to the staffs of the following institutions: Bradford City Archives and Library; British Geological Survey Library, Keyworth; British Library, Wetherby; Brotherton Library, University of Leeds; Cumbria County Record Office, Carlisle; Durham County Planning Department; Durham County Record Office; Gateshead City Library; Guild Hall Library, London; Institute of Historical Studies Library, London; Institute of Industrial Archaeology Library, Ironbridge; John Rylands Library, University of Manchester; Manchester Central Library; Norfolk Record Office; Northumberland County Record Office; North Yorkshire County Record Office; Public Record Office (Chancery Lane and Kew); Sheffield City Library; Sheffield Record Office; Warwickshire County Record Office and the West Yorkshire Archive Service, Leeds.

The compilation of this data, which was in widely varying forms was a daunting task and without a computer it would have been impossible. Financial assistance for the work was given by Miss Mary McTurk, Billiton U.K. Limited and the Kildwick Church Parochial Council.

Any mistakes are, of course, Mike Gill's responsibility.

## **INTRODUCTION**

### **I**

#### **The Mineral Statistics**

This volume brings together production and ownership data for metalliferous mining in Yorkshire, from the earliest origins of the industry to the present day. It undoubtedly does not capture everything – some further material will surely become available – and it does not cover every period of the industry's history, as many mines worked for centuries before the earliest data presented here, but it does encompass everything that long and detailed research could reveal. To give perspective to the scale of the industry, we have also included aggregate information on national production of the various metals, and Yorkshire's contribution to those totals, as well as comparative data for the production of coal in the county, which was far larger and more important than the other activities put together.

The sources from which this data has been derived can be roughly divided into two groups - *archival material*, mainly for the period before the mid-19th century, and *official government returns*, for the period thereafter. The *archival* sources consist mainly of material generated by the owners of the minerals (the ‘mineral lords’) and the various mining companies that leased the rights to work them. Their ‘quality’ in terms of reliability and coverage is patchy, their survival random, their distribution now widespread and uncertain, and their interpretation subject to considerable difficulties. In the latter context, there are particular difficulties with the interpretation of weights and measures, which varied between place and over time before the early 19th century. For example, in Swaledale and Arkengarthdale care must be taken when using the above accounts because most smelt mills and some mines had their own system of weights until the mid-19th century. In Swaledale and Arkengarthdale, ore was usually weighed in Bings (8 cwts) and Horse Loads (2 cwts) and lead was in Stockton foddors of 22 cwts (2464 lbs). A local fodder, which weighed 34 cwts or 17 horse, was sometimes used for ore. At the normal rate of produce achieved by an ore-hearth (about 65%) this would give one fodder of lead (22 cwts). This system of rough, ready-reckoning is also reflected in the practice of each smelt mill making pieces of different weights (each practically a full fraction of a fodder). Nevertheless, examination of accounts shows that the average weight of the pieces, from batch to batch, seldom varied by more than a few pounds. When cast, each batch of 400 pieces was stamped with the mineral lord’s or company’s logo and a letter, called a mill mark, to help identify it. The next batch got the next letter, and so on from A through to Z. Casting pieces in this way helped to keep track of progress during smelting, allowed the quick estimation of the weight of lead in stacks, and also allowed for the easy identification of any pieces with damaged mill marks. However, whilst output figures must always be treated with caution during this early period, and total output for the county certainly exceeds the figures produced here, some good and reliable long runs of data have been assembled for some of the larger mining operations, such as the AD, Grinton and Hurst Mines in Swaledale, and the Buckden, Hawkswick, Conistone, Grassington and Hebden mines in Wharfedale.

Regular and *official returns* from the mines to the government first began to be collected in 1845 and have continued, in changing formats, to the present day. Printed and regularly published, these formed the basis of our earlier volume, which looked only at the period from the 1840s to the First World War. Here we have extended that coverage to 2000. The first published series, relating to the output of copper and lead, principally in the years 1845 to 1847, appeared in *Memoirs of the Geological Survey of Great Britain and the Museum of Practical Geology in London* Vols. I and II (H.M.S.O. 1845 and 1847). The recently established Mining Record Office, in particular its Keeper of Mining Records, Robert Hunt, did the work. This was regarded as a limited exercise, with no commitment for the publication of further annual series. In 1853, however, Hunt updated and extended the earlier series in a volume published by the Geological Survey, under his name, entitled *Records of the School of Mines*

*and of Science Applied to the Arts*, Vol. I Pt IV. In the same year, a Treasury Committee, enquiring into the working of the Geological Survey and Museum, reported favourably on the activities of the Mining Record Office and recommended that its activities should be placed on a more regular footing. This signalled the start of the regular collection and publication of a widening range of data on mineral extraction and related manufacturing and transportation.

The first of this annual series, for 1853, appeared in 1855 and was published under the title *Memoirs of the Geological Survey of Great Britain and of the Museum of Practical Geology: Mining Records: The Mineral Statistics of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland*. This continued the production data of lead and copper, from 1845, as an unbroken run. Thereafter, until 1882, the series was published by the Geological Survey in the autumn of the year following the recorded year. Robert Hunt retired after the preparation of the 1881 volume and the collection of a considerably extended range of data was rationalised. This was done by transferring the Mining Record Office from the Museum of Practical Geology to the Home Office, where the Mines Inspectors, established by the Coal Mine Inspection Act of 1850, had, for many years, been publishing similar output data in their annual reports.

In particular, the Coal and Metalliferous Regulation Act of 1872 required all active mines in the country to furnish the Mines Inspectorate with details of their output and employment and it was thought wasteful to continue the duplication of returns and computations by the Mining Record Office. Hunt's staff prepared the first of the new series, following the established format, which appeared in 1884 under the title *The Mining and Mineral Statistics of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland for 1882*. Unlike earlier versions, however, it appeared as a Parliamentary Paper. In the next year, the title became *Summaries of Her Majesty's Inspectors of Mines Reports to Her Majesty's Secretary of State, and the Mineral Statistics of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, including Lists of Mines and Mineral Works*. From 1884 to 1887, they appeared annually as *The Mineral and Mining Statistics of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, including Lists of Mines and Mineral Worked*. During these years, the volumes included returns of a) the quantity and value of all minerals wrought; b) the numbers of people employed in and about the mines and open works; c) the number of fatal accidents in the mines; d) a list of the mine owners, managers and agents; e) a list of the recorded plans of abandoned mines that had been deposited at the Home Office; f) an appendix showing the production of minerals in the British Colonies and Possessions.

From 1888 to 1896 the returns appeared as *The Mining Statistics of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland with the Isle of Man*, a change which was associated with important changes in content. The details of accidents in the mines, previously held over from the early annual reports of the Inspectors of Mines, were published separately, as was the *List of Mines*, a regular appendix of the names of the

mine owners, agents, managers and the numbers employed, which had been included at the back of The Mineral Statistics since 1853 for coal mines, 1859 for most metalliferous mines and 1863 for ironstone mines.

In 1897, the annual returns became the *Mines and Quarries: General Report and Statistics*. Their content was changed to the format they kept until the First World War, being split into four sections with Part III giving details of output. The latter was subtitled *General Report and Statistics Relating to the Output and Value of the Mineral Raised in the United Kingdom, the Amount and Value of the Metals Produced and the Exports and Imports of Minerals*.

It is notable that until 1897 the ‘Clerks of the Mineral Statistics’, responsible for preparing the publications, were still largely the same men that had worked with Robert Hunt from the earliest days of the Mining Record Office. This continuity contributed to an unparalleled wealth of experience in collecting and editing the material. Following Hunt’s retirement in 1882, the new Home Office department had been jointly run by Richard Meade and James B. Jordan. Meade was appointed by Hunt in 1841 and he was joined by Jordan in 1858. Meade retired from the Home Office in 1889 and Jordan continued until 1897, thereby consolidating more than half a century’s data gathering under three close associates.

Publication of the annual *List of Mines* continued, with breaks in 1939, 46, 47 and 49, until 1950, when it was discontinued. The output of individual mines was not given from 1914 to 1919 but was resumed between 1920 and 1938.

Reliable data sets are more difficult to find after 1950. Nevertheless, the Cleveland ironstone mines were listed in the *Guide to the Coalfields*, an annual publication by the *Colliery Guardian*. After 1960, the Mines Inspectorate also published a *List of Miscellaneous Mines in Great Britain*, which gives details of ownership, location and type of mineral worked. More recently, the British Geological Survey has produced a similar list, thereby resuming the task it relinquished around one hundred years before.

As might be expected, various libraries hold incomplete runs of the *List of Mines* and the *Guide to the Coalfields* etc, but the British Geological Survey Library, at Keyworth, probably has the most complete set, plus a wide range of general statistical data.

## II

### Yorkshire Mineral Production

This volume focuses on the record of metalliferous mining – not because it was Yorkshire’s most important extractive industry, but because it was the sector recorded in greatest and most regular detail. It was the only form of mining for which detailed mine-by-mine returns are available in long and continuous series. Coal returns were only ever published in round totals for the county and never included the same range of detail as those for metals. Similarly, the returns for stone quarrying (mainly limestone, sandstone, flagstone and aggregates) and evaporite production (such as gypsum, potash and rock salt) generally only appeared as county totals, though mine-by-mine breakdowns can be found for some short sub-periods. These have not been included here, however.

The regular collection and publication of *official* metalliferous mining data started in 1845 with series for **lead**, with details of its **silver** content (estimated by assay rather than commercial refining) being added in 1851. These were joined in the now annual *Mineral Statistics of the United Kingdom*, by **copper** in 1848, though it is difficult to separate out the Yorkshire data until 1854. Returns for **zinc**, **barytes** and **fluorspar** began in 1854, but it is unlikely that they were comprehensive before the 1870s. **Iron** production was first recorded in 1855, but many producers, especially those in the West Riding, refused the Mining Record Office permission to publish their detailed returns. As a result, the only mine-by-mine returns published for Yorkshire were those voluntarily provided by companies in the Cleveland district between 1858 and 1881. From 1872, however, the publication of output data for individual mines in the coal measures was expressly forbidden by the Coal Mines Regulation Act. Details of production from Cleveland ironstone mines, which worked stratified deposits and came under the latter Act, disappeared after the reorganisation of the publication of the *Mineral Statistics* in 1881.

The relative scale of output of the different minerals produced in Yorkshire, and their share of national production, is shown in Table 1. **Ironstone** was clearly the most important both by volume and by value and it employed more capital and labour than the other metals combined. With a remarkably steady level of output of between five and six million tons annually from the 1870s - see Table 2 - the county total for the period 1855-1914 fell a little short of 300 million tons and comprised more than a third of total national production. Nearly all this output was derived from the Cleveland district, where ironstone mining had a long history, but developed rapidly after a successful trial of the Main Seam at Eston in 1850. The total production of the West Riding was a comparatively insignificant 12 million tons, most of which was mined before 1880. Within the Cleveland field, a major part of the total output was controlled by a handful of large producers. During the period 1858 to 1881, just

three companies, Pease & Co., Bolckow, Vaughan Co. and Bell Brothers, were responsible for around two-thirds of the district's production.

Even in 1880, when the orefield was fully developed, seven mines producing over a quarter of a million tons annually accounted for nearly 63 per cent of the total output, with the remainder coming from 37 smaller producers.

The output of Cleveland's mines and the numbers employed in them rose steadily between 1895 and 1914 but, at the same time, overall productivity fell by 25-30 per cent from about 850 tons per man year to 600 tons per man year. This was an inevitable consequence of the increased haulage distances, for ore and materials, as the maturing mines became more extensive. Moreover, as workings reached lease boundaries, production was also shifting to pillar extraction. To counter these effects, some mines introduced new technology, but, whilst they may have seen improvements, it was insufficient to reverse the decline.

The industry contracted at the outbreak of World War I, as mines closed or were merged, and the number of underground employees fell sharply and never recovered. The average annual output, which in the six years before the war was a little under six million tons, fell to 2.3 millions by the early 1920s. This process continued in the latter decade, when Dorman, Long & Co Ltd took over the mines of Bell Brothers Ltd (1923) and Bolckow, Vaughan & Co Ltd (1929). Other companies went out of business and by 1929 the industry was largely in the hands of two firms, Pease and Partners Ltd and Dorman, Long, the latter being the larger. This led to further rationalisation and the workforce shrank by a further 40 per cent. Nevertheless, output per man year was held at around 600 tons between 1922 and 1939, when some 31.3 million tons of ironstone were produced.

At the end of World War II, the industry had eight mines and the numbers employed had risen slightly. During the 1950s, mechanised loaders and diesel locomotives, for haulage, were introduced and new work systems adopted. Nevertheless, the mines could not compete with supplies of cheaper, higher quality, foreign ores and the last mine, North Skelton, closed in 1964.

**Lead** ore was the most important non-ferrous mineral produced in Yorkshire and its mining also has a long history. The principal areas of production, Swaledale, Arkengarthdale, Wensleydale and the Greenhow mining field, were established by the mediæval period. Although Wharfedale and Airedale also had earlier mines, they grew in prominence later. Production came mostly from fairly small mines until the late 18<sup>th</sup> century, when larger, more intensively capitalised mines, began to appear.

It is likely that for much of the early modern period Yorkshire's output was surpassed by, at least, Derbyshire, Durham, Cumberland and the Mendip. Precise comparisons

are impossible, however, because county based tables are not available before 1845. Nevertheless, there is enough data to show that in 1750 Yorkshire's output was in the range of 1500-2000 tons of pig lead. John Taylor (*Records of Mining* Pt.1, 1829) estimated that in 1828 Yorkshire produced around 4700 tons of pig lead and had overtaken Derbyshire. Taylor's total was optimistic, however, and a likely figure was 500-1000 tons lower. Between 1845 and 1913, some 328,657 tons of lead ore were mined, which accounted for 7½ per cent of the total U.K. output. Even at its peak, in the late 1850s, Yorkshire was responsible for only around one-tenth of U.K. production, reaching a peak of 12.8 per cent in 1857 when 12,406 tons were mined. Most of this came from mines in Arkengarthdale and the north side of Swaledale and when these passed their best, the county's output declined. As shown in Table 5, this process began in 1870 and, in common with other U.K. lead producing districts, accelerated in the 1880s and 1890s.

By the eve of the First World War, the Yorkshire lead industry was practically dead and only survived as an adjunct to barytes and fluorspar working (Tables 9, 12 & 13). However, some small amounts of ore are still occasionally produced during limestone quarrying at Swinden and Coldstones.

Although Yorkshire's lead ores contained some **silver**, it was generally too little to repay the cost of separating it. With cupellation, the lower limit for the economic desilverisation of lead was around 8oz per ton and, after 1833, this was reduced to between 2 and 3 oz per ton with Pattinsonisation. In the late 16<sup>th</sup> and early 17<sup>th</sup> centuries, the Rimington and Brunghill Moor mines were claimed to be rich in silver, but the production of neither mine was sustained. Hunt's returns, which are supported by available assays, show that the silver content per ton of lead at the following mines was: Grassington 4½ oz; Old Gang 2½ oz; Arkengarthdale 2 oz and Appletreewick 1¾ oz per ton, all of them near the limit for economic extraction. Nevertheless, ore from the Braithwaite mine, in Wensleydale, assayed at around 7 oz per ton and was reputedly sent to Bollilhope for smelting and, presumably, de-silvering. The New Rake at Grassington produced 611½ ounces of silver in 1860, but that was the only recorded silver from those mines. With these few exceptions, therefore, the county's mines were not silver producers and it is clear that even the less than half a per cent contribution to national output, suggested by Table 7, is far too generous. For these reasons, the expression 'silver producer', which was liberally scattered throughout Hunt's statistics, has been deleted from all but those mines known to have produced some silver.

Some mines supplemented dwindling receipts from lead ore by switching to the production of other minerals. **Zinc** ore (blende) is scarce in Yorkshire, but some was worked at Apedale, Elbolton and Skelhorn between 1872 and 1883. In the 18<sup>th</sup> century calamine, for the brass industry, was sought in various part of the Dales. Some was mined at Swinden and Cobscar, but the largest deposit, which filled caverns, was

worked at Malham in the early 19<sup>th</sup> century. Small **copper** deposits were worked around Malham, Feldom, East Layton and Middleton Tyas in the 18<sup>th</sup> century. Copper was also worked at Merrybent in the 1860s and early 1870s, Kneeton in the 1890s and Billybanks from 1905 to 1912. The Merrybent mine reopened in 1910 and worked lead and copper ores until it closed in 1925. The total output of these mines, between 1863 and 1913, was 2588 tons of copper ore, but prices were depressed. A deposit of manganese was examined, but not worked, at Grassington in 1818.

**Fluorspar** from Gill Heads was bought for use as a flux at Grassington Cupola smelt mill in 1838 and a little was produced from Raygill barytes mine in the late 1870s. It became important after 1913 when the principal sources were the liberties of Appletreewick and Bewerley in the Greenhow mining field. Fluorspar has also been recovered from dumps at Wet Grooves, in Wensleydale, and in Arkengarthdale. Production from dumps and old lead workings tended to be small-scale and migrated across the area being worked, suggesting that few new reserves were found to replace those that were easily won. Yorkshire has never had the large, mechanised fluorspar mines found in Derbyshire and Durham and, with the exception of Dry Gill, most fluorspar has been produced by small groups of men since the mid 1930s.

**Barytes** was the most important secondary product. Nevertheless, its relatively low price meant that many mines with significant reserves could not exploit them profitably because working and transport costs were too high. Other deposits were often iron-stained. Small amounts of barytes were produced in the 1850s and early 1860s, but larger-scale working began in the 1870s. By the late 1880s county production, derived mainly from Lunehead and Raygill mines, with some from Rimington, was averaging over 3000 tons annually and accounted for around one-sixth of total UK output. Raygill was exhausted by 1900 and, except for two brief periods when the Glusburn mine was worked, Lunehead was left as the major producer. The latter, which also produced some lead, closed in 1938, but was reworked intermittently until the 1970s. During the 1940s, a new mine, Closehouse, also in Lunedale, took over as Yorkshire's main producer of barytes. In 1974, however, it became part of County Durham and closed during the 1990s. Between 1913 and 1990 barytes was recovered from dumps and shallow workings at Appletreewick, Cononley, Glusburn, Grassington, Old Gang and Arkengarthdale.

**Coal** was worked extensively throughout Yorkshire and has been by far its most important mineral product. The Coal Measures outcrop along the eastern edge of the Pennines, from Sheffield to Leeds, and have been worked for hundreds of years. The coal seams vary in thickness from almost nothing to 14 feet, with most falling between two and six feet. They generally dip eastwards and are covered by younger Permian and Triassic rocks to the east of a line approximating to that of the A1 road. Along that margin, thin coal seams were often associated with beds of fireclay, ganister or sideritic clayband and blackband ironstone, which combined to make their working

viable. This led to an early iron industry as well as brickworks, pipeworks and refractory-ware works, as well as supporting rapid industrial growth from the 18<sup>th</sup> century onwards.

Apart from the Coal Measures, seams of poor quality coal were found in the Yoredale and Millstone Grit series in the Pennines and were worked extensively until the 1930s. Their output, which has never been quantified, was principally for local domestic use and lime burning.

The majority of the exposed coalfield, ie to the west of the A1, was developed by the end of the 19<sup>th</sup> century, whilst the deeper, concealed coalfield was developed in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century. Output from these mines peaked in the 1920s and averaged around 39 million tons annually until 1945, which was around 17 per cent of national output. After nationalisation, output steadily declined as mines closed or were merged, but productivity was increased through greater use of mechanisation. The National Coal Board sank a few new mines, such as Kellingley which began production in 1965, then in the 1970s it began to develop the virgin Selby coalfield. This involved sinking five mines, with ten shafts, and driving some 124 miles of roadways at a cost of about £1.3 billion. The output from each mine was brought to the surface at Gascoigne Wood for despatch to power stations.

A combination of Government policy, growing imports of coal in the 1980s and the increased use of gas by electricity generators in the 1990s led to the closure of many of Yorkshire's mines immediately prior to the industry's privatisation in 1993. This retrenchment has continued, with the Prince of Wales Colliery, at Pontefract, closing on August 30th 2002 and the whole Selby complex being scheduled for closure by 2004.

None of the above activity, which dwarfed that of lead mining many times over, is covered by this volume. A similar study covering Yorkshire's coal industry would be a major undertaking, with over 500 mines in the 1870s dwindling to seven in 2002. It would, however, be a significant addition to our knowledge.

Other extractive industries which do not feature here are stone quarrying and evaporite production. Yorkshire has been a major producer of **limestone**, **sandstone**, **flagstone** and **aggregates** for all purposes. **Gypsum** was formerly mined at Sherburn in Elmet near Leeds, and Boulby Mine, sunk on the site of an earlier ironstone mine, began work in 1973 and is still producing **potash** and **rock salt**. **Jet** and **alum** shale were also worked near Whitby.

### III

#### The Mine Tables

The mine-by-mine returns reproduced in the following tables are those that appeared in the *Mineral Statistics* 1845 to 1913, its accompanying *List of Mines*, and the *List of Miscellaneous Mines*. They have been supplemented with miscellaneous additional material derived from mine accounts, smelting ledgers, and the *Colliery Yearbook*. The mine names are normally as they appear in the original returns, but editorial judgement has been used to ensure the proper allocation of data amongst sites. Where possible, location has been accurately specified by changing the original entry to the appropriate civil parish and adding Ordnance Survey National Grid references.

Four principal categories of information are listed for each mine, where available. **Production** data is given separately for each mineral and differs slightly between them. The absence of figures does not necessarily mean that the mine was not producing, because for some years its output might be subsumed in some other aggregate figures. See the *Comment* column for such details. In the earlier edition of the *Yorkshire Mineral Statistics*, the returns for iron were sometimes accompanied with the letters AC, to denote argillaceous carbonate ore. This is a redundant term for the Cleveland ironstone (which is an oolitic, chamositic, siderite mudstone) and has been deleted from this edition. The notation (P), to be found in the Merrybent mine copper returns, indicates that the data was derived from details of ‘private contracts’ with the smelters, rather than the more usual ‘ticketing’ auctions, of the type held in Cornwall or Swansea. Mine **Ownership and Management** returns are mainly drawn from the *List of Mines*, first published in 1859 for all non-ferrous workings and 1863 for non-coal measures iron mines. Although not entirely accurate, these returns give a guide to a mine’s years of operation, as they purported to include the names and addresses of the owners and agents of all mines being worked that year. Careful examination of the earlier *Lists*, however, reveals periodic purges, when unusually large numbers of mines were removed. This suggests that the list was not edited for every annual edition. In a major change from the earlier edition of the *Yorkshire Mineral Statistics* the headings for Ownership and Management have been replaced by a new ones for **Mineral Lord**, as the owner of the minerals; **Worked by**, the company or individual working the mine; **Agent**, the manager or under-manager; **Secretary**, company secretary; and **Barmaster**, for customary liberties like Buckden, Conistone, Grassington, Hebden and Kettlewell. Because the volume covers a period of around 500 years, the title of the person responsible for running a mine varies from, for example, Agent, to Manager, Steward or Surveyor. For simplicity, therefore, the general term Agent, sometimes qualified by an entry in parentheses, has been used. The **Employment** returns were also drawn from the *List of Mines* and provide a useful check as to whether a mine was operational and also its likely level of production if this is not otherwise available. The original decision

to publish the detailed employment returns was left to the local Mines Inspector and some did not provide them until the end of the century. There is data for non-ferrous mines in Yorkshire, however, from 1877 to 1881 and from 1898 to 1950. The same detail for ironstone mines begins in 1894. Some employment statistics have been added from the evidence given to the Kinnaird Commission in 1862-3 and a few others from census returns. Together, all these series provide a simple and comprehensive view of where, when and what metallic and related minerals were being produced in Yorkshire and by whom.

**TABLE 1**

The production of metalliferous and principal related minerals in Yorkshire and their percentage share of total U.K. production 1850 to 1910.

	1850	1860	1870	1880	1890	1900	1910
Iron	-	1,727,019	4,380,605	6,773,353	5,695,006	5,550,667	6,205,825
%UK Prod	-	21.5	30.2	37.6	41.3	39.6	40.8
Lead	8,706	10,666	6,594	6,974	1,683	885	197
%UK Prod	9.4	12.0	6.7	9.6	3.7	2.8	0.7
Silver	-	3,387	620	7,105	-	-	49
%UK Prod	-	0.6	0.07	2.4	-	-	0.03
Zinc	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
%UK Prod	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Fluorspar	-	-	-	84	-	-	-
%UK Prod	-	-	-	?	-	-	-
Barytes	-	1,750	-	2,739	1,572	2,332	1,882
%UK Prod	-	13.2	-	15.7	6.2	7.9	4.2
Copper	-	-	80	-	-	-	76
%UK Prod	-	-	0.07	-	-	-	1.82

Production is in tons of ore, except for Silver which is ounces of metal.  
No zinc production for these particular years.

**TABLE 2**

Yorkshire ironstone production and its share of total U.K. output 1855-1914

Year	U.K. Total	N. Riding	E.& W.Ridings	Quarries	Total	% of U.K.
1855	9,553,741	970,300	255,000	-	1,225,300	12.83
1856	10,483,309	1,197,417	242,100	-	1,439,517	15.07
1857	9,372,781	1,414,155	207,500	-	1,621,655	17.30
1858	8,040,959	1,367,395	189,750	-	1,557,145	19.37
1859	7,876,582	1,520,343	175,000	-	1,695,343	21.52
1860	8,035,306	1,471,319	255,700	-	1,727,019	21.49
1861	7,215,518	1,130,761	235,500	-	1,366,261	18.94
1862	7,562,240	1,690,097	350,500	-	2,040,597	26.67
1863	8,613,951	2,078,806	475,000	-	2,553,806	29.65
1864	10,064,891	2,401,891	555,000	-	2,956,891	29.38
1865	9,910,046	2,762,359	575,000	-	3,337,359	33.68
1866	9,665,013	2,809,061	357,000	-	3,166,061	32.76
1867	10,021,058	2,739,039	579,000	-	3,318,039	33.11
1868	10,169,231	2,785,307	785,628	-	3,570,935	35.12
1869	11,508,526	3,094,678	230,905	-	3,325,583	28.90
1870	14,496,427	4,072,888	307,717	-	4,380,605	30.22
1871	16,470,010	4,581,901	407,997	-	4,989,898	30.30
1872	15,755,675	4,974,950	466,305	-	5,441,255	34.54
1873	15,583,669	5,617,014	407,388	-	6,024,402	38.66
1874	14,844,936	5,614,323	370,960	-	5,985,283	40.32
1875	15,821,060	6,121,794	353,582	-	6,475,376	40.93
1876	16,841,584	6,562,000	381,463	-	6,943,463	41.23
1877	16,692,802	6,284,545	402,746	-	6,687,291	40.06
1878	15,726,370	5,605,640	370,405	-	5,976,045	38.00
1879	14,379,735	4,750,000	321,789	-	5,071,789	35.27
1880	18,026,050	6,486,655	286,698	-	6,773,353	37.58
1881	17,446,065	6,538,471	320,981	-	6,859,452	39.32
1882	18,031,957	6,326,314	175,681	-	6,501,995	36.06
1883	17,383,046	6,756,055	170,832	-	6,926,887	39.85
1884	16,137,887	6,052,608	67,812	-	6,120,420	37.93
1885	15,417,982	5,932,244	126,596	-	6,058,840	39.30
1886	14,110,013	5,370,279	92,285	-	5,462,564	38.71
1887	13,098,041	4,980,421	81,868	-	5,062,289	38.65
1888	14,590,713	5,395,942	67,148	-	5,463,090	37.44

**TABLE 2 (continued)**

Yorkshire ironstone production and its share of total U.K. output 1855-1914

Year	U.K. Total	N. Riding	E.& W.Ridings	Quarries	Total	% of U.K.
1889	14,546,105	5,657,118	71,196	-	5,728,314	39.38
1890	13,780,767	5,617,573	77,433	-	5,695,006	41.33
1891	12,777,689	5,128,303	78,019	-	5,206,322	40.75
1892	11,312,675	3,411,400	81,816	-	3,493,216	30.88
1893	11,203,476	4,625,520	87,758	-	4,713,278	42.07
1894	12,367,308	5,048,956	67,191	-	5,116,147	41.37
1895	12,615,414	5,285,617	45,538	100	5,331,255	42.26
1896	13,700,764	5,678,368	56,474	50	5,734,892	41.86
1897	13,787,878	5,679,153	50,821	99	5,730,073	41.56
1898	14,176,936	5,730,413	54,696	479	5,785,588	40.81
1899	14,461,330	5,612,742	59,136	288	5,672,166	39.22
1900	14,028,208	5,493,733	56,688	256	5,550,677	39.57
1901	12,275,198	5,100,823	49,609	224	5,150,656	41.96
1902	13,426,004	5,402,164	41,688	5,494	5,449,346	40.59
1903	13,715,645	5,677,560	46,375	9,264	5,733,199	41.80
1904	13,774,282	5,727,696	38,903	8,089	5,774,688	41.92
1905	14,590,703	5,944,491	45,050	10,208	5,999,749	41.12
1906	15,500,406	6,113,426	49,454	11,203	6,174,083	39.83
1907	15,731,604	6,240,369	48,875	9,382	6,298,626	40.04
1908	15,031,025	6,081,329	44,404	8,396	6,134,129	40.81
1909	14,979,979	6,191,632	42,957	8,614	6,243,203	41.68
1910	15,226,015	6,160,241	38,170	7,418	6,205,825	40.76
1911	15,519,424	6,050,265	36,099	46,308	6,132,672	39.52
1912	13,790,391	5,158,860	31,831	40,673	5,231,364	37.93
1913	15,997,328	6,011,390	28,269	70,425	6,110,084	38.19
1914	14,867,582	5,654,287	24,229	79,499	5,758,015	38.73
Total	801,870,554	281,940,401	12,001,515	316,469	294,258,385	36.70

- Notes**
- a) North Riding includes the Cleveland orefield.
  - b) The appearance of quarried ore in 1895 does not mean that no ore was quarried before this, but simply that it was not separated until the Quarries Act of 1894.

# *Tables of Mine Production, Ownership, Management and Employment*

**Please note:-**

1. All dates prior to 1752 have been adjusted to begin on January 1st.
2. The traditional term 'ore' has been used throughout instead of concentrate.
3. In the tables for lead either from Grassington or "Smelted at Grassington", the figures for metallic lead up to, and including, 1849 are in smelt mill weight (i.e. 2460 lbs/ton). Thereafter, they are in tons of 2240 lbs. All figures for ore are in tons of 2240 lbs.

**AD MINES**

Production:

	Healaugh Ore(tons)	Lead (tons)	NY961017 Value (£)
1684	305.60	177.19	
1696		661.80	
1697		490.02	
1699		103.23	
1700		462.18	
1701		168.69	
1736	250.50	193.72	
1750	582.30	440.01	
1751	1124.30	778.74	
1752	1246.30	881.78	
1753	616.50	413.95	
1755	901.50	736.54	
1756	861.00	621.28	
1786		632.00	
1787		689.00	
1788		469.00	
1789		544.00	
1790		706.00	
1791		839.00	
1792		1183.00	
1793		1100.00	
1794		915.00	
1796		1306.00	
1797		1407.00	
1798		1136.00	
1799		1079.00	
1800		1343.00	
1801		3252.00	
1802		2320.00	
1803		1393.00	
1804		1596.00	
1805		736.36	
1806		1510.82	
1807		1468.26	
1808		1142.14	
1809		1196.59	
1810		1196.59	
1811		870.89	
1812		389.42	
1813		601.83	
1814		339.86	
1815		240.66	
1816		575.34	
1817		1600.05	
1818		1834.02	

1819	1935.30
1820	2144.50
1821	1903.05
1822	1281.22
1823	1452.19
1824	1053.39
1825	1765.84
1826	2724.53
1827	1650.84
1828	1544.11
1829	1606.10
1830	1254.42
1831	1081.00
1832	1262.09
1833	1200.93
1834	1196.30
1835	1418.56
1836	1700.81
1837	1818.54
1838	1542.28
1839	2267.80
1840	3064.91
1841	2465.91
1842	2716.76
1843	3124.27
1844	2144.41
1845	2016.68
1846	1997.49
1847	1499.04
1848	1492.71
1849	1639.94
1850	1741.00
1851	1639.00
1852	1779.00
1853	1499.00
1854	1591.00
1855	1673.00
1856	3016.00
1857	2838.00
1858	2619.00
1859	1811.00
1860	1660.00
1861	1430.00
1862	1348.00
1863	1149.00
1864	1031.00
1865	1054.00

	1866	1338.00
	1867	2205.00
Comment:	1684	Data from NYCRO R/Q/R9/338
	1696-1699	Data from JLB MSS
	1736-1756	Data from PRO C114/145
	1786-1804	Data from Jennings Thesis
	1805-1816	Data from NYCRO ZLB 2/11
	1805-1816	Based on pieces weighing 158.601 Lbs
	1817-1849	Data from NYCRO ZLB 2/134
	1850-1867	Data from Jennings Thesis
	1684	December 1683 to July 1684
	1696	February to December 1696
	1699	September missing
	1700	December 1699 to September 1700
	1701	December 1700 to March 1701
	1364-1756	Smelted at High & Low Mills, Mill Gill
	1736	December 1735 to May 1736
	1750	June 1750 to December 1750
	1751	December 1750 to December 1751
	1752	December 1751 to December 1752
	1753	December 1752 to June 1753
	1755	June 1755 to December 1755
	1756	December 1755 to June 1756
	1750-1756	Inc. duty ore from: Spout Gill, Keldside
	1750-1756	Inc. duty ore from: Glovergill
	1801-1870	See Lane End, Keldside & Littlemoor
	1804-1912	See Swinnergill
	1806-1905	See Blakethwaite
	1811-1989	See Old Gang
	1818-1912	See Surrender
Mineral Lord:	-1548	Alice Staveley (1/4 share)
	1501-1561	Joan Neville (1/4 share)
	1548-1588	Edward Mollineux (1/4 share)
	1561-1588	John Mollineux (1/4 share)
	1588-1621	John Mollineux (1/2 share)
	1621-1635	Thomas Vachell (1/2 share)
	1515-1537	Francis Bigod (1/2 share)
	1537-1544	The Crown (Bigod's 1/2 share)
	1544-1568	Thomas Wharton (1st Lord) (1/2 share)
	1568-1572	Thomas Wharton (2nd Lord) (1/2 share)
	1572-1629	Philip Wharton (3rd Lord) (1/2 share)
	1629-1635	Philip Wharton (4th Lord) (1/2 share)
	1635-1696	Philip Wharton (4th Lord) (All shares)
	1696-1715	Thomas Wharton (5th Lord)
	1715-1722	Philip Duke of Wharton
	1722-1756	Trustees of the Duke of Wharton
	1764-1785	George Fermor (2nd Earl of Pomfret)



<b>AILES BURY</b>	Whorlton	NZ494008
Production:	Iron Ore(tons)	Value (£)
	1872 No detailed return	
	1873 87968.00	26390.40
	1874 94829.00	28448.70
	1875 89174.00	
	1876 76546.00	
	1877 63918.00	
	1878 59150.00	
	1879 45446.40	
	1880 66042.00	
	1881 60910.00	
	1882-1887 No detailed returns	
Comment:	1887 Abandoned April	
Mineral Lord:	1872-1887 Marquis of Ailesbury	
Worked by:	1872-1875 North of England Ind. Iron & Coal Co.	
	1876 North of England Ind. Iron & Coal Co. Ltd	
	1877-1887 Carlton Iron Co. Ltd	
Secretary:	1873-1875 H. Jackson	
	1876-1885 Robert Bell	
Employment:	Underground Surface Total	
	1883 - - 39	

<b>AITHWAITE END</b>	Carperby Cum Thoresby	SD982903
Production:	Lead Ore(tons) Lead (tons)	Value (£)
	1864 4.00 2.40	
	1865-1867 No detailed returns	
Comment:	1868-1876 Suspended	
Mineral Lord:	1862-1876 Lightfoot's Devises	
Worked by:	1862-1867 Messrs Winn	
Employment:	Underground Surface Total	
	1862 11 - -	

<b>ANGLEZARKE LIBERTY</b>		SD631164
Production:	Lead Ore(tons) Lead (tons)	Value (£)
	1689-1830 No detailed returns	
Comment:	1781-1790 Witherite Producer	
Mineral Lord:	1689-1694 Sir Richard Standish	
	1721-1756 Sir Thomas Standish	
	1781-1812 Sir Frank Standish	
	1812-1841 Frank Hall Standish	
Worked by:	1689 Sir Richard Standish & Co.	
	1721-1732 Sir Henry Houghton	
	1781-1790 Sir Frank Standish	
	1824-1830 John Thompson & Co.	

## Index to personal names

### A

- Abedaille, George 210  
Ailesbury, Marquis of 44, 365  
Ainsly, James 54, 111, 347  
Airey, John 356  
Airey, Joseph 102, 319  
Airey, William 161  
Albermarle, Duke of 398  
Alcock, Mr 70, 79  
Alcock, William 77  
Aldersley, Edward 210  
Aldersley, James 210, 213, 217  
Aldersley, Robert 123, 217, 235  
Alderson, Christopher 56  
Alderson, Emerson 147, 200, 364  
Alderson, G. 155  
Alderson, George 52, 288  
Alderson, J. 267  
Alderson, James 52, 238, 239  
Alderson, John 195, 240  
Alderson, Richard 256  
Alderson, Stephen 232  
Alderson, William 394  
Alderton, Matthew 123  
Allen, Athole G. 111, 262  
Allison, Thomas 62, 344  
Alton, William 292  
Anderson, R.W. 336  
Anderson, W. 111, 220  
Anderson, William 140  
Apedale, Francis 211  
Appleby, Ambrose 52  
Appleby, John 76  
Armistead, Robert 78  
Armstrong, E.J. 269  
Armstrong, Edward 215  
Armstrong, William 202  
Arrowsmith, George 224  
Ash, Christopher 353  
Ashbrook, John 78  
Ashton, Emanuel 64  
Ashworth, John 304  
Askew, A.H. 57, 83, 175, 232, 315  
Atkinson, Thomas 103, 374  
Ayre, John 208
- ### B
- Bagnall, Charles 202, 211  
Bagnall, Thomas 202, 211  
Bagshaw, John 387  
Bagshaw, Mr 139, 141  
Bagshaw, Rev. William 281  
Bagshaw, William 173, 274  
Bailey, Jacob 73, 139, 173, 191, 274, 312, 329, 377  
Bainbridge, Robert W. 58, 262, 325  
Banson, Robert 393  
Barber, William 242  
Barker, Adam 155, 233, 358, 373, 393  
Barker, J. 200, 278, 358, 393  
Barker, John 188, 342, 387  
Barker, Mr 119  
Barker, Robert 43, 155, 233, 373  
Barningham, William 56  
Barran, Thomas 134  
Barras, John 101, 102  
Barratt, John 113, 114, 142, 161, 183, 314, 361, 371  
Barron, William 134, 215  
Batersby, J. 117  
Bathurst, Charles 51  
Bathurst, Frances 51, 52  
Bathurst Jnr, Charles 51, 52  
Bathurst, John 51, 52, 276, 396  
Bathurst, Theodore 51  
Bayne, Mr 200  
Baynes, R. 310  
Baynes, William 161  
Beadle, James 111  
Bean, Solomon 182  
Bell, Hugh 236  
Bell, J. 235  
Bell, James 142, 315, 381  
Bell Jnr., John 81  
Bell Jnr., Thoms 331  
Bell, John 86  
Bell, Richard 234, 352  
Bell, Robert 44, 102  
Bell, T. 331, 332  
Bell, Thomas 104, 111, 220, 258, 282, 331, 332  
Bell, William 89, 121, 134, 235, 379  
Bennett, John 353  
Bennett, Matthew 206, 353  
Benson, Thomas 66  
Berkley, P.A. 302  
Bernard, Thomas 55  
Berwick, John 394  
Bibey, Ruth 212  
Bigod, Francis 42  
Birch, Benjamin 212  
Birch, Daniel 212  
Birch, George 213, 214

Birch, J. 145  
 Birch, James 212  
 Birch, John 166  
 Birch, Joseph 203  
 Birch, Robert 212, 372, 374  
 Birch, Thomas 79  
 Birch, William 79, 212  
 Blackburn, A.W. 48  
 Blackburn, John 87, 226  
 Blackburne, Gyles 223  
 Blackburne, John 223  
 Blackburne, Robert 223  
 Blackett, W. 267  
 Blackow, John 213  
 Blenkiron, James 53, 294, 361  
 Boardman, Henry 224  
 Boddy, George 120  
 Bolland, Richard 123  
 Bolton, C.E. 387  
 Bolton, Charles E. 95  
 Bolton, Duke of 223  
 Bolton, Edward 95, 134, 402  
 Bolton, Lord 117, 230, 244, 373, 384, 389  
 Borlase, E.T. 133  
 Borlase, John 310  
 Boskill, John 324  
 Bouch, Henry 226  
 Bowden, Daniel 173, 215  
 Bowdin, Daniel 281  
 Bowes, Claude 262  
 Bowes, Fergus M.C. 262  
 Bowes, George 262  
 Bowes, John 262  
 Bowes, John (Lyon) 262  
 Bowes, Mary Eleanor 262  
 Bowes, Michael F. 262  
 Bowes, Patrick 262  
 Bowes, Richard 223  
 Bowes, Thomas 262  
 Bowes, Thomas George 262  
 Bowes, Timothy 262  
 Bowes, William 262  
 Bowman, John 219, 230, 389  
 Bowman, Thomas 56  
 Bownas, Robert 330  
 Bownass, Robert 70  
 Bracefield, Robert 211  
 Bradbury, David 394  
 Bradley, Christopher Lonsdale 224, 240,  
 267, 355, 366  
 Bradley, George 72, 183  
 Bradley, Thomas 75, 256, 369  
 Brailsford, Richard 211  
 Braithwaite, Mr 314  
 Braithwaite, Richard 175  
 Brammall, T.C. 60  
 Breakley, Robert 235  
 Breckenbury, Richard 223  
 Briggs, Joseph Garton 102, 351  
 Briscoe, William B. 56  
 Broadbent, N. 183, 215  
 Brooks, D.R. 344  
 Broughton, William 79  
 Brown, Addison 399  
 Brown, George 52  
 Brown, H. 247  
 Brown, J.C. 252  
 Brown, James 103, 130, 210, 345  
 Brown, John 129, 210, 215  
 Brown, Miss 292  
 Brown, Mr 77  
 Brown, Robert 215  
 Brown, Simon 356  
 Brown Simpson, J. 224  
 Brown, William 79, 206, 235, 338  
 Bruce, J. 302  
 Bruce, John 194  
 Bruff, H.J.L. 171  
 Bruff, Harald J.L. 227  
 Bryant, Arthur Charles 67  
 Buccleuch, Duchess of 55, 86  
 Buck, J.P. 262  
 Buck, Peter 373  
 Buck, William 89, 95, 134, 166, 268, 374  
 Bulmer, Bevis 90, 271, 370  
 Bulmer, Ralph 223  
 Burlington, Countess of 182  
 Burlington, Earl of 182, 210  
 Burnaby, T.F. 66  
 Burnaby, T.F.A. 66  
 Burnett, J. 385  
 Burrell, Benjamin 95  
 Burrell, William Henry 390  
 Burton, George A. 247, 315  
 Busfield, J. 133, 217  
 Busfield, Johnson Atkinson 300, 313  
 Butson, Thomas 56, 61, 240  
 Byers, Joshua 55

**C**  
 Cain, John 46, 267, 270, 322, 388  
 Calvert, Benjamin 282  
 Calvert, Christopher 239, 267, 276, 342  
 Calvert, George 232, 292  
 Calvert, James 232  
 Calvert, John 123, 139, 209, 385  
 Calvert, Lodge 271  
 Calvert, Robert 117

Calvert Snr, George 270  
 Calvert, Thomas 101, 323, 345, 358  
 Campbell Downes, C. 117  
 Carling, J.T. 159  
 Carlisle, Earl of 237  
 Carre, John 174  
 Carter, Joseph 53  
 Carter, Richard 292  
 Chalder, George 224  
 Chaloner, Admiral 63, 378, 386  
 Champion, Joseph Broad 268  
 Chapman Jnr, J. 104  
 Chapman, John 258  
 Chapman, William 349, 377  
 Charles Bathurst 52  
 Charles I, King 372  
 Charlesworth, A.H. 200  
 Charlesworth, J.C.D. 140, 200, 358, 393  
 Charlton, Appleton 270  
 Charlton, T. 87, 339  
 Charlton, Thomas 218  
 Charlton, William 339, 344  
 Chaytor, George 364  
 Chaytor, Hugh 315  
 Chaytor, William 117, 364, 394  
 Cherry, Edward 43, 75, 288, 328, 359, 365, 369  
 Cherry, Richard 364  
 Cherry, Simon 43, 75, 155, 288, 328, 359, 364, 365, 369  
 Chester, Thomas 203  
 Chippindale, Thomas 75  
 Chrishop, John 85  
 Clark, Mrs 67, 201, 211, 219  
 Clarke, Robert 75  
 Clarke, Thomas 203  
 Clarkson, James A. 61, 155, 288  
 Clarkson, James Alderson 155  
 Clarkson, Thomas 61  
 Clarkson, William 43  
 Clay, James Harold 49, 71, 95, 128, 133, 170, 175, 284  
 Clay, William 242  
 Cleaver, Edward 120, 121, 359, 361  
 Clement, J. 245, 331, 332, 336  
 Cleminson, William 324  
 Clifford, Ingram 49  
 Clifford, Lady Margaret 174  
 Close, James 43  
 Close, James W. 155, 215  
 Close, Leonard 200  
 Close, Mr 89  
 Close, Ralph 394  
 Clough, Owen 155  
 Clough, Ralph 236  
 Coates, C.N. 316, 318  
 Coates, George 117  
 Coates, James 153, 203  
 Coates, John 94  
 Coates, Richard 288  
 Coates, Thomas 52, 75, 288  
 Coates, Vincent 122  
 Coates, William 233  
 Coatesworth, Robert 224  
 Coats, Bridget 78  
 Coats, John 46  
 Coats, Jonas 78  
 Coats, Mr 79  
 Coats, William 64  
 Coatsworth, John 68, 263  
 Coatsworth, Jonathon 230  
 Cockburn, James 123  
 Cockburn, John 320  
 Cockburn, William 131, 218, 226, 245, 249, 337, 382  
 Cockson, John 124  
 Cockson, Thomas 124  
 Colling, Robert 394  
 Collison, Mathew 54  
 Constable, Frederick A.T.C. 323  
 Constantine, Henry 123, 124  
 Constantine, John 123, 124  
 Constantine, Jonathan 123  
 Constantine, Joseph 167, 214, 329, 377  
 Constantine, Robert 123  
 Constantine, Stephen 124  
 Constantine, William 166  
 Conway, R.C. 142  
 Conyers, Christopher 200, 306  
 Conyers, William 52, 200  
 Cook, J. 208  
 Cooke, Mr 349  
 Cookson, Faithfull 224  
 Cooper, W.S. 365, 369  
 Corrie, John 131, 332  
 Coulthard, T. 62  
 Cowburn, John 324  
 Cowie, John 251, 386  
 Cowling, Joseph 358  
 Cowling, Thomas 357  
 Coxon, W.B. 57, 245  
 Craddock, Anthony 293  
 Cradock Jnr, A. 195  
 Cradock, Joseph 46, 76, 244, 252, 326  
 Cradock Snr, A. 195  
 Cradock, Thomas 46  
 Cradock, Tobias 195  
 Craig, Joseph 53, 125, 233

Craig, William 206, 305, 351, 387  
Crombie, J. 336  
Crossley, Herb. 172  
Crown, The 42, 51, 55, 166, 200, 271,  
277, 370  
Cumberland, Earl of 182  
Cumberland, Henry Earl of 389  
Cunningham, Edward 79  
Cunningham, William 79  
Currer, Mr 79  
Cutherbertson, Robert 348

## D

Dack, J.C. 236  
Dalton, Thomas 47, 48  
Danby, Sir Abstrupus 122  
Darcy, Sir Arthur 66  
D'Arcy, Sir Arthur 48  
Darley, H. Brewster 316, 318  
Davidson, Thomas 230  
Davidson, William 373  
Davies, John 43, 288  
Davile, Thomas 394  
Davis, Benjamin 233  
Davis, Henry 159  
Davison, G. 292  
Dawson, E.P. 154  
Dawson, William 89  
Daykin, Elizabeth 64  
Daykin, Henry 183  
Daykin, James 123  
Daykin, Robert 155, 224  
Demaine, George 95  
Denton, Alexander 43  
Denys, Charlotte 43  
Denys, F.C.E. 43  
Denys, G.W. 43  
Denys, Sir Francis 364  
Denys, Sir George 75, 257, 328, 369  
Devonshire, Duke of 107, 109, 113, 114,  
128, 130, 161, 174,  
182, 210, 281, 293, 300, 314, 371, 401  
Dickinson, Thomas 79, 203  
Dinsdale, George 55  
Dixon, ? 318  
Dixon, D.W. 64, 87, 104, 220, 258  
Dorman, A. 149  
Dorman, A.T. 236  
Down, Michael 124  
Downes, Anthony 124  
Drake, Edwin 389  
Drax, Henry 147  
Drax, J.S.W.S.E. 147  
Drax, Miss 147

Drew, Edward J. 134  
Ducket, Richard 374  
Duckett, Christopher 103, 145  
Duckett, James 145  
Dunkin, Edwin 47, 215  
Dunn, ? 211  
Dunn, H.B. 202  
Dunn Snr, Alexander 212  
Dunn, Thomas 195, 203  
Dymond, Thomas 230

## E

Eato, T. 57, 315  
Eccles, Anthony 86  
Eckles, John 354  
Eddy, James Ray 128, 130, 146, 183  
Eddy, Stephen 85, 109, 113, 114, 128,  
183, 271, 352, 371  
Edmundson, Thomas 244  
Ellerton, Francis 139  
Ellis, William 367  
Elven, Joseph 319  
Elwes, Robert Cary 60, 149  
Emerson, John 195  
Etherington, Joseph 43  
Evans, T. 150  
Evans, Thomas 149, 172, 397

## F

Falshaw, Christopher 94, 353  
Falshaw, Richard 94, 182, 353  
Farley, George 146  
Farrow, B. 87  
Farrow, J. 87, 247  
Farrow, Robert Wilkinson 351  
Fawcett, John 224  
Fawcett, E.R. 54  
Fawcett, Mr 234, 353  
Fawcett, Thomas 238  
Fell, Robert 116, 300  
Fermor, George 42, 43, 288  
Fermor, T.W. 43  
Fermor-Hesketh, T. 43  
Fisher, Isaac 61  
Fishwick, R. 317  
Fletcher, George 183  
Forster, Jos. J. 318  
Foster, Charles 51, 52, 59, 81, 82, 87, 120,  
137, 144, 145, 148, 153,  
157, 171, 206, 207, 220, 225, 227, 231, 257,  
265, 270, 272, 276, 281, 283, 290, 306, 320,  
324, 338, 341, 354, 362, 370, 378, 379, 381,  
390, 391, 397, 398  
Foster, John 149, 397

Fothergill, Alexander 55  
Fowler, John 395  
Fox, Fran. 247  
France, William 131, 249, 394  
Frankland, Lady 78  
Frankland, Sir Thomas 78  
Frederick, Thomas 274  
Freeman, Mr 166  
Frost, Thomas 353  
Fryer, Abraham 168

## G

Garforth, Thomas 174  
Garforth, William 174  
Garnett, Edward 123  
Garth, Francis 393  
Garth, James 128, 144  
Garton, Thomas 91  
Gastill, George 188  
George, Sampson 200  
Gibson, Richard 234  
Gibson, William R. 274  
Gill, Francis 288  
Gill, George 140  
Gill, J. 171  
Gill, John 123, 128, 143, 364, 367  
Gilmartin, Ian 171  
Gilpin Brown, George 52  
Gilpin Brown, George Thomas 52  
Gilpin, John 52  
Gjers, John 265, 342  
Gladstone, A. 149  
Gladwin, George 224  
Gledhill, John 107, 402  
Gordon, John 172, 293  
Gorton, James 256  
Gorton, William 346  
Grace, W.G. 62, 108, 151, 383, 396  
Graham, Richard 310  
Grantham, Lord 55  
Gray, A. 336  
Gray, Abraham 81, 336  
Green, H. 133  
Greenhough, Josh. 202  
Greenhow, Mr 139  
Gregory, Ernest 128, 182  
Gresham, Sir Richard 66  
Gresham, Sir William 66  
Grime, James 61  
Ground, H. 87, 336  
Guy, George 54  
Guy, John 43

## H

Hadley, M. 63  
Halifax, Lord 216, 349  
Hall, Frederick 52, 288  
Hall, J. 365  
Hall, Mat. 331  
Hall, Mathew 334  
Hall, Messrs 117, 230  
Hall, R.N. 194  
Hall, Walter 99, 128, 174  
Hall, William 87  
Hallam, John 166  
Halliday, Edward 85  
Hamilton, E. 236, 336, 348  
Hammond, Francis 154  
Hammond, John 154, 274  
Hammond, R.T. 53  
Hanby, Mathias 56  
Hancock, John 210, 211  
Hancock, Richard 210  
Hancock, Robert 123, 350, 351  
Hann, Ed. 251  
Hansell, Robert 241  
Harbottle, John 104, 331, 332  
Hardcastle, H. 121  
Hardy, John 194  
Hargreaves, A. 48  
Hargreaves, Francis 93  
Harker, Anthony 88  
Harker, George 175, 385  
Harker, John 195, 238, 393  
Harker, Mr 121  
Harker, Simon 102  
Harker, Thomas 43, 53, 153, 247, 284, 323, 347  
Harland, J. 224  
Harland, John 224  
Harle, Joseph 317, 318  
Harns, John 85  
Harpur, M. 395  
Harries, James 174, 231, 345  
Harrison, C.W. 323  
Harrison, Christopher 206, 350  
Harrison, John 93, 350, 351  
Harrison, Joseph 206, 350, 351  
Harrison, Ralph 101  
Harrison, Robert 373  
Harrison, William 349, 350, 372  
Hartley, George 208  
Hartley, Leonard 61, 200, 208  
Hartley, Mr 82  
Hasleham, George 78, 97, 139, 274, 349  
Haswell, Joseph 168  
Hawley, John 203, 213, 215

Hawley, William 192, 215  
 Hebden, Robert 69  
 Hebden, Silvester 71  
 Hebden, Thomas 123, 233  
 Hedley, A.M. 62, 108, 151, 252, 336, 383, 396  
 Hedley, M. 108, 151, 236, 344  
 Heelis, Thomas 310  
 Heles, John 182  
 Herd, John 374  
 Herd, John Armitstead 215  
 Herey, Thomas 353  
 Hesleden, John 211  
 Hesletine, John 211, 235  
 Heslop, Christopher 57, 245, 378, 382  
 Heslop, George C. 57, 83, 245, 249, 382  
 Heslop, Joseph 215  
 Hewley, Lady 150  
 Hickes, Fowler 203  
 Hickman, W.I.E. 151  
 Hickman, W.J. 151  
 Higgs, Robert 54, 93  
 Hill, L. 104  
 Hill, William 215, 395  
 Hillary, John 224  
 Hillary, N. 343  
 Hillary, William 339  
 Hillery, James 350  
 Hillery, John 70, 93, 350  
 Hillery, Thomas 302  
 Hillery, William 350, 351  
 Hird, Wilfred J. 223  
 Hirst, G. 243  
 Hirst, Robert 330  
 Hoar, William 51, 52, 59, 81, 82, 87, 120, 137, 144, 145, 148, 153, 157, 171, 206, 207, 220, 225, 227, 231, 257, 265, 270, 272, 276, 281, 283, 290, 306, 320, 324, 338, 341, 354, 362, 370, 378, 379, 381, 390, 391, 397, 398  
 Hockells, Richard 87  
 Hodgson, James 70  
 Hodgson, John 117, 194, 302  
 Hodgson, Thomas 394  
 Holliday, J. 81  
 Holme, Mr 381  
 Holmes, John 372  
 Holmes, Mr 139, 209  
 Holmes, William 205, 272  
 Holt, Squire 98  
 Hopper, Anthony 369  
 Hopper, Jos. 399  
 Hopper, Thomas 121, 369  
 Hopper-Brown, Anthony 168

Horner, George 124  
 Horner, Jno 231  
 Horner, John 132, 268, 303, 355  
 Horner, Joseph 80  
 Horner, Luke 124  
 Horner, Thomas 145  
 Horsfall, John Donald 174  
 Houghton, Sir Henry 44  
 House, Jno. 336  
 Houston, William 60, 284  
 Howe, C.H.A. 245, 249  
 Howe, James 245  
 Hoyle, William 395  
 Hudson, James 166  
 Hudson, John 166  
 Hudson, Robert 123  
 Hudson, Thomas 170  
 Hudson, Widow 166  
 Hughes, Thomas 395  
 Hugill, James 235  
 Humphrey, Thomas 352  
 Hunter, J.G. 62  
 Hunter, Thomas 354  
 Hutchinson, George 364  
 Hutchinson, H. & J. 361  
 Hutchinson, Hanley 66  
 Hutchinson, Hilton 66  
 Hutchinson, J. 142  
 Hutchinson, Jeremiah 43  
 Hutchinson, Ralph 293  
 Hutchinson, T. 361  
 Hutchinson, T.H. 361  
 Hutchinson, Thomas 43  
 Hutton, John 154, 330, 373  
 Hutton, John Timothy Darcy 155, 330, 373  
 Hutton, Timothy 223

## I

Ibbotson, James 103, 145  
 Ibbotson, William 324  
 Ingilby, John 212  
 Ingilby, Sir John 58, 378  
 Ingleby, John 355

## J

Jackson, George 256  
 Jackson, H. 44, 64  
 Jackson, Mr 169  
 Jackson, Ward 282, 292  
 Jacques, William 232  
 Jaques, Richard Machell 288, 328  
 Jaques, Robert 52, 224, 288  
 Jaques, William 139, 211, 217  
 Jefferson, J. 315

Job, Thomas 215, 274  
Johnson, Anthony 230  
Johnson, Henry 134  
Jones, Edmund 53  
Jones, John 192  
Joseph Storr 215  
Joy, Christopher 353  
Joy, David 141  
Joy, Stephen 64, 78  
Joy, Thomas 69, 70  
Justice, Emanuel 87, 91  
Justice, Mr 219

## K

Kearsley, Oliver 208  
Kemp, Mr 262  
Kempson, Alfred 186  
Kendal, George 195  
Kendal, Joseph 320  
Kenyon, Roger 372  
Kidd, William 288  
Kilby, Thomas 141  
Kilvington, William 161  
Kingham, Arthur 65, 133, 169, 175, 227  
Kinnesley, Thomas 224  
Knighton, William 200  
Knowles, John 61

## L

Lamb, J.R. 200  
Lamb, James Kendrick 224  
Lambert, John 89, 138  
Lambert, Matthew 293  
Lambert, Michael 71  
Lane-Fox, George 310  
Lascelles, F.J.H. 247, 316, 317, 318  
Lascelles, George 398  
Lavery, Robert B. 75  
Lavington, William John 294, 361  
Lawson, Christopher 64, 89, 110, 113,  
173, 300, 313  
Lawson, John 219  
Lawson, Mr 85  
Lee, George 108, 235, 247  
Lee, John 208  
Lee, Ralph 235, 272  
Lee, Richard 77  
Lee, Thomas 108, 151, 334, 383  
Leeman, George 318  
Leggett, J. 343  
Leith, James 48  
Lelland, James 203  
Lewis, John 395  
Leyland, Henry 123

Leyland, John 124  
Leyland, Thomas 123  
L'Isle, Lord de 226  
Lister, J.A. 194  
Lister, Mr 205, 269  
Lister, Squire 264  
Lister, W. 224  
Littlefair, James 43  
Livesey, R.B. 254, 385  
Livesey, Robert Bell 116  
Lloyd, J.F. 202, 315  
Lobley, Robert 76  
Lodge, Bernard 93, 170, 302, 352, 353  
Lodge, Charles 93, 351  
Lodge, Ralph 70, 172, 293  
Logan, William 302  
Lonsdale, Norman 133  
Lonsdale, Richard 154, 254  
Lord St John, Charles 394  
Lorne, William 288  
Lotty, Robert 76  
Loves, John 75, 366  
Loves, Robert 75, 355, 366  
Lowick, James 269  
Lowther, Lord 138, 140  
Lowther, Sir Charles 150  
Loy, Dr 387  
Loyd, J.F. 149  
Lumley, Thomas 242  
Lupton, Emanuel 103  
Lupton, John 246, 303, 367  
Lupton, Thomas 215  
Lyell, Francis Horner 61

## M

Mackwell, George 217  
Malham, Henry de 174  
Mallory, John 52  
Mangham, George 123  
Mansell, Ernest 134, 183  
Mansfield, Lord 182  
March, James 224  
March, John 224  
Marley, John 150  
Marriott, Hugh 200  
Marriott, Reginald 200  
Marshall, Leonard 89, 101  
Marshall, Thomas 48, 93, 140, 367  
Marshall, William 73, 269, 282, 303, 305,  
356, 359  
Martin, Mr 100  
Martin, William 75, 153  
Marton, Rev. Dr 221, 354  
Mason Jnr, Joseph 183

Mason, John 124  
Mason, Jos. 142  
Mason, Joseph 146, 352, 353, 361  
Mason Snr, Joseph 94, 113, 183  
Mason, Thomas 55, 60  
Masser, Joseph Fallowfield 125, 327  
Mawer, John 172  
Maxfield, John 72  
Maxfield, William 239  
Mayes, T. 57  
Medcalf, Anthony 373  
Mellor, Samuel 224  
Metcalf, Captain 257, 369  
Metcalf, Christopher 52  
Metcalf, Edmund 292  
Metcalf, Henry 55  
Metcalf, James 52, 200  
Metcalf, John 43, 213  
Metcalf, R. 63  
Metcalf, Ralph 224  
Metcalf, Richard 61, 322  
Metcalf, Robert 54  
Metcalf, Thomas 55, 200  
Metcalf, William 357  
Middleton, G.W. 227  
Miller, G.A. 258  
Miller, George 267  
Millican, John J. 85, 323  
Milner, R. 346  
Milner, Ralph 60, 61, 168, 358, 393  
Mitton, John 117  
Mitton, Robert 349  
Mollineux, Edward 42  
Mollineux, John 42, 200  
Moore, Edmund 200  
Moore, Frances 200  
Moore, W. 104, 131, 249, 251, 331, 332  
Moore, William 382  
Moorhouse, Thomas 70, 123  
Moorhouse, William 308  
Morley, Francis 200, 223, 224  
Morley, James 166  
Morley, Josias 147  
Morley, Josias Readshaw 223  
Morley, Mr 89, 374  
Morrison, Mart. 316, 317, 318  
Mountgarret, Viscount 66  
Murgatroyd, Edward 128, 175, 182  
Murton, John 78  
Musgrove, John 239

## N

Natterass, Joseph 70  
Needham, George 166

Nelson, James 204  
Nelson, Thomas 79  
Neville, Joan 42  
Newbould, E. 156  
Newbould, John 128  
Newbould, Matthew 132, 134, 159, 303,  
356, 361, 402  
Newbould, Nathan 72, 110, 148, 168,  
192, 361  
Newbould, Richard 293  
Newbould, William 47, 132, 171, 356,  
361, 402  
Newhouse, Stephen 216  
Nicholls, George 346  
Nicholson, J. 159  
Nicholson, M. 159  
Norfolk, Duke of 52  
Normanby, Marquis of 302, 346  
Nowell, W.A. 192

## O

Oakley, D. 57, 315  
Orde, Rev. John 244  
Orde-Powlett, Thomas 229  
Orton, Reuben 224  
Overend, P.W. 110, 308, 359  
Overend, Peter Wilson 64, 121  
Ozell, John 200

## P

Paley, Christopher 210, 338  
Paley, Thomas 374  
Paley, William 338  
Palmer, A. 193, 302  
Palmer, Charles Mark 302  
Palmer, H. 62, 252, 334, 336  
Park, John 55  
Parke, John 61  
Parke, Ralph 61  
Parker, Edward 141  
Parker, John 318  
Parkin, C.E. 208  
Parkin, Charles 316, 318  
Parkin, James 379  
Parkin, John 316, 317, 318  
Parkin, Jos. 237  
Parmerley, Jonathan 64  
Parsable, Jno 204  
Partington, M.W. 336  
Pattinson, Joseph 123  
Pattinson, William 123, 210  
Paul, William 200  
Payne, J.F. 245  
Peacock, Edward 244

Peacock, George 213  
Peacock, James R. 76  
Peacock, Richard 155, 288  
Peacock, William 53  
Pearson, G.W. 245, 334  
Pearson, James 242  
Pearson, Louise M. 43  
Pearson, Robert 138  
Pearson, Thomas 319  
Peart, John 91  
Peart, Stephen 91, 94, 182, 353  
Peart, William 94, 182, 353  
Pease, F.H. 322  
Pease, Henry 321, 322, 337, 388  
Pease, J. 218, 245, 249, 378  
Pease, J.W. 226, 378, 394  
Pease, Jos. W. 378  
Pease, Jos.W. 218, 245, 249  
Pease, Joseph 121  
Pease, Joseph W. 131  
Pease, Joseph Whitwell 382  
Percival, James 373  
Petch, Mr 247  
Petyt, Sylvester 214  
Phillips, James 52  
Pickard, Bartley 211  
Pickard, John 211  
Pickering, Walter 53  
Pickersgill, George 94, 269  
Pickersgill, John 295  
Pickersgill, William 374  
Pickles, Richard 103  
Pickles, Robert 79, 89, 210  
Pickup, J.R. 54  
Place, David 188  
Place, John Ralph 75, 126, 238, 274, 305,  
327, 364, 366, 390  
Place, Ralph 125  
Place, Robert 126, 215, 271, 274, 390  
Place Snr, John 232  
Plews, James 117  
Pomfret, Lady 43  
Powlett, Charles 223, 229  
Powlett, Harry 229  
Powlett, Lord William 129  
Powlett, Messrs 132  
Powlett, William 223  
Powlett-Powlett, William 223  
Pratt, Anthony 43  
Pratt, J.S. 122  
Pratt, Thomas 300  
Pratt, William 270  
Press, Edward 95  
Preston, John 349

Price, Mr 212  
Proctor, Marmaduke 209, 267  
Proctor, Mr 217  
Proctor, Sir Stephen 66  
Pudsey, William 310  
Pullan, Samuel 171, 269, 397  
Pulleine, Henry 85  
Pulleine, James 85  
Pulleine, Wingate 56  
Pulleine, Winifred 56, 85  
Pulman, John 182  
Pulman, Mr 82  
Purchas, Benjamin 52, 86, 388

## Q

Quelch, W.B. 267

## R

Radcliffe, J. 288  
Radcliffe, J.F.E. 43  
Ragg, Jacob 110, 376  
Raisbeck, J. 398  
Raisbeck, Robert 240  
Ransom, Robert 334  
Raw, Frank 75  
Raw, J. 399  
Raw, James 139  
Raw, Thomas 43, 52, 75, 85, 155, 200, 288,  
328, 359, 364, 369  
Readman, M. 332  
Readshaw, Caleb 200  
Readshaw, Cuthbert 394  
Readshaw-Morley, Josias 200  
Reed, Thomas R. 64  
Remfrey, Josiah 128, 352  
Retallick, John 224  
Reynoldson, J.G. 262  
Reynoldson, John 75, 288, 328, 359,  
364, 369  
Reynoldson, N. 262  
Ribblesdale, Lord 264  
Richards, Rob. 316, 318  
Richardson, Samuel 267, 288  
Richardson, Thomas H. 151  
Richardson, William 373  
Riddell, Francis 223  
Rider, Walter S. 305  
Ridley, William 295  
Ripley, James 89  
Ripley Jnr, John 188  
Ripley, John 79, 97  
Ripley, Thomas 374  
Roberts, G.A. 252, 334  
Robinson, Anthony 89, 267

Robinson, F.M. 247, 252, 334  
 Robinson, Frank 62  
 Robinson, G. 365  
 Robinson, G.A. 46  
 Robinson, George 252, 334  
 Robinson, George A. 200  
 Robinson, Henry Thomas 56, 224, 352, 385  
 Robinson, J. 62, 344  
 Robinson, John 233, 344  
 Robinson, Joseph 150  
 Robinson, Ralph 121  
 Robinson, W. 62, 344  
 Robinson, William 217  
 Robson, R. 150  
 Rodgers, Thomas 125  
 Rodgers, William 209, 374  
 Rodwell, C. 230, 399  
 Rodwell, F. 46, 200, 230, 278, 358, 385, 393  
 Rodwell, James 212, 213  
 Rodwell, John Ascough 46, 200, 230, 278, 358, 385, 393  
 Rodwell, Thomas 78  
 Rodwell, William 78, 212  
 Rogers, James 70  
 Rogers, John 188  
 Rogers, Thomas 235  
 Roscamp, John 317  
 Rosecamp, John 318  
 Rosewarne, Thomas 200  
 Rowe, Charles 230  
 Rowlandson, Charles A. 247  
 Rumbold, Thomas 86  
 Rushworth, Mr 97, 212  
 Russum, J.T. 171  
 Rutherford, Jas. 238  
 Rutherford, William 208

**S**

Samuelson, B. 218, 339, 344  
 Sanderson, F. 267  
 Sarginson, William 69  
 Saunders, T.K. 288  
 Saunders, Thomas 386  
 Sawley, George 117  
 Sawry, Richard Gilpin 100, 101  
 Sayer, Arthur 70, 85  
 Sayer, John 70, 223  
 Sayer, Lawrence 223  
 Schofield, George 150  
 Scott, Francis 233  
 Scott, John 61  
 Scroop, Lord 200  
 Scrope, Henry Lord 229  
 Seymour, F. 249

Shackleton, C. 54  
 Shackleton, Mr 58, 283, 300, 313, 329, 377  
 Shackleton, Mrs 377  
 Sharpe, Granville 135  
 Shaw, George 188, 239  
 Shaw, Jacob 210, 241, 264  
 Shaw Jnr, William 215  
 Shaw, John 86, 166  
 Sheffield, William 183  
 Sherlock, John 224  
 Shevels, Ernest 52  
 Shevels, T. 288  
 Shield, Alfred H. 325  
 Shield, Harry 325  
 Shield, Henry 325  
 Shield, James 347  
 Shield, James B. 325  
 Shield, James Beadle 325  
 Shield, Randolph 325  
 Shields, Cuthburt 85  
 Shuckburgh, F. 43  
 Shuckburgh, G. 43  
 Shuckburgh, G.F.S. 43  
 Shuckburgh, S.F.D. 43  
 Shummers, James 128  
 Shuttleworth, James 293  
 Shuttleworth, Richard 293  
 Shuttleworth, Robert 172, 293  
 Siddale, Thomas 394  
 Siddle, John 346, 350, 351  
 Sidgewick, Thomas 290  
 Sidgewick, John 233  
 Sidgewick, Leonard 124  
 Sidgewick, Roger 117  
 Sidgewick, Thomas 353  
 Sigwick, Francis 123  
 Sillery, Eleanor 61  
 Simondson, Mr 89, 254  
 Simpson, Christopher 122  
 Simpson, James 139, 141, 195, 204  
 Simpson, Joseph 122  
 Simpson, Samuel 402  
 Simpson, Thomas 345, 393  
 Simpson, William 233  
 Slack, Anthony 211  
 Slack, John 262  
 Slater, James 54  
 Slater, T.E. 62, 108, 151, 252, 334, 383, 396  
 Sleigh, Charles 51, 52, 59, 81, 82, 87, 120, 137, 144, 145, 148, 153, 157, 171, 206, 207, 220, 225, 227, 231, 257, 265, 270, 272, 276, 281, 283, 290, 306, 320, 324, 338, 341, 354, 362, 370, 378, 379, 381, 390, 391, 397, 398

Slinger, Richard 123  
 Slinger, Robert 124  
 Slinger, William 123  
 Smailes, Thomas 52  
 Smith, F.A. 183  
 Smith, Fred A. 128  
 Smith, John 68  
 Smith, Rev. Thomas 61  
 Smith, Thomas 61, 274, 329  
 Smith, William 174  
 Smithson, Francis 233  
 Smithson, Mr 218  
 Smurthwaite, Thomas 155  
 Smyth, Annabel 223  
 Snell, John 132  
 Snow, T.F. 194  
 Snow, Thomas F. 348  
 Snowdon, M. 149, 397  
 Sopwith, Thomas 52  
 Southern, Thomas 117  
 Southworth, John 384  
 Spark, H.K. 64, 168  
 Sparkes, J.G. 245  
 Spencer, John 367  
 Spencer, P.W. 309  
 Spencer, William 150  
 Spense, Joseph 302  
 Spensley, George 80  
 Spensley, James 364  
 Spensley, William 288  
 Spink, Mrs 219  
 Springett, A.F. 67  
 Standish, Frank Hall 44  
 Standish, Sir Frank 44  
 Standish, Sir Richard 44  
 Standish, Sir Thomas 44  
 Stansfield, Joshua 330  
 Stansfield, Mr 100, 101  
 Stansfield, W. 227  
 Stanton, P.J.H. 87  
 Stanworth, J. 310  
 Stapleton, M. 224  
 Stapleton, Robert 52  
 Stapylton, Major 150  
 Staveley, Alice 42  
 Stead, William 78, 125  
 Steavenson, Addison L. 104, 111, 220, 258, 265, 282, 331, 332, 337, 342  
 Steavenson, C.H. 62, 87  
 Stob, John 139  
 Stobbs, George 307  
 Stockdale, Mr 97  
 Stockdale, Robert 313  
 Stockdale, William 182  
 Stodart, James 208  
 Stodart, Thomas 43  
 Stoddart, John 343  
 Stone, John 64  
 Stoney, Thomas 144, 372  
 Storey, Anthony 166  
 Storey, George 71  
 Storey, Joseph 166  
 Storey, William 102, 188  
 Stott, John 101, 102, 376  
 Strathmore, Earl of 187  
 Strathmore, Earls of 262  
 Styles, William 212  
 Summers Jnr, Ralph 123  
 Summers, John 77, 113, 116, 166, 269, 300, 321  
 Summers, Ralph 102, 166, 300, 341, 377  
 Summersgill, Robert 94  
 Summerville, Robert 109  
 Sunter, John 105, 350  
 Sunter, Robert 213, 214  
 Sutton, William 147  
 Swale, David 100  
 Swale, James 77, 85, 100, 113, 370  
 Swale, Mr 77  
 Swale, Philip 43, 155, 233, 373  
 Swan, John G. 247, 292, 394  
 Swinburne, John 223  
 Swinburne, Thomas 223  
 Swire, Mr 293  
 Sykes, Thomas 78, 192, 269, 282, 356, 359  
 Sykes-Ward, William 305

**T**

Tailforth, J. 94  
 Tailforth, John 339  
 Tailforth, William 94  
 Talbot, Edward 372  
 Talbot, H. 202  
 Tasker, John 90  
 Tate, F. 342  
 Tate, John 342  
 Tatham, Thomas 101  
 Tattersall, John 46, 56, 107, 169, 219, 267, 356, 388, 389, 399  
 Taylor, E.C. 237  
 Taylor, Francis 288  
 Taylor, George 87  
 Taylor, Horace 52  
 Taylor, John 183  
 Taylor, Richard 66  
 Taylor, William 389  
 Tempest, Mr 146, 374

Tempest, Roger 374  
 Tempest, Stephen 374  
 Tennant, Francis 213, 214  
 Tennant, George 53, 212, 264, 371  
 Tennant, Giles 123, 124  
 Tennant, Mr 97, 123, 210  
 Tennant, Thomas 79  
 Thannet, Lord 338  
 Theodore Bathurst 52  
 Thomas, H.W. 218  
 Thomas, John 334  
 Thomas Kirby 230  
 Thompson, Anthony 203  
 Thompson, Edward 345  
 Thompson, Henry Alderson 61  
 Thompson, John 44, 108, 151, 336, 383, 396  
 Thompson, Thomas 231  
 Thomson, A.C. 336  
 Thomson, A.G. 62, 236  
 Thomson, John 252  
 Thornhill, Christopher 116  
 Thornhill, Elias 116  
 Thornhill, Isaac 116  
 Thornhill, John 49, 116  
 Thornhill, Mr 121  
 Tissington, George 68, 172  
 Todd, Jonas 309  
 Tomlin, James R. 238  
 Tomlin, James Robinson 168  
 Tomlin, Ottiwell 75, 256, 369  
 Tomlinson, J.R. 236, 252, 258, 336  
 Tongue, John 310  
 Townley, Colonel 395  
 Townley, Mr 271  
 Trevethan, Thomas 183  
 Truran, J. Jameson 294  
 Turbett, George 348  
 Turnbull, A. 236  
 Turner, Charles 51, 52, 81, 87, 138, 157,  
 257, 275, 276, 283, 306,  
 324, 362, 370, 397  
 Tushingam, George 200

## U

Uvedale, Avery 223, 268  
 Uvedale, John 223

## V

Vachell, Thomas 42  
 Varty, Armstrong 104, 247, 282, 283  
 Varty, Thomas 331, 332  
 Varty, W. 237  
 Varvill, W.W. 171, 227  
 Vaughan, T. 336

Verity, William 212  
 Vickers, E.C. 288  
 Vipond, J. 327  
 Vivian, William 242

## W

Wacker, William 231  
 Waddelove, Richard 122, 188  
 Waddelove, William 188  
 Waddington, George 69, 101  
 Wade, John 267  
 Waggett, W.A. 224  
 Wagstaff, John 67  
 Walduck, H.J. 237  
 Walker, Fred C. 49, 71, 95, 142, 170, 182  
 Walker, James 244  
 Walker, John Prest 269, 303, 356  
 Walker, Richard 215  
 Walker, Thomas 56, 224  
 Walker, W. 83, 232, 236, 283  
 Walker, William 81, 236, 238, 244, 247,  
 292, 315, 348  
 Wall, Christopher 187  
 Wallas, John 205  
 Wallase, John 269  
 Wallis, Henry 217  
 Walsingham, Lord 78  
 Walton, Is. 85, 323  
 Walton, J.P. 323  
 Walton, William 325, 378, 382  
 Ward, J.H. 316, 318  
 Ward, John Thomas 186  
 Ward, Nathaniel 91  
 Ward, Richard 372  
 Ward, Thomas 128, 130  
 Wardle, Francis 274  
 Wardle, Mrs 329, 377  
 Ware, T. 395  
 Warner, Harry Ernest 186  
 Wass, John 78  
 Waterhouse, Robert 269  
 Waterhouse, Thomas 324  
 Watkins, William 149  
 Watson, D.W. 172  
 Watson, Edward 235, 264  
 Watson, J. 231  
 Watson, James 85, 124, 353  
 Watson, John 387  
 Watson, Ralf 90  
 Watson, Thomas 86, 122, 139, 234, 244, 353  
 Watson, William 268, 303, 355  
 Wear, John 353  
 Wear, Joseph 69, 141  
 Wearing, Alexander 121, 147

Wearing, Thomas 70, 77  
 Weatherald, Thomas 205  
 Weddell, Richard 55  
 Weddell, William 55  
 Wells, F. 317  
 Westgarth, Thomas 346  
 Westray, J. 251  
 Wharnccliffe, Lord 321  
 Wharton, Angelica (Pellisary) 154, 373  
 Wharton, Duke of 42, 166, 168, 177, 212,  
     256, 288, 289, 369  
 Wharton, Humphrey 200, 233  
 Wharton, L. 155  
 Wharton, Lancelot 52  
 Wharton, Philip 42, 154, 373  
 Wharton, Robert 52, 200, 364, 369  
 Wharton, Thomas 42, 154, 168, 174, 238,  
     256, 277, 345, 369, 373  
 Wheatman, T. 249  
 Whitaker, Henry 124  
 Whitaker, John 123, 124  
 White, H. 336  
 White, James 57, 315  
 White Jnr, Taylor 66  
 White, John 66  
 White Snr, Taylor 66  
 White, Thomas 66, 303  
 White, Thomas Woolaston 66  
 Whitehead, John 95  
 Whittaker, Henry 82  
 Whitwell, William 52, 53  
 Wickham, Colonel Henry 129, 391  
 Wiggin, Robert 82  
 Wigglesworth, Richard 123  
 Wigglesworth, William 123  
 Wighley, Jos. 86  
 Wilkins, Thomas 224  
 Wilkinson, Isaac 144  
 Wilkinson, Messrs 139  
 Wilkinson, Mr 397  
 Wilkinson, William 78  
 Wilks, John 145  
 Wilks, Robert 145  
 William Craig 398  
 Williams, Capt. 268  
 Williams, Charles 269, 294, 361  
 Williams, David 134, 135, 183, 269, 294,  
     356, 361  
 Williams, W. 262  
 Wilson, George 79  
 Wilson, Guy Greville 52  
 Wilson, John 317  
 Wilson, R. 267  
 Wilson, Robert 267, 384  
 Windle, Mr 100, 101  
 Winn, J. 398  
 Winn, J.S. 171  
 Winn, Messrs 44, 322  
 Winn, William Sigston 78, 215, 385  
 Wiseman, Christopher 154, 205, 270, 305  
 Wiseman, George 140, 205  
 Wiseman, Henry 102, 205  
 Wiseman, James 205, 235  
 Wiseman, John 102, 205, 232  
 Wiseman, Jonathan 140, 205  
 Wiseman, Joseph 205, 232  
 Wiseman, Thomas 47, 131, 170, 272  
 Wiseman, William 293  
 Wood, James 224  
 Wood, John 66, 132, 303  
 Wood, John Rider 357  
 Wood, William 132, 170, 284  
 Woodmas, Thomas 95  
 Woodward, Mathew 52  
 Wortley, Edward 346  
 Wortley, James Archibald Stuart 346  
 Wrathall, Lupton 130  
 Wrathall, Robert 124  
 Wrathall, Stephen 124  
 Wrathall, William 124  
 Wright, Christopher 85  
 Wrightson, Jacob 70, 79  
 Wyatt, Benjamin 173, 281  
 Wyvill, Marmaduke 147

**Y**

Yewdall, George 269  
 Yorke, John 49  
 Yorke, John Edward Evelyn 49  
 Yorke, Mr 142, 225  
 Yorke, Peter 48  
 Yorke, Sir John 48, 268  
 Yorke, Thomas 49, 394  
 Yorke, Thomas Edward 49, 177

**Z**

Zetland, Lord 218, 382, 394