

Extracts from the Journal of Thomas Holliday (1797-1858), Primitive Methodist Minister, taken from the *Primitive Methodist Magazine*, 1822-1829

'Barnsley Circuit, Extract of T Holliday's Journal , etc 1821', *Primitive Methodist Magazine*, 1822, pp 35-37

I was born September 5, 1797, at a place called Labour-in-vain, in the parish of Rufford, in Nottinghamshire. My parents were honest and industrious. My father was employed as a shepherd, for ----- Vessey, at Labour-in-vain; and afterwards for John Vessey, of Aughton: and always discharged the duties of his office with credit, and with satisfaction to his employers. He began to seek the Lord about the same time as myself. And I have four brothers and three sisters, most of them at present (1821), endeavouring to please the Lord, and find their way to heaven: indeed there are eleven in the family who are so disposed.

When I was young, my parents removed to Aughton, near Rotherham, in Yorkshire. Also when young, I was desirous to get some learning, and I had some serious impressions about the salvation of my soul. But on going to service, and mixing with ungodly persons, those desires wore off; and in this course I went on till I was twenty-two years of age. The Lord then strove with me very powerfully; I heard William Jessop speak from 2 Cor. v. 20 and God enlightened my understanding; I saw the heinousness of sin, and the dreadful consequence of living and dying in the state I was then in. I strove to flee from the wrath to come. I renounced my former course of life, and felt weighed down with a guilty conscience. In this state I continued till Jeremiah Gilbert came and preached at Aughton. After preaching my father invited him to our house. After supper we talked about heaven and the salvation of souls. He asked me the state of my soul, I said I was not happy in God, but would not rest till I found comfort. We went to prayer, and continued in prayer three hours, when I found perfect liberty. I then could shout: "Praise the Lord, O my soul, and all that is within me praise his holy name."

When in earnest prayer, I was often constrained to say, If the Lord would pardon my sins, I would with his help, make his gift useful in calling sinners to repentance. But, alas! I soon forgot my promise, for in a short time after, a brother asked me to pray, and I refused. But Oh! The sorrow this refusal left on my mind. I was soon after called upon to visit a sick woman, and the Lord manifested his power, and made her happy. Another woman, who was seeking the Lord, was present, and she got set at liberty, and rejoiced in hope of the glory of God.

I then began to be much harassed in my temporal circumstances: almost every one seemed to be against me, for when I was first converted there was not another converted soul in the village. On this account, I was like a speckled bird amongst them, and, for some time, none would employ me, for they supposed if I was stopped, they should be able to stop the cause. But the work was of God and it went on. Glory be to God. At that time I had some money which I had saved by industry, and I thought it my duty to live on it until the Lord made a way for me; I said the Lord giveth and the Lord taketh away; blessed be the name of the Lord.

We were for some time much troubled about a place for class meeting; but the Lord opened a way, and I was chosen leader; the Lord blessed my labours, and made me useful among the people. Soon after this, I was called to preach the gospel. I took up the cross, and began to exhort when the preachers did not come, and the Lord blessed my endeavours, but I was much tempted, and, when I gave way to the temptation, I was very unhappy. I, however, continued until the next Quarter-day. It was then proposed that I should come on the plan. I told my brethren I shrunk beneath the task, but it passed the Board, and I was put on the plan. May the Lord strengthen me for my work. About this

time, while Jeremiah Gilbert was administering the Lord's Supper, the Lord sanctified me, soul, body, and spirit. Praise the Lord O my soul, and all that is within me praise the Lord.

I was much tempted to drop preaching, but the Lord soon fully convinced me: - for while I was speaking, sinners began to cry out for mercy, believers rejoiced, and mourners got into liberty. To God be all the glory. Most of our family are now in the way for the kingdom, my wife, my father, four brothers, and four sisters. In all there are eleven of them in the way to heaven. My mother died when I was a boy. May the Lord preserve us unto eternal life. I often thank God that he has given me that religion which makes me better and better every day; the divine influence of the Holy Spirit frequently rests upon me for several days together; which causes me to say that I have great cause to be thankful. May the Lord chasten me and keep me humble for his name's sake.

But soon a harder task than ever appeared before me; whenever I went to prayer, the thought was impressed strongly on my mind, that I must go out into the highways and hedges to compel sinners to come in, that my Father's house might be filled. But when I considered the importance of the work, I was led to believe it was only temptation; but the Spirit of the Lord strove much with me, and the wickedness of the land lay open before me, which caused me to mourn and pray often in private. I thought there were thousands of immortal souls resting in ignorance and darkness; and I not only pitied them, but thought their blood would be required at my hands, if I did not use my best endeavours to enlighten them. Indeed, the power of God was so strong upon me, that I was inclined to pray for him to hold his hand lest the vessel should burst with desire to the work of the Lord, and with the love of souls; finally, I said, "Lord, thy will be done, only save my soul."

March 26, 1821, Sheffield Quarter-day. The respective circuits of Sheffield and Barnsley were in want of missionaries to go out into the highways and hedges to preach repentance in the name of Christ. I was proposed along with other brethren, and after the necessary discussion, our names were wrote on slips of paper, and after solemn prayer on Almighty God, my name was drawn; as it afterwards was to go out as a missionary for Barnsley circuit. This time was remarkable indeed for solemnity. At night some souls got into liberty, and among others, my wife got sanctified. I then began to prepare to go out into the highways and hedges to compel sinners to come in. I broke up my house and sold the greatest part of my goods, and then preached a farewell sermon to my little flock, about twenty in number. It was a weeping time, and we felt the Lord with us.

Saturday April 7, I got to Barnsley. Sunday 8, was at a lovefeast out of doors at Cawthorn a very precious time, and many souls got liberty. May the Lord keep them forever.

April 13, visited from house to house, and met with two sick women. One of them had been in the Old Methodist Connexion several years, but was still only hoping for mercy. I prayed with her a considerable time, and she was enabled to lay hold of eternal life by faith in Christ, and to rejoice in a sin-pardoning God. I was then requested to exclude a member for disorderly conduct, but suggested the propriety of going to prayer first, and while engaged in prayer, the power of God touched her conscience very powerfully, she cried as if her heart would burst, and declared the Lord had reclaimed her. Her husband also declared the Lord had quickened him and made him happier than ever. To God be all the glory.

Sunday April 15, preached at two, at Wakefield, had good liberty, I believe good was done, I then returned to Barnsley, to prepare for my missionary duty.

April 17. Entered on the important work, preached at Alverthorpe, to a large congregation. After preaching we had two prayer-meetings. A very weeping time, two girls, about twelve years of age

cried [sic] to God for mercy. One of them appeared to get hold of faith. Others also were in distress, and crying to God for mercy.

Thomas Holloday [sic]

Barnsley Circuit, Extract of T Holloday's Journal , etc 1821, *Primitive Methodist Magazine*, 1822, pp 68-70

Wednesday April 25, Preached at Toothill Bank, in the dinner hour; a weeping time. I believe the power of God was much felt on that occasion. At night, I preached at Elland, to a large congregation; a good time.

April 26, Prayed with a woman who was in distress, and the Lord manifested his pardoning love to her, and she rejoiced in the hope of the glory of God. O Lord thou art good, and doest good to every one that seeks thee,

April 27, Went to Barnsley, as the 28th was the time appointed for the adjourned meeting of the Quarterly-board, after having ascertained the breadth of the Missionary Ground; I went to inform them, and petition for an assistant in the great work of the Lord against the wickedness of the land.

Sunday April 29, Went along with some other brethren to a Camp-Meeting, held on Wolf-stones, a place near Thong. J Gilbert opened the meeting, we then continued praying and singing until noon: a young man cried out for mercy, and after a considerable time spent in prayer, he got liberty. (See page 8.)

May 4, Preached at Little Horton: had good liberty. A woman cried out for mercy, but shame and unbelief prevailed.

May 6, Preached at Nutter's-lane, afterwards joined 7 members, and others seemed to have good desires. May the Lord carry on his work. Afternoon I preached at Brown-hill; had a hard time: after I had concluded, a man came to me and told me, that, the first time he heard me, he was persuaded to be a Ranter, and he seemed to be seeking for salvation. At night preached at Birstall, to a very large congregation. It was a solemn time, and I believe much good was done.

May 9, Preached at Toothill-Bank: a weeping time. Two souls owned me who had not rested since I was there before; one of them came to persecute me on the 24th of April, but at that time the Lord found a way to his heart, and he had not rested since. I prayed with them both, and, after a considerable time, the Lord made them both happy. At night spoke at Elland; had good liberty, praise the Lord for it.

Wednesday May 16, Preached at Toothill-Bank; one soul cried out for mercy, but did not get into liberty.

May 25, Held a prayer-meeting at Toothill-Bank, in the dinner-hour: souls crying out for mercy, four of them said that God had pardoned their sins. May the Lord keep them for his name and mercy's sake: I then joined them to our society, and we parted in tears. On my way to Elland, I visited a sick man, who gave me an account of having seen the likeness of a funeral at noon-day, when nothing of the kind was near, and who immediately took an illness, which he supposes will soon terminate his life here.

Sunday May 27. This day brother Revel and myself proposed to preach in some villages round about Halifax. But the weather being extremely wet, prevented our preaching in some of the places we had proposed: however, being in Halifax, in the evening, we sung down Back-Lane and into the Butter-

Market. I then stood up to preach; we sung a hymn, and during prayer, a man shook me by the arm, and wished me to give over. But I did not open my eyes until I had concluded prayer: when it appeared he was a constable who wished me to tell him my name. I did so; and also my errand thither. The man stood trembling, and again wished me to come down and go away. But I told him, that by the help of God, I should like to speak to the people assembled, before I went away, and nothing but force would prevent me from speaking to them. He then told me I must not speak to them there; for there were plenty of churches and chapels in the town, and there was no need for me to speak there.

I then told him I had a commission from God to go out into the highways and hedges to preach repentance in the name of Christ. He then told me if I would not go away he would take me up. I told him he must shew his authority first. He then shewed me his staff, and asked me what authority I wanted more: I told him he must shew me a greater authority than that, or I would not go. He pulled a paper out of his pocket, and said, he had a warrant for me. He then pulled me down, and took hold of me and brother Revel. So we went along with him, and hundreds followed us. We sung:

“Wicked men I scorn to fear,” etc.

The constable took us into his house, and we then went to prayer and had a little conversation with the constable. I told him that by the help of God, we should still continue to speak in the name of Jesus Christ, and that he must either repent or his soul must suffer everlasting torments. Soon after this, he went out, and I stepped into the window-seat and saw a multitude of people assembled. I immediately began to speak from John iii. 7. The power of God came down, and people were very attentive; and I believe it was a profitable time to many souls.

After we had concluded, the people did not seem willing to leave the place: so I began to tell them how happy I felt my soul. The people seemed much troubled about us; but we told them we were happy in the love of God. While we were praising God a wicked man came into the room cursing and swearing, and told me if I did not come down he would knock me down. I spoke a little to him. He said, if I did not hold my nose he would thrust his umbrella down my throat. He then put the handle of his umbrella into my mouth. As soon as I could speak, I praised the Lord, and thought it was an honour that I was counted worthy to suffer for Christ’s sake. When he got hold of my head, for the purpose of thrusting his umbrella into my mouth, I prayed for God to give me patience and fortitude to suffer any thing which this wicked man could inflict upon my body and I felt the power of God refresh and sanctify my soul. I felt no resentment nor malice in my heart; indeed I felt so filled with the Holy Ghost, that I could willingly have resigned my last breath on my knees, and with a holy Stephen, have prayed that God would not lay that sin to their charge. He then dragged us out of that room and thrust us into a lumber-chamber, which we called the inner prison.

Monday May 28, Justice Horton came to the Office, and we were sent for into the room, to answer for what we had done. – Three witnesses appeared against us, one of them swore he thought we were drunk. After this, the magistrate asked if we would find bail for our appearance at Bradford Sessions, and also be bound to preach no more in the streets of Halifax till the Sessions were over. I told him I had a commission from God to go out into the highways and hedges to preach repentance in the name of Christ to poor sinners, and justification of the ungodly by faith in his blood. I told the magistrate that Christ was my only surety, and I should find no other; for I could not conscientiously find such bail as he required; for as soon as I got liberty, I intended by the help of God to do the same again. He told his Clerk to minute that down to appear against me at the Sessions. They then wanted brother Revel to find bail in the same manner; but they found him in the same mind as myself. Horton then committed us both to Wakefield House of Correction until the Sessions. We

again praised God, to think we were counted worthy to suffer for Christ's sake. Here the magistrate counted our way of praising God BLASPHEMY: and said, he would have none of our blasphemy there. I told him we should praise God, let them do as they pleased with us; for I felt that I was not only willing to suffer bonds and imprisonments, but likewise death for my Master's sake. I bless God we were faithful with them, we told them, they must repent and be converted, or they must suffer everlasting torments.

(To be continued.)

Barnsley Circuit, Extract of T Holloday's Journal. 1821 (Concluded from page 70.) *Primitive Methodist Magazine*, 1822, pp 109-110

Tuesday May 29. We were sent off to Wakefield House of Correction. During the time of our imprisonment in Halifax, we had several opportunities of escaping, but we felt a determination not to go until we were discharged by the magistrates. The constable delivered us to the coachman with a recommendation to introduce us into Wakefield House of Correction. We sung as we went through Halifax and the villages, till we arrived at Wakefield. We continued close prisoners until the following Saturday, between eight and nine o'clock.

Saturday June 2, late in the evening, we were liberated on bail until the Sessions at Bradford. It appeared the Church had pleaded much with God in our behalf, for it was expected a camp-meeting would be held on Mexbro' Common, for the respective circuits of Sheffield and Barnsley: and it was desired by many that we should be there. Of course, while we were praying in prison, and the church in like manner praying for our release, brother G. Horbury came with our bail until the Quarter Sessions. To God be all the praise for ever. Amen.

Sunday June 3. We got to the camp-meeting on Mexbro' Common. The weather was remarkably fine and pleasant, and the reconciled countenance of God shone upon us during the greatest part of the day. The scene was truly interesting and affecting; many persons, both male and female, delivering the word of life, thousands listening, tears flowing on every side, sinners trembling, saints rejoicing, mourners getting into liberty, and rejoicing in hope of the glory of God. It was given out that I should speak concerning our imprisonment, and, I bless God, while I was speaking, tears flowed from many eyes, and the people appeared to manifest much sympathy on our account. This was a profitable day; many were awakened, and many souls got savingly converted to God. To him be all the glory.

Monday June 4, Several of us preached at Barnsley, it was a good time, and souls were converted to God.

Sunday June 10, In the morning renewed the tickets to Swallowhill class, it was a good time to our souls, and the Lord added one to our number, in the forenoon I preached at Stain Cross, had a hard time. In the afternoon led a lovefeast at Royston, and the Great Head of the Church breathed upon us his holy Spirit; two souls were reclaimed, and six confessed that God for Christ's sake had pardoned their sins. Thanks be to thy adorable name for thy goodness and mercy towards thy unworthy creatures.

Thursday June 28. Preached at Thurstead. Felt it a hard time but the Lord awakened three souls. After preaching I held a meeting in another place. Souls were weeping and crying for mercy. One found liberty, I then formed a class of seven members. Praise God and the Lamb for ever.

Thomas Holloday.

Barnsley Circuit, Extract of T Holloday's Journal, 1822, *Primitive Methodist Magazine*, 1822, pp 213

Tuesday January 1. I preached at Ambler Thorn. Sinners trembled and wept before God. At the prayer meeting afterwards, one person said he had found that solid peace which he never before enjoyed. Glory be to God, and the Lamb. I pray thee, O Lord, in this new year, that many thousands of converts may be added to Zion. May my soul get much good, and mine eyes see much good done. If I live, may I live to thy glory, if I die, may I die in thy favour, and reign with thee for ever. Amen and amen.

Thursday 3. Preached at Ovendon. It was a precious time. We had a prayer meeting. One mourner got comforted and made very happy, and one that was cast down, got raised up, unbelief gave way, and she rejoiced in God her Saviour.

Thursday January 10. Preached at Greetland. The power of God descended. Surely it was a weeping time. We have had a great revival here, a great many have been brought in and are still going on to perfection. We afterwards had a prayer meeting, and a backslider got restored.

Friday 11 preached at Elland Hedge. It was a good time, one who had been dealing with a slack band got quickened. We also prayed with one that was in distress but unbelief prevailed.

Monday 14. Preached at Triangle. One soul got made happy in God. Glory to God and the Lamb.

Tuesday 15. Preached at Greetland-Wall-nook. One sinner got savingly converted to God. This was a blessed night to many souls. One or two got saved the night after.

Thursday January 16. Preached a farewell sermon at Norland. There was present, members from most parts of the branch. I faithfully exhorted them to all their duties, and warned them of the danger of turning back. I felt I loved them much. I never felt so great a cross as in leaving them. At my first entrance among them, I was taken to prison, but that cross was not equal to this of leaving them. I thank God, I could confidently stand up before them, and with a clear conscience say, as St Paul, "I am pure from the blood of all men." Truly it was a precious time to many souls. But when I spoke of leaving them the sight would, I think, have affected a heart of stone. I never saw such a weeping time since I was born. They wept, and I wept. But this gave us consolation, that though we were going to be separated, yet we had God to protect us, and that in a short time, if faithful, we should meet to part no more to all ETERNITY. This was the last sermon I preached among these my beloved brethren; and God gave me two souls, to him be all the glory.

"Glory, glory, let us sing,
While heaven and earth with glory ring
Hosanna to the Lamb of God."

THOMAS HOLLIDAY

Bradwell Circuit, Thomas Holliday's Journal, *Primitive Methodist Magazine*, 1824, pp 118-120

June 21. I walked about nineteen miles to Bradwell, being stationed in Bradwell circuit.

Sunday, June 22. This was my first day's labour in this circuit. It was the day appointed to hold a Camp Meeting, near New Mills. This place is about fifteen miles from Bradwell. We had a fine day, and were favoured with the help and presence of the Lord. Many hundreds of people attended. We had a few praying souls in two or three neighbouring places, and, according to their ability, they laboured well; and the local brethren laboured well. Singing just at the entrance of New Mills, before we went to the ground, was made a blessing. Preaching, praying, and exhortations, seemed to be crowned with success. We concluded with a Love-Feast, and about eight or nine professed to find the Lord. Glory to the Lamb. I trust it is the beginning of good days.

June 23. Preached at Marple out of doors, a great concourse of people, good time, joined two.

June 24. Preached at New Mills, had a very good time; I believe good will be done here. The Camp Meeting has done good to this place, and I believe it will be of lasting benefit.

June 25. Preached at Thornset, we have a small society here; and to-night two were awakened, and one joined. June 30. Preached at Round Meadow, good time, one awakened: Praise the Lord.

July 17. Preached at Bradwell and had a good time, in our own dwelling-house after service was concluded in the chapel. Four young women, me, and my wife, covenanted with each other to petition God for certain blessings. One was a backslider: she was to pray first. She got restored, and one got fully sanctified. My wife got much filled with heaven; indeed we were all filled. It was such a time for the real sanctifying power of God as I seldom ever felt.

Sunday July 20. Preached at Haspin Shaw, a weeping time. I think I heard of six or seven being awakened under this sermon. In the afternoon, preached at Mill Brow. Very many in distress, four or five got liberty. At night preached at Hill Top. I entered into conversation with a backslider as I returned, and told her she might be saved that night. She was encouraged to pray, and thank God she got restored. Glory to God in the highest. This has been a good day.

Monday, July 21. Preached at Marple, several were seeking the Lord. Three joined. I believe there will be a good work here. 22. Preached at New Mills. A good time, many in distress; four or five got liberty. Five joined. We have now an opening here. This is the beginning of good days in this place.

Sunday, July 27. Camp Meeting near Bradwell. In the morning it threatened rain. But prayer was made, and God answered, and sent us a fine day. A great concourse of people attended. Preachers, leaders, and members, generally speaking. Laboured hard; and our labour were evidently crowned with success. We had a Love Feast in the Chapel at night. A very precious and profitable season: five or more, this day, got converted to God: four of which had come above fifteen miles. Glory to the Lord. They never need rue their journey.

Sunday August 3. Preached at Litton once, Tideswell twice, and led a Love Feast at Tideswell, a good time: one backslider professed to get fully restored. Praise the Lord. Amen.

Sunday 17. Attended the class at Thornset. Four joined; one got saved. The day began well. A good time in the forenoon at Haspin Shaw. And in the afternoon at Marple. At Mill Brow a very powerful time: a backslider professed to find peace; and the class leader's wife got awakened fully, which caused great joy in them that feared the Lord. She never rested until she had found peace with God. Great God what a difference grace makes. There is an excellent woman next door, who takes us in. There are four sisters: I hope to meet them all in heaven. INDUSTRY and PIETY are found here. August 20. Preached at Thornset. Many in distress tonight. Truly it was a shaking time. Praise the Lord.

23. Set off to the preachers meeting at Hull. 26. Spoke a little at a missionary meeting at Hull. This meeting, for the greatest part of the time, was a time of the Son of man with mighty power. May God bless missionaries, and them that minister to their necessities.

Sept. 1. Preached at Eyam. It was the wakes time. I preached out of doors. Just by us were a number of wicked men setting dogs at a bear. Also some people playing music and had something to do or show, to persuade people to spend their money for that which is not bread. In the mean time a doctor of physic that was a little intoxicated, came up while I was preaching, he struck me with his whip, and used very abusive language. But in the midst of all this the Lord could work: a woman that

had come a feasting, from Marple, came to hear out of curiosity; she got awakened, and has since joined our society. Praise the Lamb.

September 2, Preached and gave tickets at Hathersage. Added four.

Sunday, September 14. We had a camp meeting at Wash, near Chapel-in-le-Frith. Very many attended in the afternoon, and although it threatened rain in the morning, yet God answered prayer, and we had a fine day. The Lord was with us. Preachers had a good degree of liberty, believers prayed hard, and good order was kept. We had a Love Feast at night, many spoke of the good they had got at New Mills Camp Meeting. It was a precious season: Praise the Lord. I believe many have been awakened to day, and several have found peace with God.

Sept. 15. Quarter-day at Bradwell, and we had a good day.

17. Preached at Thornset, it was a good time. This night, in Widow Cooper's, two young women found peace with God, after several hours had been spent with them in prayer. May God save them eternally. Amen.

September 21. Camp Meeting near New Mills. It was a very wet day, we were obliged to hold the meeting in a large barn. But though the day was unfavourable, the Lord was with us; and before the day's labours concluded, two souls found peace with God. Jesus does all things well. This is the fourth camp meeting that I have attended and conducted in this circuit, in the following manner. (viz.) We have commenced with a prayer meeting, then some one of the brethren has preached, after which, I have made it known how we intended to proceed throughout the day, and then gave directions to official characters, and then to the whole. After an exhortation to press into faith, etc. we have drawn-out into praying companies. After this, in general, two have spoken, about twenty or twenty-five minutes a-piece: and then gone out in praying companies, from twenty minutes to half-an-hour. And the camp meetings have concluded with a lovefeast. The children of God have laboured hard in general, according to their several abilities. The God of Jacob has been with us, and sinners, at each meeting, have been converted. To Christ Jesus be all the glory. Amen.

September 25. Preached at Litton Slack. This is a new place. Formed a society of two women only; but this small beginning increased well. Glory to God.

October 19. Preached a funeral sermon at Bradwell. It was a good time; a backslider got reclaimed.

26. Walked twenty-four miles. Preached three times; one of which was at Buxton. This is an entire new place. I preached out of doors. A few friends from Tideswell came with me. We had a good time. It appears an effectual opening was made.

29. At Bamford. A backslider wept and acknowledged the way of religion to be right.

November 9. Preached three times and led a lovefeast at Bridget.* It was a good time; one got liberty. Preached at night at the same place. It was a shaking time, some have said they could not sleep this night.

23. Preached at Haspin Shaw in the morning; and led a love-feast in the afternoon at New Mills. It was a good time, some got saved, some got justified, and some sanctified fully. Glory to God, this has been a good day.

November 25. Preached at New Mills, this was a night of power. It was said by those who were strict observers that fourteen got justified; and several fully sanctified. There are some souls here that are mighty in prayer, and will have no denial. May God help them to continue steadfast to the end.

30. Preached at Abney and Bradwell: after night preaching one professed to get fully sanctified.

"Glory, glory, let us sing,
While heaven and earth together ring -
Hosannah to the Lamb of God."

Thomas Holloday

*This is in the same neighbourhood with Mill Brow.

Manchester Circuit. Some Account of the work of God. (To the Book Committee.), *Primitive Methodist Magazine*, 1828, pp 82-84

Dear Brethren,

Peace and Love be multiplied unto you from God our Heavenly Father. Amen.

I mentioned in my last, that we were making preparations to build a new Chapel at Blackleach; and have now the pleasure to inform you that it is built, and lately dedicated to the honor and worship of God. The chapel is twenty-four feet wide, and thirty feet long inside; and is well fitted up with pulpit, pews etc. It stands well for a congregation, situate on Walkden Moor, a short distance from the neighbourhood called Blackleach.* First of all our own society at this place gave liberally towards the erection; afterwards three of the Trustees, Brothers, H. Gibson, J. Holmes, and J. Bloor, went alternately with me to beg in and round the neighbourhood, and we succeeded pretty well.

September the 30, 1827, it was opened for divine service; Brother J. V. and I preached on the occasion to crowded congregations. God was present to bless; and the people gave liberally. £14. 6s. was collected during the day. Many sittings are let, and there is every reasonable prospect of the chapel doing well. We have also commenced a Sunday School in the chapel, which is doing very well. The society at this place, are forty in number, and in a good state.

A few weeks ago I was at Unsworth, a village in our circuit; and at a meeting of the society after preaching, about forty pounds was promised towards building a new place, which is to serve the purposes of a chapel and Sunday School. We formed a Committee to see after the business; and, next day, one of our members, Henry Grundy by name, promised to let us ground to build upon, in a very eligible situation.

November 4, preached at Jersey Street, Manchester, and after evening sermon, administered the sacrament of the Lord's supper. It was a very powerful time, ten or more professed to get fully sanctified to God.

November 15, preached at Gatley, to a house-full of people, and as many in other rooms, and at the outside, as those in the house. It was a powerful time. After preaching, gave tickets to a newly formed class, (this being a new place) many were seeking the Lord, and, while visiting among them, next morning, two found peace with God. There are twenty one on trial, and these are the two first that have obtained liberty. May God preserve this young society. Amen.

November 18, preached at Hyde, and Flowery Field. At the latter place administered the Lord's Supper after preaching, and divine glory streamed down upon us in quite an extraordinary manner; ten or more professed to get fully sanctified to God.

December 9, preached at Jersey Street chapel. A very powerful time in the morning. In the afternoon led the quarterly lovefeast. God came down among us gloriously; a great number spoke, and at the

close sinners fell down in every direction. Many were the slain of the Lord, and very many obtained a sense of pardoning love; but the work was so general we could not ascertain the number.

Monday, December 10, was our Quarter Day, a good and peaceable day it was. The circuit debt is considerably lowered this quarter; and we have had an increase of above one hundred to society. When I, with my colleagues, came to this circuit, a year and a half ago, we took the numbers and sent them to you. Six hundred and one was the number then; and now we stand eight hundred and forty eight. Praise the Lord for he is worthy. Our much respected Brother Britain being about to move to Oldham, preached for his last time in Jersey Street, Chapel, on the Quarter Day night; and my soul was much blessed and edified while hearing him. May we at last meet in heaven to part no more for ever. Amen.

Very dear fathers and brethren, pray for us, that our God may still prosper us, and to him we will give the glory. And in the interim as ever. I am your servant for Christ's sake, Thomas Holloday.

Manchester, Dec. 13, 1827. Examined and approved by the Quarter Day. J. H. President. N. N. Secretary.

*At this place we have preached until the opening of the chapel, at the house of a widow, by name Violet Tildsley, whose kind attention will be gratefully remembered by both preachers and people; and she, and family also have cause to praise God that ever her door was opened for the gospel.

Extracts of T. Holliday's Journal, Bradford Circuit, 1828 and 1829, *Primitive Methodist Magazine*, 1829, pp 418-422

On Saturday, July 5, 1828, arrived in Bradford. Our journey to-day from Manchester, was in several respects unpleasant and painful.

An Awful Circumstance occurred when within a mile of Bradford. A man who was in a state of intoxication, and who was an outside passenger on the coach, through his own awkwardness, let his hat fall, and he unhappily jumped from off the coach after it. The coach at the time was going sharply down hill. He pitched upon his head, and was much bruised by the fall. The blood gushed out of his ears very profusely. The coachman stopped his horses as soon as possible, to render him assistance. When we got to him, he was by some supposed to be dead. This, however, was not the case. He was with all possible care taken up, put inside the coach, and taken down to Bradford. I was informed that he died some time after, in consequence of this accident. Just before the misfortune, he had been using foul language, and threatening a peaceable passenger; and had been telling wilful lies respecting the place of his residence. "Verily there is a God that judgeth in the earth, and the way of transgressors is hard."

Sunday, July 6th. Assisted in preaching the anniversary sermons for Great Horton chapel. A crowded place, and a good feeling.

July 13th. Preached two sermons in behalf of our Sunday School, at Rawden, in the Leeds Circuit. Heard Sister Parsons in the afternoon. It was a very feeling time.

20th. Preached at Shelf, Dudley Hill, and Bradford. This was a day of much power.

27th. Preached at Baildon and Idle. It was a good day, but exceedingly precious at Baildon in the morning.

28th. At Great Horton: a cry out for mercy in the prayer meeting after sermon.

August 3rd. At Dudley Hill in the morning, preached one of their anniversary sermons for Sunday School. Preached at Bradford afternoon and evening. Two souls confessed to be awakened, one under each sermon.

August 10th. Preached the anniversary sermons for Halifax Chapel. Had a good day amongst my old friends.

18th. At Great Horton. After preaching visited a woman who was sick, and the Lord healed her soul, and enabled her to rejoice.

24th. Preached at Shelf in the morning, led the lovefeast at Great Horton in the afternoon, and preached in the evening. Three professed to obtain pardon at the lovefeast, and one to be fully sanctified to God.

27th. Preached at Oakenshaw. Prayed with Joseph Peel's wife, who was ill. She rejoiced much, and soon after died happy in God.

31st. Preached at Dudley Hill in the morning. A feeling time. Led the lovefeast at Bradford in the afternoon. Many in distress, and several professed to be made happy in God. Had full liberty in preaching at night, and the glory of God streamed down upon us.

September 21st. Preached at Shelf in the morning. Led the lovefeast in the afternoon, an exceedingly good time. Several in distress, and some found peace with God. At night preached at Norwood Green, and it was a very good time.

23rd. At Bradford, a most powerful time in preaching, and a cry out for mercy.

28th. Preached the anniversary sermons on behalf of the Sunday School at Oldham, in Lancashire. The chapel was crowded, the people all alive to God, a good feeling, and a very liberal collection. Had an opportunity of visiting a few of those in Manchester, for whom I entertained a great regard, and stopt a night with an esteemed friend, Mr W. Strapps. I felt refreshed in my spirit with the prayers and conversations of my esteemed brother, J. Britain, and the Oldham friends.

October 5th. Preached the anniversary sermons for our chapel at Sowerby, in Halifax Circuit. Had a good day among dear people with whom I have often been happy. At night was entertained by a friend, Mr Whitely.

November 16th. Had a very good day at Shelf and Norwood Green. One soul got restored at the lovefeast at Shelf in the afternoon.

December 31st. Held a watch night at Bradford. Several preachers spoke on the occasion. I felt it remarkably good to my own soul, but was very poorly in body.

March 25th, 1829. Preached at Dudley Hill. It was truly a good time. This was the first sermon I preached after three months illness. During my affliction I felt the sweet consolations of that religion which I have so often recommended to others; and that all-sufficient Saviour whom I have held forth to others, was the constant support of my own soul. I often felt very happy in God, and particularly on one occasion, when just at the worst, and my recovery very doubtful; Brothers C. Rhodes and J. Wilson visited and prayed with me, and he who regardeth the prayer of faith, answered by the fire of his love, and my soul rejoiced much in the God of my salvation.

March 30th. Preached at Great Horton. It was a good feeling time. After sermon an old man cried out for mercy, and got into an agony of prayer, and after a long and hard struggle, God set his soul at full liberty, and now he goes on his way rejoicing.

April 5th. Heard Brothers W. Clowes, and J. Britain to-day, and truly the heavens dropped sweetness to my soul. I feel blessed and quickened exceedingly. But oh! I am nothing.

April 6th. Accompanied Brother Clowes to Leeds to the district meeting. Consented with some degree of reluctance to preach for Brother Clowes, in the evening in York-street Chapel, a preparatory sermon, he being very unwell. There appeared to be a good feeling. Assisted in holding two missionary meetings during the district meeting, at which I was blessed and quickened while hearing my brethren advocate the cause of the Redeemer.

May 10th. We held a Camp Meeting on Fairweather Green, near Bradford. The morning was beautiful. We met in the vestry, and after prayer we proceeded to the ground, singing through Bradford as we went, which seemed to have a very good effect. The sermons were short, pointed and energetic. The prayer meetings lively and powerful. The congregation large, attentive, and well behaved. It was thought that from seven to ten thousand were present in the afternoon. In the evening we had a lovefeast at Bradford, and it was a remarkably good time. There was a great work broke out at the conclusion of the lovefeast. The slain of the Lord to-day were many, and to our knowledge eight or more professed to be healed through the blood of the Lamb.

May 24th. This was a day of the son of man with power. At Horton in the morning, very precious time; at Bradford in the evening, the power of God seemed to overwhelm the people. After sermon Brother S. Smith assisted me in administering the sacrament of the Lord's supper, and it was an extraordinary time. Three souls professed to find peace with God.

26th. Preached at Four-lane-ends to night, there is a good work here, I admitted nine on trial.

27th. At Daisy Hill. The work is going forward here. I joined seven to-night. May the Lord preserve them all to the day of his coming.

June 7th. To night at Great Horton, the power of God attended the word, many tears were shed, and I have since been informed that some awakenings took place.

June 14th. We held a Camp Meeting at Drighlington. It was a very good day; and on some occasions an extraordinary power attended the word preached, and the praying companies. We had reason to hope that much fruit will appear. In the evening we had a very powerful lovefeast, and at the conclusion, in the prayer meeting there was a cry for mercy, and liberty obtained.

June 21st. Preached at Dudley Hill in the morning, it was a good feeling time. In the afternoon led the lovefeast at Bradford. It was a precious time. A prayer meeting at the conclusion, both in the chapel and vestry, and the cries of distressed souls were very great indeed. The meeting continued till six o'clock. My Brother Lister, who was over to see me, commenced the evening service, while I retired a few minutes, and I this evening preached my farewell sermon. It was truly a heart searching powerful time. We commenced a prayer meeting after sermon, and the dear pious praying people entered heartily into the work, and continued till about ten o'clock. The work again broke out on every hand. The cries and agony of the distressed were great, and God again came to our help, and exerted the saving strength of his arm, and got himself a glorious victory. The work was too great and general for us to have any certain knowledge of the number that obtained liberty during the day. Some of those who laboured with me faithfully all the time, think that it is within bounds to say, from twenty to thirty found him of whom Moses and the Prophets spoke and wrote. To God the Lord be all the glory. Amen.

I felt a more than usual attachment to the dear praying labourers. I shall never forget this labour of love, which above all things renders a people dear to me. We held our quarterly meeting the day

following, and I am happy to say that we have prosperity for the fruit of our labours. Our increase since last July is forty-five. Praise the Lord.

T. HOLLIDAY

Approved by the Circuit Committee.