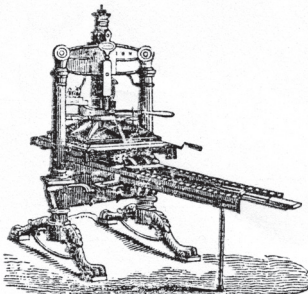


**Printers and Publishers
in
Deddington
1840 — 2004**

Brian Carter



JOHN S. HIRON,
LETTER-PRESS & COPPER-PLATE PRINTER,
 BOOKBINDER, ENGRAVER,
Bookseller, and Stationer,
MARKET PLACE, DEDDINGTON.

Every description of Printing executed with
 neatness and dispatch, in the first style of the
 Art, and on very reasonable terms.

*Writing Papers, Account Books, and Stationery
 of all kinds.*

ORDERS PER POST IMMEDIATELY
 ATTENDED TO.

J.S. Hiron's business card c.1850

Published by Brian Carter, 13 High Street, Deddington, Oxon OX15 0SJ.

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2004

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Most of the original titles referred to in this work will be found in the Bodleian Library, and in this connection I would like to thank Christine Mason for all her assistance. She noticed that I was having problems with the Online Catalogue and came to the rescue; and with much skill, patience and good humour helped me locate relevant works that otherwise I might well have missed.

Above all I would like to thank my wife, Elizabeth for her constant support and without whose help this work would never have appeared.

Illustrations

I am grateful to the Centre for Oxfordshire Studies for permission to reproduce Hiron's business card and the title page of the Directory; and to Robert Stilgoe for allowing me to photograph and reproduce the watermark images.

Brian Carter
March 2004

Printers and Publishers in Deddington

PART I.

The Nineteenth Century

Deddington is a small market town almost in the middle of England sixteen miles north of Oxford and six miles south of Banbury, and at an intersection connecting the Cotswolds to the west with Aylesbury and Buckinghamshire to the east. In September 1825 the young John Henry Newman (later Cardinal Newman) made the first public address of his life in Deddington. The town today looks very much as it would have done to Newman on his visit one hundred and eighty years ago.

The population in 1800 stood at around 1500, rather similar to that of 1900, but rose to a peak of c.2200 in 1851, but declined by nearly one third by the end of the century. In 2004 the population has gradually risen again to a figure much as it was in 1851. Judged by its population alone, Deddington might more accurately be described as a large village but its history and amenities indicate that of a small town. For part of the reign of King Edward I in the early years of the 14th century, Deddington sent two Burgesses to sit in Parliament. There are remains, though submerged, of an extensive castle; the large church of St Peter and St Paul rests on earlier Norman foundations. In the 19th century there were Wesleyan Reform and Primitive Methodist Chapels as well as one for the Independent Congregationalists. The town was well served with schools, and a chemist, doctors and a court house; police station, a library and a weekly market; and several railway stations were within three or four miles.

Not all these amenities still remain, but the public library is well stocked and thriving with recently added extensive computer and internet facilities; the school is full to overflowing, and there is a modern health centre run by a partnership of doctors.

There is a fine sports and recreational complex at the Windmill Community Centre, with adjoining tennis courts, a bowling green, an all weather pitch and extensive playing fields for both cricket and football. Unlike a number of small towns and villages of the same size, Deddington has retained many of the pubs and hotels that existed in the 19th century, and its Post Office has been a permanent feature for over a hundred and fifty years, from time to time moving to a new site, which happened again in 2004.

A thriving commercial centre in the 19th century, Deddington remains so today, with more than one hundred businesses based in the town. Perhaps the most obvious and most lamented change is the disappearance of the family butcher, baker and fishmonger, a change completed only within the last thirty years. (A butcher is due to return during 2004.) Another significant loss compared with the 19th century is the absence of the local printer/publisher.

The primary aim of the first part of this work is to identify who the 19th century printers were, and the type of commissions they undertook. Additionally, some reflections on the papermaking industry in Deddington will be included. A secondary aim is to reveal aspects of life in Deddington at the time by examining some of the printed work that has survived. The second part of the article will contain a brief review of the 20th century printers and publishers. There seems to be no oral history of printers in Deddington, and certainly they do not appear to have left much readily available evidence of their existence. In histories of Deddington, only occasional reference is made to one or two printers who were reputed to have been established for a period of time. In fact, the output of the printers was much more extensive than is indicated by this meagre impression. There was a succession of printers from c.1840 to 1900, covering the whole of the Victorian age, who provided Deddington with a comprehensive service as printers and publishers, although it may seem slightly surprising that such a relatively small community could have generated sufficient business to sustain a profitable printing press for the entire Victorian era, but that is the case.

In the main, there were four individuals who ran their printing businesses over this sixty year period; clearly they were ambitious and confident entrepreneurs, and none more so than the first of the four, John Samuel Hiron.

JOHN SAMUEL HIRON

Born in Middlesex, Hiron was the son of a clothier; and in Deddington in October 1845 he married Mary Caroline Margetts, whose father was a grocer. The name of Hiron may first have appeared as a printer announcing a special service, to be held on 20th September 1840, to celebrate the opening of the new organ in the parish church of St Peter and St Paul. In the course of the year, he also printed a *Supplement to the Psalms and Hymns used*

in *Deddington Church*, where he gave his business address as the Market Place, Deddington. It was a regular feature of all the printers to give a general rather than a specific location of their premises, such as the Market Place, or the High Street or New Street.

A much more substantial work printed by Hiron in Deddington was an interesting and valuable compendium of local information, which appeared under the title of *The Woodstock Union and Deddington Directory and Parish Officer's Complete Book of Reference*. [The short title of *The Woodstock Union Directory* appears on the original printed wrappers, but the full title appears on the printed title page.]

The Bodleian Library holds a copy of the third issue for the year starting May 1st 1841, thus indicating that the first issue would have covered the year beginning in May 1839. With no copy of the first issue available to consult, nevertheless it may be a reasonable assumption that Hiron began printing and publishing at least in 1839 and possibly earlier. As for the Bodleian Library copy of 1841, it is in its original thin yellowish printed wrappers, and in compact format about the size of a small modern paperback.

The title *Woodstock Union and Deddington Directory* may appear to be an unusual title. The explanation is probably that the Woodstock Union arose as a result of reforms introduced by The Poor Law Amendment Act 1834, in which it was laid down that the provision of welfare services for the poor, in particular the erection and funding of workhouses, could best be provided by a union of parishes in co-operation with one another. These Unions and the provision of services would be organised locally by a Board of Guardians, constituted by some *ex officio* members, local J.P.s, certain incumbents and other specified individuals; and to these would be added locally elected members of the Board of Guardians. The Woodstock Union covered an area from the outskirts of Oxford and the parish of Yarnton in the south to Deddington in the north, from Tackley in the east to Stonesfield in the west, with Woodstock positioned roughly in the middle. Hiron clearly saw an opportunity to provide a useful compendium relating to every type of official function carried out in this area to which he added, probably for good commercial reasons, his home town of Deddington as part of the title of the *Directory*.

Workhouses existed before the 1834 Act: Deddington had its own in New Street, but that was sold off with the introduction of the new Union workhouse in Woodstock. The effect of the Act was to formalise their

position and through the creation of the new 'Unions', parishes could now share the expenses of providing more adequate facilities. William Wing, in his *Supplement to Marshall's Deddington* in 1879, was scathing with his comment on the unfortunate applicant for relief in Deddington having to walk ten miles to Woodstock in order to supplicate before the Board of Guardians: "If that is not *cruelty* I cannot define the word." The 'Workhouse' became a dreaded institution in the history and mythology of 19th century welfare provision; they survived, however, well into the 20th century until they were abolished finally in 1929.

In his 1841 edition of the *Directory* Hiron advertised his business on the wrappers offering his services as a printer and publisher, and included a full page advertisement depicting an image of his printing press. He also announced other services: 'Books neatly and elegantly Bound, in Russia, Morocco, calf or Fancy Cloths.' In addition to this full range of bookbinding, he offered 'The Newest and Most Fashionable Paper Hangings.' Evidently Hiron had quite extensive premises in order to display his fashionable wall papers as well as housing his printing works and bindery. He may well have had to employ staff as the variety of business activities and the specialist skills these required would seem to preclude his carrying out all the diverse services proclaimed in his advertisement. A fair proportion of his day to day work would probably have involved letter headings, advertisements and posters, but the *Directory*, which continued until at least 1847, showed that he could successfully manage more complex works. Another example of one of his larger works appeared in 1845 when he printed and published *The Antiquities and History of Steeple Aston*, compiled by William Wing: issued to subscribers, it was just one of a number of valuable short works on local history from the pen of William Wing [1811-1882], although this appears to have been the only one printed by Hiron.

Further examples of Hiron's standard type of work are a printed notice of September 1846 advertising the 'Deddington Monthly Cattle Market' which was to be held on the last Tuesday of each month: and in the following year, a broadside which gave notice of a 'Public Dinner' to be held at the Unicorn Inn to celebrate the anniversary of the re-establishment of the Market. Tickets were priced at one shilling and sixpence, with dinner starting at 1.30. In the 19th century, there were a surprising number of local town and country reference books, and in the *Post Office Directory* for 1847, Hiron was listed as 'printer, bookbinder, bookseller, stationer.'

Around this time, the enterprising Hiron opened a Subscription and

Circulating Library in Deddington, which survived for a few years. It was probably superseded by or was the progenitor of the Deddington Reading Room and Lending Library, established in 1858 with William Cotton Risley's son, Holford, as its President.

On July 3rd 1849, Hiron launched one of his most ambitious undertakings with the publication of *The North Oxfordshire Monthly Times and Agricultural Advertiser*: both printed and published by him from his 'General Printing Office' in the Market Place, it cost three pence. It is not clear exactly how long this publication survived; the Bodleian hold issues from No. 1 to No. 31, the British Library from No. 7 to No. 62, August 1 1854. In Mrs M.V. Turner's *The Story of Deddington* [1933] she wrote that Hiron's work

was continued until December 1859 – possibly, according to Marshall, for a longer time. The Newspaper was, during the latter part of its career issued from Hiron's premises in the High Street...

This information is supported in part by an entry in Dutton, Allen & Co.'s *Directory for 1863* where Hiron of New Street was listed as a printer, stationer and proprietor of the *North Oxfordshire Monthly Times*, and subsequently in *Melville's Director of 1867*, which suggests that it was still being published.

As far as Hiron is concerned his advertisements provide fragmentary insights relevant to the history of printing in 19th century Deddington. In November 1849 he advertised his services, hinting perhaps at substandard work offered by a competitor which could not be compared with quality of his own work:

Every description of Printing and Bookbinding executed with dispatch, and in the best style, *on the premises*, by experienced and competent hands.

These must have been busy times for Hiron but he had the opportunity and time to print and publish two works by the Reverend James Brogden, the new incumbent and Vicar of the Parish, and one by the Curate, the Reverend George Venables. The first work by Brogden, *The Duty of Enquiry after God*, had been a sermon preached on 26 September 1849 and published shortly afterwards. In 1850 Hiron printed a second work by Brogden, *A Letter relating to the Restoration of the National Schools, of the Parish of Deddington, Oxon*. At the end of the year, Hiron printed the 5th November Sermon by Venables, *Rejoice with Trembling*.

Brogden's "Letter" on the schools was a substantial twenty three page open letter, addressed to the Reverend William Wilson, in which Brogden drew attention to Deddington's two schools and their state of "deplorable decay." Brogden appealed for funds for a new school. The Reverend William Cotton Risley must have been discomfited by this controversy. He shared Brogden's opinion as to the failure of the schools and wrote that neither had ever been conducted in a way that he personally wished despite the fact, and rather surprisingly, that both schools were Risley's own property.

William Cotton Risley was a wealthy and powerful Churchman who lived at Deddington House (the name was changed to Manor in 1930). He had been a Fellow of New College Oxford in the 1820s, and also Bursar for a time; for a few years he had been Vicar of Whaddon in Wiltshire before arriving at Deddington as its Vicar in 1836. He was closely involved in local affairs, and resigned as Vicar of Deddington in 1848 when he was about fifty years old. Thereafter he continued to exercise substantial influence and authority in the area through the nature of his forceful personality and strong social awareness combined with his status as a magistrate, a position which in those days carried considerable weight in local administrative affairs (which is no longer the case today.) The Bodleian Library holds forty four volumes of his Diaries, which have been brought to the attention of modern day readers thanks to an excellent selection made by Mrs Buffy Heywood and published in the monthly *Deddington News* since December 1987.

Risley was presented with many opportunities to regret his resignation as Vicar on account of the behaviour of his successor, the Reverend James Brogden. Brogden proved to be a source of embarrassment, frustration and scandal during his sixteen years as Incumbent; he ran up debts with local tradesmen which he was not able to pay, on occasion his living had to be sequestered; he became an alcoholic and managed to quarrel with virtually everyone in the parish. His parishioners could not get rid of him, not even with the help of the formidable Bishop of Oxford, Samuel Wilberforce. The sad story of the Brogden affair was not concluded until Ash Wednesday 1864 when, according to H.M. Colvin, "apoplexy caused by intoxication" finished him off. Nowhere can one find a good word to report about Brogden and yet there are aspects of his character that stand to his credit and are mitigating features. His domestic life must have been difficult with a modest stipend and nine children and his wife to support. Clearly he was an assiduous and studious clergyman for much of his life and wrote a number of works; in fact, he may well have been the most prolific of all Deddington Vicars. Prior

to his arrival in Deddington, John Murray had published in 1842 Brogden's *Illustrations of the Liturgy and Ritual of the United Church of England and Ireland* in three volumes. This was followed by a work of a polemical nature, also in three volumes and published once again by Murray, *Catholic Safeguards against the Errors, Corruptions, and Novelties of the Church of Rome* (1846-51): his 'Catholic Safeguards' was a well known work in its day. In addition to these two large works, Brogden wrote or edited about ten other shorter pieces, several of which bear the Deddington imprint, though not all from Hiron's press.

In the period from c.1840 to the early 1850s Hiron, as a printer, seemed to have the field to himself. As well as printing services, he offered his Subscription and General Circulating Library, which he advertised in the August 1850 issue of the *North Oxfordshire Monthly Times* as holding 2000 volumes: a substantial holding suggesting that his Library had been built up over some length of time. In the same year he published a series of manuals or receipt books which would appear to be developments arising out of his 'Union Directory'. Titles included *The Poor Rate Book* and *The New Rate Receipt Check Book* (this title could be had with the Parish and Overseers' Names printed in); also *The Overseers' Receipt and Payment Book*, *The Surveyors' Weekly Account Book*, *The Highway Rate Book*, and *The Publicans' New Spirit Book*. He also printed and published a school book, *Hiron's Improved Arithmetical Tables for the Use of Schools*, obviously a popular book as it was advertised as 'the 12th thousand' which strongly suggests that it had been in print well before 1850.

In January 1851, Hiron experimented with a new periodical with the rather off putting title, *The Earnest Churchman*; at least four numbers were published but that may have been all. In the following year, 1852, Hiron advertised the full range of his business as he thanked his customers for 'the favour bestowed on him for the past Twelve Years...' He proclaimed himself still the 'ONLY Practical Printer and Bookbinder in Deddington': his printing activity had extended to include copperplate and lithography, as well as 'every description of Letterpress'. He sold plain and fancy stationery and 'Valentines in great variety'; and to these services he offered a range of over 1700 types of wallpaper or 'paper-hangings.'

During 1853 Hiron printed and published one of his most substantial books with the opaque title, *The Cruet Stand*, a work in two volumes each of nearly four hundred pages. It is a rather dull book consisting of an uninteresting selection of prose and poetry. While that title was being

prepared for publication, Hiron was also working on another project, the *Deddington Church Tracts*, of which four would appear to have been printed as the following individual titles were advertised for sale in the September 1853 issue of the *North Oxfordshire Monthly Times*:-

1. *The Message of Mercy*
2. *A Dark Night on the Stormy Deep*
3. *Should the Whole, or Half, or no Part of the Sabbath Day be Kept Holy?*
4. *Do you know? Then do you?*

These four tracts were written by Deddington's Curate from 1850-53, the Reverend George Venables; and authority for this attribution can be found on the last page of a later work by Venables, *Church Endowments* (1856) where various other of his titles are listed, including the four Deddington Church Tracts. Venables, like Brogden, was a prolific author: the Bodleian catalogue lists thirty six of his works, to which can be added the four Tracts above. Venables was appointed Vicar of St Paul's Chatham, but clearly maintained his contacts with Hiron, who in 1856 printed, though did not publish, his pamphlet on *Church Endowments*, and subsequently printed several of his 'Pastoral Letters' when he moved on from Chatham in 1858 to Christ Church Friesland, near Rochdale. Hiron's imprint address for those Pastorals between 1859 and 1862 was the Stamp Office, High Street, Deddington.

THOMAS CALCUTT and JOHN SAMUEL HIRON

Hiron's business activities in the early 1850s appeared to be flourishing but he was in difficulties, and he also had a competitor in Thomas Calcutt (listed as a printer in Slater's *Directory* of 1850), the son of John and Susannah Calcutt. His father John was the Postmaster: it may have been in error that he (John Calcutt) was also listed as a bookseller, stationer and printer in *Gardners' Directory* for 1852 when it was likely to be the case that this description should have referred to his son, Thomas Calcutt. Certainly in *Lascelles Directory* of 1853, Thomas Calcutt is listed as a bookseller, bookbinder, John Calcutt only as Postmaster, and never appears again described as a printer. Hiron is listed with the full range of his various business concerns, and the name of Eliza Lamb also appears as having a

“fancy stationery” business.

The name of Thomas Calcutt appears in 1851 as the printer of *An Address* by the Reverend William Wilson of Worton on the occasion of the laying of the cornerstone of the new Church of St James at Clifton in the parish of Deddington. Wilson was one of an influential local family with a strong evangelical tradition, the most distinguished of whom being Daniel Wilson [1778-1858], Bishop of Calcutta, who had been a curate at Holy Trinity, Over Worton in the early 19th century. Not many years later, on 23rd June 1824, John Henry Newman preached the first sermon of his life in the same attractive and secluded little Church at Over Worton.

What is striking now about Wilson’s 1851 ‘Address’ is the gratuitously offensive tone of anti-Catholicism which was a feature of so many English sermons of the time. Wilson pointed out that the new Church would be consecrated “for the pure worship of God” after the manner of their “forefathers”: the forefathers referred to were not those of the 18th century, nor even the Reformers of the sixteenth, but to those of the time of the Apostles, before the Church has been subdued by “...the Iron tyranny of the Pope,” and to an age “before the darkness of Roman error, superstition, and idolatry...”.

Other works were printed and published by Calcutt in the early 1850s, one of which in 1853 was edited by James Brogden, *A Brief Exposition of the Creed*, originally written in the 17th century by John Pearson. In the same year he printed a *Form of Prayer and Ceremonies used at the Consecration of Churches, Chapels and Burial Grounds*. It seems to be the accepted view that Calcutt’s business was located in New Street, possibly at his parents’ address at the Post Office. The actual building no longer exists but has been incorporated into what is now the Old Post House: three 18th century cottages, one of which was Calcutt’s Post Office, were transformed during 1934 and 1935 into one neo-17th century building. If old buildings are to be altered, then the Old Post House remains an exemplary model of a radical, but successful, transformation. The effect of the external elevation is very much on par with the manner of rebuilding undertaken by many Oxford Colleges in the 19th century.

By 1853, Calcutt appeared to have been well established as a printer, but in the same year indications of Hiron’s difficulties began to appear. In September he advertised for sale his lithographic printing equipment, ‘nearly new and complete.’ Lithography is a specialised type of printing and clearly Hiron had found little or no demand for that process. Further difficulties

became more apparent during August 1854 when he offered 2,000 pieces of 'paper hanging' which he was selling off at 'a most enormous sacrifice.' Hiron continued in business for many more years, until at least 1866/67, but it would appear that from about 1854 Thomas Calcutt had become the more dominant of the two. It was about that time that Hiron moved his premises from the Market Place to the High Street, while Calcutt moved from New Street into the Market Place. Perhaps a transitional point came in July 1854 when both printers carried out work for two parties involved in a dispute over whether or not the town Pool in the Market Place should be filled in. Hiron printed a broadside with the title *Parish of Deddington*, containing a proposal from Mr Gibbard that Mr John Calcutt's suggestion of filling in the Pool should be rejected and the Pool left as it was; and Thomas Calcutt printed a rejoinder from William Freeman, addressed *To The Inhabitants of Deddington*, who argued that a recent vote on John Calcutt's proposition should have been passed if the votes had been counted properly. Eventually the 'Town Pool' in the Market Place was levelled and macadamised; in 1861 a correspondent to the Banbury Guardian thought the recent change to be an improvement but objected to 'an ugly installation of an ornamental pump.'

Thomas Calcutt was never as ambitious as Hiron in the projects he undertook and his main service as a printer was the production of shorter works and broadsides: for example, a poster that appeared in December 1854 headed *Patriotic Fund*, announced a Concert to be held on 13th January 1855 given in the school rooms in Deddington. The aim of the 'Patriotic Fund' was to raise money 'for the relief of the wives, widows, and orphans, of our Soldiers or Seamen.' This was roughly at the mid-point of the Crimean War, the Battle of Balaclava had been fought in October and the now legendary Charge of the Light Brigade had ridden into history and destruction. During 1855 Calcutt printed a substantial fifty two page pamphlet for a Utopian sounding society established in the adjoining village, *The Adderbury Fountain of Friendship Benefit Society*: The Rev W Cotton Risley was President. This Society was similar to a number of other benefit, thrift or insurance societies which were a marked feature in 19th century life, and Deddington printers did their share in bringing the societies to the attention of their public. In the same year, 1855, Calcutt printed *The Rules for Government of a Friendly Society to be held at the Railway Tavern Inn Somerton*. These various societies aimed to create a fund by voluntary contributions which could provide relief for members in time of sickness and old age, and also to meet funeral expenses. As another example, in 1856

Calcutt printed *Rules and Regulations of the General Friendly Institution held at the Town Hall, Deddington, ...for the Town of Deddington and its vicinity. Instituted 22 May 1841.*

Although Hiron's printing business was in decline in the 1850s, it was certainly not extinguished and there are examples of his work which cast light on matters of local concern. In an undated notice headed *Deddington Mendicity Society For the Relief of Distressed Travellers and the Detection of Impostors*, an appeal was made to the Subscribers not to give money to poor travellers but to offer tickets or vouchers which the recipient could present to 'Mr Clark', who would then give relief if the supplicant was 'a proper object.' The Deddington Mendicity Society had been established in 1836 in an attempt to address the significant problem of persistent begging; and was based on rules similar to those of Banbury where a comparable Society had been founded two years earlier in 1834. The rules were draconian for anyone deemed to be abusing the system, such as being found in possession of two or more tickets of entitlement for relief, the penalty for which was the 'certainty' of being sent to the treadmill. In 1854, and again in 1855, Hiron printed works which focused on questions relating to the competence of the Foeffees (Trustees) of the Deddington Charities. The first was a notice calling for a *Public Meeting* to examine the mismanagement of the Foeffees, and the second entitled, *The Government Deed relating to the Deddington National Schools*. The author of this work addressed Hiron as editor of the *North Oxfordshire Monthly Times*, and thanked him for lending the columns in his paper to publish details of 'the mismanagement and gross misapplication of the Foeffees' Charities...' As the School Committee had refused to print the 'Government Deed' respecting the Schools then Hiron had agreed to do it himself.

Whatever the reasons for Hiron's business difficulties and retrenchment in the mid 1850s, these were almost secondary compared to the calamities and grief that must have destroyed his home life. In 1849 he and his wife lost their son, William, who died at the age of six months; in 1855 another son, John, died at the age of five months, and in December 1857 his wife, Mary, died following the birth of their daughter Sarah; and tragedy was compounded when she in turn died two months later. Despite these devastating blows, we know that he continued with the *North Oxfordshire Monthly Times* and, as mentioned earlier, was still featured as its proprietor in Dutten, Allen & Co.'s *Directory* of 1863 and in Melville's *Directory of 1867*, with both publications giving New Street as his address.

While there appear to be few examples of works from Hiron's press in the second half of the 1850s, apart from a sermon preached by the Curate, John Hugh Burgess, *God's Blessing upon the New Year*, 1858, it was Calcutt who continued to provide Deddington with works from his press. In 1856 the Vicar, James Brogden, wrote another pamphlet, *Objections to a Bill brought into the House of Commons ...to abolish Church rates...* In 1859, Calcutt printed an attractive long broadside with the title, *A Genealogical Table of the Wake Family*, by H.T.W. This Table traced the Wakes from Leofric and Hereward the Wake in the 11th century to the mid 1850s. This work appears to be the final offering from Calcutt. It is not clear what happened to Calcutt and his printing and publishing business, but it would appear that all his work was completed within the decade of the 1850s. His father, John Calcutt, continued as Postmaster into the 1860s, but there is no reference to Thomas.

Just as Calcutt superseded Hiron in the 50s, there seems no doubt that John Whetton succeeded Thomas Calcutt: perhaps he took over the same premises, as he was located in the Market Place.

JOHN WHETTON

John Whetton was active as a printer in Deddington from 1859 and for the next twenty five years, and was Hiron's equal in the variety of works that came off his press. One of his first commissions was from the curate J.H. Burgess with his Thanksgiving Sermon for September 1859, *The Great Harvest*. In his Preface Burgess made reference to divisions arising among his 'flock',

It is no secret that in Deddington that the chief cause which has led to the severance of the ties between us has been the dislike of certain individuals to the daily services and frequent celebration of the Holy Communion which I have introduced...

Burgess was unambiguously clear that the "...senseless outcry of Puseyism in these matters is unworthy of argument." It seemed that the parishioners of SS Peter and Paul were ready to make their displeasure clear to the Curate if they did not approve of what they heard from the pulpit. Certainly the years between the arrival of James Brogden in 1848 and Thomas Boniface in 1878 provided several opportunities to upset the finely calibrated religious sensibilities of the parishioners.

It was perhaps fitting that one of Whetton's other early commissions

came from the now notorious Vicar, the Reverend James Brogden. Given his well earned opprobrium, the title of his sermon sounded almost like an aspirational hope: *Loving Kindness, a Sermon preached in the Parish Church of Deddington*, 1860.

Whetton, like Calcutt and Hiron before him, undertook the printing of the usual variety of local posters and notices, and one of his earliest c.1859/60 proclaimed the *Deddington Penny Bank Now Open*. The Bank opened for business in July 1859. Whetton did not have the field entirely to himself in the early 1860s: Hiron was still in business and there were others ready to take on his work. Unfortunately, little if any evidence of their printing appears to have survived, but we know that a William J. Rose of the Stamp Office, Deddington, was a printer as there exists a long broadside of the South Newington Village Accounts for 1864. As well as Rose, the *Post Office Directory* for 1864 lists Joshua Brackett of New Street, Deddington, as ‘Printer, bookseller, stationer & newsagent.’ To these elusive printers can be added a third, W.R. Bowden who issued a notice, undated but probably from the 1860s, announcing the *Deddington Corn Market*, a weekly market to be held on Mondays and opening for business at 1 p.m. In the *Post Office Directory* for 1869 William R. Bowden is listed as a printer based in the Market Place. Bowden’s presence among Deddington printers raises the question as to whether or not he was the same W.R. Bowden who was an established printer in Oxford from the 1860s, with premises in Holywell Street and, from the 1870s, also in the High Street.

Despite the apparently brief life as printers in Deddington of Rose, Brackett and Bowden, there appear to have been three more names to add to the review, although they may not have been business proprietors, and there is no evidence available in the form of a printed document or leaf attributable to any of them. In August/September 1868 a James Fletcher, printer of Deddington, died “from bursting a blood vessel,” at the age of only twenty eight. In the mid 1870s there is a reference to a Peirce Frank Rees, a printer; and another to a Joseph Wilkins, possibly the sign writer and topographical artist responsible for the birds-eye view of Deddington c1850s. These last three names are derived from the Registers of Births, Marriages and Deaths.

By 1867, or possibly earlier, Whetton used the address for his printing business as the ‘Albion’ Office, Market Place, Deddington, and frequently used this address for the next twenty years. The probable explanation for his using the term ‘Albion’ may derive from the name of the printing press

he operated. The Albion Press was the creation of W.R. Cope in 1822, and proved to be very reliable and successful and was manufactured in a variety of sizes. One of the earliest productions using the 'Albion' Office address was a broadside of 1867 printed on green paper, which announced a series of concerts to be presented by the 'Deddington Choral Society.'

Whetton printed an undated poster, probably in the early 1870s, with the striking title of the *Deddington Prosecution Association*. This unflinching and resolute sounding body was formed by a group of like minded individuals from Deddington and surrounding parishes who stated their purpose in clear terms:

The object of this Association is to defray the expenses of Apprehending and prosecuting persons guilty of Felonies, Thefts, Wilful and Malicious Damage, to all Kinds of Trespasses, and Property of the Members thereof; and also prosecution under the Master and Servant Act; and no compromise with offenders is Allowed as a pretence whatever.

Sixty three individuals are listed with a note of their village: these include Fritwell, Upper Heyford, Combe, Steeple Barton, the Astons, Aynho, Souldern, Kirtlington (and Sir W.W. Dashwood from Kirtlington Manor). Nine members came from Deddington and, surprisingly, two local magistrates, W.M. Foster Mellior of Steeple Aston, and C. Holford Risley from Deddington. C. Duffield Faulkner of Deddington was both Solicitor and Treasurer to the Association.

The existence of such an organisation suggests quite a fearful society and one where there was a perception of there being an insufficient number of Police to keep the peace, resulting in this self help group which appears to have combined elements of a neighbourhood watch with a private prosecution association. This was not the first such organisation created to pursue similar ends. In Edward Cassey & Co.'s *Directory* for 1868 there is a reference to a "Society for the Prosecution of Felons" based in Deddington, with Henry Churchill as its Solicitor. If the Reverend Henry Brogden had provided plenty of occasion for gossip and scandal over a long period until his death in 1864, then Henry Churchill was his secular counterpart by providing a *cause célèbre* of a sudden and unexpected nature. Churchill epitomised the establishment of the day; he fulfilled many important roles, as a solicitor, Coroner, Clerk to the Justices of the local Division of the Magistrates' Courts, and served on many local committees. including the "Deddington Sunday School Shoe Club" of which he had been Treasurer

and Manager. In 1870 disaster struck: Churchill became bankrupt and disappeared without trace.

In 1873 Whetton printed another fascinating small work which reveals many aspects of 19th century life in Deddington, and highlighted a debate which has contemporary resonance today. The pamphlet, although printed by Whetton was published by J. Burns in London, with the title, *Narrative of Three Prosecutions under the Vaccination Act*. This work was offered for sale in green printed wrappers for twopence, or in a “Cheap Edition of the same for the poor,” without wrappers, for one penny. The pamphlet was the work of Joseph Edward Malings, a Chemist and Druggist whose business was in the Market Place in Deddington, Malings recounted the proceedings taken against him for refusing to comply with the requirements of the *Compulsory Vaccination Act of 1867*, and he posed the question,

We ought to know why the Government should seek (contrary to our natural instincts) to deprive us of our parental authority, and what right the State had to compel parents, *nolens, volens*, under threat of fine and imprisonment to have their children vaccinated.

Malings, while making known his views on the infringement of parental rights, also expressed his doubts on the efficacy of vaccination and his determination to resist the requirements of the Act “by all lawfull and reasonable means.”

Malings began his opposition while living in Sydenham when he refused to have his second child vaccinated. He duly received a Court Summons and his case was heard before a Stipendiary Magistrate at Greenwich, where he was fined ten shillings and ordered to pay costs of two shillings. In 1872, and now living in Deddington, his third child was due to be vaccinated but he refused to comply with the order from the Woodstock Board of Guardians, and as a consequence received a Summons to appear before the Magistrates sitting at Deddington. The day before the court case the Medical Officer from the Woodstock Union “intruded himself in my house in my absence, to examine the Child...”, this power of entry having been granted under the Act. In Court he was fined ten shillings and ordered to pay costs of twelve shillings and sixpence. A week later he received a letter from the Court notifying him that there were additional costs to pay amounting to one pound fourteen shillings and sixpence, of which the Union Surgeon’s fee was £1.1s, the certificate 3s 7d. and “hire of horse” 9s. 8d. Malings was thoroughly provoked by these supplementary charges as they had not been imposed by the Magistrates at the time of the case in Court, so

he refused to pay.

His third time in Court arose from the previous Court appearance. He did not attend the Court hearing at the Town Hall in Deddington, and on this occasion he had been ordered to bring his child with him. Prior to the hearing Malings had sounded out the Clerk to the Court concerning the possibility of obtaining an adjournment, but had been advised that such an outcome was unlikely. A policeman was sent to bring Malings to Court. The Magistrates, Reverend T. Curme, C.C. Dormer, W.M. Foster Mellior and Holford C. Risley heard the case, and clearly felt themselves in a predicament in dealing with Malings as he engaged them in a discussion on the merits of vaccination. To Malings the issue was in essence a simple one; he felt that “he alone” was responsible for the health of his children. Eventually one of the Magistrates told him “somewhat sharply” that they were there to enforce the law, not discuss it. Malings was fined ten shillings and ordered to pay costs of three pounds and eight shillings. He refused to pay the surgeon’s fee and was warned that a Distress Warrant would be issued if the total sum was not paid; he then informed the Clerk that he wished to consult the Solicitor for the Banbury Anti-Compulsory Vaccination Society, which he did. He was advised by the solicitor not to pay the surgeon’s fee, and to write to the Secretary of State outlining the case and specifying the costs element.

Three days after the Court case, a Distress Warrant was issued against him and, if in default, to serve seven days in prison. The police officer who served the Warrant granted a “stay of execution”, and after further discussion, the medical officer’s fee was reduced to ten shillings; but Malings was resolute and refused to pay. Whereupon, in his own words, “my goods were at once seized and removed to my great astonishment, inconvenience and annoyance.” His amazement and incredulity were compounded when, as he described,

...the Bell-man ‘Cry’ my goods for sale, which unprecedented event occurred in the Market Place, Deddington, August 6th 1873, within sight of my own home.

To the fine and costs already imposed a new charge was added relating to the issuing of the Warrant and the costs of the sale of his goods, including one shilling for the “Crying Sale.”

By no means was this the end of the story. Clearly there had been a good deal of public sympathy and support for Malings, and this was manifested when a public meeting was held in the Market Place on the exact spot where the public auction of his goods had taken place five days

earlier. There were many speeches, and then two motions were put to the meeting, the first proposed by Mr Ryder, and seconded by Mr Humphries, that the Compulsory Vaccination Act “ought to be repealed,” was carried unanimously. The second motion proposed by Mr Webb, and seconded by Mr Norton, was that the “...proceedings against Mr J.E. Malings are unjust and illegal” was also carried unanimously.

In concluding his review of his three Court appearances, Malings promised to publish a sequel; and at the same time he delivered some final parting shots at his near neighbour Holford Risley J.P. and his fellow Magistrates sitting in rural areas where, in his opinion, they had many opportunities for “indulging in their personal animosities.” Unfortunately, it seems that Malings never wrote a ‘Sequel’. (In 1879 he retired as a Churchwarden, and the new appointee to the post was Holford Risley.)

While Whetton’s press was able to keep people informed and no doubt entertained with contentious issues, he continued with his more usual commissions, such as *Rules of the Union Beneficial Society, held at the Unicorn Inn, in Deddington in the County of Oxford, Instituted 1st of July 1816* (Deddington 1873); or another work in 1874, *Reply to Memorial*, the original “Memorial” having come from the Parishioners of Clifton. In the same year he printed a poster giving details of a visit by Lord Radstock, who was coming to preach on 22 September 1874. Around the same time Whetton also printed a notice from Joseph Edward Malins [Malings?] on behalf of *The Deddington & District Workman’s Medical Benefit Society*: the aim of the Society was to provide “Medical aid in sickness” and thus avoid “the objectionable necessity of a Parish Doctor.”

Up until the late 1870s, Whetton’s printing work was essentially reactive, fulfilling local requests and commissions; but in 1877 (or possibly earlier) he launched his own *Whetton’s Deddington Almanack, Commercial Advertiser, Town and Trade Directory* for the Year 1877. Printed and Published by the Proprietor, John Whetton Deddington. The price of the Almanack was one penny and the 1877 issue came in bright yellow printed wrappers. The Almanack was made up of three distinct sections: at its core was a thirty two page almanack, not printed by Whetton; next to that lay eight pages of advertisements for books published by Cassells, and around these two sections Whetton contributed twenty pages of his own material as well as the printed wrappers. The end result made an attractive well illustrated production. Along with the local information were plenty of advertisements for medical products, many making preposterous claims. Had “Wilkinsons

Universal Magic Purifying Drops” achieved what they claimed there would have been no need for hospitals or doctors: as well as providing a remedy for virtually every known disease, including cancer, these ‘drops’ also “gave brilliancy to the eye, a rosy healthy hue to the face, a pearly whiteness to the teeth, a delightful fragrance to the breath.”

Whetton’s *Almanac* continued for at least six years and retained the same style with a few minor modifications. The ‘k’ was dropped from Almanack, and the colour of the wrappers toned down from yellow to pale cream. Whetton was happy to inform his readers that the circulation was in the region of 1200 copies.

In January 1879 Whetton undertook another valuable publication for the local community with the launch of the *Deddington with Clifton and Hempton Parish Magazine*. Parish magazines became a very popular feature across the country in the last quarter of the 19th Century with many publishers and religious organisations offering appropriate texts for inclusion. The new Vicar, the Reverend Thomas Boniface, who was instituted in 1878, was clearly a prime mover in this new production and may well have supported it financially. The new Magazine operated on the same principle as the *Almanac*. In this case the inner core was formed by the *Parish Magazine* (perhaps the most popular of the various options available) printed by Wells, Gardner, Darton & Co., and around this Whetton provided the outer pages containing local information: the *Magazine* came out monthly and cost two pence. In July 1877, for example, there was news of the Annual Meeting of the Deddington Reading Room and Lending Library, located in the Town Hall: as well as weekly members, there were fifty annual subscribers and “a large number of volumes had been lent out.” The Library was able to offer thirteen weekly papers, some of which had been donated. An annual fête was held specifically to raise funds for the Library. In the following year, it was reported that membership was down a little, but five hundred volumes had been lent out; Holford Risley, the President, had given “several new games” which suggests that children were encouraged to use the Library.

Whetton and Boniface were not happy with the first year’s circulation of their Magazine, with a monthly circulation of about 160 copies the Vicar reported that he was “a considerable loser” by it. For 1881, they dropped the inner core of the *Parish Magazine*, and substituted the *Churchfolks Home Magazine*. The latter was less expensive and the reading matter lighter, so greater sales were anticipated, and Whetton retained his eight page

magazine wrap around, continuing with the same title as before. In the January 1881 issue, there was reference to the prospect of a Coffee Tavern in Deddington being established during the year, thanks to Captain Dashwood; and in April the Coffee Tavern was opened in New Street, with D. Bennett as its manager.

Despite the change of contents, Whetton and Boniface fared no better, and the *Churchfolks Home Magazine* was dropped at the end of the year, and the *Parish Magazine* was reintroduced for 1882. The *Deddington ... Parish Magazine* continued for another eleven years under the editorship of the Vicar, with the final issue in December 1892. These fourteen volumes contain much valuable information about people and events. In later years, the monthly circulation dropped to about 140 copies, which appears to be an amazingly low figure, and Whetton and Boniface may well have had to carry a loss. Yet such a figure may camouflage a high readership among parishioners. The population of Deddington in the 1880s was around 1800, and of those perhaps four hundred may have been children; Dissenters and Non-Conformists may have accounted for another four to five hundred. There would also have been quite a number of people with no particular allegiance to any church; and to those must be added the very poor who could not have afforded to buy the Magazine. Without these groups a core of the five or six hundred parishioners of SS. Peter and Paul would remain; if each parishioner's household averaged three people, and bought a copy of the *Parish Magazine*, then one hundred and forty copies could well have reached over four hundred of the parishioners each month, which would have accounted for a very high percentage of the Churchgoers.

Whetton now had an annual as well as a monthly publication and he continued with his usual type of work. Deddington in the 19th century hosted regular concerts. As far back as the 1840s, the Deddington and Bloxham Brass Band had performed at such events, and forty years later, Whetton's posters advertised others. In April 1880, he had details printed on pink paper of a Concert to be put on by the "Deddington District Branch" of the Church of England Temperance Society. Another group, the "Deddington Musical Society" also used Whetton's services during the '80s; and in April 1885 he printed particulars of a "Musical and Dramatic Entertainment" to be held at the Deddington National Schools. The event was repeated the following year, and Whetton printed an attractive broadside for the occasion.

During the early 1880s Whetton provided an astonishing mix of services: general printer, bookbinder, newsagent, stationer, bookseller, linen

and woollen draper, china, glass and earthenware dealer, Post and Stamp Office. And in his *Almanac*, he advertised for sale “Hats and Caps in the newest styles, and choice assortment of soaps, scents, and fancy articles suitable for presents.” All these were available at his premises in the Market Place.

CHARLES HOBLEY – JOHN WHETTON

It would appear, however, that during 1886 a new chapter was beginning in the history of printing in Deddington, for Whetton wound down his printing business (although he continued with his other commercial enterprises well into the new century.) It is possible to pinpoint the transition from one printer to the other, the long established John Whetton and a newcomer, Charles Hobley. The source for this lies in the imprint of the *Deddington Parish Magazine*. From its launch in January 1879 until May 1886, it was produced from the press of John Whetton at the Albion Office; from the following month, June 1886, to its closure in December 1892, it came from the press of Charles Hobley and bore the same imprint of the Albion Office. No reference is made in the *Magazine* to any change having taken place; it was a seamless transition. Rather oddly, given that Whetton’s Albion Office had been located in the Market Place, Hobley’s Albion Office may well have been at premises in the High Street, according to the entry in Kelly’s *Directory* of 1891, where he is described as a Printer and Bookbinder, whereas Whetton and his family continued in the Market Place.

The Parish Magazine closed in December 1892 and in January 1893 the *Deddington Deanery Magazine* appeared. Printed and published by the well known W. Potts of Banbury, this bore a Banbury imprint, thus falling outside the scope of this work on Deddington printers and publishers. The aim of the clergy in the Deanery in establishing this new magazine was to develop a sense of solidarity amongst the various parishes by pooling local information and thereby enhance a feeling of unity and purpose. It was also hoped that, with a reduced price of one penny and with an attractive large coloured sheet Almanack, circulation would increase. These Parish Almanacks were a distinctive feature in many late Victorian homes, bright and colourful with all the key parochial dates and matters of interest noted. A wide choice of these Almanacks was available, many of which could be overprinted or ‘localised’ to suit the individual Parish and, additionally, provided an ideal way of keeping in touch with residents

who had moved away. By 1900, circulation of the *Deanery Magazine* had reached somewhere in the region of eighteen hundred copies per month but that was for the whole Deanery area. From a purely Deddington perspective the new magazine was probably of much less interest than the earlier Whetton – Hobley – Boniface *Parish Magazine*. What was missing were the distinctive and detailed contributions from the Vicar, and those did not survive the transition from one magazine to the other.

As for the Whettons, they were a well established family in Deddington although now it is difficult to identify individual family members. There were at least three John Whettons, one who died in 1860 and another in 1877. In May 1900 an Arthur Whetton (photographer and stationer) was killed in a bicycle accident, leaving his widow, Anne, to carry on the business in the Market Place dealing in “Stationery, Bookselling and Fancy Business”; she determined to continue with her two sons and father in law (John Whetton, the printer.) This John Whetton had been born in 1831 and lived until 31 May 1927. He gave a great deal to Deddington as printer, publisher, postmaster and shopkeeper; as a tireless worker for the Temperance Movement, a Parish Councillor, and a devout and active member of the Wesleyan Reform Union. He was President of the Deddington Circuit for many years, and in the words of an obituarist “practically its honorary pastor.”

When the esteemed Vicar, the Reverend Thomas Boniface, retired in 1924 after forty seven years service, John Whetton (then himself aged ninety three) was asked to make the official valedictory presentation to him in the Market Place.

In the same way that John Whetton appeared to take over from Thomas Calcutt around 1860 as the dominant printer in Deddington, so Charles Hobley took over from Whetton around 1886 as the main, if not the sole, printer in town. Hobley may well have been employed as a printer, his name appearing as early as 1873; but, apart from the *Parish Magazine*, one of the first separate works to come off his press under his own imprint may well have been a notice announcing a sports day to be held on June 27 1887. This was to be part of Deddington’s celebrations marking Queen Victoria’s Golden Jubilee, and the sports field, loaned by Mr Hawkes, was located near the gas works with the entrance to the field from Earls Lane. Other examples of Hobley’s printing include a notice relating to County Council elections for 1888; in 1895 he issued a broadside displaying the Preaching Plan for the Deddington Circuit of the Wesleyan Reform Union, the Secretary being John Whetton; and among the printed information was a note that the Hymn

Book could be obtained from A. Whetton, Bookseller. Hobley was Secretary of the Deddington branch of the Ancient Order of Foresters, and probably carried out their printing work. Up to 1900, his name continued to appear quite regularly as the printer of local election notices and posters. It may well have been about that time that he closed the business or moved it elsewhere since he is not listed in Kelly's *Directory* for 1903, so it may be that one of his final works was an interesting large broadside from late 1900 giving notice of an open Parish Meeting to be held on 4th December 1900 at the boys' schoolroom. The purpose of the meeting was to provide residents with an opportunity to reconsider, and possibly revoke, a decision of the Parish Council for the siting of a new extension of the cemetery. Interpreting what was stated on the broadside, it seems that such a special Parish Meeting had authority granted under the Local Government Act of 1894 to allow for the revocation of a decision of a Parish Council. The broadside provided no information about the actual location of the proposed extension, nor the nature of the objections raised.

It transpired that the Parish Council had reviewed fourteen different possible sites and had decided on one at the southern end of the town in Chapman's Lane on land owned by Mr Townsend. The Open Parish Meeting held on 4th December voted against the Council's choice and resolved on a nearby site adjoining the Oxford road, on land also owned by Mr Townsend. A resolution was passed at the same meeting calling for a poll to settle matters. The legality of these proceedings was called into question, but apparently the Parish Council had come out in favour of the popular choice.

An unhappy parishioner wrote to the *Banbury Guardian* on 11th December 1900 making a strong case for a complete re-evaluation of the proposed site. The land, he wrote, was too expensive, a Chapel would have to be built with costs probably falling on the ratepayers, and, apart from these objections, the actual site would prove to be thoroughly inconvenient for parishioners, in particular those from Hempton and Clifton who would have to walk a considerable distance in all seasons. Furthermore, added the anonymous correspondent, the many poor people who could not afford a hearse for a funeral would be "compelled to follow a wheeled bier often through mud, wind and rainfall these miles to bury their dead." The result of the poll, which was held in the Magistrates' Court Room in Deddington, fully supported the earlier decision taken at the Open Parish Meeting in favour of the site next to the Oxford road.

This apparently final decision proved to be by no means the end of the matter, rather the prelude to a six-year negotiation which concluded finally with an ideal location: in effect, an extension of the existing graveyard to the east of the Church on land granted by the Ecclesiastical Commissioners. In an Appeal dated 6th July 1906, the Vicar and Churchwardens asked for funds to defray the expenses entailed in preparing and enclosing this extension: costs related to the creation of oak fencing, ornamental iron railings and other landscaping work. The final plan was ideal in every respect and also, according to the Appeal, would “save the Ratepayers a heavy burden.”

Other Local Printing and Printers

The rise and decline of the printer-publisher in 19th century Deddington would appear to coincide almost exactly with the reign of Queen Victoria. A contributing factor to the decline must have been the fall in population with a proportionate reduction in local printing requirements. According to the census returns, Deddington’s population shrank by nearly one third between 1851 and 1900. Perhaps an even more decisive factor in the decline related to the small profits that must have been generated by each of the successive printers, Hiron, Calcutt, Whetton and Hobley. How could they have invested in new machinery and thus be able to match competitors from Banbury, such as Cheney’s and Potts? It would be wrong to assume that throughout this period the Deddington printers received all the local commissions: there were various printers from Banbury, Bicester, Oxford and elsewhere who regularly secured a portion of the work available. For example, c.1880, J.W. Dew of Upper Heyford printed the *Rules of the Deddington Branch of the Girls’ Friendly Society* and Dew may well have printed c.1887 a notice of the *Deddington, Heyford & Aston Benefit Building Society* which had been established in 1854. George Coggins, a Deddington solicitor, was Secretary; the members met four times a year in the sociable setting of local pubs, twice at the Unicorn in Deddington, and once each at the Red Lion, Lower Heyford and the Red Lion, Steeple Aston. In 1879 Dew printed a list of the trustees and shareholders of this Society; and in 1888 Dew printed what appeared to be details of the same Society but, on closer inspection, it would seem that there had been a change in the law relating to these types of thrift benefit Societies. The title had been modified, the word “benefit” dropped and “permanent” substituted, and the information now revealed that the *Deddington, Heyford and Aston Permanent Building*

Society had been established in that year, 1888.

Another intriguing work that appeared in 1889, by a Deddington author but from the press of Walford of Banbury, came with the printed heading “with the Defendant’s Compliments.” The defendant was Mr W. Churchill of Deddington, and the title of Mr Churchill’s pamphlet was self explanatory: *The Recent Conviction of Mr. W. Churchill, Grocer, for Selling Whiskey to a Drunken Woman*. Churchill had had a licence for seventeen years, and on his appearance in Court there was much conflicting evidence bearing on the time and extent of the women’s drunkenness. After one and a half hour’s deliberation, Churchill was found guilty of the charge of selling the whiskey and fined ten shillings with costs of twenty nine shillings. Unusually his licence was not endorsed, and a reporter wrote, “It is hardly likely that his friends and neighbours will attach much importance to the matter.”

To these examples of ‘outside’ printers there are a number of broadsides and notices that bear no printer’s name or place of imprint. One of these was referred to earlier in connection with the Solicitor, Henry Churchill, and the *Deddington Church Sunday School Shoe Club* (1861), which was a Welfare Club established to assist “deserving” poor children to buy shoes. Once certified as “deserving” by the school teacher, the child saved three pence a week until half the cost of a pair of shoes was reached; the child would have to be re-certified as “deserving” and then the Club would pay the outstanding half cost of the shoes. Another unattributed poster appeared in 1885 which gave advance notice of a day trip from Deddington to Swansea Bay and the Mumbles. The day trippers needed to be keen as well as early risers, for the train left Somerton Station at 3.59 a.m. Not all trains ran to time even in the age of steam, and the travellers on that outing had to change their plans as a result of a hold-up at Bristol and were re-routed to Ilfracombe. Similar day trips to the coast had become a regular semi-parochial annual event, with anything between two and five hundred people from the locality taking the opportunity to join in such an occasion which was clearly a highlight of the year. A final example of an anonymously printed document appeared in 1889 in the form of a Share/Receipt Certificate for the Deddington Billiard Club: this was probably printed by Hobley.

This completes the review of printing and publishing in Deddington during the 19th century. As nothing has been written on this subject before, it must follow that what has been described here is by way of an intermediate study, subject to revision and amplification depending on new material that might yet come to light. Any such new information could extend the

effective printing period of the people referred to in these pages as well as add significant new titles not so far mentioned, or even identify unrecorded printers.

It would be of interest to know from current occupiers, if they hold the deeds, whether their properties were ever owned by any of the printers referred to. Photographic evidence may also exist, and images from the 1850s or '60s would be invaluable. Edward Taylor of New Street, a Deddington hairdresser and photographer, died in 1865, which suggests that there could be examples of his work in existence from this early period: his wife, Emma, continued the hairdressing business after his death and apparently re-established the photographic side by 1869. Arthur Whetton ran his own photographic studio in the 1890s and there might well be images taken by him in old albums in the possession of local families. Likewise there may be families who own copies of books bound by the various Deddington printers who offered this service displaying their binder's ticket or imprint on the endpapers.

Deddington Paper Mill

A further query arises in discussion of the earlier 19th Century printers: did they use paper from the Deddington paper mill? Regrettably, it is not yet possible to settle this question but further research would probably provide the answer if it were possible to locate examples of work from the period and examine these to look for watermarks, or subject them to other forms of paper analysis. It is also possible that there are account books or receipts still existing which would help to establish a connection. What we do know is that Deddington had a history of papermaking from the 17th century, and that the industry continued well into the 19th century. In Pigots & Co's *London & Provincial New Commercial Directory for 1842* there is reference to an "extensive paper mill belonging to a Mr. Emberlin." Alas, the 19th century history was one of almost continuous difficulties.

A brief summary of those developments is provided in the monumental *Victoria County History of Oxfordshire*. The Emberlin family owned and operated the Deddington paper mill in the early 19th century but by the 1830s the Emberlins were in financial difficulties; and by 1835, the mill's equipment was put up for sale as bankrupt stock. [V.C.H. Vol XI. p.107.] Despite this, paper continued to be made there, but by 1851 Sophia Emberlin was reported "to be doing no business." According to the *Victoria*

County History, Zachary Stilgoe, who owned the adjoining land, purchased the mill in the 1870s and converted into a corn mill, thus ending more than two hundred years of papermaking in Deddington. This is the brief account derived from modern sources.

There is more information from other sources, however, that fills in the period from the 1850s to the late 1860s. In the *North Oxfordshire Monthly Times* of September 1853, the sale was announced of the freehold of “Deddington Paper Mill,” together with buildings, house, cottage, barn, stabling and land. The whole property was being put up for sale by auction, unless sold privately, “by directions of the Mortgagee and under a power incidental to his security, ...”. Despite this auction notice other names appear as papermakers or manufacturers in Deddington after 1853. In 1861, George Peters (who was born at sea) was registered as a papermaker; and also a William Robins. In Dutten, Allen & Co.’s *Directory* for 1863 James (Joseph?) Bryant Hobday was entered as a papermaker, and is also listed in the same occupation in Melville & Co.’s *Directory* of 1867. As well as J. B. Hobday, the name of William Hobday appears in the Post Office *Directory* of 1864 as a paper manufacturer; so it would appear that the Hobdays were probably the last papermakers in Deddington, bringing to an end a two hundred year tradition.

From indentures and documents in the possession of Mr Robert Stilgoe of Adderbury Grounds Farm, it is possible to enlarge further on the above details relating to the papermaking industry in Deddington; and from these records, to clarify issues connected to the ownership of Deddington Paper Mill in the 19th century. The Mill passed from John Emberlin on his death in 1801 to his son John, who in his turn died in 1836 leaving the Mill to his son John, who was then about twenty two years old. In 1837 he mortgaged the property in the sum of £500, loaned by Thomas Gibbard Turner of Milton near Adderbury. This mortgage was transferred to George Barnard of Steeple Barton in 1840 and increased to £1000: it would appear that the terms of the mortgage were not adhered to, and Barnard foreclosed, and put the Mill up for auction, presumably around 1853, although no auction actually took place. In 1857 the property was purchased by Joseph Bryant Hobday, a printer, and almost immediately mortgaged with a loan from the same George Barnard. Barnard had the right to exercise the power of sale if Hobday defaulted in payment; and this situation arose in late 1866, or early in 1867, and in consequence Barnard exercised this right, and sold the Paper Mill to Zachariah Walden Stilgoe in June 1867.

For a time, the Hobdays employed three women and two men at the Paper Mill. However, following the sale to Zachariah Stilgoe the Mill was converted into a grist or corn mill, and papermaking ceased. The only artefact remaining from this two hundred year history of papermaking in Deddington is a papermaking mould measuring 90cm by 37cm. (a dimension that no longer conforms to modern paper sizes.) It was rescued for posterity just in time by one of the Stilgoes who saw it being cut in half. The mould contains a watermark which is formed by the familiar 'Britannia' design, and the countermark by the initials 'J.E.' (John Emberlin) with the date of 1837.

The Mill, then grinding corn, was sold to Christ Church Oxford in 1907, but was re-purchased by the family by the early 1950s, and remains with them.

It is evident that the final forty or fifty years of papermaking in Deddington (c. 1820/1867) was carried on in a very difficult economic climate, but during that period the following were among those who worked at the Paper Mill as proprietors, employees or apprentices:

John Anthony, John Brinley, Francis Casebrook, James [H]Edges, John Emberlin (father, son and grandson), Elizabeth, Mary, Sophia and William Emberlin; John Fisher, Walter Gardner, William Gibbs, William Gibson, Joseph Handsworth, Joseph and William Hobday, Thomas Jarrat; Henry, John and Thomas Malins, Sarah Matthews, George Peters, William Robins, Francis Scarsbrook, Stephen Simmonds; George Townsend, Richard Valler, James and Ann Wheeler, Thomas Williams, John and Joseph Willson. This list is not exhaustive but includes most of the names (some had variant spelling).

By enumerating such a wide variety of the works printed or published in Deddington during the Victorian age, it becomes clear that the residents were very well served by Hiron, Calcutt, Whetton and Hobley. From the publications, it is possible to discern a robust and critical independence of views within the community which could be expressed in a healthy, non deferential tone. With the apparent cessation of the press in Deddington from around 1900, the opportunity for residents to communicate with each other in an open, public way was drastically diminished. More than seventy years passed before anything fulfilling a similar role appeared with the publication of the *Deddington News* in September 1976.

PART 11. The Twentieth Century

The *Deddington News* was not the first new printing or publishing venture in Deddington in the 20th century. That distinction appears to rest with the Reverend Maurice Frost and his own private press which he used and housed in the Vicarage. Maurice Frost succeeded Thomas Boniface on his retirement in 1924, having served for forty six years as incumbent; Frost, in turn, served as Vicar for thirty seven years until his death in 1961. A distinguished hymnologist, Frost was awarded a D. Litt. from Cambridge in 1955. Printing was one among his various interests, although it is not clear when he either began or ceased to print nor the range of his output. We do know that in 1950 he printed and published *Deddington Church Schools, 1550-1950*: this is no more than a leaflet but has a Foreword by the Bishop of Dorchester. The substance of the work contained an appeal for funds in order that the schools could be “brought up to modern standards...”; and the total amount required was £9,500, of which the School Managers had to find half. The desired end, Frost suggested, could be achieved by the use of covenants, and the leaflet came with a tear-off covenant form which could be sent to the Treasurer, Major Spence of Deddington Manor. This appeal bears no imprint or date.

Six months later another and longer work appeared: *A Touchestone for this time Present* [pp. 8.] Imprinted at Deddington, 1951. This pamphlet rendered an account of the progress of fundraising six months after the launch of the appeal, and was written in a quaintly archaic style, “No surer Touchestone has bin devised for testinge those who proclaime ye neede for definite Churche teachinge than a Subscription List, wherebye theire wordes can be translated into deedes.” Covenants and other gifts had reduced the total owing by about £800.

Around the same time, another work appeared, also connected to fundraising for the school. *A Day's Worke over-tyme for the schole: or The Old Schole-Tye to turn the tyde. Beyinge a plan for past pupils to P.A.Y.E. towards Ye retaynyng of Deddington Church Schole.* [pp. iv.] Imprinted at Deddington, 1951. In the course of the year yet another work was published, *Briefs and other notes from Deddington Church Register* [pp. 8.] Deddington MCMLI, the title printed in red and black. Towards the end of the year he also printed a very short piece, *Banbury Clerical Society 1852-1952*. Fixtures for the Centenary Year 1952. Printed by M.F. for the Society,

over-against the Parish Church. Deddington 1951. Maurice Frost had at last disclosed himself as the printer; and in a further publication in the following year he was more explicit and precise when publishing a work in aid of the bell ringers. *Deddington Parish Church, Oxfordshire. Notes of the Tower & Bells*. Printed by M.F. at the Vicarage, at the south side of the Church, for the Ringers. [pp.8.] Deddington 1952, and was for sale at six pence.

We know a little more of Maurice Frost's output but not the totality. He printed bookmarks and labels for the honey produced from his own hives, and a distinctive calendar personalised with details provided by local residents. He also printed the wedding service for Edmund and Betty Pearson in July 1954. It is probable that he produced other works at his Vicarage press, but unfortunately no details are available; nor is there any information on the type of press he worked with. The various publications by Frost, although of restricted circulation were available to the general public, but this not the case with another work written and published annually by Maurice French.

The News Letter for the Queen's Own Oxfordshire Hussars ("D" Squadron) first appeared in 1959, initially from French's home at College Farm, from 1969 from his home in Earls Lane. There is no indication where, or by whom, these News Letters were printed. Maurice French was born in Deddington in 1893: he had served in the Hussars during the Great War of 1914-1918. The Hon Arthur Villiers of Middleton Stoney had also served with the Hussars, and after the war, he established a Trust to assist old members of the Oxfordshire Hussars who had served in that war. The annual *News Letter* was circulated only among the old comrades; Maurice French had conceived the idea and undertook its production for twenty five years until his death in 1984.

Deddington in the 19th century had been a very active community with a great many societies and clubs, and that tradition was sustained throughout the 20th century. It is surprising that such a long time passed before an enterprising group of individuals decided to set up a community newspaper. Perhaps the Queen's Silver Jubilee in 1977, and the forthcoming celebrations and events had something to do with the decision. The joint endeavours of a well organised group led to the appearance of the first issue of the *Deddington News* in September 1976, and subsequently monthly thereafter, except for January and August. Gerard Sullivan had been a key figure behind the project assisted by his wife Mary and other members of the group, Jill Cheeseman, Monica Sansome, Tony Mann and Mary

Robinson, who became the first Editor. There was some initial criticism, but the founders persevered and the formula they had devised has continued in the main in its original arrangement, for the last twenty seven years. A spirit of independence and openness has characterised the *Deddington News* from its beginning; it has never become anyone's personal fiefdom. Reliant on voluntary effort by a team under a Managing Editor, posts have rotated over the years, with new people lending their assistance while retaining the support of older and experienced hands. Because it has been conducted in such an efficient way, it would be easy to assume that the magazine is produced and delivered to the door as if by right, whereas its appearance is due solely to a number of people using their skills and devoting a considerable amount of time every month for the benefit of all the residents of Deddington, Clifton and Hempton.

The Parish Council made a financial contribution for the first three months, but the self sufficiency is derived primarily from income from advertisements and also by donations from time to time. Originally, the *Deddington News* was printed, or more accurately duplicated, by the Vicar, the Reverend George Palmer and was distributed by the Girl Guides: in more recent years volunteers of all ages, octogenarians amongst them, have continued to deliver to every home. In the first issue there was a somewhat melancholic note reporting that the significant Church fittings from St James, Clifton had now been disposed of. The Church had been declared redundant in 1974. In 1851, as referred to earlier, Thomas Calcutt had printed the Reverend William Wilson's "Address" at the laying of the cornerstone of the new Church of St James Clifton; and the Reverend Cotton Risley, who had provided most of the funds necessary to build the Church, had laid it.

The contents of the *News* covers reports from clubs, societies, the School, the Churches, the Fire Service and the Police, and from a farming and a gardening correspondent; a Monthly Diary, and letters page. There is a valuable historical section which regularly includes a variety of retrospective pieces composed by Ruth Johnson; and since December 1987, Buffy Heywood of Deddington Manor, once the home of the Reverend William Cotton Risley, J.P., has contributed her selection of extracts from Cotton Risley's forty four volumes of *Diaries* that reflect aspects of life in Deddington one hundred and fifty years ago. The *Diaries* are deposited in the Bodleian Library and are clearly a highly important source for the history of Deddington in the middle years of the 19th century. Another valuable and regular feature of the Magazine is an account of the proceedings of the

previous monthly Parish Council meeting. Currently (2004) and for several years, Norman Stone has contributed this report in an admirably concise, impartial and accurate form. To the many regular columns are added occasional features or articles submitted by readers. The Obituaries will be of interest to future historians so the fuller they are, the greater the value especially if they contain particular reference to an individual's contribution to the local community.

The *Deddington News* has had the following Editors since its launch in 1976:

Mary Robinson	September 1976 to May 1979;
Margaret Leaver and Jill Cheeseman	June to October 1979;
Jill Cheeseman	November 1979 to January 1982;
Derek and Una Vickers	February 1982 to January 1983;
Janet Clark	February 1983 to January 1984;
Ralph Elsley	February 1984 to January 1985;
Marianne Elsley	February 1985 to January 1987;
Norman and Angela Stone	February 1987 to February 1994;
Sylvie Spenceley	March 1994 to August 1997;
Kristin Thompson	September 1997 to January 2002
Christopher Hall	February 2002 –

A new publisher's name appeared around 1990 when Norman Drake, responding to requests, called on his experience as a former Marketing Director of Blackwell Publishers and established his own enterprise, Oxon Publishing. One of his publications was *Stone-Paper-Scissors, Shanghai 1921-45*. An Autobiography. The Stead Sisters. Oxon Publishing, Market House, Market Place, Deddington. 1991. About six titles were published before Norman Drake curtailed this venture in order to develop his own specialist academic book marketing and sales agency, Drake International Services Ltd. The Drakes have lived in Deddington for more than thirty years and their children attended the local schools. Publishing seems to run in the family: apart from Norman, his wife Joy has worked for publishers, and their daughter Helen became Director of Marketing for Penguin's academic books. Their son Ashley set up several successful publishing imprints in Wales, and in late 2003 was appointed Director of the prestigious University of Wales Press.

Two works were published, though not printed, in Deddington in 2000, both associated with Millennium events. The first, *Discovering Deddington* published by the Deddington Map Group, Stone House, Market Place, was based on information gathered in the process of a very sophisticated and detailed mapping project focused on Deddington, Clifton and Hempton. The second work, a booklet *Newman at Deddington*, was written and published by Brian Carter, High Street, and was issued to accompany an extensive exhibition mounted in the Town Hall to celebrate the life and work of Cardinal John Henry Newman [1801-1890] who, as a young Fellow of Oriel College, delivered his first ever speech on 19th September 1825 in Deddington.

Given the range and variety of printed material emanating from Deddington printers and publishers in the nineteenth century, the twentieth century hardly stands comparison, apart from one striking exception; and that is the firm of Philip Allan Publishers Ltd, registered on 28th March 1973.

The world of John Samuel Hiron in 1840 and that of Philip Allan in 1973 were fundamentally different and yet they share certain similarities. Each started up his own business dealing with the printed word, neither could have had any assurance that success would follow; both had to define their markets and adapt their service to fit. Both businesses were family concerns, John Hiron with his wife Mary, and Philip Allan with his wife Suzanne, and each began as a cottage industry, the Allans located in their home at Red Lion Cottage in the Market Place, where nearby in the same Market Place Hiron had established his business one hundred and thirty three years earlier.

John Hiron worked as a printer and publisher which he combined with his other occupations, while Philip Allan has been solely a publisher. The printing world has changed radically in the last forty years with the rapid disappearance of the traditional methods of type setting and the introduction of computer technology together with other sophisticated forms of photolithography and digital printing. Perhaps the most symbolic event marking the break from the old technology was the cessation of printing by the Oxford University Press between the late 1980s and early 1990s. Since then the actual printing process has been carried out just as easily in the Far East or South America as in Britain.

Hiron, typical of innumerable 19th century printers across the land, printed and published in-house; purchasers of his books and pamphlets

or readers of his notices would naturally have lived within the immediate locality where his work would have been familiar to them, but outside those narrow geographical bounds he would have been unknown.

The position with Philip Allan is just the opposite. Few if any of his publications are generally known within the locality, and yet the name Deddington has become familiar both nationally and globally wherever studies for examinations in the English language are undertaken, principally on account of his use of Deddington as the place of publication. All the many Philip Allan magazines, journals and books are edited and designed at the company's extensive headquarters in the Market Place.

Philip Allan's first publication appeared in the summer of 1974 with *Business Behaviour*. Designed as a textbook for undergraduates, some of the immediate response to the book was discouraging, but it was followed shortly afterwards by a second publication, *Introduction to Microeconomics* by David Laidlaw, which has become something of a classic and is regularly revised, and has been continuously in print for thirty years.

Ten years later, in 1983 the firm explored a new avenue with the publication of the *Economic Review*, a journal aimed specifically at A Level students: the marketing was sophisticated and directed at teachers and schools rather than the individual students, thus enabling the school to order in bulk and then distribute to the students. So successful was this venture that similar A Level magazines and journals were devised for other subjects resulting in the revenue from the sales of the journals exceeding that of the academic book publishing. In 1989 the textbook side of the business, including Laidlaw's title, was sold to Simon & Schuster, and energies were focused on extending the range of journals to cater for GCSE Level studies and examinations, as well as A Level. There were some casualties along the way, and not all new titles survived.

During the nineties Philip Allan experimented in a project to launch a specialist reference book publishing company under the name of Fitzroy Dearborn of Chicago and London, but the venture did not develop in the way he had hoped and he sold his interest, re-focusing attention instead on expanding further into the educational market. As part of the new approach Philip Allan began to publish specialist resources for teachers, as well as extending and refining data for students. The goal was a comprehensive range of subject materials all of which concentrated on the curriculum and examinations, and included a return to publishing textbooks. It would seem that no need of the students was left uncatered for: work books, textbooks, unit guides, revision

guides, specialist dictionaries, and flash cards for revision. For teachers, there were reference books covering all subjects and exams; and for subscribers to *Business Review*, an online website with support materials and a CD-ROM archive containing every issue of the Review.

Philip Allan now publishes fourteen subject Journals which, depending on the title, appear from three to five times a year. The circulation of each Journal reflects the popularity of the subject at AS-A Level or GCSE, and ranges between 5,000 to 20,000 copies per title with a cumulative total over the years running into millions, and all published in Deddington. The success of the Journals led to the expansion of the book list, and in 2003 eighty four new titles were published and over one hundred are planned for 2004.

Most of the editorial work is carried out in Deddington along with the designing which is carried out in an Apple Mac studio. The finished texts are transferred to CDs and delivered to printers who may be in any part of the country, the choice of printer being dependent on their expertise and price.

In 1999 Philip Allan extended his range of services by buying out a company that specialised in educational conferences, trading under the name of Updates. That name has now been incorporated as a suffix to Philip Allan: their trading activities, both publishing and conference related now use the name Philip Allan Updates. The conference side of the business has been developed vigorously and with success: last year one hundred and fifty conferences for students were organised and two hundred training days for teachers, all held at different locations across the country.

The development of the business from kitchen table in 1973 to a multi million pound publishing house in 2004 is a remarkable achievement, and reflects authorial and editorial excellence combined with first class design and art work. Interestingly, Hiron touched on the subject of educational books, the area that Philip Allan has made his speciality. In *Hiron's Improved Arithmetical Tables for Schools*, already referred to and published in 1850 or earlier, Hiron made sales of at least 12,000 copies. This was easily the most successful of all 19th century Deddington publications; and had Hiron capitalised on that success with other educational titles, who knows how his business might have evolved.

In the course of tracing the rise and decline of the printer-publisher in 19th century Deddington, two distinctive features divide that world from the one today. First, the 19th century printer stood in a direct line with printing techniques established in the 15th century, ones that survived for five

hundred years; but the many changes introduced over the last thirty years or so have transformed that old familiar world into one that would be totally unrecognisable to the 19th century printer and his predecessors. The speed of change in the last few decades has been so great that each new technological advance is rapidly superseded, so the most advanced processes today will appear quaint in another thirty years. Laser and digital printing may well be confined to episodes in the history of printing, although no doubt through all these developments, the “Private Press” will continue in the almost hidden and now esoteric world where the values and satisfaction in the application of the old technologies, familiar to Hiron and the others, will continue to thrive.

The second distinctive feature relates to a general observation on the nature of much of the work produced by the 19th century printers and its association with the work of the Church. Hiron, Calcutt, Whetton and Hobley devoted much of their output to ecclesiastical or religious subjects. Not just the sermons, tracts, Church notices, religious periodicals or the parish magazine, but also the less overtly Church oriented publications relating to the schools, for example, and some of the musical entertainments: in many instances, the local sports clubs had strong ecclesiastical support or patronage. There were few well organised parishes where the local Vicar or Curate did not play a significant role in the encouragement of sports clubs. The Victorian Church generated the concept of an ideal of the “muscular Christian”, perhaps well exemplified in the title of a work by the Reverend Thomas Waugh [born 1853], *The Cricket Field of the Christian Life*. Apparently the Reverend Maurice Frost, Deddington’s Vicar from 1924 to 1961, had faith in the ennobling qualities of boxing and provided training facilities and a ring in the spacious Vicarage.

Had it not been for regular printing for the Church, and Church associated activities, there would have been little work for any of the 19th century printers; in fact, it is difficult to see how they could have survived at all without it.

In the course of the last one hundred years, not only has printing technology changed beyond recognition, so has society. The 19th century perhaps marked the end of the ages of faith. There existed a religious dimension which engaged with aspects of people’s lives, embraced religious language with terms of reference that would have been familiar to most. In the intervening century, much of this once commonly shared set of beliefs and use of religious language no longer hold sway, nor are they understood

by the majority.

Hiron, Calcutt, Whetton and Hobley together provide a valuable insight into the history of Deddington and parts of North Oxfordshire through the works they printed and published, and the world they reveal was one of an active and vibrant community: not, as one might have assumed, one of uneventful rural tranquillity. Their legacy of printed work also forms part of the larger history of the development of English provincial printing as well as bearing testimony to the closing stages of the transition from a broadly religious to a secular society. Neither the printing processes they utilised nor the nature of the society they lived in and served can ever return.

Printed Sources

The Bodleian Library holds the majority of the titles printed or published in Deddington and referred to in this work. Of particular importance is the variety of ephemera contained in the scrapbooks of George Coggins, a 19th century Deddington solicitor. The wealth of town and country Directories provides valuable information about trades and occupations. Registers of Baptisms, Marriages and Deaths, census returns and valuation records all contribute useful details although variations in spelling can present problems. Histories of Deddington provide very little, if any, information on printers and publishing but all the following works have been consulted for general information on the town.

The Victoria History of the County of Oxford; H.M. Colvin's *A History of Deddington*, [S.P.C.K. London 1963] gives the most valuable account of Deddington, in particular its early development to the mid 19th century; Mary Vane Turner's *The Story of Deddington*, [J. Smart & Co. Brackley, 1933] is a more informal history but contains many interesting details and complements H.M. Colvin's *History*.

Two earlier brief works are well worth studying. *Historical and Descriptive Notices of the Parish of Deddington, Oxon*, by the Reverend E Marshall [James Parker, Oxford 1879] and William Wing's *Supplement to Marshall's Deddington* [reprinted from the 'Oxford Chronicle' 1879.]

A recent work, *Discovering Deddington* [Deddington Map Group, Deddington 2000] combines a narrative where historical details relating to people and buildings are incorporated into a descriptive itinerary of suggested walks around the area; the book also contains an attractive pictorial record of the town. The *Deddington News*, since its beginning in 1976 has had regular contributions that focus on individuals and events from Deddington's past.





Watermark design with the initials J.E. (John Emberlin),
owner of Deddington Paper Mill in 1837.

Facing page:
Britannia watermark design in the Deddington papermaking mould, 1837.

Back cover:
Title page of Hiron's *Woodstock Union and Deddington Directory*, 1843

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THE
WOODSTOCK UNION
AND
DEDDINGTON
DIRECTORY,

AND
PARISH OFFICER'S COMPLETE BOOK OF REFERENCE,
FOR THE YEAR COMMENCING MAY 1, 1843.

CONTENTS.

Incumbents of Livings in the Established Church—Places of Worship not in connection with the Establishment—The Board of Guardians and their Officers—Registrars of Births, Deaths, and Marriages—Days to be observed by Parish Officers, Standing Engagements, etc., between May 1, 1843, and April 30, 1844—Magistrates, Petty Sessions, etc., at Deddington and Woodstock—Corporation of Woodstock—Turnpike Roads—Post Offices—Assessed Taxes—Excise—Quarter Sessions—Woodstock and Deddington Fairs—Constables' Allowances—Electors of Woodstock—County Officers—Sheriff's and County Courts—Surrounding Poor Law Unions—List of Fairs and Bankers—Table of the Livings in the Established Church, within the Union—Statistics, and other information of general utility.

DEDDINGTON:

PRINTED AND PUBLISHED BY JOHN S. HIRON;

SOLD ALSO BY

WHICHELLO, WOODSTOCK; POTTS, STONE, BANBURY; ALDEN, OXFORD;

SMITH, CHIPPING NORTON; SHAYLOR, WITNEY; SMITH,

BICESTER; AND BARRETT, BRACKLEY.