Economic change, poverty and poor relief: the able-bodied pauper and the new poor law in North Yorkshire, 1834 - 1900

Potter, Yvonne Joyce

How to cite:
Potter, Yvonne Joyce (1980) Economic change, poverty and poor relief: the able-bodied pauper and the new poor law in North Yorkshire, 1834 - 1900, Durham theses, Durham University. Available at Durham E-Theses Online: http://etheses.dur.ac.uk/7425/

Use policy
The full-text may be used and/or reproduced, and given to third parties in any format or medium, without prior permission or charge, for personal research or study, educational, or not-for-profit purposes provided that:

- a full bibliographic reference is made to the original source
- a link is made to the metadata record in Durham E-Theses
- the full-text is not changed in any way

The full-text must not be sold in any format or medium without the formal permission of the copyright holders.

Please consult the full Durham E-Theses policy for further details.
Economic Change, Poverty and Poor Relief: The Able-bodied Pauper and the New Poor Law in North Yorkshire, 1834 - 1900.

ABSTRACT.

The framers of the Poor Law Amendment Act of 1834 envisaged that, under the reformed relief system, with its tenet of 'less eligibility', the problem of able-bodied pauperism would disappear. The thesis investigates the relief of able-bodied poor in North Yorkshire, in the period c 1834-1900, and asks whether the New Poor Law, as it operated in this rural northern region, was successful in terms of the aims of '1834'. The interest of such a regional study lies in the unique problems of poverty, associated with de-industrialisation, which were typical of neither the rural south nor the northern industrial towns - areas which have received considerable attention from both contemporary poor law commentators and historians. The first chapter is concerned with the process of de-industrialisation - the timing and extent of the decline of rural industries, the size and distribution of their labour force, in addition to their rates of wages and employment. The interaction between central and local poor law authorities in the administration of able-bodied poor relief in North Yorkshire forms the subject of chapter two, while chapter three examines in more detail the pressure exerted on the poor relief system by different groups of able-bodied poor in the period of de-industrialisation. Finally, the relative importance of poor law relief in the lives of the able-bodied poor is considered. Concentrating on just one aspect of the New Poor Law and attempting to relate socio-economic developments to the administration of poor relief necessitated sifting through much primary poor law material for only a modest return and analysing de-industrialisation in more detail than is possible from secondary sources alone.
Economic Change, Poverty and Poor Relief: The able-bodied pauper and the New Poor Law in north Yorkshire, 1834 - 1860.

Thesis submitted for the degree of Master of Arts in the Faculty of Social Sciences, University of Durham, 1980.

Yvonne Joyce Potter, B.A. (Hons). Dunelm.
Department of Economic History.

The copyright of this thesis rests with the author. No quotation from it should be published without his prior written consent and information derived from it should be acknowledged.
Chapter One

1. The Textile Industries
   a. Textile Mill Workers
   b. Handicraft Textile Workers
      (i) Handloom Linen Weavers
      (ii) Handloom Cotton and Worsted
           Weavers and Woolcombers in
           Settle and Skipton Unions
      (iii) Hand Spinners
   2. Lead Mining
   3. Industries of North East Yorkshire
   4. Agricultural Labourers

Chapter Two

1. National Policy
   a. The Report
   b. The Act
   c. The Orders
   2. The Introduction of the 1894
      Poor Law in North Yorkshire
   a. Formation of the Unions
   b. Relief Policy before the
      Introduction of the
      Orders, 1837-42
   c. The Introduction of the
      Prohibitory Order
   d. The Introduction of the
      Regulation Order 1852
   3. The Orders in Operation in North
      Yorkshire
   a. Illegal Relief
   b. Exceptions to the Prohibition
      of Outdoor Relief
   c. Unofficial Methods of Relief

cont'd
**Chapter Three**

- Pauperism amongst selected groups of the able-bodied in North Yorkshire.
  1. Lead Miners  pp. 107 - 121
  2. Handloom Linen Weavers  pp. 122 - 136
  3. Handicraft Textile Workers in Settle and Skipton Unions  pp. 137 - 149
  4. Hand Knitters  pp. 149 - 152
  5. Textile Mill Workers  pp. 152 - 154
  6. Agricultural Labourers  pp. 155 - 166
  7. Non-Resident Poor  pp. 169 - 180
  8. The Relief of Vagrancy in North Yorkshire  pp. 181 - 186

**Chapter Four**

- Alternative Sources of Relief  pp. 189 - 206
  1. Secondary Occupations and Subsidiary Earnings  pp. 189 - 196
  2. Credit and Subsistence Payments, Benefit Clubs and Charity  pp. 197 - 200
  3. Political and Industrial Action  pp. 200 - 206

**Conclusion**  pp. 207 - 217

**Appendices**  pp. 218 - 265

**Bibliography**  pp. 266 - 286
Appendix A

1. A map showing the unions of North Yorkshire.


5. Population of the townships and parishes in North Yorkshire, 1801-1901.


C

1. A survey of the printed census occupation tables.

2. Textile mills in the North Yorkshire (the West Riding) unions in 1836.

3. The number of textile mills and the size and age structure of the factory labour force in North Yorkshire parishes in 1839.

D

1. The number of adult male weavers in the unions of Stokesley, Patenoy Bridge, Northallerton and the town of Knaresborough in 1841, '51, '61 and '71.

2. The number of adult linen weavers, aged 20 years and above, in each of the townships comprising Patenoy Bridge, Stokesley, Northallerton unions and the town of Knaresborough in 1841, '51, '61 and '71.

3. Adult male weavers as a percentage of the total population of the principal linen manufacturing townships in 1841.

E

1. The number of weavers - both sexes, all ages - (distinguishing, where possible, cotton and worsted weavers) in the townships comprising Stokesley union in 1841, '51, '61 and '71.

2. The number of weavers and woolcombers - both sexes, all ages - in the townships comprising Skipton union in 1851.

F

1. Total tonnage of dressed leadore produced at Yorkshire mines, 1873-1900.

2. The number of leadminers, aged 20 years and above, in the unions of Reeth, Skipton, Patenoy Bridge, Leyburn and Asgarth in 1841, '51, '61 and '71.

3. The number of leadminers, aged 20 years and above, in the principal leadmining townships of Reeth, Skipton, Patenoy Bridge, Leyburn and Asgarth unions in 1841, '51, '61 and '71.

H

1. Dates of formation of North Yorkshire unions and introduction of the Prohibitory Order and Regulation Order.

I

1. Popular verse attacking the poor relief policy of Lord Select Vestry, 1832.


3. A graph showing the amount expended in outrelief and in-maintenance, 1861-98, in Reeth union.

4. Worthily sum expended in outdoor relief (to nearly S) in select years in Reeth union.
Appendices (cont'd)

Appendix J - Table 1  Monthly expenditure on occasional and casual relief in Knarosborough township from April 1831 to August 1834.

K - Table 1  The number of resident adult males in the North Riding and Norfolk, relieved on account of want of work, insufficient earnings and other causes, not sickness, accident or infirmity.

2 A return showing the number of able-bodied adult males relieved in North Riding unions during the half years, ending Lady Day, 1844, and 29th September, 1844.

3 A return showing the number of applications for relief from able-bodied men in North Riding unions from Lady Day to December 31st, 1849.

4 A return showing the number of persons receiving relief on account of want of work and in aid of wages, and the amount of such relief, during the tenth week of the Christmas quarter, 1852, in the North Riding unions.

5 The number of able-bodied, adult males relieved in four North Riding unions on January 1st and July 1st in select years.

L - Half yearly accounts of three North Yorkshire poor law unions, showing the expenditure on non-resident poor relief.

M - Table 1  The age structure of the population in each of the unions of Malton, Keeton, Sedbergh and Pateley Bridge in 1851 and 1891.

2 The average age of linen weavers, aged 15 years and above, in several North Yorkshire townships in 1841, '51, '61 and '71.

3 Three graphs showing the age structure of male linen weavers (excluding powerloom weavers) in Northallerton union, Middledale and the town of Knarosborough, in each of the census years, 1841-71.

A survey of migration by the linen weavers of Knarosborough between 1841 and 1851.

Family structure of the linen weaving population in Knarosborough, 1841-71.
I would like to thank the following people for their help and advice:

Dr. D. Mythell, my supervisor, my family, friends in Newcastle and London, Mrs. Barker the typist, and the staff of the various public record offices and libraries.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Acronym</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>P.L.C.</td>
<td>Poor Law Commission</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>P.L.B.</td>
<td>Poor Law Board</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>L.G.B.</td>
<td>Local Government Board</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U</td>
<td>Weaver</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CJ</td>
<td>Cotton Weaver</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LJ</td>
<td>Linen Weaver</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MJ</td>
<td>Worsted Weaver</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HLW</td>
<td>Handloom Weaver</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HLC</td>
<td>Handloom Cotton Weaver</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HLCMfd</td>
<td>Handloom Worsted Weaver</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PLL</td>
<td>Power Loom Weaver</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WC</td>
<td>Woolcomber</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>P.P.</td>
<td>Parliamentary Paper</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B.G.M.</td>
<td>Board of Guardians’ Minutes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>W.M.</td>
<td>Vestry Minutes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S.V.M.</td>
<td>Select Vestry Minutes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B.I.</td>
<td>Letter Books</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C.S.S.</td>
<td>Census Enumerators’ Schedules</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C.L.H.S.</td>
<td>Cleveland and Teesside Local History Society Bulletin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E.H.R.</td>
<td>Economic History Review</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>J.R.S.S.</td>
<td>Journal of the Royal Statistical Society</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>J.S.S.</td>
<td>Journal of the Statistical Society</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>N.Y.C.R.O.</td>
<td>North Yorkshire County Record Office</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>W.Y.C.R.O.</td>
<td>West Yorkshire County Record Office</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>P.R.O.</td>
<td>Public Record Office</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B.M.</td>
<td>British Museum</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C.U.P.</td>
<td>Cambridge University Press</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
ECONOMIC CHANGE, POVERTY AND POOR RELIEF:
THE ABLE-BODIED PAUPER AND THE NEW POOR LAW
IN NORTH YORKSHIRE, 1834 - 1900.

INTRODUCTION

This thesis is not a general history of Poor Law administration in North Yorkshire after 1834: it makes no attempt to deal with most of the routine matters - bastardy, orphanage, sickness and old age - which occupied the day to day attention of the Boards of Guardians and their officials, throughout the nineteenth century. Rather it is an attempt to concentrate on one particular facet of the working of the New Poor Law - the way in which, in practice, it dealt with the special problems of the adult male 'able-bodied' pauper in one predominantly rural area of northern England. The study of 'able-bodied' pauperism in North Yorkshire seems worth undertaking for two reasons: first, because the chief interest of the framers of the Poor Law of 1834 lay in the eradication of this able-bodied pauperism and, second, because North Yorkshire's social and economic history after 1834 was typical of neither the rural south of England nor the urban/industrial north - areas which have received most attention from poor law historians in the past.(1) It was an area which, in the course of the century, became

'de-industrialised'; the only notable growth within the region to compensate for the decline of mining and textile manufacture and other non-agricultural activity was in the service towns, particularly Harrogate and Scarborough, and several textile manufacturing towns in the south of the region. Moreover, North Yorkshire was sufficiently close to major industrial and urban areas to feel their influence strongly.

The area chosen for the study comprises twenty two Poor Law unions - fifteen in the North Riding and seven in the West Riding. The choice of region was determined by two factors - the existence of records and its rural, as opposed to urban, character. Keighley, Wharfedale and Wetherby unions in the West Riding were omitted for several reasons; they were adjacent to the urban/industrial unions round Bradford and Leeds and had features of both rural and urban/industrial districts. Keighley and Wharfedale unions were described in the early twentieth century as consisting of "populous manufacturing districts ... all closely connected with heavy woollen and worsted manufactures."(3) Keighley marked the northerly extent of the influence of the anti-poor law movement in the 1830's and early 1840's. Moreover no poor law union records survive for Wharfedale and Wetherby unions. With the exceptions of Middlesbrough, Guisborough, Scarborough and Whitby unions, the North Riding was described as "purely agricultural" with the inhabitants "mainly employed in pursuits of an agricultural nature."(4) The two North Riding unions omitted from the study, Middlesbrough and Guisborough, became important industrial and mining centres in the second half of the

(2) Soc Appendix A
(3) PP.1909 (458) XII 15 p.276
(4) Ibid p.552
nineteenth century. Topographically North Yorkshire exhibited great diversity: the North Yorkshire Moors in the east, the Pennines in the west, drained by rivers - Swale, Ure, Nidd, Wharfe, Aire, Ouse, converging on the central Vale of York, which ran the length of North Yorkshire. By and large, the unions in the lowland areas of the Vales of York and Pickering, for example, Malton, Easingwold, Thirsk, Richmond, Bedale, Great Ouseburn, were devoted almost exclusively to agriculture, while upland and coastal areas often had a more diverse economy, for example, leadmining and textile manufacture was mainly centred in the Pennine unions of Reeth, Aysgarth, Leyburn, Pateley Bridge, Settle, Sedbergh and Skipton, and shipbuilding and fishing in Scarborough and Whitby unions.

Because the concern of the thesis is with just one form of poverty and one aspect of the working of the Poor Law rather than with the operation of the law as a whole, the thesis has had to rely on many fragmentary sources, whose yield was scanty in proportion to their volume. This was especially true of the minutes of the Boards of Guardians' meetings, though their usefulness varied according to the amount of information and detail included in them by the clerks. Reasonably complete series for the nineteenth century exist for most unions, the most serious loss being the minutes for S settle, Skipton and Sedbergh unions. Several of the records have 'reappeared' only recently as a result of local government reorganization. Most of the poor law union records are deposited at the North Yorkshire County Record Office, Northallerton, though the minutes of Great Ouseburn and Knaresborough unions are at the West Yorkshire County Record Office, Wakefield, and those of Ripon union at The Archives Department, Sheepscar, Leeds. (4a)

(4a) Recently the Knaresborough and Great Ouseburn BGI have been transferred to the N.Y.C.R.O.
Enquiries at Skipton and Settle Branch Libraries and Craven District Council failed to produce any records, apart from some very late nineteenth and early twentieth century Skipton poor law records, kept in the basement of Skipton library. The poor law records for Sedbergh union, deposited at the County Offices, Kendal, included no nineteenth century minutes. Few other poor law union records, which would have thrown more light on the provision of relief to able-bodied persons, have survived and are mostly late nineteenth century. Moreover, such Letter Books as survive often duplicate the correspondence found in the central records of the Poor Law Commissioners. The Ministry of Health papers, classes 12 and 32, located at the Public Record Office, London, were found to be more useful as a source of information regarding relief to able-bodied poor, though again any reference to able-bodied pauperism, particularly after the early years of the New Poor Law, had to be sifted from a mass of correspondence on general administrative matters relating to the workhouse, poor law officials' salaries and appointments, medical arrangements, finance etc. Class IM12 includes correspondence between the central poor law authority and Boards of Guardians, parochial poor relief officials and others, 1834-1900. Class IM32 consists of correspondence between Assistant Poor Law Commissioners, Poor Law Board and Local Government Board Inspectors and the central poor law authority, 1834-1900, arranged alphabetically under the names of Assistant Commissioners and Inspectors. Some information regarding poor relief administration in the years between 1834 and the setting up of the new union (almost twenty years later in a few cases) is still to be found in the parish and township records, in particular the Vestry minutes and
the records of the overseer of the poor. Such records for North Yorkshire, if not remaining in the custody of the parish vicar, have been deposited at either the North Yorkshire County Record Office, Northallerton or the Borthwick Institute, York. The records of Knaresborough and Scriven with Tentergate townships, until recently stored, uncatalogued, at the Council Offices, Knaresborough, and now at Northallerton, are of particular value since they cover the period of the serious decline in the town's linen industry in the second quarter of the nineteenth century, prior to the formation of the union in 1854. Other sources of information include parliamentary papers - Reports and Evidence of Royal Commissions and Select Committees and Accounts and Papers on the Poor Law and associated topics - and the Annual Reports of the Poor Law Commission, Poor Law Board and Local Government Board. With one or two exceptions newspapers were not a fruitful source of information; generally local newspapers did not appear in the area until the second half of the century, by which date the problems surrounding the introduction of the New Poor Law and the economic difficulties facing certain groups of rural workers had been largely resolved.

The plethora of statistics, compiled by the central poor law authority, would seem at first sight to facilitate a quantitative study of able-bodied pauperism. However, many historians of the Poor Law, struck by the apparent comprehensiveness of the statistics in the period of the New Poor Law, have, on investigation, found major deficiencies, preventing an accurate study of pauper numbers and more detailed analysis of pauperism. Many of the published returns give details of able-bodied pauperism in the county, and after 1857, in the union - county; for example, the returns giving the numbers of able-bodied males and females,
receiving outdoor relief on account of being out of work, insufficiency of earnings and other causes, not being sickness, accident or infirmity, are based on the county and, in the case of Yorkshire, the Riding. As the region being studied includes unions in both the North and West Ridings these returns are of little value. There are two problems relating to the union returns of able-bodied pauperism. The first is the vague definition of 'able-bodied'. 'Able-bodied' included persons temporarily unable, through illness or accident, to work, while aged paupers, though able to work, were often classed as 'non-able'. Therefore, "As evidence of prevalent destitution caused by want of employment or depression of trade, the number of [able-bodied paupers] ... is by no means a true criterion."(5) To 1885 the returns simply gave the total numbers of able-bodied adult males and females and children, receiving relief outdoors and in the workhouse.(6) In 1885 a distinction was made

(5) 22nd Annual Report of the D.L.B 1880-70 p.1VIII

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number of paupers relieved ...</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Outdoor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>able-bodied</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>male</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>female</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>children under 16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ncn &quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ditto</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>lunatics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>vagrants</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>total</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indoor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>able-bodied</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>male</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>female</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>children under 16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ncn &quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ditto</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>lunatics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>vagrants</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>total</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
between able-bodied males receiving outdoor relief on account of infirmity, sickness, accident and other causes. (7) In 1890-1 the distinction between able-bodied in good health and temporarily disabled was applied to indoor as well as outdoor male paupers. (8) An additional difficulty is the fact that the entire family was classed as paupers and not just the person receiving the relief, whether it was the head of the family or a legal dependant. A second problem in assessing the extent of pauperism is that the returns give the number of paupers relieved on only two days of the year - January 1st and July 1st. Prior to 1848 there were quarterly returns of pauperism, which tended to overstate the number of paupers because the period, 25th December to 25th March was the heaviest quarter for pauperism and a pauper might be relieved on

(7) PP. 1035-36 (502) LXXVII pp.10-11
(8) PP.1139-40 (12-30) LVIII p.10-11

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number of paupers relieved ...</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Indoor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>able-bodied</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>male [in health</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>temporarily disabled</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>female [in health</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>temporarily disabled</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>children under 16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>non</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>males</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>female</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>children under 16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>lunatics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>vagrants</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>total</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Outdoor                       |
| able-bodied                   |
| male [relieved on account of their own sickness, accident or infirmity relieved for other causes |
| female                        |
| children under 16             |
| non                           |
| male                          |
| female                        |
| children under 16             |
| lunatics                      |
| vagrants                      |
| total                         |
perhaps four occasions in this time and be counted, not as one pauper, but as four. (9) The returns of pauper numbers on two days of the year were introduced as a more reliable measure of the annual total of paupers than the quarterly return. However, as pauper figures were not usually at their highest on January 1st, the day returns tended to understate the number of paupers. A count of paupers relieved during the year ending 30th September, 1907, was over twice as much as the average of the two-day returns. (10) While it is difficult to gauge the extent of able-bodied pauperism from the statistical tables, it is virtually impossible to do so using tables of union expenditure. In the period of the Poor Law Commission, returns of union expenditure were divided into two sections, only two of which were directly concerned with expenditure on poor relief - the amount “expended in relief and maintenance of the poor” and “medical relief”. (11) After 1838 the first category was subdivided into I: maintenance, Outrelief, Workhouse loans, repair and interest thereof, Salaries and rations of officers, Other expenses of or immediately connected with relief. In the Tenth Annual Report of the Poor Law Board, 1857, there was a new classification of the heads of expenditure, which was found in the Annual Reports of the Poor Law Board and Local Government Board to 1873-9, continued to 1884 in the Index to Accounts and Papers, under the heading 'Poor' and then under the heading 'Local Taxation'. (12)

(9) 2nd Annual Report of the PLB 1849 p.8
(10) 13.1849 (4529) m.11 p.16
(11) Amounts expended in a. relief and maintenance of the poor. b. law charges. c. payments under vaccination extension, registration and parochial assessment Acts. d. census. e. county rate. f. county/local police. g. for all other purposes. h. total parochial rates expended. i. medical relief.

(12) Amount expended for relief of poor and purposes connected therein. A. amount expended for purposes unconnected with relief. B. amount expended for purposes unconnected with relief. C. amount expended for purposes some of which are connected and others unconnected with the relief of the poor.

... was broken down into maintenance; Outrelief; Maintenance of Lunatics in asylums or licensed houses; Workhouse loans; Salaries and rations; other expenses.
It was originally intended that the chapter on economic change in nineteenth century North Yorkshire be based on secondary sources. However, a full bibliography of the region's socio-economic history produced an uneven amount of information - some areas or towns and industries amply researched while others were scarcely mentioned. A discussion on the interaction of the Poor Law with social and economic life in North Yorkshire, therefore, required a more precise and comprehensive knowledge of the relative importance of the various industrial activities in the region's economy than could be obtained from secondary sources alone. Detailed study of the decennial census material rectified this problem, enabling the researcher to determine the regional distribution and the numbers engaged in particular industries. However, there are problems which make the findings less precise than might be expected in view of the plethora of statistical detail. The printed census personal occupation tables in the nineteenth century were based on different administrative units, thus making a comparison of the printed returns unviable.(13) It was necessary, therefore, to turn to the unprinted census enumerators' schedules for 1841, '51, '61 and '71, though again those vary in the amount of detail recorded. Though the schedules for 1851, '61 and '71 generally give the occupations of all adult men regardless of whether they were heads of households or not, the information contained in the 1841 census books is less comprehensive as a rule, only the occupations of the heads of households were recorded, though occasionally even these were omitted. The enumerators recorded the principal occupations of the populace and since much domestic textile manufacture and lead mining, for example, were secondary occupations the census returns greatly underestimate the size of the numbers involved. Likewise, the number of women and children

(13) See Appendix C
who were engaged in industrial activity was much larger than the
schedules indicate. Nor were the enumerators consistent in giving the
employment of females. In 1841 only females who were heads of
households were ensured of an occupation description, while in
subsequent censuses the occupation column for dependent females was
occasionally left blank or inscribed for example, agricultural labourers
wife/daughter. Thus, industrial activity was a factor in more people's
lives than the occupational data, derived from the census enumerators'
books, would indicate. Moreover, the imprecise occupational terminology
used by the enumerators made the apparently straightforward task of
calculating the number of workers engaged in a particular occupation
more difficult. This is a problem in a coal and leadmining district
where the enumerator merely wrote "miner". Similarly, enumerators did
not consistently distinguish between weavers by power and weavers by
hand. As the number of handicraft textile workers was already falling
by 1851 the census returns do not demonstrate the full extent of the
decline in the labour force. Unfortunately, as books later than 1871
are unavailable to the public, owing to the hundred year rule, a more
detailed knowledge of the general and serious decline in, for instance,
lead and iron mining and handknitting in the late nineteenth century
is denied the present-day student. Despite these problems and the
absence of information regarding fluctuations in the size of different
occupation groups in the intercensal years, the census material does,
nevertheless, enable the historian to study the various industries in
terms of people rather than, for example, the movement of lead or textile
prices and the opening and closure of mines or mills. Finally, the
secondary material proved to be an inadequate source of information on
the condition of those workers affected by the process of 'de-industrialis-
atation'. A thorough search of the nineteenth century parliamentary
papers, particularly the reports and evidence submitted by Assistant Commissioners to various Royal Commissions and Select Committees, provided valuable supplementary evidence on the working and living conditions of these groups of workers.

The aim of the thesis is to determine whether economic changes affecting North Yorkshire and liable to increase able-bodied pauperism there created a strain for the New Poor Law and, if so, how it was resolved. The thesis examines poverty and pauperism specifically amongst the able-bodied male section of the population, being the most immediately and directly affected by economic changes and to whose poor law relief was most problematical for the poor law authorities. The first chapter examines economic change in North Yorkshire in the nineteenth century, focusing, in particular, on the problems facing various occupational groups, arising from 'de-industrialisation' of the region. Chapter two looks at the administrative machinery which was designed to tackle the problems of poverty amongst the able-bodied. The first section describes official policy on poor law relief to the able-bodied as embodied in the Report of the Royal Commission on the operation of the Poor Laws, the Poor Law Amendment Act and the subsequent regulations issued by the central poor law authorities, while the remaining sections explore the introduction of the New Poor Law - the reaction of North Yorkshire to the formation of unions and the implementation of the Orders relating to administration of poor relief to able-bodied - and the poor relief system in operation in North Yorkshire unions in the period 1834-1900. This chapter discusses the nature and extent of opposition to the New Poor Law and questions whether '1834' signified a decisive alteration in administration of
relief to able-bodied persons. In contrast with this chapter, where the main emphasis is on the administration of relief to the able-bodied and the interaction between central and local poor law authorities and between poor law policy and poor relief in practice, the third chapter considers the role played by the New Poor Law in the relief of those problems of poverty experienced by the different occupational groups. The bulk of this chapter is concerned with occupational groups that were most directly affected by the 'de-industrialisation' of North Yorkshire in the nineteenth century - the lead miners in section one, and the workers in the several branches of the textile industry - handloom linen weavers, handloom weavers of cotton and worsted, handknitters and factory workers in section two. An attempt is made to relate the study of the New Poor Law more closely to the economic life of North Yorkshire by including sections on non-resident paupers, vagrants and agricultural workers; the last group provides an interesting and important comparison with the agricultural worker of south and south-east England, whose alleged ingrained pauperism was the occasion of the implementation of the New Poor Law. Alternative forms of relief to that of the New Poor Law available to the poor are outlined in chapter four. The thesis concludes with an investigation of the permanent solution to the economic problems inherent in de-industrialisation - that of migration of those workers out of North Yorkshire and the role of the New Poor Law in this process.

I have not included a study of workers in the traditional industries of north-east Yorkshire in this chapter for several reasons. The information, derived from parliamentary papers, poor law material and secondary sources, is less even than that on lead miners and textile workers. Moreover, the picture of economic decline is complicated by the fact that new industries emerged at different times in the century while a statistical approach to the definite decline in non-agricultural activity that occurred in the last decades of the nineteenth century is not yet possible owing to the unavailability of census enumerators' schedules after 1871.
The nineteenth century witnessed a phenomenal increase in population and the polarisation of England into industrial-urban and agricultural-rural districts. The population of England and Wales, estimated at just less than nine million in 1801, had increased fourfold by 1911. The population concentrated in the towns and cities, particularly in London and the coal mining and manufacturing districts.

Clapham writes of the nineteenth century:

"Every traveller in Britain noticed the extraordinary way in which industry and population were being concentrated in or near the coal measures." (2)

Rural areas generally evinced a loss or stabilisation of population from about the middle of the century; there were many enquiries into the causes of rural outflow from the 1860's onwards and rural depopulation in the second half of the nineteenth century has been a popular subject for historical research. (3) In 1831 the proportion of the population

(1) B. Mitchell, Abstract of British Historical Statistics (1932) p. 6
Population of England and Wales: in thousands.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Population</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1801</td>
<td>8,893</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1811</td>
<td>10,164</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1821</td>
<td>13,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1831</td>
<td>13,057</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

However, as J.H. Clapham, in An Economic History of Modern Britain, The Early Railway Age 1820-50 (1959) points out - "the early census figures are of course subject to criticism in detail."

(3) c.g. J. Saville, Rural Depopulation in England and Wales 1851-1951 (1957)
A. T. Graham, The rural population of the English and Welsh parishes in the 18th century (1932)

---
living in urban districts roughly equalled that in the rural areas; fifty years later, however, England was predominantly an urban nation:

"... the trend towards living in 'towns' had been firmly established by the end of the nineteenth century." (4)

The experience of North Yorkshire stands in marked contrast to that of the north of England as a whole. The phenomenal growth of Teesside in the second half of the century was exceptional, being based largely on iron-mining, iron and steel manufacture, port facilities, coal shipping and trade, engineering, shipbuilding and the chemical industry. Although in the period 1851-1901 the population of rural North Yorkshire increased from approximately 281,000 to 350,000, the increase was confined to a few larger towns; very few villages or sparsely populated townships expanded after the middle of the century. In nineteen of the twenty-two poor law unions in rural North Yorkshire the population remained stationary or declined in the course of the nineteenth century. The market towns generally maintained or slightly increased their population to the detriment of the surrounding countryside. Even in the three remaining unions, Scarborough, Knaresborough and Skipton, where the population increased by about a third, a half and five-eighths respectively between 1851 and 1901, growth was limited to the towns of Scarborough, Harrogate with Pannal and several townships west and south of and including Skipton – namely Addingham, Cowling, Guisburn, Silsden, Bradleys Both, Carleton, Barnoldswick, Salterforth and Thornton in Craven.(5)


<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Urban Districts</th>
<th>Rural Districts</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1851</td>
<td>50.2</td>
<td>49.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1861</td>
<td>54.6</td>
<td>45.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1871</td>
<td>62.8</td>
<td>37.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1881</td>
<td>67.9</td>
<td>32.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1891</td>
<td>72.0</td>
<td>28.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1901</td>
<td>77.0</td>
<td>23.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(5) See Appendix, tables 1-5.
The population changes in North Yorkshire reflect in large measure the economic developments that took place in the nineteenth century. The decline of rural population was not due merely to a diminishing agricultural sector, which was a national trend in the second half of the century, nor to the diminishing number of village craftsmen, such as carpenters, wheelwrights, cobblers, millers, tailors, but to the decline or in some areas the loss of important — in both the local and national context — non-agricultural activities: industries such as the manufacture, by hand and machine, of cotton, linen, flax, worsted and woollen textiles, the mining and processing of lead, iron ore and coal, and, to a lesser extent, the alum trade, shipbuilding and fishing. The main areas of growth — the health and resort towns of Harrogate and Scarborough and those textile manufacturing towns in Skipton union, mentioned in the previous paragraph, modify the overall picture of de-industrialisation in North Yorkshire. Scarborough and Harrogate had long been important as spa towns but their development was accelerated with the coming of the railways. The annual number of summer visitors to Harrogate increased throughout the century, with the exception of the late 1830's and early 1840's. In 1837 the permanent population was half that of the adjacent town of Knaresborough but in August and September the influx of visitors and seasonal workers increased the population fourfold.(6) The arrival of the railway in 1848-9 "launched Harrogate into an upward spiral of economic growth" and the town became the residence for retired and commuting business and professional men.(7) The opening of the York-Scarborough railway line in 1845 had a similar revolutionary effect on the development of Scarborough, which was already renowned as 'the Queen of Watering Places'.(8) The remainder of this chapter, is devoted to a

(6) B. Jennings, (ed) YORKSHIRE OR HARCROGATE AND KNARESBOROUGH (1970) p.299
(7) Ibid p.312
fuller examination of the more general process of 'de-industrialisation' elsewhere in the region, in terms of the contraction in both the geographical distribution of each industry and size of the labour force and the problems of low wages and reduced employment encountered by those workers.

1. The Textile Industries

A study of the nineteenth century textile industry in North Yorkshire - a domestic, handicraft industry for centuries, reaching its zenith in the late eighteenth century, with the adoption of water-powered mechanisation - provides an interesting and diverse account of the process of de-industrialisation.

Four branches of the textile industry were found in North Yorkshire in the early nineteenth century - namely cotton, worsted, wool and linen manufacture. With the expansion of the United Kingdom cotton trade in the second half of the eighteenth century the cotton industry extended from Lancashire into Yorkshire - in Settle, Skipton and Sedbergh unions(9).

The district was able to meet the demand for water power to drive machinery for spinning and, at a later date, weaving looms. During the eighteenth century wool textile manufacture became concentrated in the West Riding, with cloth manufacturing areas in the south - East Anglia,

(9) A Raistrick, OLD YORKSHIRE DAILIES (1967) p.90
"... upper Airedale and Wharfedale ... along with lower Ribblesdale, became essentially cotton spinning areas."

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Skipton Union</th>
<th>S. Settle Union</th>
<th>Knaresborough Union</th>
<th>Sedbergh Union</th>
<th>Skipton Bridge Union</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1851</td>
<td>1158 males</td>
<td>296 males</td>
<td>49 males</td>
<td>27 males</td>
<td>4 males</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1852</td>
<td>856 females</td>
<td>215 females</td>
<td>39 females</td>
<td>27 females</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Linnant, (1941 - 61) LEX. VIII pp.708, 717, 710, 719
Suffolk, West Kent, Surrey, Hampshire, Gloucestershire, Wiltshire — declining in importance.

"By 1772 Yorkshire produced about one-third of the country's total output." (10)

"By 1850, 90 per cent of worsted goods were produced in the West Riding." (11)

Domestic worsted manufacture intensified in the area of Bradford, Halifax, Keighley, extending up the Aire and Wharfe valleys and "By the turn of the century the West Riding wool textiles belt had more or less reached its maximum geographical expression." (12) With the implementation of water-powered worsted spinning, c 1780-1800, the rivers Aire and Wharfe and their tributaries permitted the location of worsted mills in Skipton union. The centre of the wool cloth industry in the West Riding was Leeds and neighbouring towns; it too extended up the Aire and Wharfe valleys as far as Skipton union, where, in 1851, 545 male wool cloth manufacturers were recorded. Thus, textile manufacture was important in the economy of Craven, though geographically it was on the periphery of the Lancashire cotton area and the West Riding woollen district. The northern dales - Wensleydale, Swaledale, Dent and Garsdale - having connections with Richmond and Kendal, developed into worsted and knitting yarn centres. By the early seventeenth century this area of Yorkshire was one of the several centres in the country specialising in hand knitting - others included Norwich, Dorset, Hampshire, Leicestershire, Nottsighamshire and Scotland. (13) Flax spinning and linen manufacture were again located in the dales and the foothills of the Pennines, in the

(10) J.G.Jenkins, (ed) THE YOUL TEXTILE INDUSTRY IN GREAT BRITAIN (1972) p.41
(11) Ibid. p.11
In 1851 there were 628 Female and 590 male worsted manufacturers recorded in Skipton union.
unions of Knaresborough, Fleteley Bridge, Settle and Ripon and also in the North Riding, in Northallerton and Stokesley unions. (14)

a. Textile Mill Workers

Localised geographical contraction of the textile industry in North Yorkshire, dating from c. second quarter of the nineteenth century, occurred as a result of the supercession of water-powered mills by steam-driven factories. The transfer from water to steam-driven machinery brought about two shifts in the location of the textile industry in the north. There was a movement away from the stream sites to the coalfields and the polarisation of the cotton industry in Lancashire and the woollen/worsted industry in the Leeds - Halifax - Bradford districts of industrial West Riding. The textile industry in North Yorkshire did not disappear entirely. Mills located nearer to the centres of population in Lancashire and the West Riding, particularly those in the west and south of Skipton union, or with access to railways and canals, enabling relatively quick and cheap transport of raw materials, coal being the most crucial, and finished products, were adapted to steam-power. A comparison of mill distribution in Craven in 1839 and 1849 revealed decay in the

(14) In 1861 there were 15 unions where flax/linen manufacture was a principal occupation:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Union</th>
<th>Males</th>
<th>Females</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Northallerton</td>
<td>312</td>
<td>120</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fleteley Bridge</td>
<td>237</td>
<td>153</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Settle</td>
<td>152</td>
<td>176</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Knaresborough</td>
<td>249</td>
<td>55</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

In 1851 the number of adult linen manufacturers in unions of

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Union</th>
<th>Males</th>
<th>Females</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fleteley Bridge</td>
<td>467</td>
<td>465</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Knaresborough</td>
<td>392</td>
<td>161</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Northallerton</td>
<td>110</td>
<td>125</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Settle</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ripon</td>
<td>5</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(221) XIII p.134 table 36
upper dales and increasing development in the less isolated areas around
Barnoldswick and Skipton.\textsuperscript{(15)} In the second half of the nineteenth
century, although the number of new mills approximated closely to the
number which closed, expansion was confined to the larger towns, chiefly
in Skipton union, while the decline of textile manufacture in the remote
upland townships was irreversible.

A list of textile mills operating in North Yorkshire in the 1830's
is given in the Appendix D and is based on contemporary parliamentary
papers.\textsuperscript{(16)} As there are no subsequent comparable lists the researcher
relies on diverse and often imprecise sources, such as newspapers,
directories, nineteenth century local histories, for information about
mill closures. The cotton mills at Birks, Hillthorp and Hougill in
Sedbergh union had ceased cotton production by 1874, probably closing down
in the depression of the late 1840's.\textsuperscript{(17)} Hobblethwaite Hall Hill,
Farfield Mills, Rash Hill, Stonhouse Hill and Dee Hills, also in
Sedbergh union, were woollen mills, carding and spinning yarn for knitting
and weaving coarse cloth but by 1874 the number of mills was reduced to
two woollen and one worsted.\textsuperscript{(18)} The disappearance of cotton mills,
cited on the upper reaches of the Aire and Wharfe, in Settle and Skipton
unions at Ingleton, Arncliffe, Litton, Kirkby Malham, Malham, Kettlewell,
Grassington and Linton, was mostly complete by the middle of the century.
(19) In Nidderdale and the adjacent Washburn valley, Patricks (High)

(15) D. Roberts, THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE TEXTILE INDUSTRY IN THE WEST
CRAVEN AND THE SKILTON DISTRICT OF YORKSHIRE. (Lanc 1956,
\textit{MS.}) p.130
(16) See Appendix D tables 1 and 2
(17) H. Hartley and J. Ingilby, OLD YORKSHIRE DALES (1956) p.164
(18) HR12 Sedbergh 15/9/1874
(19) A. Raistrick, OLD YORKSHIRE DALES p.91
Hill and Little Hill closed in 1838, a time of general trade depression; West End Low Hill closed in the early 1840's, was idle in 1846, commenced cotton spinning in 1847 but stopped completely in 1850. Westhouse Hill, which stopped flax spinning in 1844, restarted as a silk mill in the late 1850's but closed permanently between 1861 and 1871. Plompton Hill closed down as a flax mill in the depression of the late 1830's and early 1840's. By 1861 three flax mills at Bishop Thornton (Low and High Mills and Woodfield Mill) had closed.(20) The only cotton mill in Nidderdale, at Breaks, Birstwith, closed in the early 1860's.(21) Railway transport up Nidderdale enabled several mills to diversify in the second half of the century as an alternative to closure, which had been the fate of several mills in the 1830's and 1840's. For example, at West End Low Hill in 1868, Fringill Hill in 1875 and at Pateley Bridge in the late 1870's there was conversion to the spinning of heavy yarns for making twine, cords and rope. (22) Flax mills elsewhere had a similar fate. In 1845 two flax mills in or near Stokesley were reported to have closed down (23) and between 1841 and 1851 a flax mill at Hutton Rudby ceased production. (24) Flax mills at Hackam and Azerley closed between 1841-51 and 1851-61 respectively. (25) The linen mills at Bonham continued well into the second half of the nineteenth century, though diversification took place, with the manufacture of reaper and trusser twines, flax hose piping and linen driving bolting, in addition to the spinning of hemp, flax and tow and linen bleaching. (26) Most of the woollen mills in Wensleydale ceased production in the second half of the century. Low Mill

(21) Ibid p.256
(22) Ibid
(23) PR.1843 (516) XII p.261
(24) PR.1852-3 (1332) VIII p.31
(25) Ibid p.25
(26) Kelly's directory of the West Riding of Yorkshire, 1889 p.72
at Askrigg was used as a saw mill in 1875. (27) Yore Mills at Aysgarth, which was a combined corn and wool mill, had probably ceased knit hosiery manufacture by 1870. (28) Haws Mill continued until 1904, "when owing to competition from mills run by steam-power it had to close." (29) Howendale Mill, in Swaledale, which produced yarn for knitting and carpets, closed c. 1870. (30)

In their heyday the mills employed a substantial proportion of the local population; for example, in 1836 the number of hands employed at Hartlington and Skireholme townships, in Skipton union, and Langcliffe and Settle townships, in Settle union, formed 42.2%, 39.2%, 35.6% and 23.0% of the total 1831 population of those townships. (31) Shortage of work and unemployment were not uncommon experiences of textile factory workers in the nineteenth century. Localised factors such as the destruction of a mill by fire or drought and the consequent loss of power for mills dependent on water, (32) and more generally periodic slumps in the textile trade were among the principal causes of short working and temporary closure of mills. Reduced market demand for textile goods forced mills to work short time, and as the depression deepened, to cut

(28) Ibid. p. 144
(29) Ibid. p. 49
(31) See Appendix B, Table 3
(32) *PP. 1834 (1975)*, 359. For evidence of loss of time through water shortage see pp. 71, 93, 96, 161, 205, 309.

John Wilson, owner of a worsted spinning factory at Lothersdale, wrote in 1842 -
"We are at present suffering severe losses at the mill for want of water ..."
Quoted in K. Wilson (ed) *The History of Lothersdale* (1972) p. 147
cut the size of the labour force and even cease working until trade recovered. Water mills were more vulnerable than steam in a trade depression - indeed most of the permanent mill closures occurred at times of severe economic recession. In the serious depression of the late 1830's and early 1840's small mills in Midderdale closed temporarily while the larger mills were on short-time working; Darley High Mill, Fringill Hill and probably Folly Gill Hill were idle in 1841, three mills at Bishop Thornton had only two dozen workers in the early 1840's and there was also a reduced labour force at Glasshouses Hill.(33) In Barnoldswick, in 1842, the factories were working a three-day week.(34) Reductions in the number of hands employed at cotton factories in Linton parish occurred between 1851 and 1871. In 1869 Bailey J. Marker lamented the reduced number of hands employed at Linton Mill:

"About seventeen years ago it was a great boon to the neighbourhood, a large number of hands being employed and good wages given ..."(35)

Cotton mills in Settle and Giggleswick and the linen factory at Bentham temporarily stopped production in the late 1840's.(36) In 1851 the census authorities reported "diminished employment at the factories, several of which are unoccupied in (the) ... locality" of Addingham, in Skipton union. Mills in Skipton union were unable to employ their entire labour force in the 1854/5 and 1857 depressions; workers were kept waiting for work - "Each weaver has to wait about a fortnight."(37) At the beginning of the 'cotton famine', in November 1861, only one of two cotton mills in Settle union was working - a four-day week and "likely to

(33) A.Jennings (ed) A HISTORY OF MIDDERDALE pp.219-220
(34) HH12 Skipton 29/5/1842
(35) A.Raistrick, OLD YORKSHIRE DALES p.159
(36) HH12 Settle 7/12/1847
(37) HH12 Skipton 7/12/1857
work less."(38) The cotton thread mills were working full time, though at Bontham linen workers were striking over a reduction in their wages. In Skipton union it was reported that several cotton mills were working a four-day week. (39)

B. Handicraft Textile Workers

The very existence of the textile factories discussed above, reflected an even more significant aspect of 'de-industrialisation' - the gradual extinction of handicraft work in textiles under the older 'outwork' system.

(i) Handloom Linen Weavers

Linen weaving was carried on in five North Yorkshire unions, namely Pateley Bridge, Stokesley, Northallerton, Knaresborough and Settle. (40) However, the linen industry at Bontham, in Settle union, has been omitted from the study since the records, by and large, do not make a distinction between linen and cotton weavers (cotton manufacturing employing a greater number of people than linen manufacturing) and, furthermore, linen weavers in Bontham were predominantly power-loom weavers. Linen weaving was not prevalent throughout the other four unions. In 1841 only five townships in Stokesley union, nine in Pateley Bridge and five in Northallerton had more than five adult male linen weavers. Thirty years later, with a reduction in the total number of linen weavers, the number of townships where linen weaving was carried out had dwindled correspondingly. (41) The most important centres of weaving in 1841 were Hutton Rudby in Stokesley union, Bishop Auckland in Pateley Bridge union,

(38) Ibid 54 12/11/1861.
(39) Ibid 18/11/1861.
(40) See Appendix E table 1.
(41) See Appendix E table 2.
Brompton, Osmaotherley and Appleton within Northallerton union and
Amareborough and Scriven with Tentergate. (42) Linen weaving declined
rapidly in Nidderdale during the period 1841-71, the number of weavers
falling from approximately 273 to 27. (43) The enumerations frequently
failed to distinguish handloom from powerloom weavers but, as there is
no mention in any records or secondary sources to powerlooms or powerloom
weavers, it is reasonable to assume that all the linen weavers in
Nidderdale were handloom. In Stokesley union, too, linen weaving was
solely by hand and the number of weavers declined markedly between 1841
and 1851. The industry was centred in the south-west of the union, at
Hutton Rudby, where, in 1851, there were almost twice as many handloom
weavers as in the rest of the union. The number of weavers in Hutton
Rudby fell from 87 to 13 in the space of thirty years, the most marked
reduction occurring between 1851 and 1861, when the numbers fell from 64
to 13. The nineteenth century directories reflect the early decline of
handloom weaving in the town of Stokesley. In 1854 the "manufactures of
the town comprise linen, including damask weaving together with flax
dressing and spinning." (44) By 1843 the manufacture of linen was started
to be carried on "to a limited extent" by five principal manufacturers. (45)
Nine years later no linen manufacturers were listed. (46) The decline of
linen weaving between 1841 and 1871 was less pronounced in Northallerton
union. In Osmaotherley and Brompton, where there were powerlooms, it is

(42) See Appendix B table 3.
(43) The 1841 figure does not include the handloom weavers living in Dacre
because the enumerators' schedules for Dacre are missing.
(44) Pigot's and Co. Commercial Directory of the Northern Counties, 1834 p.97
(45) Royal National Commercial Directory and Topography of the Counties of
... York ... 1846. Vol.11 p.1433
impossible for the historian to determine the extent of the decline in numbers of handloom weavers due to the failure of the census enumerators to distinguish between hand and powerloom weavers. In other townships weaving continued to be done solely by hand. Northallerton was described in 1832 as the residence of many weavers but there were only 25 weavers in 1841 and 4 in 1851, out of a total population of 3,061 and 3086 respectively. (47) Although Appleton Wiske and Borrowby were handloom weaving townships the decline in numbers was less marked than in Nidderdale or Stokesley unions. In Appleton Wiske there were still 39 weavers in 1871, half as many as in 1841. Both 1861 census enumerators distinguished between hand and powerloom weavers in Osmotherley - there being seventeen of each. The 1851 schedules do not mention any powerloom weavers and it is probable that powered machinery was introduced sometime between 1851 and 1861. Brompton was the exception in the general decline in the number of linen weavers during the three decades 1841 - 1871, but the census books do not give any accurate information, regarding the number of handloom weavers. There were no powerloom weavers recorded in either 1851 or 1861, while the number in 1871 only totalled thirteen, of whom two were females and six males, aged nineteen and younger. However, in 1871, a "linen manufacturer by steam power" was stated to employ 53 men and 29 women. Since there was no flax spinning mill in Brompton it must be concluded that some of the 'linen weavers' were in fact powerloom weavers. The number of adult male linen weavers in Knaresborough in 1871 was approximately one third of the 1841 total. (48)

(47) See Appendix II Table 1.
Powerlooms were first introduced into the town in 1850 by the firm of Walton's, though they continued to employ a large number of handloom weavers. There were only ten powerloom weavers enumerated in 1851 and it is probable that this number was accurate. In 1861 and 1871 the majority of enumerators wrote "linen weavers" and therefore it can not be ascertained whether the people recorded as powerloom weavers - 26 in 1861, 19 in 1871 - represented the total number of powerloom weavers. Finally, a word about female linen weavers. Although the census enumerators' schedules are an unreliable source of information concerning occupations of women, it appears that, in contrast with cotton weaving, linen weaving was predominantly a male occupation. However, it is interesting to note that the number of females employed in linen weaving was greater in the purely handloom-weaving townships of Hutton Hudby and Appleton Wiske than in Oslanderley and Brompton.

The economic fortunes of handloom weavers were affected by two factors - the state of the linen trade generally and the particular problems or features of individual linen weaving centres. The longterm

(49) 2 FL's were women - the other female weavers, with one exception, were IL's. 4 FL's were males, below the age of 20; the other male weavers in this age group were described as IL's. In addition, 13 of the 14 enumerators distinguished between FL's and IL's, only recording 7 IL's; 2 of the IL's were in their seventies and were most probably IL's.
Source: Census Enumerators' Schedules.

(50) Number of powerloom weavers in Harcostorugh and Scriven with Tombergate

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Males, aged 20+</th>
<th>Males, 19-</th>
<th>Females</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1861</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1861</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1871</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Ibid

(51) The number of female weavers in the census years 1841, 51, 61, 71:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>1841</th>
<th>51</th>
<th>61</th>
<th>71</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Brompton</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oslanderley</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Appleton Wiske</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hutton Hudby</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Ibid
Decline of the linen industry in North Yorkshire, in the course of the
nineteenth century, was punctuated by severe periodic slumps. Major
depressions occurred in the years following the Napoleonic Wars, in the
late 1820's and early 1830's (c. 1829-33), and in the late 1830's and
early 1840's (c. 1837-44). In these years the weavers suffered a drastic
reduction in both earnings and the rate of employment. Owing "to the
depression of trade in the linen manufacture" in Pateley Bridge, the
earnings of weavers fell from an average of 13/6d to 9/- a week, though
it required long hours at the loom to earn this sum.(52) In Northallerton
the weavers were one of the groups of workers in the early 1830's whose
low rate of earnings and shortage of work rendered them liable to
destitution.(53) The same was true of the workers connected with linen
manufacture in Knaresborough, which "like every other trade, at present,
is in a state of depression."(54) It was alleged that the "poor weavers
obtain very little better than starvation wages" and "The family can not
subsist on the produce of their labour."(55) Two years previously it
was estimated that the depression in the linen industry in Knaresborough
reduced the average earnings of five hundred and fifty families to six
shillings.(56) Unemployment was rife. In 1830 many linen workers in
Knaresborough "were entirely out of work, others obliged to lie in bed
while their linen was washed."(57) The bulk of evidence relating to
reduced wages and partial employment of linen weavers in the depression
years, 1837-44, is contained in the Report of the Royal Commission on the
Condition of Handloom Weavers.(58) The Assistant Commissioner for

(52) PP. 1834 (44) viii pp. 766-7
(53) Yorkshire Gazette 16/2/1832
(54) Yorkshire Gazette 23/1/1830
(55) "Ibid"
(56) "Ibid"
(57) "Ibid"
(58) Report of the Commissioners
Yorkshire, S. Keyser, reported that "the weavers suffer distress occasioned by low wages and scarcity of employment."(59) Although the comment applied specifically to the handloom weavers of Brompton, Osmerthorpe, Borrowby and Northallerton, the twin evils of low wages and shortage of work were characteristic of the situation of linen weavers elsewhere in North Yorkshire. Wages averaged less than seven shillings a week in Osmerthorpe, "with 12 hours per day labour", eight shillings in Brompton and nine shillings and sixpence in Hutton Rudby.(60) At Dacre, Darley, Hampsthwaite and other townships in Kilderdale "the weavers ... are in very great distress;"(61) their wages were lower than those in Knaresborough, which, according to a linen manufacturer, Mr. Thorpe, averaged about 7/43 a week.(62) Mr. Doves, a former manufacturer and overseer of the poor in Knaresborough told Keyser:

"The situation of the weavers here is most deplorable; they are suffering much ... There are many able-bodied men, who, by working day and night, are not able to get a living, owing to the low rate of wages ..."(63)

The impossibility of obtaining a reasonable level of earnings by working longer hours was also stressed by Mr. Thorpe:

"The weavers are very badly off ... They are certainly the worst paid of any description of workmen. They could not, with the greatest industry and exertion, do as well as other workmen.(64)

In 1844 the poor of Knaresborough were reported to be "suffering from want of employment."(65) Many weavers and others whose incomes were reduced as a result of the poverty of the majority of the working population of the town, were unable to pay their rents or rates. In 1842

(59) [Source Information]
(60) [Source Information]
(61) [Source Information]
(62) [Source Information]
(63) [Source Information]
(64) [Source Information]
(65) [Source Information]
the Select Vestry of Knaresborough resolved that "in consequence of the
difficulty of collecting the poor rates ..." the collector should call
only twice at the houses for the money, while in 1844 the Select Vestry,
upon examining the Rate Book, allowed 331.7.7d as "further leakage on
empty houses and bad debts." (66) Wages from handloom weaving remained
low in the second half of the nineteenth century. A newspaper account of
1880 mentions handloom weavers in Knaresborough earning 8s or 9s a week. (67)

However, the extent of the decline of linen weaving and of distress
amongst weavers varied within North Yorkshire according to local factors,
such as transport facilities and the type of cloth woven. Unlike linen
spinning, which was mechanised in 1784 by two Darlington men, John Headrow
and Thomas Porthouse, weaving proved difficult to mechanise and weaving
by hand continued to be the rule well into the nineteenth century. (68)
Power looms were installed in West House Mill, Washburn Valley, (adjacent
to Hidderdale) in the 1850's but were not introduced to Knaresborough,
Brompton or Osotherley until the middle of the century. During the
first half of the nineteenth century, therefore, neither the distress of
the handloom weavers nor the serious decline in their numbers in
Hidderdale, parts of Stokesley union and certain villages in Northallerton
union were a result of competition from powered weaving in North Yorkshire
or even from Barnsley, where "few power looms are as yet employed in linen
weaving ..." (69) During this period the decline of Knaresborough as a
linen manufacturing town was commonly attributed to the absence of quick
and cheap communication with the coalfields and main markets for linen:

(65) H.7. Knaresborough township 30/9/1842 and 18/10/1844
(67) B.Jennings (ed) A HISTORY OF KARLONDALE AND KNARESBOROUGH p.318
(68) B.Jennings (ed) A HISTORY OF HIDDERDALE p.209
(69) P2.1840 (45-6) will p.404
"the progress of decay is irrecoverable unless facility of exit for their produce."(70)

In addition to competition from cotton products, which were cheaper to produce than linen ones, Assistant Commissioner Keyser attributed the depressed linen trade in Knaresborough to the expensive transport of coal eighteen miles over land in the absence of canal and rail transport."(71)

In 1800 a plan was devised to construct a canal from the river Ure to Knaresborough but this scheme was abandoned when proposals to build a canal between the rivers Tees and Ure (hence a direct route from Durham coalfield to Knaresborough) fell through. In 1818 a committee, which included seven linen manufacturers, investigated canal and railway schemes to Knaresborough but it was not until 1843 that a railway line was built from York to Knaresborough. The cost of coal fell from £1 to 10s or 12s c. ton(72) Thenceafter linen weaving in Knaresborough was more settled.(73) The annual sales figures of Walton and Co., the principal employer of weavers in the town, remained constant, from c.1854-6 to 1874-5, after which date the amount of cloth produced and the number of weavers employed declined.(74) Brompton remained an important linen manufacturing village at least into the 1870's and, in contrast with Knaresborough, its weaving population remained stable between 1841 and 1871. The reason lies principally in its concentration on the manufacture of 'fine' linens, made from lighter yarns. The handloom was suited to the weaving of fine linens and Brompton gained a notable reputation for the quality of its cloth.

(70) Harrogate Advertiser 8/6/1844
(71) J.P.1732 (141) XI. p.192 "The inhabitants of Knaresborough feel sensibly the difficulty of access to the Coal Districts, and state the want of this mineral, and the consequent want of the Steam Marine as the principal drawback upon their commercial prosperity."
(72) B.Johnson (62) A HISTORY OF HARROGATE AND KNARESBOROUGH pp.269-273
(73) Burniston's Northern Chronicle July 1850
(74) B.Johnson (62) A HISTORY OF HARROGATE AND KNARESBOROUGH p.319
Upton is noted for its linen weaving, and the best drills manufactured in this country are said to be manufactured here." (75)

Knaresborough, however, manufactured more coarse cloth, including "low gingham, low bedding ticks, sheetings," which were more susceptible to slumps in the linen trade. (76) The depression in the late 1830's was more severe in Knaresborough than in Barnsley or Leeds where there was greater diversification in the quality of linen cloth manufactured. (77)

(ii) Handloom Cotton and Worsted Weavers and Woollcombers in Settle and Skipton unions.

Handloom weaving in Settle union was predominantly of cotton. No handloom weavers were recorded in the four census years, 1841-71, in nine townships in Settle union - Ealton Gill, Hanlith, Hawkswick, Lackland, Litton, Otterburn, Scairscroft, Thornton in Lonsdale and Swinsto.

In seven townships, weaving, as a principal occupation, disappeared between 1841 and 1851 - for instance, in 1841, there were 9 cotton weavers in Malham, 18 in Horton in Ribblesdale, 2 in Stainforth, 3 in Airton, 12 in Tossido, 10 in West Malton and 22 in Hellifield. In several townships the number of handloom weavers fell between 1841 and 1851 and 'disappeared' entirely in the following decade - for example, Kirkby Malham had 4 weavers in 1841 and 1 in 1851, Ingleton 4 and 1, Rathwa 4 and 16, Burton in Lonsdale 3 and 1 and Gigglesworth 23 and 8, respectively. The townships with the largest numbers of weavers were Langcliffe, Giggleswick, Austwick, Long Preston and Settle and here the census enumerators' schedules reveal a substantial decline and almost total disappearance of

(75) Royal National Commercial Directory and Topography of the Counties of
(76) Vol.11 p.1275
(77) There was perhaps some attempt to improve the quality of linen goods manufactured in Knaresborough; a seacolous shirt, made in Knaresborough, was exhibited at the Great Exhibition, Crystal Palace, in 1851. (5) Joannis (cd) A HISTORY OF MALREDDLE AND MALLEY pp.317)
weaving in the period 1841-71. The number of weavers in Long Preston fell from 84 in 1841, to 41 in 1851, to 12 in 1861 and none in 1871; the respective figures for Settle were 125, 171, 51 and 9; for Giggleswick 73, 53, 16 and none; for Austwick 32, 57, 79 and 6. No weavers were recorded in Langcliffe in 1861 and 1871, though there had been 63 and 59 in 1841 and 1851 respectively - however, it is possible that some of the people described as "cotton winder" in 1861 and 1871 were factory weavers. In the four census years, 1841-71, weaving in Preston and Austwick appears to have been entirely by hand whereas in Giggleswick, Langcliffe and Settle the majority of weavers were power loco.(78) Thus cotton weaving by both hand and machine in Settle union had virtually ceased by 1871.

The number of weavers, as a percentage of the total population in 1851, was higher in Skipton union than in Settle union but again, the use of the general term, 'worsted' or 'cotton weaver', does not permit an accurate count of handloom weavers in the period 1841-71.(79) Salterforth, Barmoldswick, Thornton, Cononley, Couling, Guisburn, Carlton, Skipton and Addingham were important weaving centres in the mid nineteenth century, though the proportions of hand and power-loom weavers varied from township to township; (80) handloom weavers greatly exceeded power-loom weavers in Thornton, Couling and Salterforth, were roughly equal in

(78) See Appendix F, Table 1.
(79) See Appendix F, Table 2.
(80) According to the 1851 census millers formed approximately 33% of the population of Salterforth, c. 29% in Couling, c. 27% in Thornton, c. 7% in Cononley.
GoDO~olle;y
GoD
Go
od
Gl
uluJul'H ;_tw:.1 L1.

tho
to
ty
in
Cm:
ton
and
Darnolclmrick
o

the :.;>reoouce

of

1-Jorstccl ueav:i.ngs

in

the former union, 1:Jhich

1:1as

harnessed
to water and stean power at a later date than cotton weaving.

Important determinants of the prosperity of the handloom cotton and
worsted weaving and hand woolcombing sectors in the nineteenth century
were the state of the textile trade generally and the degree of
competition from alternative weaving and woolcombing methods.
Fluctuations in the textile market were frequent and pronounced. During
severe depressions which periodically afflicted the textile industry
there was considerable temporary poverty and distress, occasioned by
wage reductions and widespread un and under-employment. The effect of
a depression on those workers employed in textile manufacture was summed
up by the Skipton Board of Guardians --

"... where the earnings of a family are derived from manufacturing
labour, and in this union great numbers are so supported, should
the labour of the head of the family be reduced from full to only
two or three days per week, or should some members of the family
be altogether thrown out of employment, so that the earnings of
the family should become inadequate for their maintenance (and the
vicissitudes of trade render this of frequent occurrence) ..."(31)

major slumps in the cotton industry occurred in the late 1820's and early
1830's (1829) in the mid 1830's (1837), again in the early 1840's (1841-2),
in the late 1840's (1847), the mid 1850's and 1861-4, the period of the
cotton famine.(82) Excepting the last depression, there was a similar
pattern of cyclical depression and recovery in the worsted industry.

(31) PP.1953 (111) LEXIV  p.228
(82) M.ANDERSON, FAMILY STRUCTURE IN NINETEENTH CENTURY LANCASTER
(1971) p.23
Once handloom weaving and woolcombing were in competition with powered machinery, and long-term and permanent decline in the living standards of handicraft textile workers set in. (83) The powerloom was invented in 1785 by Robert Edmund Cartwright but technical problems delayed large scale adoption of powerlooms in the cotton industry until the 1820's. (84) The powerloom was adapted for use in the woollen textile industry slightly later in the century:

"Powerloom wrought weaving was not widely practised until the third and fourth decades of the nineteenth century." (85)

Powerlooms for wool were in use in large centres, such as Leeds, in the 1830's, but did not come into general use till the middle of the century. Woolcombing was mechanised in the 1840's -

"It was not until after 1840 that the woolcombing machine began really to threaten the woollen comb with extinction." (86)

The greater weaving capacity of the powerloom over the handloom and its rapid adoption once an efficient machine had been devised had the effect of lowering piece rates (the price paid to the weaver for a given length of cloth). (87)

So far, the implications of trade fluctuations and competition from powered machinery have been considered separately. However, in the period under review, cyclical unemployment and very low wages were superimposed onto more or less permanently depressed and uncertain earnings of handicraft textile workers. As a result, the distress of weavers in periods of economic recession was more serious and recovery incomplete.

(84) ibid, p.82
(85) ibid, 'The Yorkshire Wool Textile Industry' in J.G. Jenkins, op. cit p.215
(86) J. Burnley, HISTORY OF WOOL AND WOOLCOMING (1889) pp.165-6
(87) D. Bythell, op. cit, p.105
and slower than the temporary suffering of, for instance, factory 
operatives, for whom the years between depressions meant "high wages and 
high employment." (88) The particularly severe depressions during the 
1830's and 1840's, punctuated by bursts of expansion in powerloom 
weaving, no doubt caused a more rapid contraction of the textile 
handicraft sector in the more remote rural areas of Lancashire and 
Yorkshire than would otherwise have been the case. In a trade recession 
the handloom weavers were more vulnerable than factory workers - being 
the first to be thrown out of work because in a situation where supply 
exceeded demand, the manufacturers were more likely to carry on using 
their machinery, which both produced cloth at a lower cost than the hand-
loom and had been costly to implement. Despite recent studies modifying 
the traditional dismal picture of depressed living standards of domestic 
textile workers, "historians ... have been unanimous in concluding that 
the domestic weavers in the first half of the nineteenth century became 
a class who suffered, in the contemporary phrase, 'distress'. (89) 
Evidence relating to wages and employment of handloom weavers and wool-
combers in Settle and Skipton unions, 'derived largely from the poor law 
records, substantiates the general account of the deteriorating material 
condition of handicraft textile workers.

The information given by several townships to the Royal Commission 
on the Poor Laws, 1832-4, affirms the adverse effects of the trade 
depression of the early 1830's on the availability of work and the level 
of weavers' earnings. Several townships complained of "redundancy of 
labour" - for example, Settle, where

(88) D. Anderson, op. cit. p.25
(89) D. Bythell, op. cit. p.11
"The uncertainty of procuring work is so great ..." (90)

The poverty of the weavers is evidenced from the following remark:

"there is a good deal of handloom weaving in this neighbourhood, and none of that class can afford to deposit anything, but some of the spinners can and do contribute." (91)

The main effects of the "... general depression in trade ..." in Kettlewell were stated to be "... the want of labour, and sufficient remuneration for it." — a situation reinforced by the evidence of other township authorities (92).

The textile industry was again in the throes of depression in 1837. Alfred Power informed the Poor Law Commission:

"there has been an unusual degree of distress among the weavers in cotton and worsted on the side towards Heighley ..." (93)

The worsted weavers and woollen weavers were working about half time and an "able-bodied man (was) weaving calico at 32 weeks, frequently 4/-, 5/-, 6/- scarcely that during the late pressure." (94) In the opinion of Huggeridge, the Assistant Commissioner appointed to the Royal Commission on Handloom weavers —

"weavers unit for, or are out of work, about a quarter of their time, on an average of years." (95)

Skilled cotton, worsted and wool handloom weavers could, with full employment and good material, earn 9/-, 13/- and 1/2/6d a week respectively; ordinarily, however, a more accurate estimate of wages was 6/-, 9/- and 15/-, though the worsted weavers wages were reduced to the

(90) PP.1634 (44) XXXVI p.626a Q.10
(91) Ibid p.750
(92) Ibid p.761, 762, 615a Q.10, 743, 627a Q.40
(93) HR2 Skirton 13/12/1237
(94) PP.1357-13 (187) VIII Q.2867
(95) PP.1340 (220) XLI P.605
cotton weavers earnings.

"the worsted district blends with the cotton district at Steeton, Silsden and Addingham; consequence of this is that there is a similar blending of wages ... the worsted weavers north west of Keighley are reduced down to a cotton standard."(96)

The early 1840's was a "time of unexampled distress."(97) It was alleged that a good handloom weaver in Settle union could not earn more than 3s a week, mainly on account of the "little employment they have ..."(98) Assistant Commissioner Walshaw wrote of "the very distressed condition of some of the townships comprised within ...[Skipton] union in which handloom weaving of the lowest description is the principal employment of the inhabitants -"(99) - the townships included Cononley, Couling, Farnhill, Glusburn, Salterforth, Thornton and Barnoldswick. There was considerable distress at Barnoldswick -

"... the absolute misery of a great number of the inhabitants ... the handloom weavers of that place by hard and constant work can not earn more than from 3 to 4 shillings per week -"(100)

Handloom weavers, relieved by Skipton union in 1853, earned on average 7/- a week, though the individual amounts indicate the great variation in wages.(101) The wages were representative - "There is no want of application or industry nor are their wages below the usual rate."(102) Nor were the

(96) PP.1840 (43 - II) XI111 p.551
(97) PP.1842 (422) XXXV p.10
(98) Ibid
(99) WM12 Skipton 16/6/1842
(100) Ibid 29/5/1842
(101) Ibid 22/1/1853
(102) Ibid 22/1/1853

2 weavers earned 10/- per week
5 " " 8/- " "
1 " " 7/6 " "
6 " " 7/- " "
3 " " 6/- " "
1 " " 5/- " "
1 " " ½/- " "
3 weavers earning 4/-, 6/- and 6/- were in a poor state of health, which would have reduced their earning capacity.
weavers' wages unusually low as a result of trade recession. - "The majority of the cases reported are those where the heads of families are employed in handloom weaving and where wages will most probably ever continue to fall short of supporting a large family."(103)

A year or two later, in 1854-5, handicraft textile workers, especially those in the woollen industry, were suffering great privations:

"the worsted manufacture was much more depressed in 1855 than any other trade."(104)

Prior to the depression handloom weavers, employed by a large manufacturing firm in Keighley, were without work:

"Before there was any great depression of trade in the Bradford market, Messrs Craven of Keighley, very large manufacturers, markt employing a great number of handloom weavers, dissolved partnership, and stopped their works in order to wind up their partnership. Their hands were given to understand that the partners were about to carry on business separately and would shortly require the services of their weavers ... This suspense continued till bad markets came and then was prolonged for a considerable time. Then with the continued bad markets almost every mill in the union ran for half time only. Several stopped, and are up to this time closed. Many of the mill owners became bankrupt."(105)

The mid '50's recession also persuaded manufacturers to utilize steam-driven machinery in preference to hand woolcombers, many of whom were thrown out of work as a result. Earlier, in 1840, the Bradford Woolcombers' Association detailed their grievances in an address to the manufacturers:

" ... previous to the reduction (in wages) it was scarcely possible for any of his woolcombers to obtain an honest livelihood by their own hand labour. But now that the reduction has taken place our sufferings are augmented and our lives have become miserable.... We are compelled to work from 14 to 16 hours per day, and with all this sweat and toil we are not able to procure sufficient of the necessaries of life therewith to subsist on."(106)

(103) B&H12 Skipton 31/1/1855
(104) 8th Annual Report of the P.L.B. 1855 pp.47-8
(105) Ibid pp.46-7
(106) J.Burley, op.cit pp.176-8
Many hand weavers and combers were again without work or only partially employed during the trade recession in 1857. Thus, evidence relating to the plight of weavers is most abundant for the years of severe recession in the 1830's and 1840's. By 1850 there ceased to be any special mention of the distress of handloom cotton weavers in Settle or Skipton unions and a decade later the condition of woolcombers and handloom worsted weavers in Skipton union was no longer a subject of concern. Nevertheless, during the first twenty years or so of the New Poor Law the handloom weavers' earnings were extremely low and uncertain and as a class they were most vulnerable in trade depressions.

(iii) Hand Knitters

Despite the elaborate mechanisation of the Midland Knitwear industry by the nineteenth century handknitting still survived in parts of north-west Yorkshire — as a by-occupation for men and as a major source of employment for women, the elderly and children. The author, William Howitt, wrote about Aysgarth in 1844:

"... the men still knit a great deal in the houses; and the women knit incessantly." (107)

The census schedules for the townships comprising Aysgarth and Sedbergh unions were consulted. In the former union there were 47 knitters in 1841, 199 in 1851, 188 in 1861 and 117 in 1871, the majority of whom lived in High Abbotside and Hawes. In Sedbergh union there were 54 knitters in 1841, 170 in 1851, 106 in 1861 and 37 in 1871. The census schedules indicate a definite decrease in the number of knitters in both unions in the period 1851-71, though more marked in Sedbergh union. (108)

(107) W. Howitt: A Pastoral Visit to Yorkshire, 1844
(108) According to the 1851 census enumerators' schedules only 13 of the 199 knitters in Aysgarth union were male, of whom 5 were below the age of 15 and 3 over 75 years. 19 of the 170 knitters in Sedbergh union were male, of whom 15 were below the age of 15 and 5 over 60 years of age.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Knitters in Aysgarth Union</th>
<th>Knitters in Sedbergh Union</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1841</td>
<td>47</td>
<td>54</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1851</td>
<td>199</td>
<td>170</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1861</td>
<td>188</td>
<td>106</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1871</td>
<td>117</td>
<td>37</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The extent to which the census returns underestimated handknitter numbers can be gauged from a comparison with the number of employees of the principal knit-hosiery manufacturer in Hawes. In 1871 James Smith employed approximately 800 people who knitted in their homes while the number of knitters mentioned in the 1871 census schedules for Aysgarth union totalled only 117, 95 of whom resided in Hawes. Between 1871 and 1890 the number of handknitters employed by the firm of James Smith and Son fell by half, from eight to four hundred. (109)

Throughout the period 1834 to 1900, earnings derived from hand-knitting were extremely modest:

"... in the decline of the industry the pay became very low ..." (110)

Wages, averaging 2/- to 3/- a week in 1843, varied little from the rates in 1770, when Arthur Young wrote of the knitters of Aysgarth -

"... the poor women and children's employment is knitting and spinning by which the women earn about 6d a day and girls 2d or 3d." (111)

Only the fact that hand-knitting was a 'by-occupation' and that there was little alternative employment in this remote and impoverished area ensured the survival of hand-knitting in the nineteenth century.

Lead Mining

Textiles was not the only industry to dwindle away in North Yorkshire in the course of the nineteenth century. The mid-Pennine leadmines in Swaledale, Arkengarthdale, Wensleydale, Ribberdale, upper Wharfedale and Airedale contributed one of the major lead fields in the

(109) W. Hartley and J. Ingilby op. cit. p.57
(110) Ibid p.19
(111) RP 1843 (519) XI1 p.206
Quoted in W. Hartley and J. Ingilby, op. cit. p.50
country, producing in 1856 approximately one eighth of the lead mined in Britain. (112) Lead mining in Yorkshire reached its peak in the 1840's and 1850's and a serious decline began in the 1870's and 1880's, in 1873 the tonnage of dressed ore was nearly 5,000 and by 1905 a mere 110. (113)

In 1851 the number of lead miners exceeded a hundred in four North Yorkshire unions - 826, 280, 138 and 137 in Reeth, Skipton, Pateley Bridge and Leyburn unions respectively. (114) The number of lead miners in Aysgarth union did not exceed thirty-eight - in 1861, - and in Settle union only three - one in Arncliffe and two in Malham - were recorded in 1851. Reeth union was the most densely populated with lead miners; in 1871 approximately 45% of its adult male population were lead miners, compared with 6% in Pateley Bridge, 3.5% in Leyburn, 2.5% in Skipton and 1.75% in Aysgarth. All the townships, comprising Reeth union, had lead miners - in 1851 approximately 16.5% of the total population of Helbecks, 14% of Arkengarthdale, 11% of Muker, 8.4% of Reeth, 9.6% of Grin and 9.4% of Harwick were adult lead miners. In the other unions lead miners were confined to a few townships. In Pateley Bridge union, the mining community was largely confined to the township of Skirre cum Beverley; only two other townships, out of a total of thirteen, had more than five lead miners in 1851. Of the forty-eight townships and parishes in Skipton union only eight had more than five lead miners, forming three lead mining centres round Kettlewell with Starbotton, Grassington and Cononley. In Leyburn union, lead miners resided in the townships of

There were lead ore fields in the North Pennines, Peak District (Derbyshire), Lake District, Wales, Somerset and Shropshire.

See Appendix C: Table 1 for the yield of lead ore from Yorkshire mines 1575-1900.

(114) See Appendix C: Table 2
The only increase of any note in the number of leadminers was in Leyburn union, between 1841 and 1861. All the townships were losing miners by 1871; there were significant reductions in the number of miners between 1851 and 1861 in Buxer, and during the following decade in Beeth township, Baworley, Grassington, Cononley and the four above mentioned townships in Leyburn union. The decrease in the number of adult miners between 1861 and 1871 was generally accompanied by a more marked reduction in the number of miners below the age of twenty, thus suggesting that the movement out of the industry was most acute amongst the younger miners.

The factors that most seriously affected the economic fortunes of the leadminers were the state of the British lead market and the degree of productivity of a particular leadfield or mine. The usual system of paying leadminers, known as the 'bing system', served to aggravate the problems of reduced and uncertain earnings experienced by the miners. During a depression in the lead industry both the demand for lead and the price paid to the mining company and the miner fell. The consequences for the miner were unemployment and/or a sharp reduction in earnings. The closure of a local mine, preceded by diminishing output as the mine was worked out, had similar effects on the rate of employment and earnings of the miners. Ventilation and drainage difficulties and extreme weather conditions are examples of additional factors that affected the rate of employment and amount of lead mined.

The period 1800 to 1810 had been one of great prosperity for the lead industry. The trade had recovered from the post-Napoleonic War

(115) See Appendix C Table 3
slump by 1825, only to be plunged into a major depression in the late 1820's and early 1830's.\(^{(116)}\) In 1825 the average price paid for a ton of lead was £27.5s; by 1832 the price had fallen to £13.10s a ton.\(^{(117)}\) The overseer of Grassington estimated that a ton of lead, costing £40 in the early years of the century, was worth only £12 during the depression of the early 1830's.\(^{(118)}\) Unemployment amongst miners was general. The following commentary on the situation in Swaledale was typical of conditions in most lead-mining districts between 1829 and 1833:

"Now the mines are exhausted, the price of lead is low and miners are forced to obtain a living in other countries which they can not get here."\(^{(119)}\)

Mining companies reduced their labour force. The London Lead Company, whose principal mines were in the northern Pennines, cut their workforce by 40\% and wages by 20\%\(^{(120)}\). In Kuker there were 315 males, aged twenty and above, of whom 46 were unemployed; although their usual occupation is not recorded, it is reasonable to assume that the majority were miners.\(^{(121)}\) The earnings of lead-miners in Middleton fell from an average of fourteen to seven shillings a week.\(^{(122)}\) The lead market recovered and despite minor fluctuations during the following fifty years there was not a comparable depression till the late 1870's, when the British lead market collapsed due to the importation of Spanish lead.

In 1874 pig lead from the Grassington mines cost £22.6.0 per ton; by 1879 the price had fallen to £15.4.2 and in 1885 was £12.2.5.\(^{(123)}\) Another estimate of lead prices per ton shows a similar drastic reduction towards the end of the 1870's:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Price</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1864</td>
<td>£23.12.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1871</td>
<td>13. 4. 0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1873</td>
<td>22. 6. 0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1877</td>
<td>20.11. 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1879</td>
<td>14.10. 6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

\(^{(116)}\) J. H. Dickinson, \textit{Histories and Histories} (1972) p. 74
\(^{(117)}\) A. Hastrup and D. Reinings, \textit{op. cit} p. 278
\(^{(118)}\) P. H. Clarke (44) \textit{XVIII} p. 76
\(^{(119)}\) Extract from Edward Fredericks's Diary, 16th October 1830, in D. Cooper and T. Robinson (1960) p. 34
\(^{(120)}\) A. Hastrup and D. Reinings, \textit{op. cit} p. 278
\(^{(121)}\) D. Cooper (45) \textit{Histories of the English Parishes} (1968) p. 76
\(^{(122)}\) D. Reinings (46) \textit{Histories of the English Parishes} (1968) p. 206
\(^{(123)}\) J. H. Dickinson, \textit{op. cit} p. 22
In 1864/5 the average price was less than 6s.2 per ton.
In 1893 lead reached a record low price of .9s.11.9 per ton. (124)

Evidence given to the Kinnaird Commission in 1863 suggests that average earnings were fifteen to eighteen shillings a week but they could fall as low as ten shillings in the poorer mines. (125) An increase in the 1870's, following rises in the price of lead and increased demand for labour in the coalmines and ironworks, served to emphasize the reductions in earnings a decade later. Pickmen, working for the Old Gang Company in Swaledale averaged less than nine shillings a week in the winter of 1864/5. (126) Due to the "unfortunate deterioration of the leadmining industry of Arkengarthdale and Swaledale ..." a miner could not earn more than eight shillings a week. (127) The significance of the following statement -

"In some areas like Yonsleydale and Swaledale the fall in price finished off a declining industry." - (128)

is appreciated when one realises that in 1870 Swaledale and Arkengarthdale were producing two-thirds of the lead mined in Yorkshire. "Only major price movements like those of 1829-33 and post 1878 depressions were strong enough to leave work on almost every mining area." (129) In the intervening years a more important influence on lead output and consequently levels of employment and earnings of miners, was "the extent and efficiency of development work and the distribution of ore deposits." (130)

The following is a brief account of the dates of closure of some of the Yorkshire leadmines. Production at the Cononley mines "ceased

(124) A. Naistriick and S. Jennings on cit p.283
(125) Pl.1964 (173) 24/4 Pl.1965
"In some of the mines they will average about 10s a week, in some about 9s, and in others from 10s to 1ls; ..."
(126) A. Naistriick and S. Jennings on cit p.296
(127) Richmond Chronicle 19/7/1964
(128) A. Naistriick and S. Jennings on cit p.284
(129) Ibid p.291
(130) Ibid p.290
to all intents and purposes in 1860..., twelve tons were raised in 1862 and twenty in 1874. (131) The Grassington mines declined from the late 1850's, producing only twenty tons in 1861. (132) Coniston Moor mines closed in 1876. (133) The exhaustion of the mines between Kettlewell and Buckden, in Harfordale, dated from 1867; in that year 325 tons were raised but the tonnage had fallen to 72.5 in 1870, a mere 4.7 in 1874, 41 in 1875 and 19 in 1880, when the mines probably shut down. (134) In the 1850's the annual production of ore from the Hebden Moor mines averaged 253 tons; in 1867 only seventy three tons were raised, falling to forty tons in 1870. (135) The Appletreewick mines closed in 1874, reopened the following year and lasted nine years before finally closing in 1884. (136) By the mid-nineteenth century most of the workings in the Greenhow mining field had been exhausted. However, development work started in the mid 1850's, but by 1874, the field was almost at a standstill. Several new companies were formed and mining continued until 1895. (137) Vensleydale was represented by only a few mines after 1865; the lead output in the years 1865-71, was less than a third of that in 1860-2. (138) For many years prior to the final collapse of the lead industry several Standedale mines had become progressively exhausted.

(131) J. D. Dickinson op cit p.5
(132) Ibid p.20 1855 2,127 tons produced
1860 1,216 " "
1867 502 " "
1874 286 " "
1881 20 " "
(133) Ibid p.25
(134) Ibid pp.27-30
(135) Ibid p.32
(136) Ibid pp.36-37 1861 146 tons 1867 58 tons
1862 308 " 1868 469 "
1863 235 " 1869 368 "
1864 240 " 1870 1,183 "
1865 529 " 1871 495 "
1866 1,027 " 1872 45 "
(137) B. Jennings (ed) HISTORY OF HARFORDALE pp.300, 307, 313
(138) A. Raiswick and B. Jennings, op. cit p.282
George Robinson, manager of mines in Swaledale, informed the Kinnaird Commission:

"The mines are poor." - an opinion endorsed by Sir G.W. Denys, proprietor of mines in the same dale.

"... the mines have been poor for several years ..." (139)

Ore production from the Swaledale mines declined rapidly in the 1880's. Mines became unprofitable and closed and by the end of the century, production was negligible.

Miners were generally paid for the ore they raised, according to the Bargain system or 'Dingtale'.

"... a partnership of miners would agree to work a length ... in a certain part of a vein for a certain time, usually one to three months, at so much per Bing ..."(140)

Sir G.W. Denys described the system, operating in Swaledale, to the Royal Commissioners in 1863:

"... when there is ore to be got, they make what are called ore bargains ... The agents go in and look at the forehead and see the nature of the vein, and judge pretty well how many bings of metal a man can get with his partners in a given time. Then an agent lets them a bargain of 20, 30 or 40 bings, or whatever it may be, at a certain price, and of course when they have got that bargain their endeavour is to take the metal out as quickly as they possibly can."(141)

The Duke of Devonshire's Mining Company, however, paid its miners by the fathom. Henry Daykin, underground agent for the Grassington mines, stated, "it is not the custom in this country to work by bing; not in Grassington."(142) This was the usual form of payment for the "dead-work men", who sank shafts and drove the levels. Dressers and smelters were normally paid by the day.

(139) PP.1862 (520) 547  215 17609, 2,17606
(140) J. Dickinson 40 cit  p.69 A bing was 3 cut.
(141) PP.1864 (330) 41 V  1,17357
(142) Ibid  2,18405
By the nineteenth century most miners were paid monthly, (143) though during negotiations for a renewal of a mining lease in Nidderdale in 1837, assurance was required that miners would be paid at least once every six months! (144) Monthly earnings depended upon the amount of ore produced: "... a man may have a bargain that will last a year, but he is paid every month for what he has got during that month ..." (145) The price varied according to several factors, for instance, the hardness of the rock, distance of the working from the surface, the quality and quantity of ore. Thus, in 1853, a Swaledale company was "paying higher wages than any of the other companies, solely to induce the men to get into poor places." (146) Nevertheless, there was great variation in the amount of ore raised and the monthly earnings of lead miners. The average monthly earnings per man of one partnership in the Old Gang Company, in Swaledale, between 1860-5, varied from nothing to £8.12s. (147) In Swaledale, where the "proprietors of these mines do not pay their labourers stated wages by the week or month or by the piece, but, by what is styled amongst them trial bargains, that is one or two, or a gang of men take of their employers a length of ground out of which they are to raise so much metal,

(143) Ibid 9.17370, 17665, 17325, 18229.
    9.17325 "... formerly they used to be quarterly. When they were
    made once a quarter, the men were over head and heels in debt, and
    on the pay days they would meet and they would drink for a week or
    a fortnight before ever they struck another bat."
    Also A. Raistrick and B. Jennings on cit p.269.
(144) B. Jennings (ed) A HISTORY OF N. ENGLAND p.296
(145) B. Jennings (ed) A HISTORY OF N. ENGLAND p.296
(146) Ibid 9.17370
(147) A. Raistrick and B. Jennings on cit p.269

Table illustrating variability of earnings - figures of highest, lowest, and average weekly earnings per man of a partnership mining the Old Gang Mine: shillings.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Month</th>
<th>Highest</th>
<th>Lowest</th>
<th>Average</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>June 1872</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>August 1872</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>November 1872</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>February 1873</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 1873</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June 1873</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
at as much a ing or given quantity ...", "... these trials after the men have worked at them for probably 2, 3 and 4 months together (I have known cases of six months and longer) frequently turn out entire failures, and the men receive nothing for their labor, ..."(148) Uncertain earnings, unemployment and poverty therefore were common features of a leadminer's life in the nineteenth century. A later chapter seeks to examine the extent to which these problems put pressure on the poor law administration.

3. Industries of North-east Yorkshire

The late nineteenth century witnessed a contraction in the traditional industries of north-east Yorkshire. Following the discovery of extensive high grade iron ore, known as the Cleveland Main Seam, at Skinningrove, near Eston, in the early 1850's, north-east Yorkshire became the leading producer of iron ore in Britain.(149) Whitby, Stokesley and Pickering unions were on the periphery of the Cleveland iron ore field, with mines in the area of Grosmont, Glasdale, Rosedale and elsewhere.(150) The success of new mines in north Cleveland caused speculation by smaller companies further south but many of these mines quickly proved unsuitable for large scale development. The fall in the population of these unions in the late nineteenth century was partly a result of the closure of the iron mines. Three blast furnaces at Glasdale were blown out in 1875.(151) The Rosedale mines in Pickering

(148) HJ12 227698/47 10/12/1947
(150) S.Chapman CLEVELAND IRONSTORY (1967)
(151) T.Salmer and Co. HISTORY, TOPOGRAPHY AND DIRECTORY OF NORTH YORKSHIRE... (1890) p 941
union closed in the late 1870's. At the beginning of the period coal was mined on a small scale in the Pennines, for example, near Ingleton in Settle union and at Tan Hill in Roethyst union, and in north-east Yorkshire. Production of coal in the moorland pits in Bransdale and Farndale rapidly declined between 1770 and 1800. By the nineteenth century alum mining in north-east Yorkshire was only a shadow of its former importance.

"The alum trade of Cleveland dwindled until by the end of the eighteenth century it had ceased to count as a factor of English trade;" (155)

As demand for jet products increased in the second half of the nineteenth century the jet industry, centred at Whitby, underwent a brief revival:

"1873 was the heyday of the prosperity of the trade" (156) but by the early 1880's the numbers employed had fallen from 1500 to 400. A Local Government Inspector reported:

"... at Whitby the total extinction, for all practical purposes, of the jet trade causes undoubted distress amongst those workers who have clung to a decaying industry;" (157)

As shipbuilding centres, Whitby and Scarborough were also overtaken in tonnage constructed by other ports. The "considerable shipbuilding activity" in Scarborough in the first half of the nineteenth century greatly diminished in the second half of the century as a result of the development of iron ship building and the increase in the size of vessels beyond the capacity of the harbour at Scarborough; shipbuilding was

(155) T.Mulcas and Co. op cit pp.146, 203, 226.
(154) Alfred Mather, 'Coal Mining in Bransdale and Farndale in the 18th Century,' in The Ryedale Historian, No.4, 1959
(156) Ibid p.330
thereafter confined to "fishing yaws and cobles..." (158) Whitby was
the last stronghold of wooden shipbuilding. (159) It is difficult to
assess the extent of the decline of fishing as an occupation in the
coastal towns and villages. In 1861 only seven unions in England and
Wales contained a larger number of fishermen than Scarborough. In 1890
there was extensive fishing at Staithes while at Runswick a "very
considerable fishing trade was formerly done here but it has declined
in the late years, and now only a few cobles are so employed." (160) A
report on the fishing trade in Whitby union stated:

"... a gradual impoverishment is taking place amongst those that
in past times have been in comparatively well-to-do circumstances." (161)

4.5 Agricultural Labourers

While 'de-industrialisation' provides the most dramatic example of
economic change in north Yorkshire agriculture, nevertheless, was not
immune to national economic developments in the nineteenth century and
the rest of this chapter examines the factors influencing the level of
wages and rate of employment of those, who, throughout the century,
formed the largest single occupational group - the agricultural labourers.

Farming in North Yorkshire was chiefly pastoral. In 1787 Defoe
vividly remarked on the lack of arable land in the West Riding -
"as for corn they scarce grow enough to keep their poultry." (162)
Cobbett drew similar conclusions from his 'Rural Rides' -

"there is not much corn grown in the North Riding of Yorkshire, ... and in the whole county of Durham as is grown in the Isle of N'ght alone - all along the road from Leeds to Durham I saw hardly any wheat at all or any wheat stubble, the chief crops being oats and beans mixed with peas ... they are counties made for the express purpose of producing meat ..." (165)

The acreage devoted to corn production declined in the second half of the century whilst that of permanent pasture increased. (164) However, there was a distinction between upland and lowland areas; in the former - the Pennines and North Yorkshire Moors - farms were generally small and/or pastoral, relying chiefly on family labour, whilst greater diversity of farming activity, employing more non-family labour, characterised farms of the Tees Valley and Vales of York and Pickering. The lowland unions - Malton, Scarborough, Easingwold, Thirsk, Bedale, Richmond, Ripon and Knaresborough - therefore, had a proportionally larger agricultural labour force than the upland unions of Whitby, Askrigg, Reeth, Sedbergh, Settle, Skipton and Pateley Bridge; for example, male agricultural labourers formed a more forty-ninth of the male population of Reeth union in 1851, compared with a fifth in Malton union.

Weekly wages of agricultural labourers have been calculated on a county basis at various dates in the nineteenth century, though there are problems inherent in a study of regional wage variations. In the first place, the agricultural labouring class, far from being a homogeneous group, was composed of many occupational groups; for instance, there were

(163) V. Page (ed) op. cit Vol. III p. 434
(164) Ibid

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Corn crops</th>
<th>Permanent pasture</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1857</td>
<td>222,139</td>
<td>365,335</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1866</td>
<td>199,529</td>
<td>480,137</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1896</td>
<td>179,754</td>
<td>527,980</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
farm servants, generally hired by the year or half-year. Some men were employed by the week, others by the day - both groups could constitute either regularly employed or casual labour. Casual labourers were either 'unskilled' or specialists in a particular aspect of farm craft. Men who worked with animals were generally more highly paid than ordinary labourers - partly on account of the longer hours and Sunday work. (165) Surveys of average county wage rates did not always specify which group of agricultural workers the figures referred to - mostly they represented the wages of the outdoor day labourer. In North Yorkshire, however, this group was less common than in the more arable areas of England and there were proportionally more labourers working with animals. A second difficulty was that contemporary wage tables often gave just the basic wage rate and failed to assess the amount of payment in kind or by way of allowances and seasonal earnings from piece work. In Yorkshire, at the end of the nineteenth century "allowances of corn and meat were still given, the weekly labourers boarded in the farm house, milk and potato land were given free, coals were drawn and allotments ploughed, and beer was provided at harvest and threshing time." (166) Piece work, associated with field tasks on arable farms, though more common in the predominantly arable districts of south east England than in the north of England, did exist in parts of lowland Yorkshire. Tuke, reporting on agriculture in the North Riding in 1794 wrote:

"In the northern part of the Vale of York, and in Cleveland, where the practice of letting work by the piece by no means prevails ... in the southern part of the Vale of York, where the practice of letting work is more frequent .." (167)

(165) PP.1105 (2375) EWII p.357. "men in charge of animals ... are ... speaking generally a higher paid class of farm servant than the 'ordinary labourer'..." p.357. The agricultural labourer's average weekly wages in the North Riding (including allowances) was 16/10s; the equivalent earnings of horsemen, cattlemen and shepherds was 20/5d, 20/3d, 20/7d respectively.

(166) H. Adams, A HISTORY OF THE ENGLISH AGRICULTURAL LABOURER (1920) p.337
Allowing for great variation in wage rates for the different classes of agricultural worker and regional differences in piece work and non-cash payments, E.M. Hunt, in his book, 'Regional Wage Variations in Britain 1850-1914', nevertheless concludes that wide variation in regional farm wages did exist and that there was close correlation between the north as a high wage area and the south and south east as a low wage area. Hunt writes of agricultural labourers' wages in Lancashire, Cheshire and the West Riding -

"The overall position in agriculture was that wages in the region were well above the national average." (168)

whilst those in the North Riding "were moderately high, in most cases somewhere between the national average and rates in the highest wage areas." (169) Nineteenth century estimates of wages demonstrate that the differential between the north and south-east was maintained and that agricultural labourers in the North Riding were amongst the better paid throughout the century. Hunt estimates that, in the late 1860's, farm earnings in the riding were c.20% above the national average and 50% above the rates of the lowest wage counties and that by the twentieth century, though the margin of advantage had been reduced, earnings were still above the national average. (170) Moreover, an examination of prices revealed no differences in standards of living, which would have

(168) E.M. Hunt, Regional Wage Variations in Britain 1850-1914 (1973) p.40
(169) Ibid p.36
(170) In 1851 J. Caird calculated that the highest rates of agricultural labourers' weekly wages in England were in the West Riding (14/-) compared with 11/- in the North Riding and, at the bottom end of the scale, 7/- in Suffolk, Gloucestershire and Wiltshire. J. Caird, The Agricultural Laborer in 1850-1 (1852) p.49
 As late as 1902 the average weekly earnings of ordinary agricultural labourers (including the estimated value of allowances in kind) was 19s.10d in the West Riding (9th highest county rate in England and Wales) and 12s.6d in the North Riding (12th highest rate), compared with the lowest rate of 10s.4d in Carmarthenshire. J.P.R. sundichin, Agricultural Wages in Nineteenth Century Britain (1976) p. 239
reduced the real gap between earnings.

"... the cost of living of rural workers did not vary significantly in different parts of the country; differences in real wages paralleled differences in money wages." (\n\n
An important factor affecting agricultural earnings was the rate of employment, which was determined by the interplay of supply of and demand for labour. Obviously when demand failed to equal supply the result was potential or actual under-employment. A reduced demand occurred in the following circumstances - during an agricultural depression, when falling prices led farmers to employ fewer workers in order to reduce labour costs; when adverse weather conditions shortened the harvest and haytime in the summer and prevented outdoor work in the winter and when there was less work to be done on the farms in the winter months. In North Yorkshire several factors mitigated against the harsh operation of these influences and, as a result, employment was more regular and under-employment less prolonged and widespread than in some other regions of the country. The most important factor was the emphasis on pastoral farming. Whereas arable farming was characterised by "an extreme seasonality in the demand for labour," with a large labour force, required for harvest work, being made redundant in the winter months, pastoral farming did not have such a pronounced seasonal demand for labour.\n\n(171) In the mixed farming areas women, children, old people, living locally, and migrant workers, such as the Irish and industrial workers, were employed for seasonal tasks, thereby reducing the number of adult male labourers kept in reserve for peak seasonal employment. E.J.T. Collins writes:

\r\n\r
\r
(171) A. Digby 'The labour Market and the Continuity of Social Policy after 1654', 'The Case of the Eastern Counties.' Lp. \r.2nd cor. \r.NI (1975) p.70

(171c) E.H. Knut, 'OF CIT' p. C7
"In the early nineteenth century weavers and industrial workers were essential components of many harvest gangs in northern England and the Scottish lowlands." (172)

Poor Law Inspector Lambert was of the opinion that -

"In the extensive agricultural districts of Yorkshire and Lincolnshire there is no superabundance of labour, and were it not for the periodic immigration of Irish labourers the ordinary harvest and drainage work could not be done ..." (173)

The predominantly pastoral farming led to a large proportion of agricultural workers being hired for a term of one or half a year, living in the farmer's or foreman's house. The farmer paid wages for the whole of this period, regardless of unemployment due to bad weather or temporary sickness. (174) The significance of living in as a factor preventing pauperism amongst agricultural labourers should not be over-estimated since the vast majority of these indoor servants were below the age of twenty. (175) Nevertheless, there were indirect ways in which the hiring system reduced the likelihood of poverty. Millar Hunt argues that it was a disincentive to early marriage (176) and allowed the young person to save before marrying. If a man failed to be hired he was faced with a definite choice of unemployment or moving away in search of work. The hiring system was therefore an important mechanism in regulating supply and demand. This can be seen in operation in the 1830's. According to a land surveyor, living in the North Riding, not quite half the servants were hired at a local Martinmas hiring and many, unable to get employment in the depression of the 1830's, migrated. (177) The type of farming also determined to some degree the impact of agricultural depressions on employment. For instance, in the depression of the late nineteenth century large-scale arable farming regions were

(173) 1832 Lambert 22 13/2/1836
(174) 1832-3 b (553) s.7 8 p.19
(175) 1832-3 b (553) s.7 8 p.19
(176) 1832-3 b (553) s.7 8 p.19
(177) 1832-3 b (553) s.7 8 p.19
more adversely affected than mixed or pastoral farming districts.

Hunter-Pringle, reporting on the agricultural depression in South Durham and North and East Ridings of Yorkshire, observed -

"In 1894 irregularity of work was chiefly confined to the eastern and midland counties which have been most affected by the agricultural depression."(178)

He added the less serious impact of the depression in the north to "the preponderance of pastoral farming, ..."(179)

Thus the northern agricultural labourer was more assured of regular employment than his counterpart in the south-eastern counties of England. Nineteenth century commentators on agriculture and the poor laws in North Yorkshire were agreed on the absence of a surplus agricultural labour force, though under-employment amongst a small section of the labouring class in the slack winter months was exacerbated in years of depression, particularly in the 1830's, 1840's and early 1850's. In the depression of the early 1830's farmers employed fewer labourers -

"he [the labourer] is frequently out of employ part of the time."(180)

In Settle, where a third to a half of the labourers were out of work in 1832-3, the township authorities attributed the distress in part to the "great scarcity of husbandry work" and round Sedbergh, in the early 1840's it was alleged that "our agricultural labourers ... are now often wanting work ...", though the primary reason for unemployment in both these districts was the decline of handloom weaving opportunities.(181)

1842 appears to have been a particularly bad year for employment. In Great Ouseburn (and no doubt in other agricultural townships) the "surplus
of able-bodied men out of employment this winter", 1842-3, was the
greatest in the memory of the guardians. (182) Unusually high rates of
un- and under-employment occurred again in 1849-50. Inspector Hawley
reported on the effects of the depressed state of agriculture in the
North Riding -

"This portion of the country is strictly agricultural ... complaints
by the occupiers of low prices and their inability in consequence to
employ the usual number of labourers are very general ..." "Labourers
are more or less out of employment in every union in this part of the
county ..." (183)

Despite North Yorkshire's high position on the ladder of wage levels
there is ample evidence of permanent poverty. Even in the early twentieth
century, following half a century of 'improvement' in agricultural workers'
standard of living, Mountree and Kendall reckoned that agricultural wages
attained the minimum income required by a family of five (20/6d) in only
five counties - Northumberland, Durham, Westmoreland, Lancashire and
Derbyshire. However, their findings were based on the wage rates of 1907
but the 1913 cost of living. Adjusted figures, using 1913 wage rates
would, argued one agricultural historian, also include Cumberland,
Middlesex and the North and West Ridings of Yorkshire. (184) If the
North Yorkshire farm worker was considered to be on the border line of
poverty at the turn of the century then his position had clearly been
worse fifty years earlier. In 1840 the Medical Officer of Malton union
stressed the precarious state of the agricultural labourer's independence:

"... the agricultural labourer has no opportunity of providing
beforehand for a time of scarcity ... his wages in the best of
times never rise above his urgent wants so far as to enable him
to lay anything by for the future ..." (185)

(182) R.P. 1842 (1/2) XIV 8-9
(183) H132 Hawley 41 13/6/1849
(184) R. Lennard, ACCOUNTS BASED ON ENGLISH AGRICULTURAL WAGES (1914) pp.90-91
(185) H142 Malton 10025/1040
Inspector Scott equated the economic situation of the agricultural worker with that of the handloom weaver -

"To [the handloom weaver] ... as also to the agricultural labourer all of whom necessarily expend more than half their incomes in bread and potatoes an increase in the price of flour operates with great severity." (136)

In 1895 an Assistant Commissioner, reporting on Yorkshire, considered that the agricultural labourer with a young family was still hard pressed. (137)
CHAPTER TWO

The New Poor Law and the Able-bodied Pauper

1. National Policy.

The New Poor Law of 1834 provided the basis for the statutory treatment of poverty throughout a century of fundamental social and economic change in England. Since this thesis is concerned, not with the poor law as a whole, but with its treatment of the able-bodied pauper, we must now examine changes in national poor law policy towards the relief of the able-bodied in the period 1834-1900. A Royal Commission was appointed in 1832 to enquire "into the administration and practical operation of the Poor Laws", which, two years later, after a detailed survey of the poor relief system in many parishes and townships throughout the country, produced a report, criticising the administration of poor relief and proposing major changes. (1) Parliament, accepting in the main the recommendations of the Report, passed the Poor Law Amendment Act; the poor relief system, established by the 1834 Statute, became known as the New Poor Law. (2) The Act, "to alter and amend the laws relating to the relief of poor persons", did not stipulate poor relief policy, setting up instead the administrative machinery, whose function was to formulate policy decisions and put them into practice. It is proposed to examine,

(1) PP1834 (44) xxvii
There is no printed report, compiled by an Assistant Commissioner, for the North Riding in the appendices to the Report, as there is for the West Riding.
There are two possible reasons - either the report was in Appendix A part iv which was never printed or the Riding was not visited by an Assistant Commissioner.
"... different accidents, which prevented several assistant commissioners from proceeding ... in some cases forced us "... to leave some altogether unvisited ..." PP1834 (44) xxvii p1.

(2) Act for the amendment and better administration of the laws relating to the poor in England and Wales. 4 & 5 Wm. iv c.76.
firstly, the Report, which outlined the principles of the New Poor Law, secondly, the Act, which established the machinery to administer relief, and thirdly, the rules governing relief to able-bodied paupers, known as Orders.

a. THE REPORT

The 1834 Report was primarily concerned with the problem of pauperism among the able-bodied. Though set against a background of dissatisfaction with the poor relief system, occasioned by soaring expenditure on poor relief and contemporary economic theories, critical of the old poor law, the immediate impetus behind the appointment of the Royal Commission was rural unrest in southern and eastern England in 1830-31. The ruling classes attributed the riots and other manifestations of rural discontent to abuses in the poor law system; the Commissioners' investigations therefore concentrated on the effects of the poor relief system on the agricultural sector. (3) Urban and industrial workers figured in the Report principally to reinforce the Commissioners' arguments respecting administration of relief to agricultural labourers; the problems peculiar to the relief of this class of pauper were not considered. Other aspects of the poor laws such as rating, settlement, removal, and the treatment of other groups of paupers, children, aged, sick, disabled, mentally afflicted and vagrants, received scant attention from the Royal Commissioners. (4) The Report grouped all the above-mentioned paupers, with the exception of vagrants, under the heading "not

(3) DPL83/1 (44) xxvii p.28. "It appears ... that in every district, the discontent of the labouring classes is proportioned to the money dispensed in poor's rates or in voluntary charities." p.29. "during the agricultural riots, many of the inhabitants [of Newbury and Reading] were under strong apprehensions of the rising of the very people amongst whom the poor's rates and charities are so profusely distributed."

able" or "impotent". The Commissioners were so dismissive of or uninterested in this class that the outlines of the proposed relief afforded them are vague and even ambiguous. On the one hand, the Commissioners contemplated separate workhouses, offering specialised treatment for 'unable' paupers -

"At least four classes are necessary - 1. The aged and really impotent; 2. The children; 3. The able-bodied females; 4. The able-bodied males ... It appears to us that both the requisite classification and the requisite superintendence may be better obtained in separate buildings than under a single roof," "Each class might thus receive an appropriate treatment; the old might enjoy their indulgences without torment from the boisterous; the children be educated and the able-bodied subjected to such courses of labour and discipline as will repel the indolent and vicious." (5)

Elsewhere in the Report, however, the Commissioners implied that there would be one workhouse only, in which the impotent would be subject to the same restrictions as the able-bodied -

"...to the aged, the feeble and other proper objects of relief, the regularity and discipline render the workhouse a place of comparative comfort." (6)

The Report alleged that the great source of abuse in the mal-administration of the poor laws were "The outdoor relief afforded ... to the able-bodied on their own account or on that of their families ..." (7) Although relief in kind was the most common form of assistance the Commissioners identified five types of outdoor relief in money.

1. Relief without Labour.

"By the parish giving to those who are or profess to be without employment a daily or a weekly sum, without requiring from the applicant any labour." (8)

(5) P21834 (44) xxvii p.172.
(6) Ibid p.129.
(7) Ibid p.11.
(8) Ibid p.11.
2. **Allowance.**

"By the parish allowing to labourers, who are employed by individuals, relief in aid of their wages."

"In some places allowance is given only occasionally, ... In others it is considered that a certain weekly sum ... is to be received by each member of a family ... The latter practice has sometimes been matured into a system, forming the law of a whole district ... under the name of Scales." (9)

3. ** Roundsman System.**

"By the parish paying the occupiers of property to employ the applicants for relief at a rate of wages fixed by the parish, and depending not on the services, but on the wants of the applicants, the employer being repaid out of the poor rate all that he advances in wages beyond a certain sum ..." (10)

4. **Parish Employment.**

"By the parish employing and paying the applicants for relief." (11)

5. **The Labour-rate System.**

"By an agreement among the ratepayers, that each of them shall employ and pay out of his own money, a certain number of labourers who have settlement in the parish, in proportion, not to his real demand for labour, but according to his rental or to his contribution to the rates ... or according to some other scale." (12)

The escalation of pauperism and poor relief expenditure and the depressed agricultural economy were attributed to the interrelation of poor relief with the labour market - the practice of giving outdoor relief to able-bodied men in employment, described as "the master evil of the present system." (13) Much of the Report was devoted to an analysis of the way in which outdoor relief affected pauperism and the economy.
The "tendency of outdoor relief to constant and indefinite increase, independently of any legitimate causes" was attributed to the ease with which the poor could obtain relief and the effects of a pauperised labour market on the independent labourer. (14) The system was open to fraudulent claims because the administration did not distinguish between bona fide applicants and imposters; the receipt of relief required no sacrifice on the part of the pauper and the administrators were considered inadequate to discriminate between deserving and non deserving applicants. A distinction was more commonly made once they were paupers; the deserving were compensated with extra allowances, which added to the poor's rates. In the absence of a deterrent form of relief the pauper labourer was in a more favourable economic position than the independent labourer. The farmer employed labour at the lowest wages possible; the pauper-labourer, supplemented as his wages were out of the poor's rates, was ensured of work in a surplus labour market. The independent labourer was unable to compete in a pauperised labour market and he too was eventually forced to have recourse to poor relief. However, the Commissioners claimed that the interference of outdoor relief with the labour market had wider repercussions than the mere pauperisation of labour. It was a fundamental cause of the deteriorating and depressed condition of the great mass of society. The Report listed the problems as they affected four sectors in the agricultural economy:

1. The owners of property.

It was alleged that the poor relief system reduced income from the land, leading, eventually, to the dereliction of estates.

"Our Evidence ... contains many [instances] in which the pressure of the poor rate has reduced the rent to half, or to less than half, ... and some in which it has been impossible for the owner to find a tenant." (15)

(14) Ibid p.147

(15) Ibid p.36-7.
2. Employers of labour.

The Report described how a demoralised labour force impoverished the farmer.

"... the tendency of the allowance system is to diminish, we might almost say to destroy, all these qualities [skill, intelligence, honesty, diligence] ... in the labourer." "... the evidence shows, ... that ... [the labourers] are becoming not merely idle and ignorant and dishonest, but positively hostile; actually desirous to injure him." [the farmer]. (16)

3. Independent labourers.

The Commissioners itemised the ways in which "he is a loser".

His virtues "are often the cause of absolute loss ... the income from the parish for easy or nominal work ... exceeds that of the independent labourer; and ... in those cases in which the relief only equals ... the average rate of wages, it is often better worth having, as the pauper requires less expensive diet and clothing than the hard working man." (17) The independent labourer is sometimes "refused permission to work ... [or] only a given number of days in each week, ..." (18)

4. Pauper labourers.

"No man's principles can be corrupted without injury to society in general; but the person most injured is the person whose principles have been corrupted." (19) Outdoor relief had the effect of "disconnecting each member of a family from all the others; of reducing all to the state of domesticated animals, fed, lodged and provided for by the parish, without mutual dependence or mutual interest." (20)

Although the validity of the Royal Commissioners' evaluation of the prevalence and implications for the labour market, and agricultural economy generally, of outdoor relief - and the allowance system in particular - has come under scrutiny, the careful selection of evidence to create a logical and indisputable case against outdoor relief does

(17) Ibid p.44.
(18) Ibid p.46.
(19) Ibid p.49.
(20) Ibid p.53.
 testify to the Commissioners' conviction that outdoor relief was "the master evil" of the present system.

Under the reformed poor laws the poor rates were to be used for the relief of indigence only —

"... the state of a person unable to labour, or unable to obtain, in return for his labour, the means of subsistence. It has never been deemed expedient that the provision should extend to the relief of poverty; that is, the state of one, who in order to obtain a more subsistence, is forced to have recourse to labour." (21)

In order to distinguish between the able-bodied poor and the able-bodied indigent, applying for relief, the Report proposed to make the condition of the pauper less eligible than "the situation of the independent labourer of the lowest class," so that only the really destitute would prefer poor relief to independence. (22) The most efficient way of enforcing the policy of less eligibility was by restricting the dispensation of relief to the able-bodied in the workhouse, where "the strict discipline ... restrictions ... in respect to the use of acknowledged luxuries ..." and, most important, the setting of the able-bodied to work would be "intolerable to the indolent and disorderly." (23) Thus, the first recommendation of the Report was —

"That, except as to medical attendance, and subject to the exception respecting apprenticeship hereinbefore stated, all relief whatever to the able-bodied persons or to their families, otherwise than in well regulated workhouses ... shall be declared unlawful ... and that all relief afforded in respect of children under the age of 16, shall be considered as afforded to their parents." (24)

The Commissioners envisaged the complete suppression of the practice of giving partial relief to the able-bodied within two years. (25)

A larger administrative unit than the parish was essential if a well regulated workhouse and a more professional and impartial relief administration were to be provided. The Report recommended that the parish be replaced by a union of parishes as the unit of poor law administration.

(21) Ibid p.127
(22) Ibid
(23) Ibid p.129
(24) Ibid p.146
(25) Ibid p.167
5th Recommendation: "... that the Central Board be empowered to incorporate parishes for the purpose of appointing and paying permanent officers, and for the execution of works of public labour." (26)

The effectiveness of the policies depended upon a uniformity in the administration of poor relief throughout the country, which would, in the Report's opinion, only be secured by the withdrawal of all local discretionary power and the control of the administration of the poor law by a central board.

"the legislature should divest the local authorities of all discretionary power in the administration of relief." (27)

2nd Recommendation: "We recommend therefore, the appointment of a central board to control the administration of the Poor Laws, with such assistant commissioners as may be found requisite ..." (28)

b. THE ACT

No attempt was made in the Act, which followed from the Report, to legislate against "the practice ... of giving relief to persons or their families who, at the time of applying for and receiving such relief, were wholly or partially, in employment of individuals ..." (29) Parliament recognised the great difficulty of implementing such an "immediate and universal remedy." (30) Policy decisions regarding outdoor relief were therefore left to the Poor Law Commission.

"... it shall be lawful for the said Commissioners, by such Rules ... as they may think fit, to declare to what extent and for what period the relief to be given to able-bodied persons or to their families ... may be administered out of the workhouse ... by payments in money, or with food or clothing in kind, or partly in kind and partly in money, and in what proportions, to what persons or class of persons, at what times and places, on what conditions, and in what manner such outdoor relief may be afforded." (31)

(27) Ibid p.165.
(29) 4 & 5 Wm iv c.76 s.L11.
(30) Ibid
(31) Ibid
All relief, given by the elected guardians and other local poor law administrators, contrary to the Poor Law Commission's rules was deemed unlawful, though the Act did make provision for delaying the implementation of the orders in a union and departure from the Orders.

"... in the case the overseers or guardians ... shall ... be of opinion that the application ... would be inexpedient, it shall be lawful for such overseers or guardians to delay the operation of such orders ... or any part thereof, for any period not exceeding ... thirty days from ... the day of the receipt of such orders ... and such overseers and guardians shall [within] twenty days ... report ... special circumstances to the said Commissioners;" (32)

"if overseers or guardians shall depart from the order "in any particular instance or instances of emergency, and shall within fifteen days ... report ... [the departure]... and the said Commissioners shall approve of such departure ... [in] such cases, the relief granted, ... if otherwise lawful, shall not be unlawful ..." (33)

c. THE ORDERS

There were two types of Order - the particular Order, most frequently used in the early years of the New Poor Law and issued to individual parishes or unions, and the General Order, of universal applicability, requiring the approval of the Secretary of State. (34) Though the prohibition of outdoor relief to able-bodied paupers formed the first recommendation of the 1834 Report and was the main object of the Poor Law Amendment Act, no such Order was ever issued. As anticipated in the 1834 Act the prohibition proved a more complex task than Chadwick, the author of the Report, had imagined.

In the first year of the New Poor Law, parishes or townships, separately maintaining their own poor, were directed to "continue in the accustomed course ... until the rules, orders and regulations ..."

(32) 4 & 5 Wm. IV c.76 s.LIII
(33) Ibid
(34) Ibid s XVI
shall have been duly prepared and promulgated." (35) The Commissioners first proceeded to form unions in the south, issuing five regulations, relating to the relief of the poor. Outdoor relief to able-bodied men was only prohibited in the case of financial relief in aid of wages; by implication relief in kind to able-bodied men in private employment was still allowed. There was no restriction on relief to able-bodied females, save that at least half should be in kind. Relief to non resident paupers (those living outside the union in which they had their settlement) was forbidden except in certain circumstances. (36) Although the Commissioners, writing about pauperism and relief in Nottingham, were of the opinion that "... the system established under the Poor Law Amendment Act is peculiarly applicable to the case of a manufacturing district during a period of distress "they deemed it inexpedient to issue the regulations to the unions in the northern manufacturing districts, in view of the violent, organised opposition to the New Poor Law, exacerbated by trade depression. (37) In the industrial unions of the West Riding and Lancashire relief continued to be administered as before -

"... the Board of Guardians will have the entire and absolute authority of deciding, whether a person should receive outdoor relief, or should be relieved by admission in any of the workhouses or workhouses of the union." (38)

"The Guardians shall administer relief to the poor according to the provisions of the statute 43. Eliz. c2. and all other statutes ... in force ..." (39)

In 1839 the Commissioners reported the continuation of "partial relief ... to those who have 'some means' to maintain [and] ... to those who are able to work and who do work." (40) The number of unions operating under a particular Order regulating outdoor relief to the able-bodied gradually increased; in autumn 1840 the Order was sent to unions in

(35) 1st Annual Report of the P.L.C 1835-6 p.41
(36) Ibid p.52
(37) 4th Annual Report of the P.L.C 1838 p.23
(38) Ibid p.115
(39) Ibid p.110
(40) 5th Annual Report of the P.L.C 1839 p.8-9
Cornwall, Devon, Northumberland and Durham (41) and in August 1841 the Order, reissued in the form of a General Order, was introduced for the first time to unions in the North and East Ridings of Yorkshire, Northumberland, Westmorland and Cumberland. (42) This Order, known as the Outdoor Relief Prohibitory Order of 1841 and 1844, (amended slightly according to the statute of 7 and 8 Vict. c.101) directed that all relief to able-bodied persons, male and female, or to their families, should be in the workhouse. (43) There were circumstances in which the prohibition of outdoor relief could be relaxed; able-bodied men could receive outdoor relief on account of "sudden and urgent necessity", "sickness, accident or bodily or mental infirmity, affecting such person, or any of his or her family," and for defraying funeral expenses. All relief to non-resident persons was prohibited, but again a number of exceptions were specified. It was illegal to give outdoor relief, contrary to the Order, as a loan. There was scope for guardians' discretion in considering individual applications. Departure from the Order was allowed, providing the case was reported to the Poor Law Commissioners within fifteen days.

However, the poor law administrators discovered that the 'workhouse test' was neither universally nor, in every union, permanently applicable. The 'labour test' was accordingly devised in 1841 as an alternative method of assuring that the receipt of poor relief was so unpleasant an experience that only those genuinely destitute would apply. The Outdoor Labour Test Order was sent to those unions which had not been issued with the Prohibitory Order of 1841 or where the Prohibitory Order was temporarily inapplicable. (44) This new Order was intended to prevent three principal

(41) 7th Annual Report of the P.L.C 1841 p.1
(42) 8th Annual Report of the P.L.C 1842 p.3
(43) 11th Annual Report of the P.L.C 1845 p.46-49
(44) 9th Annual Report of the P.L.C 1843 p.2
abuses of poor relief, namely the payment of rents from the poor rates, relief to able-bodied persons while in private employment and in the receipt of wages, and "imposture by able-bodied paupers who may continue on poor rates while able to maintain themselves by proper exertion."
The Labour Test Order differed from the Prohibitory Order in three important respects. Firstly, outdoor relief was only forbidden when it was relief in aid of wages and the able-bodied paupers were to be set to work by the guardians, though they were not living in the workhouse. Secondly, the prohibition of outdoor relief applied to both sexes in the Prohibitory Order whereas there was no rule in the Labour Test Order, prohibiting outdoor relief, even in aid of wages, to women. Thirdly, the Prohibitory Order did not permit outdoor relief to any of the family of an able-bodied pauper, while the prohibition in the Labour Test Order applied to the male head of the family only.

In August 1852 the Poor Law Board finally issued a General Order, regulating outdoor relief, to those unions not already operating under the Prohibitory Order. (45) A modified version of the Outdoor Relief Regulation Order was issued in December 1852 following protests by Boards of Guardians, supported by a large section of the House of Commons. (46) The guardians could give outdoor relief to able-bodied men, providing they were put to work, unless the relief was to supplement wages, to pay towards rent or for travelling expenses (unless ordered to an institution by the Board), to recover or buy tools or to establish a person in trade or business. There were the usual exceptions - 'sudden and urgent necessity', sickness, accident, infirmity etc - to the prohibition of relief in aid of wages and the setting to work of able-bodied male

(45) 5th Annual Report of the P.L.B. 1852 p.17
(46) Ibid p.24
paupers. The restrictions on the granting of outdoor relief to able-bodied men were further eroded by the Instructional letter, accompanying the revised Order, in which the commissioners explained that they would consider suspending Article 6 (the setting to work of paupers) if there was mass unemployment. Furthermore, relief in aid of wages was so defined as to allow outdoor relief to "a man working for wages on one day and being without work the next, or working half the week and being unemployed during the remainder ..."; Article 5 was "intended ... actually to prohibit ... the giving of relief at the same identical time as that at which the person receiving it is in actual employment ..."

Thus, from 1852, the "practice of the Poor Law Commissioners with regard to outdoor relief settled down into two distinct streams of regulations ... the Outdoor Relief Regulation Order of ... 1852 and ... the Outdoor Relief Prohibitory Order of ... 1844." (47) Though the Prohibitory Order approximated more closely to the principles of the Report than the Regulation (though, as has been demonstrated, even here there was scope for evading the prohibition of outdoor relief to able-bodied men) the proportion of unions in which the Prohibitory Order operated diminished in the course of the century. (48)

2. The Introduction of the 1834 Poor Law in North Yorkshire.

a. Formation of the unions.

Prior to the sending of the various Orders regulating poor relief policy, to local poor law administrators, the Commissioners' initial


(48) Ibid. p.149-50
In 1847 30% unions acted under the Prohibitory Order. (in 81 other unions the Prohibitory Order and Labour Test Order were jointly in force).
In 18/1 30% unions acted under the Prohibitory Order.
In 18/9 27% unions acted under the Prohibitory Order.
The creation of those 'additional' unions after 1837 came about as follows. In 1836 the parish officers of Bedale failed in their attempt to memorialise the Poor Law Commission against inclusion in the Northallerton union; three years later however the Commissioners acceded to the demand of twelve townships to be separated from Northallerton union and form part of a union centred on Bedale. (51) The predominantly leadmining townships of upper Swaledale separated from Richmond union to form Reeth union in 1840. (52) The formation of Kirkby Moorside union in 1848 followed the Poor Law Board's approval of a Board of Guardians' committee report, proposing the division of Helmsley union. (53) Requests by the towns of Whitby, Harrogate and Scarborough to be detached from the Whitby, Knaresborough and Scarborough unions and form separate unions were, however, rejected by the central poor law authority at various points in the course of the nineteenth century. The ratepayers of Pannal

(50) See Appendix II
(51) 5th Annual Report of the P.L.C 1839 p. 112
Arkengarthdale and Hawskworth townships memorialised the Poor Law Commission for the formation of Reeth union, comprising five townships formerly in Richmond union, and two townships, not previously in a union (Reeth 30/5/1839)
(53) 1st Annual Report of the P.L.B 1848 p. 5
Helmby union - Gnr. 2/10/1837
contended -

"... that the increasing importance of Harrogate, both as regards wealth, intelligence, population and respectability, demands that it should be placed beyond a secondary position in the district which derives much of its prosperity from its source." (54)

The memorial from Whitby, dated 1842, was a result of dissatisfaction with increased poor rates in the town since the introduction of the New Poor Law. (55) In 1894 the country parishes, belonging to Scarborough union, objected to paying for the relief of Scarborough poor and the guardians resolved "that an application be made to the Joint Committee of the East and North Riding County Councils to form a union consisting of the rural parishes of Scarborough union, leaving the Borough of Scarborough a union of itself." (56) The formation of a union at Ripon was delayed until 1852 by the existence of a Gilbert Incorporation in the area. Three more unions, Knaresborough, Great Ouseburn and Aysgarth, were formed consequent to the dissolution of two Gilbert Incorporations, Great Ouseburn in 1854 and Bainbridge in 1869. (57)

As poor relief in many townships of the West Riding and Lancashire was administered efficiently and along lines similar to the New Poor Law even before 1834, the Poor Law Commission was unprepared for the extent and hostility of the resistance to the introduction of the New Poor Law from the Northern manufacturing districts. (58) Elsewhere in the north, however, the formation of unions was generally straightforward, meeting only localised opposition to the loss of parochial autonomy in poor relief.

(54) Harrogate Advertiser 9/8/1856 16/8/1856
(55) HH12 Whitby 15/12/1842
(56) Scarborough union AGM 21/6/1894
(57) 7th Annual Report of the P.L.A. 1854 p.10
M.C.Keall "P.L. ADJUS-TEMENT LAWS, 1834-44" (1971)
affairs. (59) Opposition in North Yorkshire usually took the form of petitions to the Poor Law Commission against inclusion in a particular union and non-cooperation by townships once in a union. For example, there were petitions from twenty nine townships against inclusion in Ripon union; the Mayor of Ripon wrote -

"... the universal feeling of this District is most strongly opposed to the contemplated measure..." (60)

The clerk of the newly formed Richmond union complained to the Poor Law Commission that certain townships persisted in the idea that they could maintain their own poor and would not forward their relief lists for revision. (61)

In the case of only two West Riding unions - Sedbergh and Skipton - did opposition to the formation of the union amount to more than isolated parochial protest, requiring the special attention of the Assistant Commissioner. The "intrusion of a mob" at Sedbergh prevented the formation of a union by Assistant Commissioner Wades in 1837. When attempts were made to form a union in 1840 the townspeople "... determined to resist the introduction ..." The parish officers refused to give the required notice of the election of guardians and produce the township books. Resistance collapsed after the overseers were taken to court and found guilty of illegally withholding the books. (62) In 1837 twenty three guardians of Skipton union supported a move to adjourn the Board for six months. The move was defeated by the combined attendance at the Board meeting of the Assistant Commissioner, Alfred Potter, and the Magistrates, who were "disposed to act in execution of the law" (63)

(59) P.J. Duvalley. 'THE NEW POOR LAW AND COUNTY DURHAM' (HA 1971-2 (Durham))
R.W. Thompson 'POOR LAW IN CUMBERLAND AND WESTMORELAND' (PhD 1976 (Newcastle))

(60) NH12 Ripon 7/2/1851
(61) NH12 Richmond 8/5/1837

(62) 6th Annual Report of the P.L.C 1840 p.4
NH12 Sedbergh 1/1/1840 51/1/1840 13/2/1840 9/3/1840

(63) FP 1037XVII 2977
NH12 Skipton 1/9/1837
The Chairman refused to forward the motion, having been informed by Power of the illegality of the proposed resolution. Power attributed the activity of the opposition to the influence of one guardian, Sir Charles Tempest, "an acknowledged opponent of the law." (64)

The most prolonged resistance to unionisation in North Yorkshire was made by the Gilbert Incorporations of Bainbridge and Great Ouseburn. The 1834 Act gave the Poor Law Commission no power to dissolve Gilbert Incorporations without the consent of at least two-thirds of the Board of Guardians. (65) The Giggleswick and Lawkland Gilbert Incorporations voted to dissolve in 1836 thereby enabling the formation of Settle union. (66) However, Bainbridge and Great Ouseburn refused to dissolve despite several attempts by Assistant Commissioners to persuade them to do so.

The Great Ouseburn Board of Guardians was visited once by Alfred Power and three or four times by Mr. Revans. (67) The following is an account of one spirited meeting between Revans and the guardians:

"... he (Revans) was hurling his thunderbolts; he was an excellent tactician, and he rather made some of the guardians tremble,..."

"I said, "Gentlemen, do not be afraid; it is all sheet lightening; there is no electric fluid that can hurt us;" and when he had got calmed down, I said to him, "I will put down 1,000 l, and you shall put down another, and it shall remain as long as you like, and you shall put your best house against ours, and I will engage that once shall beat yours as regards the comfort of the paupers, the convenience of the poor, and the satisfaction of the ratepayers," and he backed out by saying that he did not come there upon such a mission as that. I told him that I was no gamester. One guardian a very prudent man said that I had gone too far, that I had not the authority of the Guardians, but immediately a cloud of hands were held up, and the guardians said, "if you double the money, you shall have it." (68)

(64) NH12 Skipton 19/5/1842
(65) 4 & 5 Un iv c.76 snnii
(66) NH12 Settle 21/12/1836 22/12/1836
(67) Yorkshire Gazette 19/11/1836
 PP.1845 (409) XIII Q.1817
(68) PP.1845 (409) XII Q.1811
The Incorporation was finally dissolved by the Poor Law Board in 1854 following the discovery that it was not legally constituted. (69)

There is, filed in the central poor law records, a letter from the Clerk of the Peace of Northallerton to the Poor Law Board, stating —

"I can not find that any such agreement [for the formation of the Great Ouseburn union under 22. Geo. 3. c. 83] was ever registered in this office." (70)

One wonders, however, if the dissolution by the Board was itself illegal since in 1842 Assistant Commissioner Clements mentioned an agreement between various townships, filed at Pontefract Sessions in 1828, the same year that Great Ouseburn Incorporation was formed. (71) Despite Revan's optimism in 1836 that the Bainbridge Incorporation would voluntarily dissolve, it was not dissolved until 1869, when an Act, 31 & 32 Vict. C122, s h gave the Poor Law Board the power to dissolve Incorporations without the guardians' consent.

Thus only in Sedbergh and Skipton unions did overt opposition pose a threat to the introduction of the New Poor Law. In 1838 Assistant Commissioner Revans, whose district included the North Riding, reported that the "ill feeling towards the amended system ... has decidedly decreased both amongst the Ratepayers and the Poor." (72) and that with the exception of three or four unions, not a quarter of the guardians would be willing to dissolve the union and return to the former system. (73) In future the opposition was to be directed against specific poor law policy rather than the New Poor Law itself.

(69) 7th Annual Report of the P. L. Board 1854 p. 10
(70) MH12 Knaresborough 13/10/1852
(71) MH32 Clements 11 14/12/1842
(72) MH32 Revans 65 30/9/1838
(73) Ibid 11/12/1838
This section examines briefly the policy adopted by the central authority towards able-bodied relief in North Yorkshire in the period between 1834 and the issuing of the General Orders regulating outdoor relief.

The Poor Law Amendment Act, 1834, empowered the Poor Law Commission to direct relief administration in all unions and parishes; thus the Commission had the authority to stipulate policy, regarding relief to the able-bodied even in the Gilbert Incorporations and parishes, still operating under the Act of 1601, 43 Eliz. c 2, and the Select Vestry Act, 59 Geo III c 12, 1819. However, there is no evidence that the Commission interfered in the relief administration of either the Gilbert Incorporations or the individual parishes in North Yorkshire, even though it was a well-known fact that gross mal-administration of the poor law existed there; for example, Assistant Commissioner Tweedy, in 1832-4, and Keyser, in 1839-41, reported the practice of supplementing the wages of low paid linen workers out of the poor rates in Knaresborough. (74)

Writing about the West Riding Gilbert Incorporations in the Fourth Annual Report, the Commissioners stated that they "do not tend to the prevention or even the discouragement of the pauperism of the able-bodied..." (75)

There is no correspondence between the Commissioners and parish officials on relief administration in the WH12 records and, in 1852, Poor Law Inspector Austin reported that relief administration in the West Riding Incorporations "is practically beyond the supervision or control of the Board - The Townships are without regulation from the Board." (76)

(74) ry 1834 (44) vii, p.15
PP 1840 (43-1) xiii, p.484
(75) 4th Annual Report of the P.L.C. 1852, p.4
(76) WH12 Aipon 15/3/1852
The Poor Law Commission did not make a concerted effort to seek out abuses in poor relief administration in the newly created unions during the years 1837-41, relying more on the voluntary co-operation of the guardians. There were many instances of the guardians enquiring of the Commissioners the correct course to take when dealing with applications from able-bodied persons. The Commissioners invariably discountenanced outdoor relief to the able-bodied, taking the opportunity to elaborate on the principles of poor law policy. The following is part of the Commissioners' reply to a request from Richmond Board of Guardians to allow married able-bodied labourers and their wives outdoor relief, while admitting only the children into the workhouse:

"... the Commissioners can only recommend one method of affording [relief to able-bodied labourers] ... that is, the offering to receive the man, and all who are dependent on him into the workhouse. The Commissioners feel assured this course is not only the most advantageous for the union but in the end most kind and considerate for the Poor themselves." and the letter goes on to explain the demoralising effects of outdoor relief on the labouring poor and the good results that followed its discontinuation. "... Whilst acting upon these principles, if any individual cases shall arise, where the labourer from the great number and tender age of his family, shall be compelled to apply for relief, the guardians may if they deem it to be absolutely necessary, treat any such case as one of emergency, and afford relief by admitting one or more of the elder children into the workhouse." (77)

Several unions did pass bye-laws or regulations relating to outdoor relief to the able-bodied. (78) The resolutions are very similar and it is likely that they were suggested to the Boards of Guardians by the Assistant Commissioner. (79) They prohibited outdoor relief to various

(77) NH12 Richmond 10/7/1837
(78) NH32 Revans 65 6/2/1840
Richmond union EGH 25/5/1837
Pickering EGH 12/6/1837
Wellsley EGH 18/3/1837
Bedale EGH 9/4/1839
NH12 Malton 15/12/1838 22/2/1840
NH12 Leyburn 25/3/1837
NH12 Thirsk 20/3/1837
(79) NH12 Thirsk 20/3/1837 Clerk to PLC "...Guardians resolved at suggestion of Assistant Commissioner that ..." certain classes of women with illegitimate children do not receive outdoor relief.
classes of paupers, namely able-bodied men with fewer than six children, (80) single women with more than one illegitimate child, widows with a bastard child born after the husband’s death, able-bodied women with no children (81) and, in three unions, able-bodied women with one child. (82)

c. The Introduction of the Prohibitory Order.

It was originally intended that one order, prohibiting outdoor relief to able-bodied persons, should be uniformly applied throughout the country. However, as shown in the previous section, the Prohibitory Order, a modified version of the policy recommended in the 1834 Report, was never issued to some unions, which instead received the Regulation Order, nor in those unions which administered relief according to the Prohibitory Order, was it uniformly introduced in 1841 and 1844. The Act empowered the Poor Law Commission to exercise discretion as to when and to which unions the Order was to be issued. Their decision was based on local considerations as assessed by the Assistant Commissioners. The criteria upon which the Assistant Commissioners judged the suitability of a union for the introduction of the Order were sufficient workhouse accommodation, effective as a test of destitution; relatively full employment and a low rate of able-bodied pauperism; and the co-operation of the Guardians. (83)

In 1841 nine of the seventeen unions received the Prohibitory Order—

(80) Northallerton union stipulated that the children should be under 10 years of age. Thirsk union prohibited outdoor relief to able-bodied unless they had more than 7 children under 12 years of age.

(81) In Bedale union this applied to able-bodied women under 50 years of age. In Thirsk union this class was allowed 1/6d a week during the winter.

(82) Northallerton, Richmond, Bedale.

(83) LH32 Harle 40 27/3/1844
LM12 Ripon 27/2/1845
those exempted were the four West Riding unions, Pateley Bridge, Sedbergh, Settle and Skipton, and four unions in the North Riding, Helmsley, Northallerton, Richmond and Stokesley. The reason given for exemption of six of the unions was insufficiency of workhouse accommodation except in Pateley Bridge, where the Regulation Order remained in force, the Prohibitory Order was issued soon after the completion of a new, improved workhouse. (84) In 1842 Richmond union built a new workhouse to replace the old one, which did "not afford sufficient accommodation in regard to numbers (nor was) ... in any way adopted to carrying the ... law into effect." (85) The old workhouses of Stokesley, Northallerton and Helmsley unions, which astonished and disgusted Walsham, on his first visit as Assistant Commissioner to the North Riding in 1841, were in use till 1852, 1858 and 1860 respectively. (86) In 1837 Power found the workhouse at Pateley Bridge "in a worse state of management than any I ever entered" and eighteen years later it was still "a most inadequate and ill-contrived building, capable of accommodating only 32 inmates;" a new workhouse was not ready till 1863. (87) A new workhouse for Sedbergh union, to replace the two poor houses, one of which was "merely a farmhouse", was completed in 1855. (88) In the five unions formed after 1841, the Prohibitory Order was issued soon after the acquisition or building of new workhouses, though the introduction of the Order to Knaresborough was delayed for four years by the guardians' reluctance to build a new workhouse to replace the two defective houses in use. (89)

(84) See Appendix II
(85) HH12 Richmond 14/5/1838
(86) HH32 Walsham 79 22/5/1841
(87) HH32 Power 63 27/7/1837
8th Annual Report of the PLB. 1855 p.51
(88) HH12 Sedbergh 20/1/1852
(89) HH12 Knaresborough 25/5/1854
In two of the unions, Settle and Skipton, however, the main reasons for the exemption from the Prohibitory Order in 1841 were not the absence of workhouses but pressure on the poor relief system from a distressed manufacturing population and the antagonism of the guardians towards interference with their relief administration by the central poor law authority. The inexpediency of a general rule prohibiting outdoor relief to the able-bodied in textile manufacturing districts, which were subject to sudden, severe and widespread under-employment and unemployment in times of trade depression, had been noted by Power in 1837. (90) In 1840 he advised the Poor Law Commission that the manufacturing districts of the West Riding and Lancashire were not yet ready for the Prohibitory Order, but, in 1842, Assistant Commissioner Hott recommended the issuing of an Order regulating outdoor relief to Settle and Skipton unions to check the "alarming spread of clamorous able-bodied pauperism." (91) In both unions relief to the able-bodied was contrary to the principles of 1834 - "irregular and mischievous," "giving relief without any efficient test," (92) and the guardians were hostile to any suggestion of restriction on their discretion in poor relief administration -

"... the guardians imagined that any restraint on their proceedings would lead to mischief and doubted the propriety of the Commissioners' interference." (93)

Although Walsham recommended the offer of the workhouse to all single persons and married able-bodied man with one child, applying for relief, the Commissioners issued instead the less rigorous Outdoor Labour Test Order. (94)

(90) WH32 Power 63 21/10/1837
(91) WH12 Skipton 19/5/1842
(92) Ibid
(93) WH12 Settle 17/5/1842
(94) WH12 Skipton 4/1/1842
The initial reaction of the Boards to the Prohibitory Order varied from union to union, depending largely on the extent to which it conflicted with the relief administration currently operating in the union. The Commissioners' report in 1842 noted:

"The Boards of Guardians in the northern unions ... exhibited considerable reluctance in some instances to depart from their existing practices." (95)

but in the majority of unions the Prohibitory Order was accepted without overt opposition. The Guardians of Halton, Easingwold, Sedbergh and Knaresborough, however, demanded the withdrawal of the Order from their unions, while Reeth and Bedale, though anxious to carry out the provisions of the 1834 Act and the regulations of the Commissioners and "ready to acknowledge that the principle of the Prohibitory Order is generally good", were opposed to the application of specific clauses of the Order in their union. (96) The guardians usually went no further than registering their protest with the Commissioners but in both Sedbergh and Easingwold the Board of Guardians resigned. The attendance of the ex-officio guardians of Sedbergh union, on the advice of the Poor Law Board, rendered the guardians' action ineffective and the board resumed administration according to the Order. (97) The Easingwold guardians declined to carry out the Order. (98) The Poor Law Commission attempted conciliatory reasoning and, after a meeting with the Board in October 1841, the Assistant Commissioner was optimistic of their eventual acceptance of the Order. (99) Two months later, however, the guardians resigned in opposition to the Poor Law Commission's refusal to sanction a case of outdoor relief to a single woman, having two illegitimate children. (100) The Commissioners and Assistant Commissioner reiterated

(95) 8th Annual Report of the P.L.C., 1842, p.3.
(96) Reeth union No., 17/9/1841
NH12 Bedale 12/1/1842
(97) NH12 Sedbergh 22/9/1855 4/10/1855
(98) NH12 Easingwold 10/9/1841
(99) Ibid. 25/10/1841
(100) 8th Annual Report of the P.L.C., 1842, p. 3-4.
the "very extensive and unrestricted exercise of power in the administration of relief" still remaining with the guardians and, informed the Board of the illegality of their action. (101) The resumption of relief administration was, for a while, conducted by only three guardians, one of whom was ex-officio. (102) This abdication of the Easingwold Board of Guardians was later referred to by an Assistant Commissioner as the "Easingwold Mutiny".

Our concern here is with the attitudes prompting the petitions against the Prohibitory Order and not the validity of the Boards of Guardians' objections. Although the guardians were concerned that the Order would cause great hardship to deserving poor -

"... the order will affect and oppressively injure all the aged able-bodied paupers ... [and] widows ..." (103)
"... the order ... will have an injurious effect upon many deserving poor ..." (104)
the order will result in "... the unfortunate paupers the disgrace of entering the workhouse." (105) -

their opposition was primarily based on the effect it would have on them as administrators of poor relief and as rate payers. Opposition to the Order represented a conflict of practice and principle - of relief administered according to the guardians' knowledge of the applicant's situation and of relief that had as its criterion the 'able-bodidedness' of a person, with no regard for the deserving or non-deserving character of the applicant. A relief system that treated the diverse needs of different areas uniformly, in order to pursue long term benefits, had no positive meaning for most of the local administrators, who could only conceive a relief system closely related to local needs and circumstances.

(101) NH12 Easingwold 1/2/1842
(102) 8th Annual Report of the N.C. 1842, p. 4
(103) NH12 Easingwold 10/9/1841
(104) NH12 Knaresborough 17/6/1858
(105) NH12 Halton 18/11/1841
The Prohibitory Order, devised by the Poor Law Commission, whose knowledge of the applicants' immediate needs was necessarily more limited than that of the guardians, was therefore regarded as inadequate. The guardians thought that the Order, by substituting the more costly relief in the workhouse for outdoor relief and by pauperising the poor for an indefinite period, would actually increase poor relief expenditure and the poor rates.

The protests do not entirely substantiate the Poor Law Commissioners' report that the principal difficulties in the "way of the introduction of this Order into the northern counties have arisen from the relief of mothers of bastard children and of persons not resident within their union ..." (106) While it is true that one of the controversial issues in Walton, Bedale and Easingwold unions was the prohibition of outdoor relief to able-bodied single women and widows having one illegitimate child, the prohibition of outdoor relief to able-bodied men with families was a major concern of most of the protesting unions. Not a single protest referred directly to non-resident poor, though they may have been implicitly included in the class of able-bodied men and their families. According to the clerk of Walton union the Board wished the Order to be rescinded because -

"... it is frequently the case ... there are able-bodied labourers with large families ... who cannot ... support themselves and families ..." (107)

Similarly, in Knaresborough, it was alleged that -

"... the Order ... will have an injurious effect upon many deserving poor families who are reduced from want of employment or from other temporary causes ...", (108)

while in Roeth union the guardians hoped -

(107) NH12 Walton 30/11/1841
(108) NH12 Knaresborough 17/6/1858
"that a somewhat enlarged discretion may be allowed to them ... in respect ... of many individuals who although able-bodied ... are yet unable without parochial assistance to maintain themselves and their families." (109)

Walsham stated that the reason for the opposition of Easingwold union was the effect the Order would have on unmarried mothers -

- the "Guardians ... have one of the most unjust and singular Byelaws I ever met with ... that all women under twenty two and having only one bastard child shall have outrelief ..." (110)

However, the Chairman informed him that -

"I for one should not perhaps have been quite so determined in my opposition were the bastardy cases the only ones in question - I think the article ... refusing relief to able-bodied labourers out of the workhouse - " too oppressive. (111)

Walsham also thought it likely that the guardians, in particular the Chairman, "a vain and conceited Ultra-Tory", were encouraged in their resistance by the example of its neighbouring union, York, and the support and acclaim they received from the York newspapers. (112)

The Poor Law Commissioners claimed that the introduction of the Prohibitory Order into the northern unions was "not attended with serious difficulties ..." (113) Walsham took a less favourable view of its reception: urging the Commissioners not to yield to the demands of Easingwold union, he was of the opinion that "the very existence of Boards of Guardians in almost every part of Yorkshire depends on the issue of this struggle..." (114) Walsham's estimation of the feeling of the guardians was probably more reliable since he was actually "on the job", meeting the Boards, while it would not have been politic for the Poor Law Commission to draw attention to the full extent of

(109) Recth union UCH: 17/9/1841
(110) Ibid 13/9/1841
(111) Ibid 26/1/1842
(112) Ibid 15/9/1841
(113) 8th Annual Report of the P.L.C. 1842 p.3.
(114) Ibid 29/1/1842
opposition to the Order in their Annual Report.

d. The Introduction of the Regulation Order, 1852

In 1852 the new Regulation Order was issued to Settle, Skipton, Pateley Bridge and Northallerton unions. In spite of its less rigorous rulings each of the four unions petitioned the Poor Law Board against the Order. (115) The Commissioners, however, refused to withdraw the Order. Settle Board of Guardians resigned, directing the Relieving Officer to relieve the paupers as before the Order, but scarcely a month later, having been persuaded by the Assistant Commissioner to resume administration, the guardians wrote to the Poor Law Board, expressing their satisfaction with the working of the Order. The guardians of Skipton union were only reconciled to the Order after its modification in December 1852.

The objections to the Regulation Order, similar to those made to the Prohibitory Order, were directed against the denial of guardians' discretion, increase in poor rates and hardship to the poor. Skipton union, for example, objected to -

"an arbitrary and unbending law ..." "...to be enforced in all cases instead of leaving ... the application of such a test to the local administrators." and "the manifest assumption ... that local Boards of Guardians are unfit to be entrusted with power to dispense relief to the poor..." (116)

Pateley Bridge union claimed that -

"the order ... can not be carried out in this union, without entailing ... great additional expense on the union ..." (117)

(115) pp 166, 187, 217, 227
(116) Ibid p. 222
(117) Ibid p.137
While Worrallerton argued that the provisions of the order - "are harsh and inexpedient, being calculated to inflict great hardship upon the poor recipients of relief ..." (118)

Skipton and Settle regarded the prohibition of outdoor relief in aid of wages as inexpedient and inapplicable in their unions. In Skipton union this class of able-bodied paupers constituted the manufacturing poor, particularly those with large, young families, whose rate of employment and consequently earnings, fluctuated according to vicissitudes of trade and were not dependent on their own efforts or industry. During trade depressions the reduced earnings of an able-bodied man and his family were inadequate for their maintenance. It was envisaged that in such circumstances, large numbers of applicants would be compelled to relinquish all independent labour, thereby creating permanent pauperism and increasing the amount of relief required to meet the distress. The guardians thought it impossible to find sufficient work for all the male paupers. The Settle guardians anticipated great problems in implementing the Order with respect to non resident textile manufacturing poor: for not only would their removal involve the loss of employment and housing, but, in view of the shortage of work and housing in Settle union, they would be compelled to enter the workhouse. The guardians concentrated on the immediate difficulties of stopping relief in aid of wages. There was no acknowledgement of the long term advantages to the poor, claimed by the Commissioners; in fact, in 1842 Settle union, petitioning against the Outdoor Labour Test Order, argued that competition from the power looms and not the relief in aid of wages was the chief cause of the small earnings of the handloom weavers.

(118) Ibid p.156
3. The Orders in Operation in North Yorkshire

The protests against the Orders were short-lived; within a few months all the Boards of Guardians were acting under one or other of the Orders. However, relief continued to be given to able-bodied persons who did not come under any of the exceptions listed in the Orders. This was done either by (illegally) ignoring the Order or (legally) suspending the Order. Alternatively other methods of relief were devised to evade poor relief altogether.

a. Illegal Relief.

In North Yorkshire, few instances of 'illegal' relief, that is outdoor relief given to the able-bodied, contrary to the Order and not reported to the central authority for sanction, are recorded. It is, however, likely that the incidence of illegal relief was more common than the records indicate, especially in the early years of the New Poor Law. There would be verbal warnings from the Assistant Commissioners about the illegality of this relief, which would never appear in the records. It was also possible for poor law officials and guardians to relieve able-bodied paupers as cases of 'sudden and urgent necessity' because it was very difficult to prove them otherwise. The guardians appointed their own auditors till 1847 and it is improbable that they would be scrupulous in surcharging the Boards for relief given contrary to the Order.

The feeling in the north was generally opposed to the prohibition of outdoor relief to mothers of bastard children and unions, otherwise adhering to the Prohibitory Order, were tempted to evade the law in this matter. (119) In 1842 Walsham found the Whitby guardians ignoring the

(119) NH12 Thire 12/12/1842
Order, as regards relief to able-bodied women with illegitimate children; the guardians promised to adhere to the regulations in future. (120) In 1847 enquiries into the Assistant Commissioner's report of relief by way of loans to unemployed able-bodied men in Reeth union revealed the practice of relief in aid of wages — the giving of loans out of the poor rates to destitute miners. (121) It was a clear conflict of poor law principle and local expediency, with the Poor Law Commission insisting that —

"to persons situated as the lead miners are such relief can only legally be given in the workhouse ..." (122)

and the guardians claiming that —

"it is ... impossible but that the union must in such cases infringe the rule against outdoor relief to able-bodied paupers..." (123)

The Commissioners, looking to the long term, believed that the prohibition of outdoor relief would lead to improvements in the employment and payment of miners, while the guardians were motivated by consideration of the immediate hardships to the poor and the ratepayers —

"... the expense of bringing them and their families into the workhouse ... would be ruinous as well to the townships to which they respectively belong as to the paupers themselves who would thereby in all probability by being obliged to leave their working, lose any benefit they might derive from their long labor." (124)

The guardians failed to report cases of outdoor relief to able-bodied men within fifteen days and were duly surcharged by the auditor. As a result they refused to sign any more cheques for poor relief, but, following a warning from the Poor Law Board that it was illegal for the guardians to retire from poor relief administration, resumed the business of the union. (125) There is no further mention in the poor law records

(120) MH12 Whitby 20/1/1842
(121) MH12 Reeth 25/6/1847
(122) MH12 Reeth 7/7/1847
(123) Ibid 10/12/1847
(124) Ibid
(125) Ibid 9/10/1848
of illegal relief in Keath union. This seems to have been an isolated case of illegal relief to able-bodied men on a large scale.

The intention of the Orders was to stop relief in aid of wages - the giving of outdoor relief to persons in private employment. However, all the unions contravened a strict interpretation of the Orders in respect of the aged poor, who were, nevertheless, able-bodied and capable of working. Although the Commissioners alleged that relief to aged paupers was open to abuse and that many of them could, in fact, support themselves, the central poor law authority never defined the policy regarding aged paupers. (126) The guardians were, therefore, at liberty to relieve as they chose. Unions, particularly in rural areas preferred to relieve the aged out of the workhouse. Inspector Culley suggested that the reasons for this were the inadequate workhouse accommodation and the guardians' knowledge of the individual applicants - but, as with so much of poor law administration, financial considerations were uppermost. The maximum weekly relief out of the workhouse to an adult was three shillings in 1871 compared with three times this amount in the workhouse. (127) The reduction of relief to this class of pauper was one of the main objects of the campaign for a "general tightening up" of the administration of relief by Boards of Guardians in the 1870's. (128) Local Government Board Inspectors put pressure on the unions to adhere more strictly to the Prohibitory Order, but the

(126) 6th Annual Report of the P.J.C. 1840 p.17
"we entertain no doubt that, if Boards of Guardians would require ... that they [aged and infirm paupers, partially able to work] ... come into the workhouse or ... be employed on account of the parish or union, or ... abstain from all employment, a large proportion ... would be found capable of supporting themselves..."

3rd Annual Report of the L.G.B. 1873-5 p.69 Report by Inspector Culley
"... rural guardians are often sorely tempted to grant out relief to applicants ... in cases where no relief should be given."

(127) NH32 Hedley 45 9/8/1871

(128) S & B Webb, ENGLISH POOR LAW POLICY (1910) p.153
absence of any powers of enforcement and the preference of both rate-
payers and paupers for outdoor relief ensured the continuance of outdoor
relief to aged persons.

b. Exceptions to the prohibition of outdoor relief.

Apart from special groups like the aged, provision was made for the
suspension of the Orders in the case of both individual paupers and
unions. If the guardians considered an individual applicant, not coming
under any of the listed exceptions, deserving of outdoor relief, they
could request the Commissioners' sanction to relieve. The Boards of
Guardians' minute books and correspondence files (MH12) contain many
such requests from unions acting under the Prohibitory Order, in
addition, the Assistant Commissioners sanctioned departures from the
Orders but records of these have not survived. Requests for the
sanction of the Poor Law Commission were most frequent in the early
1840's when the guardians were unsure of the exact meaning of the Order.
There are several examples of unnecessary applications, which did not
require the Commissioners' sanction. (129) At least three unions
misunderstood Article IV of the Prohibitory Order and requested the
Commissioners sanction for outdoor relief to a class of paupers, rather
than to individual paupers; for example, Reeth union asked the Poor Law
Commission to sanction outdoor relief to women with only one bastard
child, to which the Commissioners gave the usual reply, that they could
give no general sanction but would consider individual cases. (130)
In the 1840's and 1850's applications mainly comprised relief to
deserted wives, mothers of illegitimate children, non resident persons
and able-bodied men. Poor relief was requested for the last group

(129) eg MH12 Richmond 19/5/1845 MH12 Thirsk 3/10/1846
(130) MH12 Reeth 21/2/1842 Also MH12 Bedale 23/2/1849
MH12 Scarborough 23/2/1849 Scarborough union BGN 17/12/1846
in order to supplement inadequate wages, relieve destitution resulting from unemployment, to enable the pauper to buy furniture, tools and travel to a place of work or go in search of work. In the second half of the century the majority of applications were for men out of work on account of inclement weather.

The Poor Law Commission’s sanction of relief given contrary to the principles of the New Poor Law depended upon consideration of two factors - special circumstances of the individual case and the general standard of administration of poor relief in the union concerned. The Commissioners' decision depended to a large extent on the opinion of the Assistant Commissioner, who was more conversant with the state of the union. Nevertheless, there were several occasions on which the Assistant Commissioner took a harsher line than the central authority. Hawley advised the Poor Law Commission to disallow relief to two non resident able-bodied handloom weavers because otherwise “they will cease to exert themselves to find employment ... and if refused they will either find work or return to their own parishes thereby reducing pauperism in the suffering districts;” the Poor Law Commission however disregarded the counsel and sanctioned relief. (131)

There are numerous examples of relief allowed because of mitigating circumstances. Widowers with large, young families were usually treated favourably. The Commissioners sanctioned outdoor relief in kind for three months to a widower with six children in Thirsk union. (132) They allowed relief to the legitimate children of a widow, with an illegitimate child, so that they could be looked after by the grandparents, and to a

(131) Ibid 1/7/1842 See also Ibid 11/1/1845
(132) Ibid 25/10/1847 Also Ibid Northallerton 28/2/1849
single woman, with an illegitimate child, in order that she could care
for her aged parents. (133) Relief was often permitted when it enabled
the pauper to go into service, (134) though in Ripon union in 1857, the
Poor Law Board forbade relief in clothing to an illegitimate child,
about to go into service, whose mother was of weak intellect, on the
grounds that relief to able-bodied women was contrary to the Prohibitory
Order. (135) The Commissioners were inclined to allow outdoor relief
to non resident paupers if there was no work available in their union
of settlement. (136) The central authority took a surprisingly lenient
stand with the rare cases of a pauper refusing the relief offered by the
guardians. In Bedale union a widow, who was offered the workhouse on
account of the illegitimacy of one of her six children, refused to enter
the house; the Commissioners, reluctant to admit the children into the
workhouse without the mother, thereby leaving her 'at liberty to
continue her immoral course of life and relieve her of responsibility
of maintaining the children', allowed the guardians to relieve in kind
if she continued to refuse to enter the house. (137) However, the Poor
Law Commission refused to approve relief when the reasons given by the
guardians were those of economy. Richmond union wanted to discharge two
women, both having illegitimate children from the workhouse and give them
a weekly allowance because it would be a "considerable saving to the
township, which is heavily burdened with poor rates ...", the Poor Law
Commission believed that, if allowed, it would encourage immorality,
the number of applicants and consequently the poor rates would increase,
thus undermining the attempt to economise. (138) Nor did the

(133) HH12 Thirsk 10/10/1842   HH12 Reeth 26/9/1842
(134) HH12 Thirsk 23/11/1844
(135) Ripon union BGL 3/3/1857
(136) HH12 Reeth 20/9/1841   HH12 Richmond 2/5/1853
Richmond union BGL 4/2/1860
(137) Bedale union BGL 8/11/1851
(138) HH12 Richmond 10/7/1849   Also HH12 Reeth 1/9/1849
Commissioners consider the great demand for labourers in Whitby union sufficient reason for discharging two able-bodied widows, with illegitimate children, from the workhouse and allowing them outdoor relief. (139)

The administration in the union also influenced the Commissioners' decision as to whether to sanction relief. They were more willing to grant outdoor relief in the period immediately following the introduction of the Prohibitory Order. In 1841-2 "considerable latitude [was] ... advisably extended by the Commissioners to ... North Riding unions ..." in order to facilitate the introduction of the Order. In Bedale union, in January 1842, the Commissioners sanctioned an "undisguised application for relief in aid of wages", which would have been disallowed in a union, where the Order had been in force for a longer period. (140) In 1860 the Clerk of Knaresborough union requested the Board sanction outdoor relief to able-bodied men out of work; although "the mere circumstance of an able-bodied man being out of employment is not of itself an adequate reason for relaxing the order ...", Inspector Lambert recommended the relief be sanctioned "... as the Order has not been long in force in this union ..." (141)

The Commissioners were prepared to sanction relief if they were confident that it would not be treated as a precedent, by the Boards of Guardians. Thirsk union was permitted to give outdoor relief to able-bodied, non resident handloom weavers because the "confidence which the Commissioners repose in the discretion of the Board ..." leads them

(139) NH12 Whitby 9/1/1860
(140) NH12 Bedale 19/1/1842
(141) NH12 Knaresborough 21/2/1860
to anticipate that no attempt will be made to establish so mischievous a practice as the relief of non-resident handloom weavers." (142) Assistant Commissioner Hairley advised the Poor Law Commission to sanction an allowance of clothing to a destitute weaver, "feeling satisfied that the Thirsk Board would not have made the application unless they considered the case one of great urgency ..." (143) Whitby had a reputation as "an excellent and discriminating Board," standing firm during the 'Easingwold Mutiny'; the Commissioners accordingly allowed relief to a mother of two illegitimate children, despite there being "so much danger in point of principle, in according to the exception of this case from the Prohibitory Order ..." (144) The Poor Law Commission sanctioned relief given by Scarborough union to an able-bodied, non-resident weaver, out of work, because the union was well regulated and the board very careful in refusing relief to able-bodied paupers. (145)

The 1874 Act empowered the Commissioners to alter or rescind rules, providing it did not constitute interference in individual cases of poor relief. (146) When the Prohibitory Order was temporarily inapplicable, usually because of overcrowding in the workhouse as a result of an increase in able-bodied applicants for relief, the Commissioners issued the Labour Test Order, permitting the guardians as an alternative to set able-bodied men to work and relieve them outside the workhouse. In 1848 the Poor Law Board informed the guardians of Whitby union that the Prohibitory Order "ought ... to be adhered to so

(142) R & J, Thirsk 25/4/1842
(143) Ibid 11/10/1843
(144) R & J, Whitby 14/3/1842
(145) R & J, Scarborough 19/4/1843
(146) & 5 William IV c 76 & XV
long as there is room in the workhouse," (147) and in 1868 the Poor Law Board refused to issue the Labour Test Order to Scarborough union "on the grounds that workhouse accommodation is at present sufficient for the relief of the able-bodied poor." (148)

Pressure on the poor relief system from able-bodied men occurred when work was halted or earnings diminished as a result of trade depressions or severe weather conditions. Although the Labour Test Order was more commonly found in the large urban and industrial centres, it was used at different times in some North Yorkshire unions. The Order was issued to Pickering union in 1879 when a large number of men were thrown out of work owing to the closure of Osodale ironstone mines. (149) It was used in Whitby union in 1848, in 1879, a time of depression in the Cleveland iron trade, in 1886, when there was great distress amongst the labouring population in Whitby as a result of the depressed state of the industries, and in the early 1890's, when work in the ship building and jet trades was slack. (150) The Commissioners issued the Order to Scarborough union in the severe winter of 1879. (151) The Order was issued to rural unions, usually during inclement weather, which prevented outdoor labour; the Poor Law Board sent the Order to Tinsingvold union in 1850, because of increased applications for relief from able-bodied labourers during a storm, and to Richmond union in 1855. (152) With the exception of Whitby in March 1886, when there were 230 applications for relief under the Labour Test Order, the

(147) 1872 Whitby 13/11/1848
(148) Scarborough union BGM 30/1/1868
(149) 8th Annual Report of the L.G.B. 1878-9 p.143
(150) 1872 Whitby 13/11/1848, Whitby union BGM 21/6/1879 9/3/1886
23rd Annual Report of the L.G.B. 1893-4 p.140
(151) Scarborough Report 20/12/1879
(152) 1872 Tinsingvold 13/2/1850 Richmond union BGM 9/6/1855
available records do not give the numbers involved. (153) The work
normally provided was stone-breaking, for which men in Scarborough
union in 1879 received 1/6d a ton. (154)

c. Unofficial Methods of Relief

The existence of private rates to relieve the poor was widespread
in North Yorkshire, associated, in particular, with the 'close' parishes,
owned by a single proprietor or a small group of landowners. By their
very nature, private rates often escaped the notice of the Poor Law
authorities:

"... it is an exceedingly difficult thing to find out the
particulars with regard to these private rates." (155)

Inspector Lambert described how he discovered the existence of private
rates in Holmsley union purely by accident:

"after examining the overseers on oath, I met accidently in
an omnibus a man who told me that he had made out the private
rates himself in five or six parishes in the union." (156)

In 1841 Walsham reported the existence of private rates to be almost
universal in the North Riding. (157) It is not known exactly who paid
these private rates, nor how they were used to relieve the poor.

A common form of unofficial relief to the unemployed able-bodied
labourer was the provision of work at wages sufficient to tide him over
till weather or trade and the demand for labour improved, thereby
avoiding the necessity of applying for poor relief. Men were given
work by a system known as houserow or roundsman. The employers of a

(153) RH72 Easingwold 15/2/1850 Richmond union BGH 9/6/1855
(154) Scarborough union BGH 18/12/1879
(155) PP 1860 (520) XVII Q 169
(156) Ibid Q 169 Q170 Q148
(157) RH32 Walsham 79 31/5/1841
towship, usually farmers, arranged amongst themselves to provide work for unemployed able-bodied labourers. The following is an account of the roundsman system as it operated in the parish of Great Ouseburn and in townships in Thirsk union -

when able-bodied persons apply for work "we first divide the men as much as we can among the farmers, and if there is surplus after that, they go by house-row ... from one farmer to another, according to his rental; - they put their names in a bag and draw them out, and a man draws out a ticket with so many days on it ... he goes in rotation." 

"The men under the house-row system receive about 2s per week below the general average of wages."(158)

To prevent applications from able-bodied men "the principal farmers in a township meet together and agree to a scale of wages on the principle of paying so much a day to each man according to his family - each farmer to give employment or pay the wages fixed by the meeting to the labourer sent to him and that whether he has profitable employment for him or not ... The scale of wages fixed is miserably low varying from 8d to 16d a day ..."(159)

The practice usually differed from the roundsman system criticised in the 1894 report in that no payment was made out of the poor rate in aid of wages.

"... the plan resembles the old house-row system except that no payment is made out of the poor rate in aid of wages."(160)

"in the southern counties system of paying headmoney out of the parish rates: we do not such thing ..."(161)

As with private rates, roundsman or house-row seems to have been general practice in North Yorkshire unions. The visitor of the Great Ouseburn Gilbert Incorporation workhouse stated that his parish was "obliged to adopt this principle in self defence, as all the parishes

(158) PP.1645 (402) XIX Q.1697 Q.1688 Q.1693
(159) H/D Thirsk 12/12/13/2
(160) H/D Thirsk 12/12/13/2
(161) PP.1645 (402) XIII Q.1070
around us were doing the same ..." (162) and Assistant Commissioner Clements reported that the practice is "as general in the agricultural parishes of unions as in those of any Gilbert Incorporations ..." (163) The practice of roundsman, which, though not illegal providing the poor rates were not used to pay the labourers, was regarded with great disapproval by the Poor Law Commission. When suspecting the employment of men in this way the Assistant Commissioners normally attended a Board of Guardians meeting and held an enquiry or persuaded the guardians to investigate the case. An enquiry into the practice in Thirsk union "has had the effect of breaking it up in this township, the Board of Guardians however have reason to apprehend that the same practice prevails in some of the other townships, which they will use their best endeavours to discover and put down ..." (164) It is doubtful whether such co-operation with the Commissioners in putting a stop to the practice was typical, as Thirsk union in this period, under the influence of its vice chairman, Mr. Smith, "one ... of the most painstaking and intelligent men in matters of business ...", was one of the best administered unions. (165)

Private rates and the roundsman system tended to disappear in the second half of the century, when changes in the financial basis of poor relief and the virtual absence of an agricultural labour surplus removed the incentive or pressure on parishes to devise means of evading poor law relief. In contrast with official poor law policy regarding roundsman the schemes of work provided by the town authorities had the full support of the poor law authorities. Entries in the guardians' minute

(162) Ibid Q 1868
(163) EPL1843 (172) AIV p.34
(164) HH12 Thirsk 10/6/1842
(165) HH32 Walsham 79 3/10/1841
books give the impression that the guardians, anticipating distress or inundated with applications for relief from unemployed men, were instrumental in establishing public works. Newspaper reports, however, indicate that the incentive also came from other interested groups. In 1879 the Charity Organisation Society in Scarborough recommended that a wood yard be set up to employ poor people at a small wage until they got better employment and, in the same year, the mayor of Scarborough convened a meeting to consider steps to be taken to relieve distress. (166)
It is necessary to point out the limitations of the poor law records when applied to a study of an occupational group. The minute books do not give any information about applications or orders for relief, with the exception of relief requiring the permission of the poor law commissioners. Such applications for relief are generally mentioned in the minute books and the replies are contained in the MH12 records but often the entries merely recorded 'an able-bodied man', not specifying the occupation. Hardly any relief order books, workhouse admission and discharge books or relief application books have survived and where they do again it usually proves impossible to identify the pauper’s occupation. The amount of outdoor relief expended weekly or fortnightly, recorded in the minutes, form a consistent set of statistics but, as there is no indication of the proportion received by able-bodied persons, as opposed to the elderly, children, widows, mentally ill etc., the value of such statistical information is extremely limited. Able-bodied paupers received relief in three ways - in the workhouse and out of doors, either under one of the exceptions to the Prohibitory Order or with the permission of the central poor law authority. The records are silent regarding the first two - only in the last case is there recorded evidence. Thus, the historian relies upon two kinds of information - requests for permission to depart from the orders and incidental reference to able-bodied men (who, in a predominantly leadmining or textile area, for example, may be presumed to be miners or textile workers), arising in guardians' meetings and in correspondence between the unions and the central poor law authorities.
1. **Lead Miners**

Under the 'old poor law', prior to 1834, parochial authorities were unrestricted in the form of relief they gave to able-bodied persons. Miners were relieved, both in money and in kind, on account of inadequate earnings and unemployment. Relief often took the form of a loan because of fluctuations in the amount of earnings and infrequent wage payments.

During the depression in the lead industry c1829-33, pressure on the poor rates in the leadmining townships increased. In 1830, a Swalodale diarist, Edward Broderick, wrote:

"How the mines are exhausted, the price of lead is low ... The independence of spirit is gone. The man who formerly scorned to be troublesome to the parish now seeks every opportunity to throw himself upon it." (1)

Coinciding as the depression did with the Royal Commission, appointed specifically to enquire into and recommend changes in the relief of able-bodied men, the appendices to the Report substantiate the evidence found elsewhere of a greater number of applications for poor relief from destitute leadminers. J.D. Tweedy, the Assistant Commissioner for the West Riding, reported that in Hidderdale the depression in the lead trade, which reduced average wages to seven shillings a week, had resulted in an increase in the incidence of relief to able-bodied miners. (2) In Bishopside, where seventeen men were described as leadminers in the 1841 census, "many (able-bodied persons) are relieved in degree, when the wages they earn are not sufficient; it is reckoned that one shilling and nine pence per head for each member of the family is necessary, except for infants ..." (3) Approximately £200 a year were paid in paupers' 

(1) E. Cooper, *HIGH OF SWALODALE* (1960) p. 34
(2) PP 1834 (44) LXVII pp 766-7
(3) Ibid p. 732
rents in Bishopside; the same amount was expended in the predominantly leadmining township of Dacre cum Beverley. (4) (This extraordinary scale of rent payments in Dacre cum Beverley is evident when one compares it with £260 expended in Knaresborough, a declining linen town, with a population five times that of Dacre cum Beverley.) (5) The depression in the leadmines accounted for the increase in poor rates in Grassington, where earnings were made up to one shilling and sixpence a week. (6) In Kettlewell, where, in 1841, there were forty adult leadminers, and its neighbourhood the parish made up the weekly earnings of a family to one shilling and sixpence for an adult and one shilling and threepence for children, while twenty pounds a year was also expended as rents. (7) In Reeth, too, allowances were made to able-bodied men from the poor rates. As in Grassington, the increase in poor rates was attributed to the depressed wages of the mining community. (8) The following examples are of outdoor relief granted to able-bodied men by the Select Vestry of Muker:

5/5/1825 "Michael Hutchinson to have a peck of meal per week until his earnings improve."
18/8/1830 "Jem Jack to have 4s per week until an improvement in their earnings." (9)

It was common practice in Swaledale to grant relief as a loan:

"We frequently grant an allowance to the miners and receive their earnings." (10)

(4) Ibid p.766
(5) Population of Knaresborough tp 1831 5,296) 6,894
Population of Scriven with Tentergate tp 1831 1,598
Population of Dacre cum Beverley tp 1831 1,510
(6) PP 1834 (4h) XXVIII p.764
(7) Ibid p.751
(8) PP 1834 (4h) XVIII p.601c Q 36
(9) A.Raistrick and J.Jennings, A HISTORY OF LEAD MINING IN THE PENNINES (1965) p.299
(10) PP 1834 (4h) XXIII p.601 Q 24
Paupers were occasionally given large sums of money, twelve shillings, fifteen shillings, even twenty-five shillings, and the parish officers recovered the amount from the subsequent earnings of the whole family. The same system existed at Hycliffe, near Barnard Castle,

"It is not uncommon to grant relief to miners, whose earnings are precarious, and the payment of whose wages is sometimes distant and uncertain . . ." (11)

but I have found no mention of relief given by way of a loan elsewhere in the North Yorkshire lead mining districts.

The reaction of the parochial authorities to increased pressure on the poor rates took two forms - a more critical examination of the paupers' circumstances and needs and efforts to find a more permanent solution to the problem of pauperism. In Reeth township allowances were not systematized - the amount depended more upon the general circumstances of the applicant than family size. (12) In 1831 the Select Vestry of Huker decided to visit paupers' houses and remove and auction all "excess" goods and furniture; (13) the indignation and bitterness caused by this measure has been preserved in a popular verse. (14) Seven years later, in an attempt to equate the amount of relief with the requirements of the pauper, every member of the Vestry was asked to declare "clearly and candidly the state and condition of his neighbour, if a pauper . . ." (15) In the early 1830's paupers were given parish assistance to leave the township of Huker in order to find work elsewhere and it is probable that this attempt at a permanent solution to pauperism was repeated elsewhere.

"...for the last few years we have been in the habit of removing families to different situations, as factories, coal mines etc (since the failure of the lead mines with us) which families we are glad to state in general have done well. So that in consequence it makes our poor at home more limited . . ." (16)

(11) PP 1824 (44) XL111, p.604d Q 41
(12) PP 1834 (44) XXX, p.601 Q 24
(13) E. Cooper, HUKER (1948) p.94
(14) Soc Appendix I Table 1
(15) E Cooper, 'OP UTP', p.95
(16) All Reeth 14587/1834
The policy continued to be pursued in 1836, when the Select Vestry resolved that "the overseers inspect the situation of the Paupers and see how many children there are who are receiving Assistance and report thereon this day fortnight, in order that the same above 9 years of age may have situations procured from them in the Factories." (17)

The order prohibiting outdoor relief to able-bodied persons was not introduced into Reeth and Leyburn unions till 1841, though Leyburn and Richmond Boards of Guardians passed bye-laws prohibiting outdoor relief to able-bodied men; for example, in 1837 Leyburn Board resolved that

"no outdoor relief to able-bodied men having less than six children if in private employment but offer of workhouse - opinion of meeting that able-bodied men can maintain five children on wages which on the average of the year he can earn." (18)

In Skipton and Pateley Bridge unions there were no orders regulating the administration of relief until the Regulation Order of 1852. Aysgarth was not unionised till 1869, though several townships formed part of the Bainbridge Gilbert Incorporation. Thus, in Reeth and Leyburn unions to 1841, Aysgarth to 1869 and in Skipton and Pateley Bridge to 1852 it was theoretically possible for relief to leadminers to continue as before. However, there is no mention in the poor law records of any of these unions, with the exception of Reeth union and one entry relating to Skipton union of applications from or relief to leadminers, nor of poverty and distress amongst the miners. (19)

In Pateley Bridge union fifteen cases of outdoor relief to able-bodied men were referred to the central authority between 1852 and 1902. In the 1850's three of the four cases were able-bodied weavers; the occupation

(17) E.Cooper, 'OP LGR' p.92
(18) NH12 Leyburn 23/3/1837
(19) NH12 Skipton 19/7/1853
of the fourth was omitted. Ten cases occurred between 1879 and 1887, mostly on account of the stoppage of work as a result of severe weather, but the minutes do not specify the usual occupations of the able-bodied paupers. (20) No cases were reported to the central authority for sanction, by the Leyburn Board between 1841 and 1859. There were no requests from Aysgarth union for the sanction of relief given contrary to the Prohibitory Order in the three years after the introduction of the order. Sixteen cases of outdoor relief to able-bodied male paupers were subsequently referred to the Poor Law Board for sanction. The minutes specify the occupation of only one pauper - a discharged quarryman unable to obtain work - the remainder are described as able-bodied paupers or able-bodied men. (21)

It is impossible for us to know whether the absence of any mention of leadminers in these records is because they did not apply for relief, or they were relieved under one of the exceptions listed in Article One of the Prohibitory Order, or, being confined to just a few townships they formed only a small proportion of the total number of able-bodied paupers in the union and were not of large enough numbers to warrant special mention in the records. Nevertheless, it is possible to conclude that the leadminers in the unions of Pateley Bridge, Skipton, Leyburn and Aysgarth, faced as they were with declining production and falling prices in the second half of the century and uncertain and irregular wages, did not pose any particular problems for the poor law authorities.

The situation of the leadminers seems, however, to have been more serious in Swaledale, where there was conflict between the relief of

(20) IH12 Pateley Bridge 31/1/1853 14/3/1853 12/3/1857
Pateley Bridge union BSH 29/9/1869 22/2/1879 10/1/1880 5/3/1881 30/1/1886 12/2/1887

(21) Aysgarth union BSH 23/2/1880 24/1/1881 5/2/1883 18/1/1886 1/2/1886 15/2/1886 1/3/1886 5/9/1894
miners as administered by the Reeth Board of Guardians and the rules imposed by the New Poor Law and enforced by the central poor law authority. In 1837 Arkengarthdale, Reeth, Grinton, Marrick and Ellerton Abbey were included in the newly formed Richmond union. The Board passed bye-laws, prohibiting outdoor relief to several classes of pauper:

"Resolved that no outdoor relief be given to able-bodied men till that period ("between this time and the end of October next...") but the workhouse be offered to such applicants and their families." (22)

However, the Board was obliged to grant outdoor relief in many cases because of the insufficiency of workhouse accommodation. For example:

- 22/4/37 Able-bodied man and wife, 9 children under 16 years. Weekly relief reduced from 7/- to 4/6d.
- 13/5/37 Able-bodied man, wife and three children, residing in Darlington. Thrown out of employment on account of the failure of the haster. Allowed 3/- a week for a month.
- 30/10/37 Able-bodied man, wife and 3 children, two of whom were illegitimate. "not being able to get work" - 2 children ordered to workhouse and 1 stone of meal allowed. (23)

Nevertheless, the mining townships of Upper Swaledale resented the limitations on the administration of relief, imposed by a predominantly agricultural Board of Guardians and memorialised the Poor Law Commission for separation from Richmond union on the grounds that the population of Harrick, Reeth, Grinton and Arkendale "is principally composed of persons working, or otherwise dependent on leadmines..." "...the majority of Guardians are necessarily perfectly ignorant of the nature and extent of the parochial assistance necessary to be allowed." (24) Another cause of discontent may have been a financial one. The five western townships contributed more than a third of the establishment charges, which were based upon the average of three years poor relief expenditure prior to the formation of the union. In 1839 an enquiry into union expenditure

(22) Richmond union UGH 25/5/1837
(23) Richmond union UGH
(24) HN12 Reeth 30/5/1839 Memorials of Marrick and Arkengarthdale.
revealed that "the [five] parishes ... have considerably decreased their expenditure ... the greatest saving has been effected in these five parishes." (25) The Poor Law Commission accepted these arguments and agreed to the formation of a separate Reeth union in 1840, with the result that the problems of poverty among the leadminers came to be uniquely concentrated in this union.

In 1841 many of the paupers in Reeth union were "individuals who although able-bodied and no part of their families labouring under bodily or mental infirmity are yet unable without Parochial assistance to maintain themselves and their families." (26) Undoubtedly they were leadminers. In 1837 Assistant Commissioner Revans had noted,

"The condition of these people varies greatly from time to time. Their earnings on some occasions being very considerable and at others scarcely worth having. They at times press heavily upon the Rates." (27)

The Poor Law Commission, however, refused to agree to the guardians' request for greater discretion in the treatment of able-bodied paupers, merely expressing its willingness to consider all cases reported under Article IV of the Prohibitory Order. (28)

Between 1841 and 1847 only eight cases were reported to the Poor Law Commission for sanction, all of which occurred in 1841 and 1842. Three cases involved relief to women. (29) The Board of Guardians requested the sanction of relief to two pauper families, removed from the manufacturing districts to enable them to buy furniture and other necessaries and maintain themselves while they sought work. (30)

(25) Richmond union BGH  9/11/1839
(26) NH12 Reeth  19/9/1841
(27) NH12 Richmond  23/1/1837
(28) NH12 Reeth  19/9/1841
(29) Reeth union BGH  10/9/1841  1/10/1841  15/7/1842
(30) Reeth union BGH  19/11/1841
The other three men had been in the workhouse "for some time past in consequence of their being out of work", having obtained employment they applied to the Board for loans to enable them to move to their work. (31) There was no further correspondence on the subject of the Prohibitory Order until 1847, when Assistant Commissioner Hawley discovered that the Board was giving relief to able-bodied men in contravention of the Order.

"The guardians have for some time past been allowing relief by way of loan to several leadminers who have been thrown out of work by local circumstances connected with the mines...."(32)

Thus the Board had either continued or revived the system of granting loans to miners, which was prevalent before 1834 but expressly prohibited in the Order of 1841.

The extent of relief-by-way-of-loans is not known. Several loans were given in the period before the introduction of the Prohibitory Order (33) but only one is mentioned in the minute books between October 1841 and 1847:

"a pauper of Frinton, having a large family and his earnings being very small, applied for a loan of £1.10.0 which was allowed."(34)

The Auditor replied to the Poor Law Commission in 1847:

"...I do not remember any items for relief by way of loan coming under my notice." (35)

In October, 1847, the clerk informed the Poor Law Board:

"The leadmines in the District of Reeth Union have latterly been very unproductive great distress has consequently arisen amongst great numbers of the able-bodied men working therein..."(36)

(31) Ibid 7/10/1842
(32) Reeth 25/6/1847
(33) Reeth union DGM 29/5/1840 5/- loan 8/5/1849 £1.18s
12/6/1840 £1 26/3/1841 £3
19/6/1840 £2 28/5/1841 £3
11/6/1841 £1.5s
(34) Ibid 9/1/1846
(35) Reeth 10/7/1847
(36) Reeth union DGM 9/7/1847
In this situation the miners applied to the union for assistance and the guardians were willing to give relief. The Board of Guardians regarded loans as the most suitable form of poor relief in the circumstances peculiar to a mining district. In the first place, relief was essential — the miners were experiencing great poverty, "in many instances amounting to starvation." (37) Moreover their destitution was a result, not of idleness, for the "men are generally willing to work" (38) and are an "industrious" and "careful class of people" to whom "anything more than 'bread' alone was far beyond their expectation." (39) Secondly, the fortunes of the miners fluctuated considerably according to the productiveness of the trial bargains and distress, therefore, was often temporary and not symptomatic of a permanently declining industry. The guardians were usually assured of the repayment of the loans:

"Upon the years labor however and then and also in the case where loans have been made pending the months or by monthly payments the men repay the money advanced and in all cases on receiving the loans give authorities to their Masters to retain and pay the amount to the Relieving Officer of the union." (40)

Thirdly, the Board argued that any other system of relief would work against the interests of both the miners and the ratepayers, who were themselves poor, being mostly miners and "but very slightly better off than the paupers..." (41) If the money was given as a gift, reported to the Poor Law Board within fifteen days, the townships would be subject to "great and unnecessary expense", (42) while admittance of paupers and their families in the workhouse would increase the poor rates..." to an

(37) Ibid
(38) Ibid
(39) NH12 Reeth 6/11/1852
(40) Reeth union BGl: 9/7/1847
(41) NH12 Reeth 6/11/1852
(42) Reeth union BGl: 9/7/1847
alarmed extent and "be ruinous as well to the townships to which they respectively belong as to the paupers themselves who would thereby in all probability by being obliged to leave their working, lose any benefit they might derive from their long labor." (43) The Poor Law Board, however, insisted that the Board of Guardians relieve the miners in the workhouse since such cases did not constitute "urgent necessity" and any departure from the Prohibitory Order such as loans, would encourage the perpetuation of a faulty system of employing and paying the miners. (44) The Commissioners had previously shown a determination to prohibit loans to the leadminers. They refused to sanction a request from Thirsk union for further outdoor relief to a miner at Reeth because

"This relief is illegal ... the pauper ought to get an advance from his employer instead of throwing himself on the rates." (45)

For several months Reeth Board of Guardians ignored a demand from the Poor Law Board for a list of the cases of leadminers, receiving loans, for their approval. In December 1847, the clerk eventually forwarded a list of loans advanced mostly in June 1847, to eleven able-bodied persons "all, or the very much greater majority of them, miners ..." (46) The Commissioners refused to sanction the relief as it had not been reported within fifteen days. In October 1848, the clerk reported that the guardians refused to administer poor relief for fear of further surcharge following the Poor Law Board's earlier refusal to sanction the relief given to able-bodied paupers. (47) The Poor Law Board replied that it was legally binding on the guardians to administer relief and the guardians appear to have returned to their duties. (48)

(43) WH12 Reeth 10/12/1847
(44) Ibid 14/3/1847
(45) WH12 Thirsk 30/3/1837
(46) WH12 Reeth 10/12/1847
(47) Ibid 9/10/1848
(48) Arkengarthdale Vestry Minutes 26/4/1849 Resolved that the surveyors pay £5.15.10d to the Guardians of Reeth Union, being the sum "... expended by their orders in outdoor relief but not allowed by the Auditor of the Union."
From 1847 to the end of the century only eight cases of relief to able-bodied persons were reported to the Poor Law Commissioners for sanction. Three of these were women with illegitimate children. (49) In 1848 two able-bodied but non-resident spinners were relieved on account of unemployment and insufficient wages. (50) In the same year an able-bodied pauper, removed from Salford, was given relief to enable him to seek work. (51) There was only one definite case of departure from the Prohibitory Order on account of a leadminer. In 1848 an able-bodied leadminer from Arkengarthdale, with a wife and six children, had been employed on a trial bargain which proved a failure. The Board refused his application for outdoor relief and offered the workhouse instead, which the applicant declined. A week later, "in an actual state of destitution and starvation" the Board gave him twelve shillings for one week. The Poor Law Board sanctioned the relief already given but forbade "further relaxation of the Prohibitory Order on his account." (52) Over thirty years later, ten shillings a week outdoor relief was allowed an able-bodied man, his wife and four young children "in consequence of the severe depression of the times and the absence of any employment." Since therfore the depression in the lead industry it is probable that the man was a leadminer. In spite of "the present evil times" the clerk told the Local Government Board, "I do not think the Reeth union will have many cases like this case." (53) It is improbable that the guardians blatantly contravened the Prohibitory Order after 1847. In 1849 Poor Law Inspector Hurst reported that there was no illegal practice or departure from the Commissioners' Regulations in Reeth union. (54)

(49) Ibid 9/1/1849 1/9/1849
Reeth union PH/1 12/6/1855
(50) Ibid 18/2/1848 15/8/1848
(51) Ibid 10/4/1848
(52) Ibid 3/1/1848
(53) Ibid 27/1/1849
(54) Ibid 15/6/1849
The Assistant Commissioners seem to have been more vigilant of the Board's administration and it was less likely, therefore, that relief would by way of a loan pass unnoticed. In 1853 Inspector Hurst investigated the guardians' order of outdoor relief to an able-bodied pauper, suspecting it to have been given illegally - the auditor, however, explained that the pauper was relieved under Exception 2, article 1.(55)

The minute books contain only one entry that suggests concern about the rate of pauperism in the union after 1847. In the late 1860's there was an increase in outdoor relief expenditure, which rose from £929 in 1863 to £11,155 in 1869, after which date it fell.(56) The cause of the increase is not known and there is nothing to suggest that it was connected with a depression in leadmining. Inspector Hedley, commenting on the increase in expenditure in the decade 1860-70, advised the guardians of the need to offer the workhouse instead of outdoor relief.(57) In 1868 the Board of Guardians examined the parochial lists of paupers "with a view of ascertaining the number of paupers whose parents had been miners compared with those who had followed other occupations," (58) it is not known if the enquiry was in response to increased outdoor relief nor the reason for the enquiry.

Although after 1847 the poor law authorities were not 'troubled' with pauperism amongst able-bodied miners, there were other problems associated with leadmining for the poor law administration. 'Miners' asthma caused the health of many miners to fail at thirty or forty years of age. Very few miners were able to work in the mines after the age of fifty.(59) Unable to work and in the absence of other employment,

(55) Ibid 30/3/1853 26/4/1855
(56) See Appendix X tables 2 and 3
(57) Reeth union BGN 4/10/1872
(58) Ibid 20/11/1869
(59) Pp1854 (3369) July Q 17121, Q 17246
"The prevailing diseases throughout the whole district are bronchial infections and rheumatism..." J.H. Harland to Assistant Poor Law Commissioner, Galasham in L. Cooper, HISTORY OF STAINES (1973) p.738
miners frequently became outdoor paupers. Robert Lowes, agent for the West Swaledale mine, replied to the question "How do the miners support themselves after they have been obliged to leave off work?" - "They get parochial relief."

"Do they not take to other employment?" - "Sometimes; they will get day work now and then where they can."

"They get outdoor relief, so much a week?" - "Yes." (60)

As there were no sick clubs belonging to the mining companies, sick and disabled miners applied to the guardians for medical assistance and poor relief.

"... the population of Helbecks are engaged nearly entirely in leadmining and its paupers consist of persons rendered destitute by the dangers institute to their calling." (61)

Poor Law Commissioner Walsham, in a report on the state of the dwellings of the labouring classes, drew attention to the early age at death of lead miners who, in many cases, left destitute families, dependent on poor relief. (62)

The decline of leadmining in North Yorkshire presented no insuperable problems for the New Poor Law. With the exception of Reeth union in the first half of the nineteenth century there was no pressure on the poor law from destitute lead miners. In contrast with the depression in the lead market in the late 1820's and early 1830's, when miners resorted to poor relief, there is no evidence that a similar recourse characterised the second major depression half a century later.

(60) Ibid Qs 17784 17785 17786
(61) Reeth union EG4 2/4/1877
(62) MH52 Walsham 79 10/1/1842

No. of miners who died in previous 7 years and their average age:

- Harrick: 15, 47 3/5th years
- Arkendale: 70, 45 19/35 "
- Muker: 39, 45 29/39 "
- Grinton, Reeth, Helbecks: 40, 50 39/40 "

K. Cooper, "HISTORY OF S. ALBINA" (1973) p.92. gives the average age at death of lead miners and smelters as 46.67 years, compared with 60.79 years of other occupations.
Of course, the New Poor Law did not prohibit outdoor relief to able-bodied men entirely — for Skipton and Pateley Bridge unions administered according to the Regulation Order (though not on account of any difficulties involved in the prohibition of outdoor relief to lead miners) and the exception clauses of the Prohibitory Order were capable of wide interpretation. However, the half yearly workhouse reports of the Assistant Commissioners make no note of any increase in the number of able-bodied male inmates nor is there any evidence in the records of applications for poor relief from distressed lead miners. In the first few years after the introduction of the Prohibitory Order to Reeth union the guardians continued outdoor relief in aid of wages, though they ordered the workhouse for men wholly out of work and gave financial assistance to enable migration in search of work. Local fears, in the late 1840's, that relief administration, in strict accordance with the Prohibitory Order, would cause great hardship to both ratepayers and lead miners in Reeth union were unfounded. Following the prohibition of loans, no dissatisfaction was voiced by guardians or paupers, there were very few applications for outdoor relief under Article IV of the Prohibitory Order and weekly expenditure on outdoor relief steadily declined in the second half of the century, corresponding with the decrease in the population of the union. (63)

(63) See Appendix: Table 4
2. **Handloon Linen Weavers.**

The Poor Law Commission, 1832-4 had found much to object to in the persistent outdoor relief to the able-bodied in the linen weaving districts of North Yorkshire. Most common of the ‘abuses’ was the allowance system, the subsidisation of weavers' wages, which would otherwise have been insufficient to live on. At Bishopside wages were made up to 1/9d per head for each member of the family. In Northallerton allowances, on a scale of 2/6d for adults and 1/6d for children under the age of ten, were "occasionally given where the families are large and the Fathers' cannot earn sufficient for their support." Instructions to the overseers that they "have a discretionary power to alter and reduce weekly pensions according to the earnings and circumstances of the different paupers" indicate that the Select Vestry of Brompton was compelled to supplement inadequate wages out of the poor rates. As at Northallerton, an effort was made to restrict relief to families with a large number of children.

16/12/26 "Resolved that Christopher Bell making application for his rent. That he shall provide for himself his family being small ..." (67)

Knaresborough was condemned as one of the four places in the West Riding to "afford instances of the operation and inefficiency of the allowance system. (68) There were two types of paupers – pensioners, who received a regular weekly sum and comprised mainly the "aged, or infirm or young children", of whom there were seventy nine in September 1834, and casual paupers, who received temporary or occasional relief.

(64) *PP1834 (h4) CAVII* p.752
(65) *PP1834 (h4) CAVI* p.260h Q.30
(66) Brompton SWii 29/6/1820
(67) Ibid 16/12/1826
(68) *PP1834 (h4) CAVII* p.726
Knaresborough township estimated the average annual number of able-bodied men, receiving occasional relief in the early 1830's to be about one hundred and fifty. (69) The paupers were "chiefly weavers of linen, and flax dressers." (70) Allowances were granted to unemployed men:

"If they are wholly out of work, the rule is to allow a man and his wife six shillings a week, and nine pence for each child; a single man three shillings a week; this rate is allowed because the magistrates allow it, but in fact, in many cases it amounts to more than a man, when trade is flourishing, could earn."

"Immediately that a man is out of work, now, he comes for relief." (71) However, relief was also given to men who were only partially employed or whose wages were so low that the "family can not subsist on the produce of their labour." (72)

"... if a man has partial work, they give him 1/6d or 2/- a week, or as little as they can satisfy him with ..." (73)

Pateley Bridge and Knaresborough were also places cited by Assistant Commissioner Tweedy as examples of the "extraordinary scale of practice of rent paying." - £200 pa in Pateley Bridge, £260 - 270 in Knaresborough (£40 of which was paid to paupers living outside Knaresborough), £70 in Scriven (of which £20 was paid to paupers living in the adjacent township of Knaresborough). (74) Relief by way of rent payment prevailed in Brompton:

9/5/1823  Resolved that "the sum of 7/6d be allowed to Robert Smith weaver towards his rent." (75)

Relief was sometimes given in kind, for example equipment to enable a pauper to take up employment. Although the following is an example of a refusal to assist a pauper in this way, it does nevertheless suggest

(69) [Footnote text]
(70) [Footnote text]
(71) [Footnote text]
(72) [Footnote text]
(73) [Footnote text]
(74) [Footnote text]
(75) [Footnote text]
that such relief was granted on other occasions:

6/4/1822 "agreed . . . that no other Loom be purchased for Thomas Hixon."

In contrast with the new Poor Law, which aimed to restrict all able-bodied relief to the workhouse, the parochial authorities reserved the workhouse for the non able-bodied poor, preferring instead to put paupers to work.

22/7/1820 Overseers are "authorised to alter and reduce the other weekly pensions, according to the earnings of the paupers, and that no idle or disorderly person be allowed to take refuge in the workhouse."

Brompton sent its paupers to work for private employers, usually farmers; the wages received from the employer were made up from the poor rates. (76)

In Knaresborough it was resolved that a field belonging to the town "be taken into the hands of the Parish Officers in order to give employment for such paupers as are destitute of work." (77) In 1829 Knaresborough and Pateley Bridge reacted to increased pauperism amongst able-bodied poor by providing employment. Paupers in Pateley Bridge cultivated land taken from the moors, (78) while Knaresborough Select Vestry resolved "That the unemployed poor shall be employed on the highways, in reducing the hills in the neighbourhood of Knaresborough and such other improvements." (79) However, when confronted with increasing pressure on the poor rates during a depression in the linen industry the township authorities, even before 1832, took special measures to reduce pauperism in both the short and long term. All aspects of the administration of relief were scrutinised and made more efficient, thus reducing the opportunity for abuse. In 1818 enquiries were made into expenses

(76) Ibid 28/10/1820
(77) Knaresborough SVII 14/12/1819
(78) B.Jennings (ed) A HISTORY OF WIDDENDALE (1967) p.367
(79) Knaresborough SVII 26/10/1829
incurred by Knaresborough workhouse and in 1832 the Select Vestry ordered monthly statements of workhouse expenditure. (80) The Vestry ordered all bastardy payments to be investigated and settled. (81) Overseers were instructed to ensure that only the minimum amount of relief necessary was given, for example, the "overseers are empowered to add or diminish the weekly pensions as they may judge most conducive for the safety of the industrious poor, and to the suppression of idleness and extravagance." (82) In Knaresborough the discretion of the overseers in granting relief was curtailed:

Resolved "that no Pensioners be allowed any discreitional relief, except in cases of application." (83)

Resolved "that all casual relief in future be paid by Mr. Frost at the workhouse and not by the overseers as heretofore." (84)

Efforts were made to reduce and even stop rent payments:

"in order to alleviate the great burden on the township [of Knaresborough] by the amount of rents annually paid a committee... [shall] fix upon an eligible piece of ground for the erection of cottage houses..." (85)

In 1822 and again in 1833 Knaresborough Vestry resolved to cease rent payments. Rather than pay rents the Vestry was prepared to remove paupers to their place of settlement.

19/5/1823. Resolved "to remove Charles Wood and family to Armley near Leeds, if Mr. Fothergill enters up the distress for rent tomorrow."

More stringent investigations of the paupers' circumstances were made to combat rising poor relief expenditure. Two Brompton men were refused poor relief until their daughters went out to work:

(80) Ibid 27/4/1818 4/5/1832
(81) Ibid 28/8/1821
(82) Brompton SVII 23/12/1822
(83) Knaresborough SVII 7/12/1818
(84) Knaresborough SVII 16/3/1821
(85) Ibid 22/2/1819
28/6/1821 "It is agreed that Edward Pearson and George Pearson are not objects of the public charity, and the overseers are ordered to forbear giving them relief until they put forth their daughters as servants with some farmer or other master." (86)

Unnecessary furniture belonging to paupers was sold:

21/11/1823 "It is further resolved that Barth Shettings house furniture be sold by auction, except a bed... and other necessaries as will be sufficient to furnish a room for his own use." (87)

In 1833 expenditure on occasional and "relief in Knaresborough township declined significantly. (88) The Vestry accounted for this "By making a successful stand against profligate pauperism..." but the Vestry minutes do not state exactly what measures were taken. (89) The township authorities gave financial assistance to paupers to enable them to move elsewhere, presumably to obtain work.

"It is further agreed that the sum of £2s be allowed to Mary Martin to take her and her family to Barnsley..." (90)

Brompton township wished to prevent future pauperism by deterring young people from working at the handloom:

13/12/1824 Resolved "that no journeyman weaver be allowed to take any apprentice and that every lawful means by used to prevent the same." (91)

In spite of the increasing emphasis on 'economy' in the townships before 1834 the framers of the New Poor Law aimed to remove the diverse practices of poor relief administration under the Old Poor Law and implement a rigid policy of restricting all able-bodied relief to the workhouse, thus prohibiting the allowance system, which had been the

(86) Brompton SVII 28/6/1821
(87) Ibid 21/11/1823
(88) See Appendix J Table 1
(89) MH12 Knaresborough 1834 According to B.Jennings (ed) A HISTORY OF DARNEGATE AND KNARESBOURGH (1970) p.279, trade started to improve in 1833, which would have accounted for the reduced number of applications for poor relief.
(90) Knaresborough SVII 2/2/1822
(91) Brompton SVII 15/12/1824
principal form of relief to handloom weavers in the past. Yet the passing of the 1834 Act brought no immediate alteration in the administration of able-bodied relief. Initial requirements, such as the formation of unions and the building of adequately classified workhouses, delayed the implementation of the prohibition of outdoor relief in linen weaving districts. The unionisation of Knaresborough was delayed until 1854 by the presence of a Gilbert Incorporation in the area, whilst the Prohibitory Order was not issued until 1858, upon the completion of a new workhouse. Stokesley and Northallerton unions, though formed in 1837, did not receive any orders regulating outdoor relief until their workhouse accommodation was improved. Stokesley received the Prohibitory Order in 1852. Northallerton and Pateley Bridge withstood constant pressure from the central poor law authority to improve their workhouses until 1858 and 1863 respectively. The Poor Law Board issued the Regulation Order to Pateley Bridge and Northallerton in 1852, which replaced the outdoor Labour Test Order, issued to Northallerton in 1847, and was the first order issued to Pateley Bridge, where it remained in force throughout the nineteenth century. Northallerton received the Prohibitory Order in 1862. Thus, in Knaresborough until 1858 and Stokesley, Northallerton and Pateley Bridge to 1852, it was possible for outdoor relief to be given to the able-bodied in much the same way as before 1834. Even in Northallerton union, from 1852 to 1862, and Pateley Bridge union the restrictions on outdoor relief to able-bodied men were less stringent than in unions operating under the Prohibitory Order.

Weavers in the unions of Stokesley, Northallerton and Pateley Bridge resorted to poor relief during the depression in the linen trade in the early 1840's. Most of the relief was in the form of outdoor relief. In December 1837 the guardians of Stokosley union were compelled to relax their byelaw, prohibiting outdoor relief to able-bodied men and allow
outdoor relief in kind to men of good character, with a large family, on account of insufficient workhouse accommodation." (92) Poor workhouse accommodation in Northallerton invalidated a similar by-law - "no relief to an able-bodied man being in private employment out of the workhouse having a family of less than six children, under ten years of age." (93) Between April 1848 and April 1859 only fifteen able-bodied men were admitted into the workhouse on account of being "out of work". (94) The Guardians of Pateley Bridge union did not heed the Poor Law Commissioners' advice to relieve the aged out of doors and send the improvident able-bodied to the workhouse, "a mere cottage on the top of a moor." (95) Assistant Commissioner Clements complained:

"The whole system of relief in this union is as bad as possible -" and "All the vices of the old system prevail here." (96)

In 1842 many applications for poor relief were received from weavers in the township of Hutton Rudby in Stokesley union. The overseers and churchwardens wrote to the Poor Law Commission, requesting permission to replace a deceased guardian, it being "impossible to do without one without doing a great injury to the parish ..." "in consequence of the depression in trade ours being chiefly weavers with a population of about one thousand." (97) The evidence of J. Reynard, a weaver from Hidderdale, testified to the continuation of the allowance system in Pateley Bridge union -

"frequently in slack times they (the weavers) must apply to the parish." (98)

The poor relief administration did not always give relief gratuitously but exacted work. In the early 1840's unemployed men in Bishopside were

(92) LHR2 Stokesley 31/3/1837 23/12/1837
(93) Northallerton union 22/3/1837
(94) Northallerton poor law union workhouse Admission and Discharge Books 1848 - 1867
(95) LHR2 Pateley Bridge 17/12/1842 3/2/1843
(96) Ibid 23/12/1842 51/3/1843
(97) LHR2 Stokesley 13/6/1842
(98) P2.1840 (K) - I, 21/11 p.488
put to work, enclosing and digging up waste land, for which they received a shilling a day. (99) The Guardians of Northallerton union gave, as one reason for not building a new workhouse, the "prevailing depression of trade and agriculture." (100) However, the pressure on the poor rates from distressed weavers appears to have been a problem in only one township of the union - Appleton Wiske. All the five cases of relief to individuals in Northallerton union, reported to the Poor Law Commission, were to linen weavers residing in Appleton Wiske. In the first case, that of a destitute weaver with a wife and one child, the overseers were prepared and able to find him work and set him up in his trade, spending £2.12.3d from the poor rates on furniture, a loom and work tools. (101) The township appears to have become less tolerant of relief to handloom weavers. Three subsequent pauper-weavers were described as "very troublesome and insolent to the overseers of Appleton Wiske." (102)

"the pauper had been very troublesome to the overseers of Appleton Wiske." (103)

"very troublesome and idle." (104)

The township discouraged children from following their fathers into handloom weaving. The overseers had placed two daughters of a pauper-weaver in service, but the older had been removed by the father "to weave linen of which the inhabitants of Appleton Wiske greatly disapprove." (105) In another case the overseers placed the son of a lame outdoor pauper on a farm. The father brought the boy home to learn to weave linen, "which

(99) Northallerton union NGI 2/11/1842
(100) B. Jonnies (ed) A HISTORY OF RIDDERDALE (1967) p.370
(101) NG12 Northallerton 10/5/1841
(102) Ibid 30/6/1845
(103) Ibid 26/3/1849
(104) Ibid 11/4/1844
(105) Ibid 30/6/1845
neither the guardians nor the inhabitants of Appleton Wiskes approved of particularly ..." The father's relief was consequently stopped -- the "guardians ... being of opinion that by continuing the father's allowance of outdoor relief, they were enabling him to defeat their better judgement as to the bringing up of the son ...\(^\text{(106)}\) Thus, in contrast with their willingness to find a pauper work as a weaver in 1841, three years later the overseers were trying to discourage the same. The change in attitude was perhaps a result of an increase in the number of applications and rising expenditure, as the depression in the linen industry deepened, influenced by the Poor Law Commission's disapproval of relief of this kind to handloom weavers. Assistant Commissioner Walsham advised the Poor Law Commission that handloom weaving was "the most pauperising and profitless business to which a working man can resort ...\(^{\text{(107)}}\) and "that most miserable and unprofitable of trades ..."\(^{\text{(107)}}\) The Poor Law Commission duly replied to the Northallerton Board of Guardians that they were "unable to concur in an expenditure for the purpose of furnishing an able-bodied pauper with the means of employing himself as a Handloom Weaver," and that he should be employed at "stone breaking by piece work." \(^{\text{(108)}}\) The Poor Law Commission refused to sanction the continuation of six shillings a week relief to a nonresident linen weaver by Scarborough union on the grounds that the man "would be able to remain where the supply of labour is already beyond the demand, and that the money paid to [him]... from Scarborough, will enable [him] ... to compete, for employment, on terms, which are wholly to the disadvantage of those who may not be similarly

\(^{\text{(106)}}\) Ibid 20/1/1844
\(^{\text{(107)}}\) Ibid 10/5/1841
\(^{\text{(108)}}\) WH12 Northallerton 10/5/1841
allowed outdoor relief in aid of wages in the place in which they are resident and legally settled." (109) Unemployed men, applying to the townships for relief, were increasingly given work on local farms. One unemployed handloom weaver, applying to the overseers of Appleton Wiske for relief, was refused both out and in-door relief - instead he and his wife were sent "A Bout by house Row."

"... I applied to him [the overseer] for work for my family then he Cauld a metin and the parishners agreed for me and my wife to go about by house row and they give me one shilling a day and my wife eighpence a day so I1 allow you to judg wat I shall ave to spare wen my vitils and close is got out of six shilling and wat will spard out of four shilins when my wife is fed and cled for my five childer then wen my wife comes in to her famley at night thair is one night a weke she as to sit hup to was and A nother night a weck to bake ..."(110)

Discretion in poor relief affairs remained solely with the two township authorities in Knaresborough until 1854. Neither the Poor Law Commission nor the Poor Law Board attempted to interfere in the administration of relief by the townships of Knaresborough or Scriven with Tentergate, though the provisions of the Poor Law Amendment Act empowered the Commissioners "to make and issue all such Rules, Orders and Regulations for the Management of the Poor" in all parishes not incorporated into poor law unions. (111) Giving evidence to the Assistant Commissioner for the Royal Commission on Handloom Weavers, a Knaresborough weaver argued that the distress of handloom weavers was partly a consequence of the New Poor Law -

"I consider the new poor law affects the interest of the weavers very considerably. Sooner than go into the workhouse, they will work for anything." (112)

(109) HII2 Scarborough 15/6/1843
(110) HII2 Northallerton 3/6/1844
(111) 4 and 5 William IV 1834 c.76 s.XV
(112) PPL0040 (43 - I) vol. XXIII p.486
It seems strange that he blamed the New Poor Law which was not yet in operation in Knaresborough. While he may have been talking generally — indeed the most hostile and vociferous anti-poor law propaganda was expressed in the weaving districts of the West Riding and Lancashire, at a time when the prohibition of the outdoor relief to the able-bodied had not yet been introduced — the townships may, on their own initiative, have made greater use of the workhouse in relieving able-bodied paupers and such measures may have been mistakenly attributed to the New Poor Law. In 1834 the administrators of poor relief in the township of Knaresborough were already adopting a more discriminating stand with poor relief applications. The Poor Law Commission was told

"the committee have been more scrupulous in complying with application s for relief " (113)

Several references in the minutes to able-bodied inmates suggest that the offer of the workhouse, in preference to outdoor relief, was occasionally resorted to (there is no mention in the pre 1834 minutes to able-bodied inmates); for example, in 1837, the Select Vestry of Knaresborough ordered

"That all able-bodied men in the house be set to work in sweeping and cleaning the streets and such other work as can be got for them" (114)

Able-bodied paupers were also relieved in the workhouse of Scriven with Tentergate; in 1848 pauper inmates were working outside and their wages paid to the master of the workhouse. (115) In 1848 the Vestry reduced the relief to a Richard Ellice from 3/- to 4/- a week, "with the alternative of coming into the workhouse if he chuse." (116) Nevertheless during

(113) NH12 Knaresborough 10/10/1834
(114) Knaresborough SVII 11/12/1837
(115) Scriven with Tentergate VII 4/9/1848
(116) Ibid 16/9/1848
slumps in trade, when the price paid to the weavers for a piece of cloth fell sharply, the supplementation of wages out of the poor rates, unhindered by the central poor law authority, continued to be practised. Assistant Commissioner Keyscr was informed -

"We have 68 poor persons on our pension list, not one of whom is an agricultural labourer, they are all weavers of flax dressers; also about 30 having casual relief, all weavers."

Further evidence for the continuation of the allowance system comes from a newspaper report of 1849 concerning a proposed reduction of nearly 25% in weavers' wages.

"... it was generally thought that the prices were at the lowest point that poor fellow could keep himself saying nothing of his family ... But the poor rates will, of course, have to make up the deficiency; in fact, the town has for years been taxed to aid the profits of the manufacturer by making up the defects of the operatives wages ..." (118)

The Vestries periodically attempted to provide alternative work for the able-bodied weavers rather than simply supplementing their existing meagre wages. In the winter of 1842 the large number of applications from able-bodied men caused Knaresborough Select Vestry to seek alternative employment to that of working on the roads:

(117) PP1849 (43 - I) X:111 p.464

(118) Burniston's Northern Journary. 22/8/1849
In Knaresborough township, in the period September - December 1848, there were 54 paupers receiving casual relief, whose names identify them as weavers in 1841 or 1851 and 50 casual paupers, who were not weavers in 1841 or 1851.

In the three months, January - March 1849, 61 'weavers' received casual relief and 73 casual paupers were not weavers in 1841/1851 13 weavers and 20 non-weavers received casual relief in the period, April - June 1849.

It is possible that some of the men classed as non-weavers were in fact weavers who were not working or living in Knaresborough in 1841 or 1851. The 1848-9 figures may have been augmented as a result of the cholera outbreak in 1848 (Harrogate Advertiser 28/10/1848)

Sources See Appendix J table 2 Number of applications for relief made to the Select Vestry of Knaresborough 1842-50.
1841 and 1851 C.E.S for Knaresborough and Scriven with Q Tentorage.
25/11/1842 Resolved that the churchwardens, overseers and Surveyor of the Highways "be authorised to settle the plot of ground "... and to proceed to bring the same into cultivation for the benefit of the public as early as possible".

In 1851 Scriven with Tentergate proposed "renting a portion of land for the purpose of giving employment to the Poor of the Township ..." (119)

Knaresborough Select Vestry contemplated hiring out able-bodied paupers to the Railway Company building the line to Knaresborough.

Resolved "That the overseers endeavour to make some arrangement with the Contractors of the East and North Yorkshire Railway for the employment of such able-bodied persons as apply to the Vestry for Relief." (120)

Many applications for "relief or work" were received:

17/12/49 Thomas Broadworth's wife applied for 4s week or work for her husband.
15/12/51 John Connor applied to be allowed to work 4 days per week instead of 3. Allowed.

The Vestries also attempted to reduce the rate of pauperism both actual and potential by removing non-settled paupers to their place of settlement and assisting poor people to move elsewhere. Both methods were costly but the townships must have considered the long term savings would outweigh the immediate expense. (121) The large number of applications for poor relief in the first half of 1843 induced Knaresborough Select Vestry to take measures to reduce poor relief expenditure; a committee was appointed "to act with the overseers for the purpose of assisting them with the Orders of Removal and other business connected with Settlements" (122) and overseers were ordered to visit paupers monthly "in order to ascertain their real circumstances." (123)

(119) Scriven with Tentergate VII 2/3/1851
(120) Knaresborough SWi 24/12/1847
(121) Ibid 3/6/1842 6/7/1842 14/10/1842 30/12/1842
21/6/1844 9/5/1845 26/11/1846
(122) Ibid 28/4/1843
(123) Ibid 21/7/1843
Between 1849 and 1852 Scriven with Tentergate assisted twelve families to move elsewhere with grants of money ranging from 2/6d to £5. (124) One man was allowed 21/- on condition that he "will go away and trouble us no more for twelve months." (125) Of the four cases of assistance to emigrate, three were women, presumably widows, with families, who, if they had stayed in England, would no doubt have remained a burden on the poor rates.

The Prohibitory Order of 1858 forbade relief in aid of wages, which was given in Knaresborough at least until 1854, and though there is no evidence of it between 1854 and 1858 there was no legal obligation on the township to cease the practice. Opposition to the Prohibitory Order from the Knaresborough union Board of Guardians might suggest that destitution amongst the able-bodied, in particular handloom weavers, was still a problem for the poor law authorities. The Board wrote:

"... the Order ... will have an injurious effect upon many deserving poor families, who are reduced from want of employment or from other temporary causes, ..." (126)

Two years later the board petitioned the Poor Law Board:

"The Boards of Guardians to have the power of granting outdoor relief to able-bodied poor without the necessity of reporting the grounds thereof, or requiring the sanction of the Poor Law Board." (127)

However, the former petition (of 1858) was proposed and seconded, not by Knaresborough guardians but by those of Harrogate and Pannal. Moreover, of the fifteen cases of outdoor relief to able-bodied men on account of unemployment, subsequently reported to the Poor Law Board between 1858 and 1871, none were to weavers or anyone connected with the linen industry.

(124) Scriven with Tentergate SV Memorandum Book 16/4/1849 10/9/1849 14/1/1850 27/1/1858 25/2/1850
11/3/1850 7/10/1850 10/2/1851 19/5/1851 8/3/1852

(125) Ibid 25/2/1850

(126) HM12 Knaresborough 17/6/1858

(127) Knaresborough union MGH 5/7/1860
A corollary of declining linen production in Knaresborough during the 1870's might have been unemployment amongst linen weavers; there is however no evidence that weavers resorted to poor relief during this period. In 1883 the Board of Guardians told the Central Emigration Society that "occasionally persons do apply for relief, alleging in consequence of being unable to obtain employment —" but there is no record of their occupation or place of residence. (128)

(128) Knaresborough union 5th 25/7/1883
3. Handicraft Textile Workers in Settle and Skipton unions.

The plight of the cotton and worsted workers under the New Poor Law is unfortunately less well documented than that of the linen weavers considered earlier. The following account of poor relief in Settle and Skipton unions relies largely on the correspondence between the Poor Law Commissioners and Boards of Guardians, found in the HM12 class of records, since no union records for the nineteenth century have survived.

The Prohibitory Order of 1841 was not introduced into either union, which received instead the Outdoor Labour Test Order. This was replaced by the Outdoor Relief Regulation Order in 1852. Widespread opposition to specific clauses in the Regulation Order resulted in the allowance of relief on account of under-employment, as opposed to unemployment.

"... relief given ... a man working for wages on one day and being without work the next, or working half the week and being unemployed during the remainder, and being then in need of relief, is not prohibited by this Article." (129)

Just how this applied to these handloom weavers, whose pauperism in normal times was a result - not of shortage of work - but of low remuneration is not clear. However, as with the exception clauses, interpretation of Article 5 of the Regulation Order, with respect to relief to handloom weavers, rested with the Boards of Guardians. In 1856 Inspector Farnall wrote of his intention "to suggest to the [Poor Law] Board the propriety of issuing the Prohibitory Order to the unions of Skipton and Settle," but there is no evidence that his suggestion was implemented. (130) The Boards of Guardians were therefore under no legal obligation to relieve able-bodied men in the workhouse. Men requiring relief on account of insufficient earnings or lack of work could be relieved out of doors in return for the performance of task work.

(129) 5th Annual Report of the PLH 1852 p.24
(130) HM12 Settle 2/2/1856
though it was possible to avoid this rule without actually contravening the Order. Legal constraints on relief to handloom weavers in Settle and Skipton unions under the New Poor Law were therefore very limited throughout the period during which such workers constituted a significant element in the population.

In 1834 it was envisaged that outdoor relief to able-bodied persons would be prohibited within two years. In Settle and Skipton union, as in all northern unions, the Poor Law Commission did not introduce general orders relating to the administration of able-bodied relief until the early 1840’s. Meanwhile the Boards of Guardians continued to administer relief to the able-bodied in very much the same way as the separate townships had before 1834. Visiting his northern district in 1836 and 1837 with a view to forming Poor Law unions, Assistant Commissioner Power found that the allowance system existed to a greater or less extent in many parts of Yorkshire and Lancashire. (131) Weaving townships, later incorporated into Skipton union, paid “a certain weekly allowance” to able-bodied men. (132) There was little variation in the subsistence level agreed upon in the different townships — at Skipton and Farnhill weavers’ wages were made up to 1/6d per head, at Conisbrough and neighbouring townships to 1/6d for adults and 1/3d for each child. The exception was Doncaster, a linen manufacturing township in Sheffield union, where a family — a man, wife and four young children, earning 12/- a week, was entitled to 2s or 3s extra from the poor rates. (133) Outdoor relief to able-bodied men in the form of rent payments was also widespread in the handloom weavers’ districts. Power observed “a confirmed practice of

(131) *1337+* (274) XVIII Q.3284
(132) £1.2d
(133) £1.6s. (44) 1851 p.507 Q.24
paying rents" in the cotton and worsted weaving townships of Skipton union. (135) In Skipton no rents were paid until "a sale takes place under a distress of execution, we buy a few articles of absolute necessity to set them out again." (136) Similarly in Settle, most rents were paid "in cases where a distress for rent is either actually upon the pauper's goods, or is expected immediately to follow." (137) In 1834 the township of Cononley was stated to be burdened with a great number of rents. The overseers explained the procedure for rent payments.

"As soon as a man has two children he gives over paying any more Rent..." their goods were sold and the family then applied to the overseer for relief, and if refused, to the magistrate, who ordered the overseer to find him "a house, purchase him looms and necessary furniture;..." (138) Unemployed weavers were either given financial relief or work, depending upon the availability of work in the township. In Buckden "Relief is paid in money to able-bodied when out of work" (139) Employment was found for men in Skipton, but in the depression of the early 1830's there was insufficient work for all the applicants.

"We have often some twenty young married weavers out of employ, for whom we cannot find work out of the workhouse." "We employ as many as we can on the roads..." (140) "The scarcity of work generally and the greater scarcity of husbandry work compelled Settle Yostery to abandon their usual policy of finding the paupers work, "... breaking stone, mending fences, draining ..." and to give cash relief instead. (141) In the absence of any change in the principles upon which relief was administered between 1834 and 1842 the Boards of Guardians continued to pay allowances and rents to

(135) IHM 12 Skipton 13/12/1837
(136) PP1835 644 XXVIII p.741a
(137) Ibid p.749
(138) IHM 12 Skipton 30/3/1834 11/4/1836
(139) PP1835 644 XXVIII p.763a
(140) Ibid p.743
(141) Ibid p.751
able-bodied weavers, just as the parish officials had done before 1834. Assistant Commissioner Hott noted the unsatisfactory state of both unions "with reference to the mode of granting relief." (142) Settle was "giving relief without any efficient test either from labour or the workhouse," (143) while in Skipton union "several irregularities have been encouraged which it is highly necessary should be put a stop to..."

"The Guardians I find occasionally relieve the poor in their separate townships ... It is true the Guardians do not imitate the neighbouring unions of Keighley and Settle by paying directly the rents or the labourers but it is indirectly practised by way of a loan — when a person is in arrear for rent the Guardians very frequently assist them with a loan to the amount which they know will never be repaid." (144)

Assistant Commissioner Walsham also commented on the prevalence of outdoor relief to the able-bodied —

"... the inability of the Local Boards to act effectually in relieving real destitution and correctly in checking the alarming spread of classless able-bodied pauperism is precisely in proportion either to the ignorance and neglect of sound principles, or to the contempt of your authority..." (145)

The Labour Test Order was eventually sent to Settle and Skipton unions in 1842, at the height of the depression. Settle Board of Guardians immediately petitioned the Poor Law Commission, urging reconsideration of the expediency of administering relief according to the Order in their union. The Board objected to any change in the existing relief administered to handloom weavers, particularly one that involved them relinquishing what little weaving work they had in order to be set to other work by the guardians. However this strong suspicion of the practicality of the Order was overcome and the guardians resolved to find work for the young able-bodied male paupers in their respective

(142) HH12 Skipton 19/5/1842
(143) HH12 Settle 17/5/1842
(144) HH12 Skipton 19/5/1842
(145) HH12 Skipton 4/6/1842
townships. Three months after the introduction of the Order the clerk reported that most of the townships were now finding work for young able-bodied paupers, remunerating them for work done according to family size. Following the refusal of Hellifield and Long Preston to comply with the Order the Board resolved "that a competent person be sent down to those townships to find work for such paupers ..."(146) Only one request for relief, contrary to the Order, was made to the central poor law authority; there are no references to applications from or relief to handloom weavers in the ten years 1842-52. (147) The records do not indicate whether all able-bodied paupers were required to work, though the fact that work was exacted in each individual township and not at one or a few centres in the union suggests that the labour test would, on the grounds of economy alone, have been allowed to lapse in many townships. Certainly facilities for setting paupers to work were inadequate for the large number of people thrown out of work in 1847 and 1848.(148) The reaction of Skipton union to the Labour Test Order is less clear. As the union had a large number of handloom weavers one would expect similar objections to those voiced by Settle - yet there is no record of any protest. As in the case of Settle the records are relatively silent about poor relief in the years of the Labour Test Order. There is no reference to the provision of work for able-bodied outdoor paupers; On the other hand, the Assistant Commissioners did not make any written complaints to their superiors or the Boards of Guardians about the administration of relief in either Skipton or Settle unions.

However, the continued prevalence of relief in aid of wages is suggested by the protest against the Regulation Order in 1852.

(146) HM12 Settle 8/9/1842
(147) HM12 Settle 7/11/1850. A cotton weaver was receiving an allowance on account of insufficient wages (6s for a family of 7 children) The guardians wanted permission to allow £3 to enable the family to remove to Cullingworth where the pauper had obtained work.
(148) HM12 Settle 35/6/1848
"... an able-bodied man having a family or not, whose partial earnings may be insufficient for his or their support, will have to relinquish all independent labour, in order to obtain maintenance from the poor rates." (149)

After initial opposition to the Regulation Order Settle union appears to have complied with the terms of the Order, (150) occasionally, though, the Poor Law Board had to insist on the granting of relief for a definite period of time and on the enforcement of the work clause. (151) Skipton claimed that the Order was inoperative on account of the expense and the impossibility of finding work for the large number of able-bodied men who received relief in aid of wages but four months later the Poor Law Board was informed -

the guardians "feel disposed to acquiesce in its provisions and are desirous at once to put it into operation." (152)

It appears that initially the guardians were not fully conversant with the exception clauses of the Regulation Order and erred on the side of caution. (153) Nevertheless there was resistance to the erosion of the guardians' discretion in the administration of outrelief to able-bodied men. In January 1853, the Poor Law Board insisted that the guardians specified a definite period of relief. The guardians replied that they preferred the period and amount of relief to be left to their discretion entirely, at least for three months, until the end of the half year, which was allowed by the Poor Law Board. (154) The Board of Guardians replied noncommittally to the Commissioners' suggestion that one or two of the children of outdoor paupers be placed in the workhouse - "where

(149) PP1853 (111) LXXIV p.228
(150) Three months after the introduction of the Order the clerk informed the Poor Law Board "... our Board are now acting under the Order by the very letter of the Order, to the very letter, with, I must say, a beneficial result ..." WH12 Settle 17/11/1852.
(151) WH12 Settle 28/1/1853 3/2/1862 9/2/1865 23/12/1869
(152) WH12 Skipton 31/12/1852
(153) 12 of the 35 cases reported to the Poor Law Board in January 1853 did not require the Board's sanction because one or more members of the family were sick or disabled.
(154) WH12 Skipton 31/1/1853
practicable [it] will be acted upon."(155) - but eight months later Inspector Farnall considered instructions to place children in the workhouse useless because "the guardians have rejected similar advice."(156) Faced with an increase in pauperism in 1854 the guardians resolved to give employment to all able-bodied paupers who were receiving relief on account of shortage of work. (157) In a similar situation in 1857 they also wanted outdoor relief to be at the complete discretion of themselves for a period of four months - but the Commissioners refused the request and reminded the guardians of their obligation to employ all able-bodied male paupers.(158) There is no evidence that thereafter the guardians encountered difficulty in adhering to the rules of the Order nor is there any evidence to suggest that they acted illegally or contrary to the Order. There is no reason to doubt the truth of the replies of Settle and Skipton unions to accusations from an I.P. "that poor rates in aid of wages are levied in manufacturing districts -"

Skipton "stated positively that it had never there been the practice to give relief to persons employed for wages."

In Settle, between 1860-5, the "Guardians have relieved only one able-bodied resident pauper when at the same time in receipt of wages." (159)

So far I have considered the type of relief given to able-bodied weavers under the New Poor Law in Settle and Skipton unions. I turn next to a consideration of the extent of pauperism amongst handicraft textile workers and ask two questions - first, what proportion of able-bodied paupers were handloom weavers and woolcombers and secondly, what proportion of handloom weavers were paupers? The limitations of the

(155) Ibid
(156) Ibid 23/8/1853
(157) Ibid 6/2/1854
(158) Ibid 7/12/1857
(159) MJ32 Corbitt 13 27/8/1865
records, both the poor law records and the census occupational data preclude a precise and detailed analysis of the relationship between the poverty of the handloom weavers and woolcombers and their resort to poor relief in the several decades after 1834. In the absence of regular lists of relief applications and orders or a breakdown of poor relief expenditure before 1847 it is not possible to make a systematic analysis of poor relief afforded to handicraft textile workers in the period 1834-52. Information is derived from two principal sources - the findings of the Royal Commission on the Poor Laws, 1832-4, and the correspondence between the various poor law administrative bodies. It should be borne in mind that such inquiries and comments tended to occur during years of increased pressure on the poor rates.

During the 1830's and 1840's the group of workers most prone to destitution in Settle and Skipton unions were handtextile workers - cotton and worsted weavers and woolcombers. Much of the evidence substantiating this statement is inferred from comments on able-bodied pauperism by the poor law authorities. The administrators of poor relief in several townships, later incorporated in the Skipton union, made specific mention of the condition of and relief afforded to handloom weavers - no other occupation received similar attention though in Settle union there does seem to have been considerable shortage of work amongst the labouring classes generally but able-bodied pauperism was not a major problem in townships where handloom weaving was insignificant. The propensity of handloom weavers in the West Riding and Lancashire to experience poverty and destitution was one of the subjects of Alfred Power's evidence to the Select Committee on Poor Relief Administration in 1837. On his visit to Skipton union in the same year Power noted the numerous applications for relief from worsted
and cotton handloom weavers. (160) In Cononley the "greatest part of [the] Poor [were] employed in the weaving and woolcombing branch of stuff manufacture." (161) Handloom weaving was the one occupation in Settle union specifically mentioned by the guardians in their protest against the Labour Test Order in 1842 and the petition is clear proof that handloom weavers formed a substantial and perennial problem for the poor law administration at this date.

In the second half of the nineteenth century, as handloom weavers and woolcombers comprised a diminishing proportion of able-bodied pauperism, there are correspondingly fewer references to this class of worker in the various poor law records. In contrast with the protest ten years previously, the memorial of 1852, drawn up by Settle Board of Guardians in opposition to the Regulation Order, did not make any special reference to handloom weavers, thus suggesting either that able-bodied pauperism amongst this group of workers had diminished and was no longer such a drain on the resources of the union or that pauperism amongst handloom weavers as a proportion of total able-bodied pauperism had diminished. The rate of pauperism generally was still high in Settle union in 1856 - 9.5% of the population were paupers, compared with 3.8% in Inspector Farnall's district, which comprised Lancashire and the West Riding. (162) However, in 1860 the reduced number of applications for relief led the Board to resolve to hold fortnightly, instead of weekly, meetings.

(160) HM12 Skipton 13/12/1837
(161) Ibid 11/4/1836
(162) HM32 Farnall 22 12/1/1836
"The Board will observe there is a reduction in paupers in this union." (163) Between 1852 and 1859, of eighty nine individual cases of outdoor relief to able-bodied men, reported to the Poor Law Board for sanction, nine were for weavers; the last application for a weaver was made in 1861. The majority of cases, forty seven, were for 'labourers', most of whom were agricultural labourers, though this term only came into use after 1832. Thus the evidence suggests that between 1842 and 1852 the handloom weaver in Settle ceased to exert an inordinate amount of pressure on the poor relief system. Nevertheless, the decline in handloom weaving may have indirectly contributed towards pauperism in other occupational groups. The able-bodied may have depended on part time weaving, by himself or members of his family, to bring the family income to subsistence level. For instance, in 1863, the wives of two agricultural labourer - paupers were hand weavers, who could normally earn 5/6d a week but at the time of applying for relief were uncertain of obtaining work at weaving; the loss of this income may have 'tipped the balance' and forced the family to turn to poor law relief. (164)

Thus, though by the mid nineteenth century handloom weavers in Settle union no longer formed the bulk of able-bodied male pauperism, nor attracted the particular attention of poor law authorities, the decline in hand weaving continued to contribute indirectly towards able-bodied pauperism.

In Skipton union handicraft textile workers formed a substantial proportion of the total number of able-bodied paupers to a later date than in Settle, explained by the large numbers in Skipton union employed in worsted manufacture, compared with the concentration on cotton in Settle,

(163) ibid Settle 15/2/1860
(164) Ibid 25/2/1863
and the earlier supplementation of the handloom by power in cotton than in worsted weaving. In depressed times factory workers increasingly featured in the ranks of able-bodied paupers, along with handloom weavers and woolcombers. According to the petition of 1852 able-bodied pauperism in Skipton union comprised those engaged in "manufacturing labour" — that this included handicraft workers as well as factory workers is evident from the reference to pauperism amongst "able-bodied men with insufficient earnings ..." There were one hundred and forty nine applications to the Poor Law Board for out-relief to able-bodied men during the first five years of the operation of the Regulation Order in Skipton union, just over half of which were for handloom weavers and woolcombers. (165) In the absence of any further reference to able-bodied pauperism in Skipton union after 1857, it is not known when handicraft workers ceased to form a major part of able-bodied pauperism but certainly after this time their numbers no longer caused concern to the poor law authorities.

Who, amongst the handloom weavers and woolcombers, received allowances? Old people and widows were obvious recipients of relief and probably formed the largest proportion of pauperised hand textile workers — most would have been paupers regardless of whether they were handloom weavers or not — indeed, in spite of diminishing returns from hand weaving, the benefits of this low paid and uncertain occupation probably outweighed the disadvantages to such people. The evidence points on the other hand to the permanent inability of men to maintain large, young families on wages derived from hand weaving without supplementation from the poor rates.

(165) 43 handloom weavers and 36 woolcombers. 31 were engaged in power loom weaving and a further 12 employed in textile factories.
"A weaver must work hard to earn 7s: this would be sufficient for a man's own maintenance, and for a wife, but not for that of a family also; ..." (165)

In 1837 Alfred Power found that allowances to male heads of families were "limited in extent" and "confined chiefly to the lowest and worst paid class of handloom weavers, ..." (167) The ratepayers of Cononley cited as "one great evil" "the payment of so much money in weekly relief to young able-bodied married men with two, three or four children. When any little difficulty appears they are immediately clamorous ..." (168)

During depressions the net of pauperism spread wider and smaller families were forced to apply for relief. The vicar of Barnoldswick alleged that disturbances in the town in 1842 were caused by able-bodied paupers, nearly all unmarried men. (169) The pauperisation of weavers, other than those with large young families, is supported by a comparison of lists of weavers receiving outrelief in aid of wages in Settle union in 1842 and Skipton union in 1852, the former being a year of severe depression; the second list, in 1852, contained no weavers with families of fewer than three children. (170) However, even in times of depression

(166) PPL834 (44) XXVIII p.748
(167) BH52 Power 63 21/10/1837
(168) BH72 Skipton 30/9/1834
(169) Ibid 29/5/1842
(170) At a certain date in 1842 there were 45 handloom weavers in Settle union in receipt of relief in aid of wages:--

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>3 had 6 children</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6 &quot; 5 &quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 &quot; 4 &quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 &quot; 3 &quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8 &quot; 2 &quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 &quot; 1 child</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 &quot; no children</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

At a certain date in 1852 there were 25 handloom weavers and woolcombers in receipt of relief in aid of wages in Skipton union:--

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>1 had 9 children</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2 &quot; 8 &quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 &quot; 7 &quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 &quot; 6 &quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11 &quot; 5 &quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 &quot; 4 &quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 &quot; 3 &quot;</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
in the 1830's and 1840's, witnesses attested to the small percentage of weavers who were in fact paupers.

"...numbers of the labouring people, particularly during the last year, [1836-7] who have suffered great distress without applying for poor relief." (171)

"there is no doubt that great privations are frequently endured at such times [of depression] by large numbers of persons without their making even an application for relief." (172)

4. **Hand-knitters**

Did the decline of hand-knitting place a burden on the poor relief system? In the case of many old and disabled people, widows and unmarried mothers it might be argued that knitting actually forestalled destitution or, if the knitter became chargeable, reduced the amount of relief required. - a Board of Guardians was more likely to grant out-relief than order the workhouse to a pauper who showed him/herself willing and able to work. A brief examination of pauperism in Sedbergh and Aysgarth unions shows that factors other than the decline of hand-knitting were responsible for able-bodied pauperism and that during the second half of the nineteenth century, when knitting occupied a diminishing proportion of the population, pauperism in both unions was inconsiderable. There is not a single reference in the poor law records to pauperism amongst distressed hand-knitters nor any suggestion that pauperism was in part attributable to the decline of hand-knitting; conversely, I found no contemporary comment attributing low rates of pauperism or poor relief

(171) 1938-8 (183) XVIII Q.3390
(172) WH52 Power 63 21/10/1837
expenditure to knitting.

Prior to 1869 townships in Wensleydale were either incorporated in the Bainbridge Gilbert Incorporation or else administered relief according to 43 Eliz.2. Relief administration was effected without direction from the Poor Law Commissioners but the Poor Law Inspectors made no comment on any aspect of relief administration in the townships in the period 1834-69. Upon the formation of Aygarth union in 1869 the chief characteristic of pauperism in the union was its insignificance. Mr. Hedley, the Poor Law Inspector, told the Poor Law Board:

"The number of paupers in this union is so small..." (173)

The newly appointed Board of Guardians did not expect the total number of paupers to exceed 300, and, as a result of the low rate of pauperism, were permitted to hold fortnightly instead of weekly meetings and combine the offices of workhouse master and relieving officer. (174)

In contrast, Sedbergh union was described in 1855 as a "pauperised district." (175) Under the Old Poor Law Dent and Sedbergh townships exhibited the 'abuses' of outdoor relief to the able-bodied. (176) No orders regulating relief were introduced into the union for twenty years and the guardians were therefore under no legal obligation to alter their administration. The able-bodied continued to be relieved out of the workhouse; in each of the weeks in January 1845 there were 54, 53, 48 and 51 outdoor able-bodied paupers and 5, 5, 5 and 6 indoor able-bodied paupers. (177) The high rate of poor relief expenditure in Sedbergh

(173) Mitt Aygarth 5k7a/1869
(174) Ibid
(175) Mitt Sedbergh 11/4/1855
(176) PP1854 (44) XXVIII p.732a
"Again at Dent... relief to the able-bodied is afforded by payments of a weekly or monthly sum, in the name of a pension, the amount of which is regulated according to the number of a man's family..."
(177) Mitt Sedbergh 19/3/1846
January 1846 no: 37, 41, 38, 41 t: 2, 2, 2. 2
union in the 1830's and 1840's would seem to substantiate the
description of the union as a pauperised district. (178) However,
in the same year that this description was made, the Poor Law Board
was informed by the union clerk,

"The Order affects none of our paupers here but women with
bastard children at present." (179)

There is no evidence that the guardians objected to the Order's
prohibition of outdoor relief to able-bodied men. A study of the 1851
census returns, which state whether a person was a pauper, does not
uphold the view that vast numbers of able-bodied men were receiving
outrelief - twenty four of the thirty one paupers in Sedbergh township
were aged sixty years and over, four more were widows with young
families, two were single with illegitimate children. In Garsdale
four were elderly and the fifth a widow with eight children. In Bent
there were seven old people, two orphans, two widows and three men
below the age of sixty. (180) There is no further reference to
pauperism until 1881 when Local Government Inspector Davy, full of
praise for poor relief administration in the union, wrote -

"The relief returns of this small country union are remarkable.
At the present time there are only thirty six persons in receipt
of outdoor relief ... of these, five are boarded out children
... number of inmates in workhouse is 26 ... The administration
of the guardians is excellent, and ... it is consciously
directed by a recognition of sound Poor Law principles, ..." (181)

(178) Poor relief expenditure in Sedbergh union. 1840-48:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1840</td>
<td>£1,739</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1841</td>
<td>1,544</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1842</td>
<td>1,973</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1843</td>
<td>2,093</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(179) 1812 Sedbergh 20/9/1855

(180) Retired woolcomber, widower, aged 57
Coal miner, 49, wife and 6 children.
Farmer, aged 47.

(181) 1812 Sedbergh 10/12/1831
The reduction of pauperism and adherence to the Prohibitory Order is reflected in the diminishing annual expenditure on outdoor relief.

The decline of hand-knitting in the 1830's and 1840's exacerbated distress resulting from depression in agriculture and the decline of the local factory and handicraft textile industry. In the second half of the century people escaped distress by moving away - the population figures, for Dent and Garsdale in particular, indicate the extent of migration. (182) Generally, hand-knitting, by providing even a pittance, enabled many elderly people (who formed the majority of paupers) to survive without recourse to poor relief or on a smaller weekly sum than would otherwise have been required.

5. Textile Mill Workers

There is not a single specific reference in the surviving poor law records to pauperism amongst the factory population of Sedbergh, Pateley Bridge, Ripon, Knaresborough, Leyburn, Bedale, Northallerton or Stokesley unions. (183) In Settle union, however, the closure of cotton mills in the late 1840's threw many mill hands out of work. Although the number of applications for relief from this class of person is not known, it was sufficiently large to cause the poor law authorities to instigate changes in the normal administration of poor relief. The clerk

(182) See Appendix B table 6 Population of townships in Sedbergh union, 1801-1901
(183) Except in Ripon union Letter Book, 20/4/1853, ref: to nonresident relief to a millhand and her four children, residing in Pateley Bridge.
informed the Poor Law Board that the very serious decrease of earnings as a result of inclement weather and the stoppage of the principal cotton mill in Settle had increased pauperism to an enormous extent" (184) The Board was compelled to appoint an extra relieving officer to cope with the increase in pauper numbers, and a special meeting was called and a committee appointed "to devise some means for employing the outdoor able-bodied paupers so as to have a return in labour for the relief given them individually." (185) Some of the factory hands applying for relief were removed to their union or place of settlement in an attempt to reduce the pressure of pauperism on Settle union. (186) Poor relief expenditure jumped from £5,107 in 1846 and £4,244 in 1847 to £6,617 in 1849 and after the depression expenditure on outdoor relief fell from £3,952 in 1849 to £2,848 in 1850. However, there was little comparable pressure on the poor rates during the cotton famine in the early 1860's, the guardians were confident that any resultant destitution could be adequately dealt with by admission to the workhouse or by the provision of employment, breaking stones in the outdoor able-bodied yard. (187)

In Skipton union, too, applications for poor relief were made by factory operatives, thrown out of work or partially employed in the recurrent trade depressions of the 1840's and 1850's, but the only reference to the relief of factory workers, other than those with large, young families, was in Barnoldswick (and probably elsewhere) in 1842. (188) Outdoor relief expenditure increased in the early 1860's thereby suggesting that there was pauperism amongst the cotton factory workers during the "famine". However, pauperism was not on a large enough scale to stretch

(184) MH12 Settle 7/12/1847
(185) Settle union 6/6/1848
(186) Ibid 23/11/1849
(187) Ibid 12/11/1853
(188) MH12 Skipton 29/5/1842
the resources of the union; the clerk informed the Poor Law Board that union funds were sufficient to meet extraordinary demands. (189) There is no reason to suppose that temporary pauperism of factory operatives was limited to Settle and Skipton unions. The lack of evidence in other unions undoubtedly stems from the fact the factory population was small and confined to just a few townships in the unions (Sedbergh and Pateley Bridge excepted). A second reason for the absence of any reference to relief afforded to destitute factory hands is that, in most cases, the Prohibitory Order was not issued to the unions until the middle of the century; free to relieve able-bodied persons, there was little likelihood that able-bodied pauperism would be the subject of correspondence between the various poor law authorities.

The age and sex structure of the factory labour force was an important influence on the propensity of the 'hands' to apply for poor relief. A large proportion of the factory workers were female and young people, though the proportion of men varied according to the textile and branch of industry. (190) As the bulk of the labour force was supplementing family income (as wives or children) the overall pauperising effect of the loss or reduction of factory earnings was less than it would have been had heads of families comprised a large proportion of the labour force. Only in Settle and Skipton unions, where a sizeable proportion of the working population were engaged in textile manufacture, did applications for relief from mill workers require certain extra-ordinary measures in poor relief administration.

(189) WHS Hanwaring 54 18/11/1861
(190) See Appendix D table 2
6. Agricultural Labourers.

The Royal Commission on the Poor Laws, 1832-4, concluded that pauperism amongst able-bodied males in rural districts was widespread—a permanent feature in some parishes, incipient in others—and attributed this to the abuse of the poor relief system, notably to the unrestrained granting of outrelief to agricultural labourers on account of insufficient earnings, be it a result of low wages, large families or under-employment. However, the appendices to the Report, relating to the North and West Ridings, do not bear out the general conclusions of the pauperised state of the farm workers. In J.D. Tweedy's report on the operation of the poor law in the West Riding the problem of able-bodied pauperism was scarcely referred to by the purely agricultural townships in the northern part of the Riding, in marked contrast with handloom weaving or leadmining townships. In 1825 relief was given to farm labourers in aid of wages in all but one of the North Riding Wapentakes, though it was not prevalent throughout each Wapentake; in Birdforth, for example, it was confined to "some few townships." (191) However, in 1832 none of the North Yorkshire townships, with the exception of weaving and leadmining centres, replied in the affirmative to question 24 of the Rural Queries—

"Have you any, and how many, able-bodied labourers in the employment of individuals receiving allowance or regular relief from your parish ...?" (192)

Reports on proposed poor law unions, compiled by Assistant Commissioner Novans, in 1836, testify to the absence of a pauperised agricultural labour force in North Yorkshire. Referring to pauperism in the North and East Ridings of Yorkshire, he stated—

(191) PP1825 (519) f.13, m.48-9
(192) PP1934 (6k) m.3
"... the able-bodied labourers being nearly all independent of parish relief." (193)

His reports to the Poor Law Commission on pauperism in the proposed unions of Scarborough, Malton, Whitby, Thirsk, Richmond and Leyburn do not indicate any major divergencies from this general impression.

"Pauperism [in Malton and Scarborough unions] is very similar to that which generally exists in the East and North Ridings." (194)

In Thirsk and Malton unions, with the exception of the market town of New Malton, no able-bodied labourers were in receipt of a weekly allowance.

"And of able-bodied men there is not one receiving relief in the townships" [in Thirsk union] (195)

"Exempting the town of New Malton I do not think there is a single able-bodied labourer receiving a weekly allowance however great his family may be." (196)

Even in Richmond and Leyburn unions, where the rates of pauperism were higher than Thirsk union (1:17 and 1:10 compared with 1:40), Revans did not attribute the higher rates of pauperism to the prevalence of relief to the able-bodied. Of Richmond union he wrote -

"But a very small number of able-bodied persons are at present receiving." (197)

Further confirmation of the absence of entrenched pauperism amongst the agricultural labouring class in North Yorkshire is derived from subsequent Reports written by Assistant Commissioners for the area.

"The system of giving outdoor relief to able-bodied men in employment had never been prevalent in these counties..." (198)

Revans, advising the introduction of the Prohibitory Order into North Yorkshire, wrote -

(193) JH52 Revans 65 14/12/1836
(194) JH12 Scarborough 5/11/1836
(195) JH12 Thirsk 20/1/1836
(196) JH12 Malton 8/11/1836
(197) JH12 Richmond 23/1/1837
(198) 8th Annual Report of the P.L.C. 1842 p.3
"... in many of these unions (particularly those of the North and East Ridings) the amount of able-bodied relief without the Prohibitory Order is insignificant - it seems therefore safe to infer that the Prohibitory Order might be issued to several of these unions without inconvenience." (199)

The Select Committee on Agriculture in 1833 made the following observations -

"... Northern Counties of England, where able-bodied men still maintain themselves and families on wages without the aid of the poor rate; and the great abuse would seem to be more prevalent in the Southern Counties, where wages are paid out of the rate, where the system of roundsman has been longest established, where the father of the family receives an increased allowance on the birth of each child, where the supply of labour is redundant, and where a premium is thus indirectly offered to improvident marriages and to an increase of population." (200)

Thus, enquiries and observations on the administration of the Poor Laws in the 1830's were in general agreement on the relatively unpauperised state of the agricultural labourer in North Yorkshire, as compared with his counterpart in the southern and eastern parts of the country. (201)

In the course of the nineteenth century the attention of the central poor law authority focused increasingly on the urban and industrial able-bodied pauper and less on the able-bodied male in rural areas. Agricultural districts generally became associated with low rates of able-bodied pauperism; thus, Easingwold, replying to the Local Government Board's circular on Pauperism and Distress, seems to have connected the absence of distress in the union to the fact that it was an agricultural rather than an urban union:

"There not being any unusual amount of distress in this union, which is purely agricultural there is no material increase of applications for relief and the guardians find no difficulty in dealing with the cases arising in this union." (202)

(199) H52 Revans 65 7/11/1840
(200) P21873 (612) v p.vi
(201) Most of the 'Extracts from the Information received by his Majesty's Commissioners', printed in 1833, referred to poor law administration in southern counties.
(202) Easingwold union 26/3/1836
In the early 1870s relief from the poor rates, in aid of wages, still existed in the north—though reports of Poor Law Inspectors suggest that wage supplementation in North Yorkshire was confined to aged or disabled persons, only partially able to work, and very rarely extended to agricultural labourers.

"In my district, at the present time, there are very few able-bodied persons who receive relief. There are scarcely any able-bodied persons now in the workhouses. Old age, infirmity, and sickness are the causes." (203)

"The case of an able-bodied man applying for relief on account of inability to find work is of the rarest possible occurrence in any union in my District in which the Prohibitory Order is in force ..." (204) the agricultural labourer "rarely becomes a pauper until he is quite done for work. He does not throw himself onto the relief list a day or two after he receives an injury ... (as I am sorry to say many of the town labourers do) ... [he] will struggle on for weeks, often months, before he applies." (205)

The appendices to the 1905-9 Royal Commission Report on the Poor Laws and relief of distress reflect the over-riding concern with destitution of able-bodied males in urban and industrial centres and the virtual absence of pauperism amongst able-bodied in rural districts.

"... the increase of adult pauperism, both male and female, has wholly occurred in London and the other urban areas." (206)

The appendix to Inspector Bagenal's report on the West Riding mentioned in detail only the major towns, whilst the Commissioners, questioning Lowry, Inspector for the North East Counties, were mainly interested in poor relief administration in the mining and industrial centres; Middlesbrough was the only union in the North Riding discussed by the Commissioners. (207) Clearly the evidence of contemporaries attests to the low rate of pauperism amongst the agricultural labouring class in

(203) PP1860 (520) XVII 1 Q.471
(204) BB32 Hedley 45 9/8/1871
(205) 17th Annual Report of the LGB 1887-8 p.80
(206) PP1909 (482) XXXVII p.34
(207) PP1909 (482) XXXIX p.335-347
PP1909 (482) XXXIX pp.385-371
North Yorkshire in the period of the New Poor Law, 1834-1900. However, many of the statements are meaningful only as comparison with the commentators' experience of pauperism in other areas. Thus the rate of pauperism amongst agricultural workers in North Yorkshire was low in the early years of the New Poor Law when compared with agricultural districts in the southern and eastern parts of the country, and similarly, towards the end of the nineteenth century, when compared with urban and industrial centres.

Returns of pauperism testify to the relatively unpauperised state of the agricultural labourer in the North Riding. The Poor Law Commission printed annual returns giving the number of males in each county (and Riding in Yorkshire), relieved on account of want of work, insufficient earnings and other causes, not including sickness, accident or infirmity, in the quarter ending Lady Day. The numbers in the North Riding, in the period 1839-46, remained fairly constant, reaching a slight peak in 1842, a year of "prevailing depression of trade and agriculture." Obviously a total of 219 able-bodied male paupers relieved in January, February and March, 1842, out of total population of 180,527 represents an insignificant rate of pauperism. Moreover, the rate of pauperism amongst agricultural labourers was even less since the returns included unions containing a substantial non-agricultural population, for example Whitby and Becka. Further confirmation of the low rate of pauperism amongst able-bodied men is contained in a return showing the number of persons relieved in seven unions in the North Riding during the half years ending Lady Day, 1844, and 29th September, 1844. One exception was Walton union, where, although only 20 and 27 able-bodied males were

(208) See Appendix A Table 1
(209) See Appendix A Table 2
PP1047 (100), 111, p.9
relieved in the workhouses in winter and summer respectively, the numbers relieved out of doors in the corresponding periods were 1,098 and 724 respectively. The contrast between Halton and Easingwold, where a mere 25 able-bodied men were relieved in 1844, can only be accounted for by different methods of arriving at the figures. Both were agricultural unions and there was no concern expressed by poor law administrators about the apparently high rate of pauperism in Halton union. There is no discrepancy in the numbers of applications for relief from agricultural labourers between Halton and other North Riding unions in the period from Lady Day to 31st December, 1849 (210), the numbers formed approximately the same proportion of the total populations of Halton, Bedale, Easingwold, Helmsley, Richmond and Thirsk. A random return showing the number of persons receiving outdoor relief in aid of wages and on account of want of work in one week in autumn, 1852, testifies to the low rate of able-bodied pauperism in North Yorkshire. (211) There were no such persons relieved in nine unions - 86 in Easingwold, 18 in Halton, 13 in Pickering, 5 in Thirsk, (all relief in aid of wages) and 7 in Northallerton on account of want of work. However these figures included every member of the family. Thus, in Northallerton union only one unemployed man was in receipt of relief - the other six paupers were his family. In the second half of the century the central poor law authority printed returns showing the numbers of able-bodied male paupers (excluding vagrants) relieved in each union on two days of the year - 1st January and 1st July (212). However, these numbers included men who were in receipt of relief because of temporary sickness, accident or infirmity. Only in 1885 do the returns

(210) See Appendix K Table 3
MH32 Hawley 41 24/1/1850

(211) See Appendix K Table 4
PP 1852 (532) LXIII p.11

(212) See Appendix K Table 5
start to distinguish between outdoor male paupers temporarily unable to work and others, who required relief on account of unemployment and/or insufficient wages. As these later returns indicate the great majority of able-bodied male paupers were relieved on account of temporary ill-health. Thus, the general conclusion to be drawn from the statistics of pauperism amongst able-bodied males in North Yorkshire is that, throughout the period of the New Poor Law in the nineteenth century, the rate of pauperism amongst agricultural labourers was extremely low. The propensity of labourers to apply for poor relief was higher in the 1830's and 1840's and declined to insignificance in the second half of the century.

We must now examine poor law administration in the wholly agricultural unions of North Yorkshire in more detail in order to assess the impact of the New Poor Law on the relief of agricultural labourers. Several of the newly formed unions anticipated the Prohibitory Order, issuing bye-laws which prohibited outdoor relief to certain classes of paupers. At a meeting of the Thirsk Board of Guardians in 1837 it was resolved that no relief be given to an able-bodied man in private employment unless he had more than six children under ten years of age. Similar rules were passed by the Boards of Leyburn, Holmsley, Stokesley, Northallerton and Richmond unions, and possibly others. Richmond Board of Guardians appears to have been discriminating in the relief it afforded to able-bodied men, despite the absence of Orders, regulating relief, from the Poor Law Commission. Revising the pauper lists early in 1837 the majority of cases of able-bodied male paupers were discontinued or continued at a

(213) RH12 Thirsk  20/3/1837
Holmsley union BGM  10/3/1837
RH12 Stokesley  31/3/1837

RH12 Leyburn  23/3/1837
Richmond union BGM  25/5/1837
Northallerton union BGM  22/3/1837
reduced rate of relief:

eg. West Layton - Able-bodied man, aged 36, with 6 children 5/- reduced to 3/9d a week. (214)
Scorton - Able-bodied man, aged 57, with wife and 7 children.
Earnings 9/- a week. 4/- allowance discontinued. (215)

Applications for poor relief on account of insufficient wages from two labourers with large families were dismissed.

8/7/37 Walburn township. Able-bodied labourer, wife and 6 children under 13 years. Earnings 9/- a week. Unable to maintain his family - dismissed.

Two days after this case the clerk wrote to the Poor Law Commission requesting permission to admit the children into the workhouse, without the parents - suggesting that, although the guardians had originally acted in accordance with union policy, not to allow outdoor relief, they were not prepared to admit the entire family into the workhouse. (216) It seems probable that some relief was found to be necessary and the guardians wished to compromise by admitting children only into the workhouse. Several applications (the causes of which were not specified but presumably on account of shortage of work or insufficient earnings) were refused because the applicant was considered "able-bodied".

eg. 4/11/37 Gardener, aged 60, considered able. Dismissed.
Married man, aged 26, wife and one child. Relief refused "both being able-bodied".

The severe winter, 1837-8, increased the number of applications to such an extent that the guardians were compelled to give outdoor relief, though they generally ordered the relief to be in kind and scrutinised the character of the applicants; for instance, the board agreed that a man, with a wife and two children, who had been earning 13/- a week regularly before the storm and had been out of work for two weeks, "was

(214) Richmond union BGM 13/4/1837
(215) Ibid 15/5/1837
(216) MH12 Richmond 10/7/1837
not a proper object for relief. In Reeth an able-bodied man, his wife and three children were refused outdoor relief and offered the workhouse - "Both having very mean characters". When taking the earnings of applicants into consideration the guardians placed the subsistence level very low: for example,

21/7/38 Man and wife, aged 85 and 88. Very ill. Receives 6/- week from the Earl of Zetland. Application refused.

20/9/38 Married man, aged 42. Able-bodied, earns 9/- week. 3 children. Wife very ill. Refused.

Thus, even before the introduction of the Prohibitory Order. Richmond union was attempting to prohibit outdoor relief to able-bodied men and when a severe storm put pressure on the poor rates the guardians maintained strict control over the type and amount of relief afforded. Unfortunately, it is not known how far this pre-Order administration by Richmond Board of Guardians was typical of other unions in North Yorkshire, since the Richmond minutes are the only ones to contain details of relief applications and their outcome. However, a resolution made at a local agricultural society meeting in 1830 suggests that there was general agreement on the need to prevent regular outdoor relief to the able-bodied from becoming an established feature of poor law relief -

a discussion on the "best method of maintaining the agricultural poor,"

"... it is unquestionably most desirable that the married or settled poor shall be employed in a regular and stationary way, in preference to the house-row system, and that on all occasions the independence of the poor ought to be protected from pauperism by having no parish allowance, if possible to be avoided, ..."(219)

As has been demonstrated earlier resistance to the Prohibitory Order from agricultural unions in North Yorkshire was minimal and was mainly

(217) Richmond union BGM 27/1/1838
(218) Ibid 3/2/1838
(219) W.T. Swaine TERRORIST GUIDE TO BOROUGHBRIDGE AND THE SURROUNDING DISTRICT (1855) P.54
directed against the clauses dealing with single women, with bastard children and non-resident poor. However, not all the unions acquiesced in the prohibition of outdoor relief to agricultural labourers. The most outspoken protest was from Halton union, which requested that that Poor Law Commission rescind the Prohibitory Order in their union. The guardians were accustomed to giving outdoor relief to able-bodied labourers, and their families, who were out of work or whose earnings were insufficient, on account of reduced labour demand in the winter months. The Poor Law Commission's response was to state the abuse to which outdoor relief to the agricultural labouring class was liable and refuse to rescind the Order. (220) Easingwold union also protested against the Order. The chairman's comment -

"I think the article relating to widows much too oppressive and also the one refusing relief to able-bodied labourers out of the workhouse." (221)

suggests that there was apprehension that the Order would effect major changes in the administration of outdoor relief to able-bodied labourers. In two other unions, Leyburn and Bedale, after a short period of poor relief administration according to the Order, there were objections to the insistence on the workhouse for agricultural labourers applying for relief. In January, 1842, Bedale Board "...agreed... to apply to the Commissioners for a discretionary power to grant outrelief in certain cases and under certain circumstances." (222) The request was probably in response to applications from agricultural labourers since early in the following month the Board was requesting the Poor Law Commission's sanction to relieve five agricultural labourers. The Commissioners, refusing the request, pointed out the consequences of

(220) HH12 Halton 10/12/1841
(221) HH12 Easingwold 26/1/1842
(222) HH12 Bedale 12/1/1841
"... relief to agricultural labourers in aid of wages, according to the system formerly prevalent in the Southern Counties ... no long time would elapse before the great part of the agricultural labourers of the union would be thrown upon the rates during the winter." (223)

In Leyburn union, where "able-bodied and industrious agricultural labourers", unable to obtain sufficient employment, occasionally applied for temporary relief, the protest against the Order's insistence on the workhouse came, not from the Board but a magistrate residing in the union. (224) Hostility to the Order from the Boards of Guardians was short lived and relief to agricultural labourers does not seem to have caused any strain on the poor relief system. Although the Order "admit[ed] of the granting of outdoor relief under almost every contingency that can befall a man or his family" (225) the guardians appear to have acted correctly, either sending able-bodied men to the workhouse or reporting the cases to the central poor law authority. There are no recorded instances of illegal relief, given contrary to the Order but during the severe winter, 1849-50, Easingwold union waived its usual insistence on the workhouse for able-bodied paupers and requested permission to relieve 25 unemployed agricultural labourers out of doors. (226) The Poor Law Board reluctantly sanctioned the relief, believing,

"The farmers in many places are taking advantage of the alleged depression in the value of agricultural produce to turn their labourers out of employment to be supported out of the rates..." (227)

but the Labour Test Order, issued to the union, was not required because the weather improved and the men returned to work. Outdoor relief granted to able-bodied men in Malton union in the 1840's was a result of inadequate workhouse accommodation. (228) There is no evidence that trade

(223) Ibid 9/2/1842
(224) LH12 Leyburn 25/12/1843
(225) A.Higby 'The Rural Poor Law' p.157 in D.Fraser (ed) THE NEW POOR LAW 1834-1845 (1976)
(226) LH12 Easingwold 9/1/1850 - 9/3/1850 7 of the 12 men, relieved on 9/1/1850, had never received poor law relief before and the relief given amounted to only £1.1.6d.
(227) LH12 Easingwold 9/1/1850. The only subsequent request to give outdoor relief to agricultural labourers destitute on account of inclement weather was in 1855.
(228) LH12 Malton 29/12/1843 - 2/12/1846
depressions or adverse weather conditions in the second half of the century increased the number of applications for poor relief.

Although outdoor relief to agricultural labourers in the form of weekly allowances was little practised in the North Riding, relief in the form of rent payments and by way of provision of work, either labouring on the roads or going out to farms, were more common under the Old Poor Law. For example, the overseers at Cayton, in Scarborough union, paid the rents of several small cottages, occupied by able-bodied labourers.(229) Pauperism amongst able-bodied in Scarborough union in 1836 was, by and large, due to the payment of house rents.

"The few able-bodied men who receive relief are men with large families ... the parishes pay house rent."(230)

Similarly in Halton and Holmsley unions:

"The majority of able-bodied labourers named in the schedule have no other relief than their house rents ..."(231)

"The only extensive relief given to able-bodied ... is the payment of the rents of men with larger families than ordinary."(232)

In all the cases referred to them the Poor Law Commission prescribed the payment of rents, though conceding that extra temporary allowances would be required; for example, the Poor Law Commission wrote to the overseer of Ripon:

"Rent applications are 'wholly inadmissible'".(233)

"The Commissioners ... recommend that notice should be given both to the landlords and the occupiers that the parish will soon cease to pay house rent for able-bodied labourers although relief in this way may still for a time be continued to aged and infirm paupers..."(234)

(229) MM12 Scarborough 27/1/1835
(230) Ibid 5/11/1836
(231) MM12 Halton 8/11/1836
(232) MM12 Holmsley 20/1/1837
(233) MM12 Ripon 21/11/1835
(234) Ibid 23/5/1836
The New Poor Law did not eliminate rent payments entirely - for example, as late as 1853, in Sheriff Sutton, -

"There are ten cottages for which the overseers pay a shilling a year each to the Lord of the Manor ..., and which have hitherto been occupied by persons rent free."(235)

However, no other reference to rent payments has been discovered in either the Minutes or M/H12 correspondence and indeed the evidence suggests that the boards were willing to comply with the law; Leyburn union resolved to require the overseers to charge rents for all houses belonging to or rented by townships and several unions included the prohibition of rent payments in their bye-laws of 1837 and 1838.(236)

Labourers applying for relief on account of unemployment were often given work on the roads or farms in the township, and in some cases their wages were made up from the poor rates:

"The township [of Sutton on the Forest] having a redundancy of Agricultural Labourers and no adequate means of employing them, otherwise than sending them to labour on the roads, and the usual way of paying their wages for this kind of labour having been to pay a portion of their wages out of the poor rates ..."(237)

It appears that in the majority of cases the men were inferior labourers -

"those who are advanced in life ..., or ..., from want of skill, or from being sickly are less desirable labourers than the rest."(238)

The numbers of truly able-bodied labourers increased in severe winters and at times of general depression, when non resident families returned to swell the numbers of unemployed able-bodied.

There is no evidence that Boards of Guardians disapproved attempts by the central poor law authority to suppress the practice of

(235) M/H12 Halton 13/2/1853
(236) M/H12 Leyburn 23/3/1837
(237) M/H12 Easingwold 6/4/1836
(238) M/H12 Scarborough 5/11/1836
roundsman. On the contrary, there were indications that the 'evils' of the roundsman system were generally recognised by the township. In 1836 the overseers of Scalby, later incorporated into Scarborough union, enquired about the advisability of paying a money allowance to roundsmen and, acting on the advice of the Commission, stopped the allowances, as a result of which, they claimed, the men "now ... look for work themselves and find plenty." (239) Independent attempts were made to disassociate the poor rates from the 'roundsman'. In Coxwold the assistant overseers were responsible for an agreement, which "has been a means of partially diminishing one of the greatest evils, that of sending a labourer on the Roundsman, paying a part of his wages from the Assessment, the labourer too frequently considering himself only bound to earn that part of his wage which he receives from the individual, in whose employ he is, the other given as relief to his children ..." (240) With one exception, the poor law records after 1841 contain no mention of the continuation of paying roundsmen out of the poor rates. (241)

(239) Ibid 9/4/1836
(240) MH12 Easingwold 13/12/1834
(241) MH12 Northallerton 19/8/1848
7. **Non Resident Poor**

Also included in this chapter are two sections on non resident poor and vagrants, whose relief constituted a not insignificant portion of the poor relief expenditure of the North Yorkshire unions. However, unlike the occupational groups examined in the previous sections, their poverty can not be attributed to the economic changes in the unions, associated with 'de-industrialisation' - (though as will be shown in the next chapter, migration out of North Yorkshire, in consequence of restricted or diminishing employment opportunities, contributed to the size of the non resident population). This section on non resident paupers - that is, the relief of persons who lived outside the union but remained chargeable to that union or one of the townships constituting the union by virtue of having their legal settlement there - examines, firstly, the laws regulating the chargeability of non resident persons, in particular the statutory changes that occurred in the course of the nineteenth century and the implications for rural unions and, secondly, the attitude of the central poor law authority to non resident paupers as embodied in the several Orders. Having set out official policy relating to non resident relief the chapter investigates the extent and administration of relief to non resident paupers by the North Yorkshire unions.

In 1834 legal responsibility for the relief of a destitute person rested with the parish or township in which the pauper was settled - ie. his place of settlement. The first legislation fixing the principles of settlement was the Poor Relief Act of 1602; settlements could be gained by forty days' residence, the renting of a tenement, valued at a minimum of £10 p.a. or the ability to give security. (242) The law was amended

twenty three years later, making it more difficult to obtain a settlement; forty days' residence then applied from the date that written notice of the person's intention to obtain a settlement was given to the overseer. (245) The 1691 Act required that notice of intention to gain a settlement by residence be read out in church and entered in the overseer's account book; in addition, settlement was automatically given if the person had served in public office for a year, paid public taxes or had been bound an apprentice. (246)

Settlement could be obtained by unmarried servants who were hired for a year. (245) Minor changes were made to the Law of Settlement in 1834. The Royal Commissions on the Poor Laws, 1832-4, sought to restrict the ways in which a settlement could be obtained, recommending that

"settlement by hiring and service, apprenticeship, purchasing or renting a tenant, estate, paying rates, or serving an office, be abolished."

"the settlement of every legitimate child born after the passing of the intended Act, follow that of the parents or surviving parent of such child until such child shall attain the age of sixteen years, or the death of its surviving parent; and that at the age of sixteen, or on the death of its surviving parent, such child shall be considered settled in the place in which it was born." (246)

These recommendations were enacted by the Poor Law Amendment Act, though the clauses were not retrospective. While recognizing the advantages of settlement by residence, namely the prevention of the 'unfair' financial burden on parishes of aged paupers, who had left the parish when young, and of the inhumane uprooting of the old, away from family and friends, back to their place of settlement, the Royal

(245) I.James II c.17 Ibid p.20
(244) 3 & 4 Will & Mary c.10 Ibid
(245) 6 & 9 Will III c.101 Ibid
(246) 24Will (34) roman p.195 14th and 15th Recommendations
Commissioners rejected the implementation of settlement by residence on account of the adverse effects it would have on the labour market.

"It will be seen that we do not recommend the introduction of settlement by residence." (247)

It was believed that settlement by residence would result in "one of the worst consequences of the existing law, the separation of master and man . . .", the demolition of cottages, the forcing of labourers into towns and the non settled labourer, "now superior, both in morals and in industry . . . falling back into the general mass." (248) There was no further alteration to the Law of Settlement until 1876 when the Divided Parishes Act declared three years' residence sufficient to gain a new settlement.

However, although the Settlement Law remained unaltered until 1876 the financial responsibility for non resident paupers underwent profound changes as a result of modifications in the law defining irremovable and removable paupers. In 1854 the only circumstance in which a pauper residing in a parish, in which he had no settlement, could not be removed to his place of settlement was if the pauper was unfit to travel. In 1846 it was enacted that a pauper could not be removed from a parish if he had been resident there for five years.

"No person shall be removed . . . from any parish in which such person shall have resided for five years next before the application for the warrant."

"No warrant shall be granted for the removal of any person becoming chargeable in respect of relief made necessary by sickness or accident., unless the justices are satisfied that sickness or accident will result in permanent disability." (249)

(247) Ibid
(248) Ibid pp.193-4
(249) 9 & 10 Vict. c.66 s.1 & 1V
Irremovability of non settled paupers was further extended in 1861 and 1865. The 1861 Act reduced the period of residence to three years and enlarged the area of residence to include the whole union. (250) In 1865 one year's residence rendered a pauper immovable. (251) M. Bruce in The Rise of the Welfare State, claims that "each of these concessions left unchanged the legal settlement, and therefore the financial responsibility ..." (252) Contesting this statement and arguing that a pauper, resident in a different union from the one in which he was settled and rendered 'irremovable' by the above Acts, was chargeable, not to the settled township or union, but to the township or union in which he resided, I would draw attention to the statements of the Poor Law Commissioners relating to the changes in chargeability in consequence of the 1846 Act.

"The relief of this class of poor, having been stopped by the unions in which they were settled, the unions in which they were resident choose in many cases a disposition either to refuse them relief altogether, or to give them insufficient relief, or merely to offer them relief in the workhouses."

"To have received a few complaints with regard to single cases of hardship under the Act arising from the stoppage of relief, at the moment of the change of chargeability."

"These however, and other similar inconveniences, were the temporary consequences of the adjustment necessary in order to carry the Act into effect; and could scarcely fail to arise under any alteration creating an extensive transfer of pauper chargeability from one to another set of parishes." "... the Boards of Guardians ... relieve the settled and non settled, but immovable poor in the same manner, and they continue the relief to their non resident poor who have not become immovable." (253)

The law, by progressively reducing the length of residence required in order to achieve the status of irremovability, transferred the charge of many non resident paupers from the settled union to the union of residence.

(250) 24 & 25 Vict. c.66
(251) 28 & 29 Vict. c.79
(252) M. Bruce, THE RISE OF THE WELFARE STATE (1973) p.5
(253) 14th Annual Report of the P.I.C. 1848 p.32
As demonstrated in chapter one, there occurred in nineteenth century England a polarisation of urban and rural districts; in such a situation the net effect of the legal changes after 1834 was to ease the burden of non resident relief on rural unions from which migration was taking place. However, even in the late nineteenth century non resident relief was still a significant feature of rural pauperism though less so than in the first half of the nineteenth century. (254)

Under the old poor law relief was frequently granted to non resident paupers, although legally they were liable to be removed to the place of settlement.

"There had grown up a custom under the old Poor Law, by which, in order to save the expense and hardships of removal, parishes agreed to grant outdoor relief to paupers belonging to them by settlement, who were residing elsewhere." (255)

Under the new Poor Law the decision whether to grant non resident relief or require the pauper's return to the village or union of settlement did not rest entirely with the Boards of Guardians. Their discretion was circumscribed by certain rules issued by the central poor law authority. The Commissioners were opposed to non resident relief in principle:

"... it is difficult, and often impossible, for a Board of Guardians to ascertain the wants and means of a person residing at a distance from their Union, ..."

"... it is difficult ... to ensure the conveyance of relief to a non resident pauper, ..." (256)

Uncontrolled non resident relief was seen as a threat to the beneficial effects of the reformed poor relief system on the labour market and the condition of the labourer and employer. The Commissioners reasoned that if

(254) 3rd Annual Report of the L.C.R. 1873-4 p.70  
"Non resident relief is given in almost all the unions" - (in Northumberland, Durham and the North Riding) "greatest in agricultural unions in which the population has been decreasing." For example - 16% of outdoor paupers of Glendale union (a rural union in Northumberland) were non resident, compared with 2% of Newcastle union.

(255) S & B Webb ENGLISH POOR LAW POLICY (1910) p.53

(256) 7th Annual Report of the P.L.C. 1841 p.69
relief were given to able-bodied non-resident men they "would be able to remain where the supply of labour is already beyond the demand, and that the money paid to them ... will enable them to compete, for employment, on terms, which are wholly to the disadvantage of those who may not be similarly allowed outdoor relief in aid of wages in the place in which they are resident and legally settled."(257) The General Orders, regulating the administration of poor relief therefore contained sections on the non-resident poor. The Prohibitory Order states - "No relief shall be given from the poor rates of any parish ... to any person who does not reside within some place within the union."

Provision was made for departure from the Regulations, conditional upon the individual cases being reported to the Poor Law Commissioners within fifteen days. However, the guardians were allowed to grant non-resident relief in certain specified circumstances, without having to report the case to the Poor Law Commission. The exception clause most likely to apply to non-resident able-bodied persons was the second, which allowed relief to be given on account of "any sickness, accident, or bodily or mental infirmity, affecting such person, or any of his or her family."(258) The Labour Test Order made no reference to non-resident poor. The Regulation Order of 1852 contained the same restrictions on non-resident relief as the Prohibitory Order, with one exception - non-resident relief for six months was not permitted to widows, who had no children.(259)

In the early years of the new Poor Law non-resident paupers constituted a sizeable proportion of total pauper numbers in North

(257) HM12 Scarborough 15/6/1843
(258) 8th Annual Report of the P.L.A. 1842 pp.70-71 Article III
Yorkshire.

"The agricultural districts are relieving to a considerable extent and in a great proportion, poor residing at a distance, who have gone to the manufacturing towns, but they still keep their settlements in the agricultural parishes from which they have migrated, ..."(260)

Alfred Power, giving evidence to the Select Committee on Poor Law Administration, commented on the great extent of non resident relief in Lancashire and Yorkshire, compared with the south of England.

"In the North ... to a very great extent the parties relieved did not reside in the township in which they were settled; it would frequently happen that all the paupers receiving relief from the township were residing elsewhere, and generally a very considerable proportion, particularly as regarded the smaller townships, throughout both the counties."(261)

Data regarding non resident pauper numbers and expenditure is fragmentary.

In the township of Skipton, from April to October 1832, total expenditure on poor relief amounted to £950.12.4d, a third of which, £319.8.1½d, was money paid to non residents.(262) In 1839 it was estimated that "35% of the whole number of paupers [in Skipton union] are non resident, being located in Halifax and other neighbouring manufacturing towns,"(263) and in 1845 Commissioner Clement noted "The number of non resident cases belonging to this union is very great ..."(264) In Settle union too "about one-third [of paupers] ... are not resident within the union."(265)

The union had two relieving officers; in the first district the number of cases belonging to the townships and resident in the union was 172, while the number belonging to the townships and not resident in the union was 78. In the second district there were 143 resident and 48 non resident paupers.(266) In 1862 non resident paupers chargeable to Settle union

(260) PP 1837-8 (167) XVII 1 Q.2984
(261) Ibid Q.2903
(262) PP 1834 (44) XVIII p.746
(263) MH12 Skipton 20/3/1839
(264) Ibid 16/8/1845
(265) PP 1837-8 (151) XVIII Q.3676
(266) PP 1837-8 (191) XVIII Q.3676
formed a similar proportion of the total number of paupers - the number of heads of families residing out of the union was 297 and the total number of pauper heads of families was 831. (267) In Thirsk union the proportion of non resident paupers was "about one fifth of the whole amount of our chargeable poor." (268) The minute books of several unions give half yearly expenditure on non resident poor relief, as distinct from outdoor relief and maintenance to resident paupers, for a period of several years, mainly in the 1860's. The information denotes substantial non resident relief though less than in the 1840's, when, for example, in Thirsk union non resident relief varied from one fifth to a third of total relief expenditure. (269)

Considering that non resident relief constituted a high proportion of total pauperism in the North Yorkshire unions one would have expected some opposition from the local administrators to the restrictions imposed by the Poor Law Commissioners on the administration of relief to this class of pauper. The Poor Law Commission, in their eighth Annual Report, stated:

"The principal difficulties in the way of the introduction of this Order [the Prohibitory Order] into the northern counties have arisen from the relief ... of persons not resident within their union." (270) But, with one exception, I did not come across any overt hostility to the orders relating to non resident paupers in either the minute books or the minute books or the minute 142 records. (271) There were numerous requests for permission to depart from the Order prohibiting non resident relief and it would seem that this concession, along with the various exceptions, meant that the Orders were not inimical to the wishes of the Boards of Guardians. Indeed in the

(267) PP.148 (322) 1117 p.10
(268) PP.1847 (132) 1111 0.1676
(269) See Appendix E
(270) 8th Annual Report of the P.L.C. 1842 p.3
(271) Settle was the only union to protest strongly to the central poor law authority against the clauses relating to non resident poor relief in the Labour Test Order in 1842 and the Regulation Order in 1842.
PP.142 (142) 1111 1842 p.10
PP. 148 (322) 1111 1842 p.218
early years of the New Poor Law a number of unions issued bye-laws prohibiting further cases of non resident relief, except in cases of sickness or accident. (272) Later in the century several unions attempted to discontinue non resident and non settled poor relief. In 1879 Great Ouseburn resolved not to advance any relief to non resident poor on account of any other union. (273) Pickering Board of Guardians wrote to Malton union expressing its opposition to Malton's decision to discontinue relief to non settled poor. (274) In 1856 a meeting of the Board of Guardians of Ripon union resolved that

"all relief to paupers who do not reside within this union be discontinued ... no further relief allowed to non resident paupers." (275)

The decision became a major issue in the municipal election. Apparently the resolution had been passed by a very small attendance of guardians without prior notice of the proposed resolution being given. At a subsequent meeting the resolution was rescinded by eight votes to five and non resident paupers continued to be relieved as before. (276) The decision of some unions not to pay relief to non resident and non settled poor clearly caused contention between unions. In 1899 Stokesley union memorialised the Local Government Board, asking them to make it compulsory for unions to relieve non settled paupers resident in the union. It is probable that this request arose as a result of a recent decision by neighbouring Middlesbrough union (which would have a large proportion of Stokesley's non resident paupers) to discontinue the payment of non settled poor relief. (277)

(272) cg. Helmsley 18/3/1837 Northallerton 22/3/1837
(273) Ripon union BGM 24/4/1879
(274) Pickering union BGM: 18/4/1859
(275) Ripon union BGM 20/10/1856
(276) Ripon union BGM 30/4/1869 14/5/1869
(277) Stokesley union BGM 17/6/1899 26/8/1899
In 1873-4 Inspector Culley, reporting on outdoor relief in the
district comprising Northumberland, Durham, York (North and East Ridings),
stated:

"Non resident relief is given in almost all the unions ..." and is
"greatest in agricultural unions in which the population has been
decreasing."(278)

He could only recollect two unions, those of York and Hull, where non
resident relief was not given. In the case of the union where the pauper
resided, refusing to give relief, which would be repaid quarterly by the
chargeable union, the latter union had to arrange for the relief to be
transmitted to the pauper by private channels.

As demonstrated earlier, the central poor law authority was mindful
of the potential abuse in the administration of non resident relief.
According to the findings of Alfred Power, the northern parts of the West
Riding, as indeed all the townships in Lancashire and Yorkshire, where non
resident relief was rife, were guilty of lax administration.

"That fact has been communicated to me by many ratepayers, that
had great difficulty in ascertaining the circumstances of the
parties resident at a distance."

"I think that there has been a great abuse of relief prevailing in
various parts of that district, from want of proper information
respecting the parties who received it."

"I should say that complaints on that subject chiefly arise within
the unions where the townships are the smallest; in the northern
part of the West Riding, and in some parts of Lancashire ... those townships have contributed for a long period past their
population to the large manufacturing towns, and as applications are
made from the parties residing at a distance, they had very great
difficulty ... to find out the circumstances of these parties so
resident at a distance."(279)

It became common practice for Boards of Guardians to order their Relieving
Officers to investigate the circumstances and needs of non resident paupers.

(278) 3rd Annual Report of the L.G.B. 1873-4 p.70
(279) PP 1837-3 (167), Q.2945, 2947, 2949
For example, in 1866, in an attempt to reduce the amount of non resident relief, Settle Board of Guardians resolved that non resident paupers be visited. (280)

The overall impression from the available evidence is that the burden of non resident pauperism was greatest in the unions in the northern part of the West Riding, Settle, Skipton, Sedbergh and Pateley Bridge, in particular. Large scale migration from these regions occurred in the first half of the nineteenth century. Migration from purely agricultural townships was numerically less than from centres of declining manufacturing or mining importance. Moreover, the redundant mining/manufacturing population tended to migrate to manufacturing towns in the same area either because it was adjacent or they chose to remain in the same occupation or jobs were obtained through family and personal contact. In agricultural unions the destination of migrants was more diverse. (281) Therefore a local or occupational depression would have more adverse effects on the non resident poor relief expenditure of those unions, where a particular economic activity was in decline and the redundant population was migrating, than purely agricultural unions, where the migrating population was both smaller and not engaged in a predominant industry. These reasons would apply equally to the manufacturing and mining regions in the North Riding, for example, Whitby and Rothwell unions. With the growth of Teesside there was greater migration from the rural North Riding in the second half of the nineteenth century, but changes

(280) Settle union Letter Books 17/4/1866
Also Ripon union BCh 4/11/1856
Rothwell union BCh 30/5/1845 20/6/1856

(281) PP 1847 (135) XI q.1677
"...more were they [non resident paupers] generally resident; in the manufacturing districts?"

"...but not so generally there; they were residing in the neighbouring unions; in various parts of the country."
in the Settlement Laws and improved living standards prevented non
resident relief from becoming a problem for the poor law authorities.
During periods of depression, particularly in the 1840's, non resident
pauperism did prompt minor changes in the relief administration in all
unions. Owing to the settlement and removal laws the effects of
depression were not confined to the manufacturing towns. In 1842, a
year of severe trade depression, rural unions received many applications
for relief from non resident paupers. Inspector Hawley declared

"In the unions which I have been visiting during the last fortnight
I have --- innumerable applications for relief from non resident
paupers in the manufacturing districts." (282)

In the early 1840's, in Great Ousoburn township, (no doubt typical of
agricultural townships in North Yorkshire) the pressure on the poor relief
system from destitute families returning from the manufacturing districts
caused the parish officers to send men to work as 'roundsmen' and farmers
to dismiss non settled labourers.(283) Thus, non resident pauperism is
a critical element in any discussion of able-bodied pauperism in North
Yorkshire unions - albeit largely temporary and confined to the early
years of the New Poor Law.
8. The Relief of Vagrancy in North Yorkshire.

The vagrant pauper, known variously as casual, tramp, mendicant — "one who is here today and gone tomorrow" — constituted a special case among the able-bodied poor. (284) The poor law authorities identified two categories of pauper vagrants — the wayfarer, genuinely in search of work, and the professional mendicant whose livelihood was tramping. The guardians were generally of the opinion that the overwhelming majority of vagrants were of the second type. Vagrant paupers formed only a small proportion of the total number of wayfarers and the guardians regarded those that had to resort to poor relief as inferior in moral character.

In Thirsk union workhouse 1,539 vagrants were relieved in 1846 but police reports indicated that 12,227 vagrants were accommodated in low lodging houses in the town in the same period. (285) Thomas Smith, chairman of Thirsk union Board of Guardians described the vagrants as

"young, idle and lawless, totally wanting in habits of providence;" (286)

"most of them are doubtless ... men who ... find it difficult to meet with employment at full wages and are tempted to travel where their character or capability is unknown ... it is ... only in comparatively few instances that the wandering poor ... can be termed of the industrious class." (287)

Farnall reported that workhouse officials in his district, which included the North Riding, believed that only five or six per cent of vagrants were actually looking for work. (288) North Board of Guardians, for instance, believed —

"that vagrants almost without exception gain their living by infringement of the law ..." (289)

However, the changes in vagrant numbers in North Yorkshire invariably coincided with fluctuations in the economy. The huge increase of vagrancy

(284) PP 1847 (32) XI Q.1763
(285) Ibid Q.1756
(286) PP 1847 (32) XI Q.1763
(287) PP 1857 (62) XI Q.1763
(288) J. H. Farnall Pk. 4/32/1867
(289) North union Pk. 23/3/1872
in the late 1840's comprised mainly Irish, who had left Ireland as a result of the famine to seek work in England, and men thrown out of work by the stoppage of railway construction in parts of the north. (290)

There were increases in vagrancy in the depression years of 1867/8, (291) the late 1870's, (292) 1885/6/7, (293) 1892/3/4, (294) and the early 1900's (295) The fall in vagrant numbers, coincident with the upturn in the economy, can be attributed more to the greater demand for workers than the success of the Poor Law Commission's deterrent measures.

Vagrancy was a problem in those unions which either had no work available and therefore attracted people in search of employment or were on the main routes from one part of the country to another, along which the migrant population tramped. Irish labourers flocked to the northern manufacturing towns in the late 1840's. In Skipton union the number of Irish relieved in the March quarter, 1847, was 399, compared with none in the same quarter of the previous year. (296) Many men travelled in search of employment on railway construction and other major building projects. In the early 1860's Knaresborough union was described as swarming with vagrants and, attributed to the construction of railways in the neighbourhood. (297) The Local Government Board

(290) HM32, 41. 27984/43 'Observations on the present state of Vagrancy' HM12, 192/1848 "... the greater part of the vagrants are undoubtedly Irish" similarly in HM12, Bedale 16/2/1847

(291) 19th Annual Report of the P.L.G.J. 1866-7 p.22


(293) 16th Annual Report of the L.G.B.J. 1872-3 p.33

(294) 15th Annual Report of the L.G.B.J. 1866-7 p.135


(296) 18th Annual Report of the P.L.G.C. 1895-6 pp. 136-7

(297) Knaresborough 5/10/1851 19/3/1862
Inspector anticipated a large increase in the number of tramps in Pateley Bridge union once the building of Bradford Water Works commenced. (298)

Seasonal farm work in the north was highly dependent on cheap, migrant Irish labour. (299) Large numbers of vagrants were attracted to the spa towns of Harrogate and Scarborough by both the demand for labourers during the busy summer season and the charitable activity of the wealthy classes frequenting the spas. In 1879 the Chief Constable of Scarborough stated that the town "had obtained a reputation as a working place, and that tramps frequently came here with a view of obtaining employment." (300)

The unions, through which the Great North Road (the main route from London to Scotland) passed, had a constant stream of travellers. The problem of destitute travellers was particularly acute in North Yorkshire, situated as it was between the manufacturing towns of the West Riding and Lancashire and the industrial and mining centres of the north-east. In 1833 Bedale and Northallerton unions relieved the fourth and sixth highest numbers of vagrants respectively in Inspector Knollys' District of Durham, Northumberland, parts of Cumberland and the North Riding. (301)

The 1834 Report took the view that vagrancy comprised chiefly professional tramps and would come to be a burden if relief, administered to the destitute only, was of a deterrent nature. (302) The details of how this was to be effected were left to the discretion of the Poor Law Commission. (303) Reform was piecemeal. There was no General Order regulating relief to vagrants till the 1870's. In 1843 the Poor Law Act, 5 & 6 Vict, c.57, enabled guardians to prescribe task work, to last not longer than five hours on the morning after admission. (304) A Poor Law Board Minute, in 1848, urged the refusal of relief to all vagrants who

(298) Pateley Bridge union DGN 26/7/1890
(299) PP.1854-59 (300) Xiii. 0,362
(300) Scarborough Xiv. 12/8/1879
(301) 10th Annual Report of the PGR, 1888-9 p.135
(302) PP.1854-59 (304) vi. 0,190-1
(303) Ibid p.104 11th recommendation
(304) 9th Annual Report of the PGR, 1843 p.4
were not destitute. (305) A circular letter in 1868-9 again stressed the importance of relieving destitution only and proposed a suitable dietary and task work and recommended the bathing of vagrants. (306)

This was consolidated in a General Order of 1871-2. (307) The Commissioners advocated a separate cell system for vagrants. The Casual Poor Act of 1882 empowered guardians to detain vagrants for two nights, though a circular letter, later sent to all unions outside London, recognised the desirability of allowing vagrants to leave early in the morning in order to have a good chance of obtaining work. (308) An Order was issued in 1892-3, allowing a casual pauper to request permission to leave the workhouse at 5.30am in the summer and 6.30am in the winter. (309)

Policy was formulated largely in response to petitions or resolutions from Boards of Guardians, urging action by the central authority to deal effectively with the increases in vagrancy. Both the Act of 11 & 12 Vict c.110 and the Commissioners' Minute on the administration of vagrant relief followed representations from various parts of the country regarding the increase in vagrant numbers. (310) Similarly, the circular letter of 1868 was in response to many complaints about vagrancy from Boards of Guardians. (311) Several North Yorkshire unions anticipated the circular letter of 1868-9, moderating the detaining powers in the 1882 Act. The Northallerton Board of Guardians felt so strongly about the need to discriminate between wayfarer and professional tramp that it sent to many North Riding unions a circular

(305) 1st Annual Report of the P.L.B. 1848 p.22
(308) 12th Annual Report of the L.G.B. 1882-3 p.49
(309) 22nd Annual Report of the L.G.B. 1892-3 p.LXXXV
(310) 1st Annual Report of the P.L.B. 1848 p.6
(311) 21st Annual Report of the P.L.B. 1868-9 p.22
suggeting that the police apply the detaining powers of the 1832 Act to the latter group only. The 'Northallerton scheme', as it was known, was adopted by several unions. (312)

The administration of vagrant relief varied considerably from union to union. There was an unwillingness by some Boards to relieve vagrants in the workhouse:

"The Guardians have not provided a vagrant ward and they are of the opinion that such provision has a tendency to encourage vagrancy." (313)

"To admit mendicant vagrants into the workhouse ... would have a tendency to diminish the comforts of the inmates." (314)

However, the main reason was financial; not only was there the cost of building vagrant wards but, until 1847, the cost of maintenance was charged to the parish where the vagrant was relieved. There was much dissatisfaction with the financial basis of poor relief, particularly from those townships, most heavily pressed with vagrant expenses:

"...Settle ... is put to an enormous expense by vagrants or trampers and though a vagrant ward is fitted up at the workhouse [in Giggleswick] ..., the vagrants are not sent there as the other Guardians wish to throw the whole expense on Settle ..." (315)

The reluctance to relieve vagrants in the workhouse diminished after 1847 when the cost of relieving vagrants was transferred to the Common Fund. In 1871 though, four unions - Pickering, Ayasgarth, Halton and Pateley Bridge - still had no vagrant wards. (316) Just as the provision of vagrant wards varied from union to union so did the exaction of task work and the nature of the relief. Union policy towards vagrants was constantly changing; work was often suspended when the numbers fell and it was not

(312) Northallerton union BGM 18/10/1832
    Easingwold union BGM 24/11/1832
    Kirkby Moorside union BGM 13/12/1832

(313) NH12 Northallerton 23/2/1848

(314) NH12 Halton 20/2/1841

(315) NH12 Settle 27/12/1843. Also NH12 Easingwold 28/4/1848
    NH12 Skipton 6/11/1837

(316) NH12 Ledley 45 19790/71.
worth the expense of employing a superintendent of labour. (317)
Alternatively, there were difficulties in exacting work when the union
was inundated with vagrants. (318) The guardians felt that the
requirement of work encouraged vagrants to stay around the workhouse
instead of getting on their way. (319) In some cases vagrants refused
to work, intimidating and assaulting workhouse officials and damaging
union property. (320)

Vagrancy had traditionally been associated with crime. Tudor
legislation dealt harshly with the vagrant; for example, 27. Henry VIII.
c. 25 (1536) stated -

"A sturdy beggar is to be whipped the first time, his right ear
cropped the second time, and if he again offend, to be sent to
the next gaol ... and if convicted shall suffer execution of
death as a felon and an enemy of the commonwealth." (321)

The unions reported many cases of insubordination and actual violence by
vagrants on poor law officials and property, particularly in the 1840's.
There was a strong body of opinion in favour of removing vagrants from
the province of the poor law to control by the police. In 1872, for
example, Reeth union forwarded to the Local Government Board a resolution
recommending that the management of vagrants be handed over to the
police. (322) Easingwold, in 1848, and Skipton, in 1855, appointed
policemen as assistant relieving officers, and in 1861 the Chief
Constable of the North Riding offered to all the unions the services of
police officers to act as assistant relieving officers, whose duties

---

(317) HM12 Ripon 16/9/1867 23/6/1870
(318) PP 1847-48 (642) L111 p. 94
(319) Richmond union BGN 22/8/1868
(320) HM12 Leyburn 9/2/1848
HM12 Bedale 19/1/1848
(321) PP 1858 (144) XXVII p. 4-6
(322) HM32 Farnall 24 4/12/1867
Reeth union BGN 23/2/1872
included giving tickets to "those applicants whom on examination he may find fit subjects for relief ..." (325) The Ticket System, whereby vagrants were issued with tickets, stating their identity, place of origin, destination, reason for travelling, which guaranteed relief at workhouses along the journey, was rejected by most North Yorkshire unions, when suggested to them by the North Riding County Council in 1894. Whitby guardians thought the system had meant "tramping made easy." (324)

At the turn of the century the North Yorkshire unions, in common with many throughout the country, were dissatisfied with the existing administration of relief to vagrants. Minute books frequently refer to petitions and resolutions urging changes in the system. The following are the recommendations forwarded to the Local Government Board in 1895 by Northallerton union —

1) insufficient uniformity in unions regarding the treatment of vagrants.
2) inadequate distinction between tramp and wayfarer.
3) Medical officer should inspect vagrants daily.
4) relief of casual poor should be paid for out of the taxes and not the rates, as the vagrants come chiefly from the larger towns. (325)

Unions also held independent investigations into the problem of vagrancy. A conference on vagrancy, attended by representatives of Boards of Guardians from Durham and the North Riding, was held in 1894 and in 1902

(323) H112 Easingwold 14/10/1898
H112 Skipton 23/1/1896
Reeth union BGH 11/1/1861

(324) Whitby union BGH 26/5/1894

(325) Northallerton union BGH 6/3/1895
Scarcbrorough union set up a committee to consider the problem of vagrancy in the East and North Ridings, recommending that "some more deterrent and uniform system should be adopted for the suppression of this existing evil ..."(326) Vagrants, therefore, differed from other groups of able-bodied paupers in that theirs was an apparently intractable problem for the poor law authorities throughout the nineteenth century. Attempts by unions to arrive at a regional solution to the vagrant problem testify to the failure of the central poor law authority to deal effectively with the migrant unemployed. Such 'co-operation' between the boards of Guardians was peculiar to this class of pauper. Whereas the poverty that existed amongst the resident population reflected economic change in the unions and was acknowledged to be the sole responsibility of individual poor law unions, the guardians did not regard vagrancy as 'their own problem'.

(326) Whitby union BGM 26/5/1894
Scarborough union BGM 21/8/1902
CHAPTER FOUR

Alternative Sources of Relief

It has been shown that in certain parts of North Yorkshire lead miners and textile workers came to constitute a depressed group within the population, especially during the first twenty years of the New Poor Law. Similarly the agricultural labourers, though not constituting a declining occupational group nevertheless experienced low and uncertain wages. The previous chapter examined the different ways in which the early Boards of Guardians, responsible for the implementation of the new law, actually coped with the problems which these groups encountered. It should not be forgotten, however, that there were other forms of relief, in addition to that available from the 'official' poor law sources, which had the effect of mitigating the poverty of these groups of workers.

1. Secondary Occupations and Supplementary Earnings.

Of the secondary occupations that of farming was the most common. In a rural environment, where traditional industries evolved over centuries, often closely linked with the agricultural economy it is not surprising that work allocation in these areas still remained diverse well into the nineteenth century. In the more highly organised less individual based rural industries - in the leadmining hamlets of Charfordale as opposed to those in Swaledale and in the mill villages as opposed to areas of domestic handloom weaving - the prevalence of agricultural activity was less important a factor in tiding men over periods of reduced employment. However, farming interests, though enabling the retention of men in industry to a later date that would
otherwise have been possible, could not halt the fall in rural population as the loss of income from rural industry forced farmers of small, unviable acreage and members of farming families to leave the area in search of alternative work.

Many miners owned or rented land and worked it as a small-holding. In the seventeenth century the fragmentation of farms in Upper Swaledale had stimulated the development of mining by creating an under-employed labour force.(1) By the nineteenth century the position was reversed, with lead-miners engaged in part-time farming. Various sources refer to the farming activities of Swaledale miners:

"The great mass of Ratepayers ... being mostly miners ... and occupying an acre or two of land each."(2)

"the miners and those who are married especially are fond of a little land, and have one or two cows."(3)

Comparing the 1831 census returns for Grinton, Reeth, Melbotts and Laker with the tithe collection for 1832, A.Raistrick wrote:

"... It is reasonable to conclude that one-third or rather more of the miners in these four townships had some sort of agricultural holding, usually with one or two cows."(4)

In Wendledale, too, "a great many of the miners have a small portion of land, and keep a cow or two."(5) In the 1871 census enumerator’s schedules for Neverley, in Pateley Bridge union, sixteen miners were also farmers; ten miners specified the acreage - with the exception of a farmer of 1½ acres, they farmed between 8 and 22 acres. However, few of

(1) A.Raistrick and B.Jennings, A HISTORY OF LEAD MINING IN THE PENNINES (1965) p.312-13
(2) HH12 Reeth 6/11/1852
(3) PP.1865 (5389) XXIV q.17723
(4) A.Raistrick and B.Jennings op cit p.314
(5) PP.1865 (5389) XXIV q.18063
the Grassington miners had gardens or land attached to their cottages."(6)
In the eighteenth century Arthur Young noted that the short working hours of leadminers enabled them to work their small-holdings.(7)
Although an eight-hour day became common practice in the nineteenth century, in Yorkshire the "normal working hours for miners were ... six days of six hours each," while "Partnerships of pickmen ... were often left to decide their own hours, and not infrequently worked an hour or two less than the standard ..."(8)

In 1871 twenty of the thirty six leadminers in Hurst hamlet, in Booth union, were also occupiers of land, ranging from 2 to 96 acres - fifteen with less than 20 acres. The figures suggest that part-time farming was an important factor in retaining men in a declining industry.

The leadmining companies recognised the value of the small-holdings in staving off destitution. Giving evidence before the Select Committee on Enclosures in 1844, Mr. Roper, a landagent in Durham and the North Riding of Yorkshire, described how, especially during the previous twenty years, the small proprietors of land had been driven off the extensive common belonging to Arkengarthdale:

"there are constant disputes as to the right they have to put stock upon it [the common], and they are continually dogging sheep, and having fights and broils; there is no end of the mischief that is going on upon that common, constant quarrels, everyone wanting to put on a larger portion than he ought to do..."(9)

"... the miners being the small occupiers of land, have felt it so impossible to contend with the larger ones, that they have taken their sheep off the common, and have given it up altogether."(10)

(6) PP.1654 (329) xxiv q.18451
(7) E. Cooper, A HISTORY OF KILDUNDEE (1973) p.50
A. Dickson and Beccumings, op. cit p.287
(9) PP.1654 (329) v q.4875
(10) Ibid q.4876
The landagent's proposal to stint the common land, so that the miners could turn out their stock with a certainty of getting an advantage from it, had the support of the mining companies: (11)

"I have been applied to by the lessees of the leadmines in that district to carry out such an arrangement, for the purpose of enabling the miners to keep cows to supply milk for their families." (12)

In contrast with the leadminers the census returns note very few linen weavers who also farmed small-holdings or had another occupation, unconnected with the linen industry. (13) However, many country weavers and mill workers probably owned a cow. The managers of New York mill in Midderdale started a cow club in 1843 "...for such of our work people and neighbours as keep one or two cows and could ill afford to lose one by sickness or accident." (14) The evidence, regarding occasional work, in the Report of the Royal Commission on Handloom Weavers, is rather contradictory. Keyser wrote:

"The weavers [in Midderdale] ... would be worse off than those in the town, but that they occasionally obtain harvest and other field work ..." (15)

whereas a Midderdale weaver commented:

"... country weavers ... are not so likely to ... earn a trifle occasionally by odd jobs of work." (16)

It seems feasible that country weavers were more accessible to seasonal and part-time farm work. Moreover, it is unlikely that Knaresborough, whose economic life, dominated by the state of the linen industry, and frequently declared to be declining in the period 1815-50, could afford such occasional employment for weavers - certainly not sufficient to

(11) Ibid p.4803 "The meaning of 'stinted pastures' in that county is, that a certain portion of land is devoted to the keeping of stock, and each person in the township is entitled to turn so many cattle upon it ..."
(12) Ibid p.4714
(13) 1851 Cens. For example, in Midderdale only 2 weavers had additional occupations while in Knaresborough there were no linen weavers recorded as having other employment. The 1851 and 1871 census returns show a similar absence of small holding or other part-time occupations by linen weavers.
(15) P.M. 1840 (H.3 - I) p.468
(16) Ibid
In a survey on farming in the North Riding in 1848, John Milburn wrote:

"... the allotment system is very prevalent from one end of the riding to the other." (17)

Their potential for alleviating distress of agricultural labourers was widely recognized. The overseers of Norton, in Malton union, where there was "an exceedingly large number of small freehold cottages, chiefly occupied by agricultural labourers, without any allotment of land to them ...", requested permission to rent eight acres of land to be let to poor people, according to the size of their family for the express purpose of "kill[ing] up their time when work is scarce and preventing then in many instances from resorting to the parish for relief." (19)

In the late nineteenth century it was found that "allotments for children ... generally approved of ..." by labourers and employers in North Yorkshire. (19) One labourer considered:

"that the land does him good, and has materially helped him to bring up a large family, has not saved as yet, but when the children are in service, he hopes to do so and thus provide for old age." (20)

Part-time agricultural work was sometimes available to other members of the family, as well as to adult men. Generally, however, there was greater opportunity of employment of women and children on the lowland farms than upland grass farms. On arable land such work included clearing land of weeds and stones, hoeing, at harvest, hay and threshing times, picking potatoes and turnips etc. Although Assistant Poor Law Commissioner,

(17) Yorkshire Agricultural Society Transactions. No.11 1848 p.206
(18) G.S. Malton 9/12/1847
(19) JP.1881 (2776 - XII) XVI p.147
(20) Ibid
Sir F.H. Doyle, in 1843, stressed the partial and uncertain nature of female employment in field work in Yorkshire, except round Goole and possibly on the Wolds, the historian, E.H. Hunt, finds no significant difference in family earnings between the south and the rural districts in the north. (21)

Outside agriculture hand-knitting was a major occupation of women, children and the elderly in Swaledale and Wensleydale. Doyle, reporting on the employment of women and children in agriculture, in 1843, wrote - in the absence of arable farms in the North Riding dales:

"... the people ... seek subsistence by indoor occupation, viz. by knitting stockings, jackets, sailors' caps etc ... A clever knitter might perhaps earn 5s in any given week by incessant toil; but on average it would require industry and skill to realise 2s.6d in that period; a child, according to its age and proficiency, earns 3d, 9d. up on to 10d in the same time." (22)

Most of the resident outdoor pensioners, comprising the elderly and infirm, listed in a return sheet by the Vestry Clerk of Harker to the Poor Law Commission in 1835, were occupied in hand-knitting. (23) In the course of the nineteenth century, as the knitting trade in the dales waned, the earnings from hand-knitting provided only a pittance for "shopping money". (24) A similar decline in handloom weaving reduced family income from this source.

Supplementary work and wages could sometimes be available for women and children even in the predominantly male-employing industries. In contrast with the lead mining districts in the northern Pennines, when,

(22) PP. 1843 (510) XII p.295
(23) MH12 Acoth 6/4/1839
In 1832-4, no women were employed at washing or dressing lead ore. In Reeth township, replies to the Rural Queries of the Royal Commission on the Poor Laws:

"Many women and children are employed in washing lead ore." (26)

In Garrick, in 1843, "A considerable number of women are employed in washing lead ore all the year." (27) Giving evidence before the Kinnaird Commission, Mr. Coates, who was in charge of the Arkindale and Fell End Mines, replied to the question, "Are there any women employed at the surface?":

"Yes, at the washings, chiefly women; the men’s labour is too dear; but nothing like so many women are employed as there used to be; some will not go to the washings at all, they will rather go to service." (28)

No women were employed at the surface in the Grassington mines. (29) In Swaledale and Arkengarthdale boys started work in the mines when they were ten or twelve years of age.

"... If a goodish man has a lad, and he is badly off, and has a large family and only his own hand labour, we generally let him take him when he will; but we generally like them to be about twelve." (30)

In the Keldheads Mine, Wensleydale, and the Grassington mines, boys did not go down the mines till they were eighteen years old, before which time they were generally employed dressing ore.

"I consider that they are better out of a mine while they are young and growing." (31)

The income of the minor’s wife and children alone could not support the family for more than a very temporary period. In 1847 the clerk of

(25) C. J. Hunt, op. cit., pp. 97-8
(26) P. 1832, (64), p. 601, Q. 11
(27) P. 1843, (310), p. 352
(28) P. 1858, (220), Q. 17252
(29) Ibid, Q. 150, 132
(30) Ibid, Q. 17250
(31) Ibid, Q. 15029
Heath union described the earnings of miners' "wives and larger children ... [from] knitting and occasional days at washing the metal..." as "trifles". (32)

During the depression in the late 1830's handloom linen weavers utilised all the family labour. The Royal Commission, 1839-41, heard that,

"A man having many children is likely to put them to the loom as soon as he can get anything by their labour."(33)

"Our general inclination is to send the children to schools, to Sunday schools, but in the week they must be employed at work."(34)

The only income relatively unaffected by the depression in the linen trade was from children working away and sending their wages home and of members of the family engaged in occupations unconnected with the linen industry, though many of these, such as service trades, also suffered in the recession of the local economy. The importance of assistance from relatives and friends in allaying destitution is suggested by the evidence of Richard Dewes, a Knaresborough weaver,

"All the workmen remaining at Knaresborough are such as are kept there by ties of family or connection, or they would certainly leave ..."(35)

While such assistance was readily available at times of individual hardship, during a severe and general depression in the textile trade, resources dwindled, especially in areas almost exclusively dependent on textile manufacture.

(32) HRI Heath 10/12/1847
(33) HRI 1840 (55) 1 L 3 p. 465
(34) Ibid p. 467
(35) Ibid p. 469
2. **Credit and Subsistence Payment, Benefit Clubs and Charity.**

Even when alternative work was not available to the more impoverished groups there were still other possible sources of income before they needed to seek poor relief from the guardians. The private resources of employers, workers and the community at large - in the form of shop credit, subsistence payments from benevolent employers, small savings and charity - could also help, though they were better suited to cases of individual hardship and temporary distress than to times of prolonged and general depression. For example, the variability of factors governing the fortunes of the miners induced tradesmen to supply provisions on credit. The period of credit, however, was limited; in 1847 the Clerk of Reeth union described how the miners "after a long continued and apparently unsuccessful trial, their credit at the small provision shops becomes exhausted, must apply to the union..."(36)

Subsistence money, paid by the mining companies, prevented many applications for temporary relief being made to the Board of Guardians:

"This [subsistence money] was paid to a miner or partnership usually every month and was meant to provide him with enough money to live on until the pay was made, when of course his total subsist was deducted."(37)

Raistrick and Jennings in their book on lead mining in the Pennines, writes:

"When there was a long interval between pays, some form of subsistence advance in money or kind seems to have been a common practice."(38)

As we have seen, in the 1830's and 1840's mining companies in Swaledale were relieved to a certain extent of the obligation to pay subsistence

(36) LR12 Reeth 10/12/1847
(37) J.R. Dickinson, *Life In the Pennines* (1972) p.71
(38) A. Raistrick and B. Jennings *op. cit* p.289
by the payment of loans and outdoor relief from the poor rates. Various expedients were devised to relieve the hardship of minors employed on 'hard bargains'. The Old Gang Company, in Swaledale, "used to make small cash allowances, 31 to 3s per month per partnership in the 1860's, or increase the bing-tale rate, or cancel the usual deductions."(39) Companies sometimes charged the miners more than the cost price for provisions in order to enable "the masters to give the cost of the candles and powder to such of the miners as do not make wages and are unfortunate in their trials."(40) There is evidence that the Knaresborough linen firm of Waltons also advanced subsist money to weavers, though how common a practice and on what sort of occasions is not known.

"Thomas Fletchers wife applies for 5/- to keep her husband and family until they get their wages. allowed 2/6d if Mr. Walton do not allow them to have any subsist money."(41)

Clothing and benefit clubs were forms of self help common to most communities in the nineteenth century. A regular subscription enabled the family to purchase clothing and bedding and receive money in the case of illness or accident. The success of benefit clubs was dependent upon a stable membership, assured of reasonably full employment. The larger mining companies, if they did not provide medical services, often started or subscribed to benefit funds. At Grassington, the largest of the Duke of Devonshire's lead mining concerns, the company contributed annually towards a club and, in the case of an accident to a miner, gave money in addition to the amount received from the club.(42) In Swaledale,

(39) A.Baistwick & B.Jennings, A HISTORY OF LEAD MINING IN NY DALE (1943) p.340
(40) GR 1836 (20/3) i. 1270 p. 1730 (15-35) p. 607
(41) GR 1834 (20/3) i. 1178; Memorandum Book 7/6/1832
(42) GR 1837 (20/3) i. 1172
(43) J. W. R. (1835) ii. 354 p. 764 "There is [in Grassington] a benefit society called the Miners Society, which is very useful, ... the annual payment is 11s, and when a man is sick he has 6s a week for one year, and if no change, 1s a week afterwards, it has been established many years, and many young men have joined it this last two years; occasionally the payments have been made out of the poor rates."
too, though there were no medical funds belonging to the smaller mining companies the managers agreed that

"if a man should happen to receive any little accident we assist him." (43)

However, a Local Government Inspector found that friendly societies, giving sickness benefit, were little known in those purely agricultural areas of North Yorkshire, where a high proportion of agricultural labourers were hired by the year. (44)

Finally, the upper classes engaged directly in charitable activity to relieve temporary distress, examples of which proliferate in the nineteenth century local newspapers. In January, 1867, inclement weather suspended nearly all outdoor employment in Grassington - "the sympathies of some of the more wealthy gentry, resident in the locality, have been called into benevolent and active operation ..." and a soup kitchen was set up and clothes provided for the poor. (45) In Knaresborough, as one of the weavers commented:

"Much good is done here by private charity, but there is much demand for it." (46)

In 1830 a public meeting, called to consider what action should be taken to relieve the distressed linen weavers, decided to apply to the Society for the Relief of the Manufacturing Poor for aid (the outcome of the application is not known) and to raise a subscription, which, within one week, amounted to £400. (47) Private subscriptions were even raised to assist weavers on strike in 1849. A local newspaper reported:

(43) PP.1864 (3723) XLI  Q.17, 726
(44) 3rd Annual Report of the LGB 1873-4 p.74
(45) Grass-Weaving Pioneer 23/1/1867
(46) PP.1869 (45 - I) XXI11 p.434
(47) Yorkshire Gazette 23/1/1830 30/1/1830
"... near three hundred individuals are now floating on the waves of charity but the tide of charitable silver which now flows is scarcely able to support them. The local gentry, tradesmen, and working classes of the town, aid them as much as can be expected, but what is this as compared with plenty of work and good wages?" (48)

The importance of charity in minimising resort to poor law relief was recognised by Inspector Culley, who did not anticipate any serious strain on poor law administration "unless private charity should fail."(49) Nevertheless, the availability of private charity could vary markedly from district to district and it was, at best, an uncertain resort.

The amount of charity was probably less extensive in the dales than in the lowland agricultural districts, where there was a larger gentry class.

In Hiddendale ... "there are many very poor ratepayers ... the farms are small and the rents in many cases much too high ..."(50) and in Audendale, too, the "great mass of ratepayers are ... very poor ..."(51)

It was, for instance, argued that the absence of a substantial, resident gentry class in the neighbourhood of Barnoldswick was a contributory factor in the great distress there in 1842.(52)

3. Political and Industrial Action

In the twentieth century measures to solve regional unemployment resulting from declining economic opportunities have become a major concern of political and trade union organisations. In nineteenth century North Yorkshire, however, organised protest by working men was spontaneous, short lived and infrequent, and, from all accounts, largely

(48) Burniston's Northern Summary October 1849
(49) 6th Annual Report of the MLP 1850 p.XIV
(50) Hoteley bridge union BMI 24/5/1861
(51) HN12 Reeth 6/11/1852
(52) HN12 Skipton 29/5/1842
unsuccessful. The textile workers in the south west of the region, adjacent to the industrial centres of the West Riding and Lancashire, were accessible to Chartist influence in the 1830's and 1840's and Chartist was alleged to be much on the increase in the textile manufacturing townships of Skipton union in 1842. Riotous proceedings at Barnoldswick during the distribution of poor relief by the Relieving Officer were attributed to the violent behaviour of a Chartist faction, who threatened to seize the poor relief funds and form their own committee to distribute the money at a rate of two shillings per head. Begging gangs made "a common practice of visiting the houses of the more respectable class of inhabitants in great numbers and behaving in a most disorderly manner till relieved - they expect money."(53) Estimates of the number of men varied - between thirty and forty to "some two or three hundred." Chartist weavers, mainly young, single men, subscribed to a London daily newspaper and The Northern Star and hired a room where nightly meetings were held. In August, 1842, at the height of the plug-drawing riots, in Skipton was "invaded by a Lancashire mob of some 3,000 persons who stopped the mills, and put the inhabitants into a state of terror ..."(54) Apart from a farcical imitation by 30 to 40 young men from Skipton there is no indication that Chartist found much active support elsewhere in the union. The Knaresborough linen weavers were also more politically active than their counterparts in the North Riding. Several of the weavers giving evidence to Keyser in 1839 expressed Chartist sentiments, for instance, attributing the depression in the linen trade to the loss of the French market, in retaliation to

(53) HH12 Skipton 29/5/1842
(54) W.H. Dawson, HISTORY OF SKIPTON (1882) p.285-8
the Corn Laws. During an election meeting in Knaresborough the weavers mobbed the farmers.

"It is some time since now; during an election some misunderstanding took place between the weavers and the farmers, and they were very violent." (55)

Possibly a rise in the price of corn exacerbated ill-feeling. Thorp, a linen manufacturer, stated:

"We find ... that wages do not always rise or fall in proportion to the price of corn." (56)

One weaver advocated universal suffrage,

"If they [the working men] were fully and properly represented in Parliament, they would have laws made for their benefit." (57)

Chartist activity amongst the weavers was probably exaggerated at the time, though the Harrogate Advertiser, reporting on a Chartist meeting, no doubt played down the extent of Chartism in a town only four miles away, for the sake of Harrogate's reputation as a genteel spa town.

"Two Chartist delegates called a meeting of the friends at Knaresborough. Very few attended, and all would have passed off flatly and quickly, had not a few respectable parties foolishly interrupted the proceedings, which led to some tumult, and caused a large crowd to congregate in the neighbourhood." (58)

The Chartists were clearly not welcome in Os moth erley, a North Riding bleaching and weaving village.

"The inhabitants were so excited that a general hissing and hooting took place ... it will be long ere the peace of Os motherley be disturbed again by any of the party." (59)

Finally it remains to be seen to what extent the poor engaged in various forms of industrial activity in order to improve their lot. The historian, C.J. Hunt, gives two reasons why the lead miners in the Northern

(55) p.10.5, (56) p.1786
(56) p.1340, (57) p.486
(57) Ibid, p.467
(58) Harrogate Advertiser, 6/7/1839
(59) Leeds Mercury, 10/4/1839
Pennines failed to create permanent trade unions.

"The leadmining areas were characterised by a stable population and a low proportion of immigrants."

"... the leadminers were not orthodox wage earners. They were selling, not their labour, but its proceeds. Strikes were a last resort." (60)

 Strikes were even less likely in Yorkshire where the absence of large mining concerns resulted in an identification of interests between the company and the miners. The histories of leadmining in Yorkshire mention only two strikes in the nineteenth century, though Sir C.J. Denys informed the Kinnaird Commission that the men would strike if the mining machinery was ineffective. (61) There was a strike by miners in Swaledale in 1841, in protest against a long delay in the payment of wages. (62) In 1875 a strike in Arkengarthdale, lasting twenty two weeks, arose over the maximum price to be paid to miners. (63) A prolonged strike occurred in the previous year in Teesdale, resulting in an increase in the subsistence money paid to miners, but there is no evidence to suggest that there was any connection between this and the Arkengarthdale strike.

In a deteriorating economic situation, such as the rural textile workers found themselves in the second quarter of the nineteenth century, where one method of manufacture or one region was competing with another, the withholding of labour and the finished product was an ineffective weapon in the battle against poverty. The linen weavers of

(60) C.J. Hunt, op. cit. p.136
(61) PP.1864 (5239) XI, IV, c.17378
"As far as you can judge ... the appliances of machinery ... are always effectual?"
"Yes; in fact, the men would not work without it, they would strike."

(62) A. Raistrick and S. Jennings, op. cit. p.289
(63) R. Hartley and J. Ingilby, op. cit. p.274
Knaresborough went on strike on two recorded occasions in the nineteenth century in order to prevent a reduction in their earnings. Both strikes demonstrated a degree of solidarity between linen weavers of Knaresborough and Barnsley, though there is no evidence of weavers elsewhere in North Yorkshire taking similar industrial action to improve their declining economic condition. In May 1823 the Barnsley weavers struck in protest against the withdrawal by the masters of a perquisite, known as the font. Some of the weavers sought work in Knaresborough. Soon after their arrival the five largest linen firms in Knaresborough announced a reduction in the wage rates. The weavers reacted by holding processions and public meetings and finally striking in July. The strike, which showed great solidarity amongst the weavers, lasted until December, when "many no doubt compelled from absolute want;" returned to work on the masters' terms. (64) Secondly, in 1849 the handloom weavers employed by Walton and Co "resolved to make a strike rather than to submit to a threatened reduction in their wages, amounting to nearly 25% ..." (65) Barnsley weavers recommended them to resist the reduction and the men contributed 3d a week each and the women and boys 1½d in support of the striking weavers. (66) The strike lasted fourteen weeks, at the end of which "an amicable arrangement" was reported to have been effected between weavers and employers, although the details are not known. (67) According to the Leeds Mercury the wages varied little from the amount received before the strike. However, there is uncertainty as to whether the reduction in wages was actual or threatened - and therefore whether

(64) B. Jennings (ed) A HISTORY OF KNAWORTH AND KNARESBOROUGH (1970) pp. 275-75
(65) Burniston's Northern Luminaries 22/8/1849
(66) Ibid. Burniston's Northern Luminaries 11/3/1849
(67) Burniston's Northern Luminaries 19/12/1849
the strike failed or succeeded in its object. Neither the Select Vestry Memorandum Book of Scriven with Tentergate nor the Minute Book of Knaresborough Select Vestry make any specific reference to the strike, nor does an examination of applications for work or relief from able-bodied men in Scriven with Tentergate reveal any increase in these months. The number of applications for relief to Knaresborough Select Vestry in October November and December, 1849 were less than in the corresponding months of 1848 (though the number of applications in 1848 were perhaps unusually high because of an outbreak of cholera). The weavers therefore endured fourteen weeks of unemployment without mass recourse to poor relief.

Unlike his counterpart in southern and eastern counties there is no evidence that agricultural labourers in North Yorkshire attempted to improve their condition by violence or threats or through unions. The North Yorkshire townships escaped the rural riots and arson that erupted in south-east England in the early 1830's, while in 1837 Revans declared that:

"... nothing can exceed the order of tranquillity which exists throughout my district ..."(68)

which was in contrast with the discontent and state of unrest in, for example, Cambridgeshire in 1846, where -

"Every parish in this neighbourhood is ... ripe for any outbreak."(69)

The only reference to agricultural workers' unions was in 1877, when Joseph Arch, replying to a meeting held at Staindrop in South Durham, promised to go to, or send a representative to Darlington to discuss the
formation of a union for South Durham and North Yorkshire, to be affiliated to the National Union. But there is no mention of the outcome and in the absence of further information it must be assumed that unionisation was a dead letter in North Yorkshire.

This chapter has illustrated briefly several of the means, other than that of poor law relief, by which the able-bodied poor were provided with an alternative or supplementary income to that obtained from their principal employment. However, in the declining industrial areas of rural North Yorkshire, the permanent solution to the twin problems of diminishing employment opportunities and falling financial rewards came, not from the poor law nor the various alternative sources, outlined above, but from the most adventurous measure of self-help—that of migration.

In the face of de-industrialisation workers seeking to improve their living conditions migrated out of the region in search of work elsewhere for, in periods of unemployment in the lead and traditional textile industries, there was little alternative work in the upland districts of North Yorkshire. The description of Reeth union as "very wild and mountainous containing many thousand acres of waste and moorland not at all inhabited ..."(1) could be applied equally to the upper regions of Hiddersdale, Wensleydale and Wharfedale. The valley farms were generally small, comprising mainly grassland and requiring only the labour of the farmer and his family.(2) Railway construction in the dales provided only temporary employment though there was potential for the absorption of redundant miners with the development of quarrying.

As shown in a previous chapter the poor law authorities financed the migration of unemployed paupers in the 1830's and 1840's as a means of reducing pauperism in the leadmining districts. However, there is evidence of considerable voluntary migration throughout the nineteenth century. The reduction in the population of Arkengarthdale from 1512 in 1821, to 1446 in 1831, was attributed to the absence of miners in search of work. Substantial numbers of leadminers and their families left the townships of Kettlewell and Starbotton in the decades 1841-51 and 1861-71, from Grassington and Hebden 1861-71, from Halton 1841-51 and Cononley 1851-61, following the failure of the leadmines. Similarly,

(1) Reeth union DGN 17/5/1861
(2) PP.1857-84 (4048) XVII p.94
the unproductiveness and closure of the lead mines in Reeth union — resulted in the migration of miners at various times throughout the century — from Grinton 1831-41, Harrick 1841-51-61, Muker 1851-61-71, Reeth 1861-71, culminating in the 33% reduction in population between 1881-91, consequent upon the collapse of the lead trade. Falls in population in Down Stonethack, Ayasyarth, Carperby cum Thoresby and Burton cum Halden were attributed to the migration of miners following the failure and closure of the mines. In the period between the two major depressions in the lead trade, when the main cause of unemployment was the exhaustion of local mines, miners often moved to another mine or field. In 1843 a half yearly report on the lead mines of Greenhow Hill stated:

"a greater number of men being employed, who have flocked to the mine from others in the neighbourhood, most of them being poor."(3)

There was little immigration into the lead mining region of Yorkshire in the nineteenth century. The Kimmaird Commission heard that upper Swaledale had a declining population:

"People have left the district?" — "Yes."

"And none have come to it?" — "None have come to it."(4)

West Litton, in Leyburn union, was the only township where an increase in population was attributed to the opening of a lead mine. In times of general depression in the lead trade and increasingly in the second half of the century, as the number of mines diminished, many miners left the industry altogether, either migrating overseas or to the manufacturing and coal/iron ore mining districts. Nearly thirty houses in Grassington were unoccupied as a result of the depression in the

(3) Backhouse LSS p.1 21/12/1843

(4) PR1366 (3586) K.17 17389 17390
leadminers in the 1830's -

"Many (of the miners) went off to America ..." (5)

A Swaledale diarist, James Alderson Clarkson, reported that fifty individuals from the dale had passed through Hawes on their way to Liverpool in one week in spring 1845. (6) During the depression forty years later, in Swaledale -

"A large number of the leadminers, who have been thrown out of employment by the closing of the leadmines, have emigrated ..." and "For many years past the leadmining industry of Swaledale has been on the wane, and numbers of families have emigrated from that district, going in search of other employment." (7)

According to A. Raistrick, writing about the 1830's:

"The main movement from the Yorkshire fields ... was into the textile or mixed textile-coal districts of Lancashire and the West Riding." (8)

while H. Hartley and J. Ingilby found that many of the leadminers of Arkengarthdale in the last decades of the century -

"left ... to go to Durham, where the connection still remains rather than with the industrial West Riding or Lancashire." (9)

(5) PP.1834 (44) XXVIII p.764
(6) E. Cooper, MEN OF SWALEDALE (1960) pp.32-33
(7) Ripon and Richmond Chronicle 6/9/1834 18/12/1836
(9) H. Hartley and J. Ingilby THE YORKSHIRE DALES (1963) p.276

A brief account of a leadminer's working life illustrates the variety of ways in which a miner coped with the problems of unproductive mines and the final collapse of the lead industry in the 1830's. The miner belonged to an old Swaledale family, dating back to the early 17th. Starting as a coal miner in Tan Hill, in Wuker chapelry, he was for many years employed at the Boldi Hill leadmines. In 1864 he went to Barnardia with a Newcastle leadmining company. Two years later he was back working at the Mukerside mines. In 1869 he mined for a short time in Wensleydale, then worked as a labourer on the construction of the dale's railway. When completed he returned to mine at Wuker but scarcity of work led him to move to Westmoreland in the employ of the London Lead Company. His final move was in 1881 - to work in the cotton mills in Lancashire.

Source: A Raistrick, WUKERS AND MINERS OF SWALEDALE (1955) pp.12-13
Migration, combined with diminished entry into handloom weaving, enabled the contraction of the industry in the second half of the century to occur without causing undue distress in the handloom weaving sector. Prior to c.1850, however, though the migration of handloom weavers in the years of depression was on a sufficiently large scale to be noted by several enumerators in their returns to the central census authorities, it could not relieve the problems of the declining handloom weaving sector entirely. The substitution of power for hand-weaving was blamed for the decrease in the populations of several cotton manufacturing townships in north west Yorkshire. Falls in the population of Dent, Arncliffe, Barton, Couling, between 1841-51, and of Dent, Barton, Salterforth, Couling, Cononley, Bradleys Both, between 1841-61, were attributed specifically to the decline of handloom weaving. In several other townships in Settle and Skipton unions 'want of employment', which forced families to move away, probably reflected the declining state of the handloom weaving sector; their destination was invariably the 'manufacturing districts'. Handloom weavers and their families were stated to have left linen centres in Northallerton and Stokesley unions between 1841 and 1851 'in search of employment' in 'more prosperous localities'. The number of empty houses in Knaresborough was indicative of the extent of migration from the town in the 1830's and 1840's; in 1835 about 400 houses were estimated to be empty and in 1859 150, while it was reported in 1844 that "empty houses are numerous".

The Assistant Commissioner, enquiring into the condition of linen weavers in Knaresborough was told:

(10) J Axworthy's Advertiser 8/6/1844

(11) J Axworthy's Advertiser 8/6/1844
"Many weavers... are daily quitting... to seek employment as weavers elsewhere." (12)

"This falling off [in population] is attributed to the weavers leaving Knaresborough, and going to Barnsley and other places." (13)

As the above quotes suggest the weavers retained their usual occupation and moved principally to the "more congenial clime of Black Barnsley". (14) However, with the general decline of the linen industry and the expansion of industrial, urban centres in the north, weavers increasingly left the industry altogether. (15) Several families from Hutton Rudby went to Middlesbrough, while in spring 1848, "the tide of emigration" was reported to be "flowing throughout Nidderdale. Within the past month, numbers of artisans and farm labourers have left the scenes of their nativity in this romantic vale in hope of bettering their condition in the 'far west'." (16)

For migration confined to the industrial sector of North Yorkshire. After 1851 the population of many agricultural townships, which had been steadily increasing in the previous half century, fell; the loss of population was generally attributed to the agricultural depression, emigration and movement of families to manufacturing districts in search of employment. (17) In the 1860's and 1870's migration of

(12) PP.1850 (43-4) M111 p.488
(13) 105d. p.485
(14) Emigrant's Northern Journal March 1850
In the mid 1860's "Barnsley engaged an additional two hundred weavers who had left Knaresborough in search of more regular work."
(15) See Appendix II
Also PP.1852-3 (1632) LXXXV Div.IX
Registration Districts of Stokesley and Northallerton.
(16) Husbaye's Advertiser 6/5/1848
(17) PP.1852-3 (1632) LXXXV Div.IX
In Registration District of Knaresborough - Marton, Little Ouseburn, Thorp Underwoods.
    Ripon - several townships
    Scarborough - "
    Malton - Yostow sub-district; Hovingham
    Easingvold - Easingvold subdistrict:
    Newburgh, Rugby.
    Thirsk - Sutton, Knayton, Topcliffe.
    Leyburn - Nealcy W. Sutton, Leilby
    Kirkby Mal Herbert, Kirkby Lonsdale.
    Kirkby Mal Herbert - Lastingham, Kirkby Lonsdale.
    Kirkby Mal Herbert - Lastingham, Kirkby Lonsdale.
    Kirkby Mal Herbert - Lastingham, Kirkby Lonsdale.
agricultural labourers was in response both to reduced demand for labour locally and higher wages that could be earned elsewhere. (18) One destination was the Cleveland iron mines:

"The better wages, as compared with the agricultural wages have brought a very respectable class of agricultural labourers ..." (19)

With the decline in the population of rural North Yorkshire, in the course of the nineteenth century, the population became a more aged one. Again, the change in age structure was more marked in the former lead mining and textile unions: for example, in Keeth union the proportion of the population under 15 years - 40.6% in 1851 - had fallen to 32.4% by 1891 - while the proportion of the population aged 60 and above had risen from 7.6% to 10.9%. This is in contrast with the agricultural union of Malton, where, in the same period the proportions changed little - the under 15 years formed 36.3% and 35.5% of the population in 1851 and 1891 respectively and the over 60's = 9.2% and 9.9%. (20)

(18) PP.1862 (2756) L___ Div.IX
PP.1872 (676 - 1) L XVI Div.LX
1871. Registration District of Great Ouseburn - Horton le Clay, Upper Junksforth, Branton Green, Boroughbridge.
Nipon - Baldersby, Dishforth.
Scarborough - Polkton, Gris Thorpe, Leuberston, Willerby, Shorburn.
Helmley - Ambleforth St. Peter.
Northallerton - Subdistrict Appleton upon Wisk, Northallerton.
Malton - Knapton, Wintretringham, Thorpe Bassett, Scagglethorpe,
Thirsk - Leppington, Westow, Hemethorpe.
Saxingvold - Nuby, Stillington, Craik, Raskelf, Flavith,
Tholthorpe, Culston.
Thorak - Topcliffe, Pickhill, Mickley, Haunby, Newby Wisk, Subdistrict of Catton.
Bedale - Subdistrict Nasham.
Leyburn - " Midaleham.
Aysgarth - Rainbridge.
Richmond - Scorton, Uckerby, Bolton upon Swale, Gayles, Dalton,
Hawesworth.

(19) PP.1857 (241) X1 Q_4700
(20) See Appendix II Table 1
The following is a more detailed examination of the process of deindustrialisation as reflected in the changing labour force of the linen weaving industry. In the course of the nineteenth century there was both reduced entry into and increased movement out of the industry by younger men. The number of weavers with young families diminished and the number of older men, with no dependents, save perhaps a wife, increased. (21) The earnings from handloom weaving, often insufficient for the maintenance of a large, young family, were more likely to be adequate for the needs of a single man or aged couple, especially if supplemented by a grown up family or poor relief. It is possible to conclude that, apart from the depressions of the 1850's and 1840's, migration enabled a balance to be maintained between the financial returns from handloom weaving and the financial requirements of the workforce. In the course of the nineteenth century, as the number of handloom weavers declined so their average age increased. (22) The trend was most marked in Nidderdale; the number of weavers fell from 240 in 1841 to a mere 27 in 1871 - the corresponding increase in their average age was from 41.9 to 68.0 years. In Bishopside, however, where approximately half of the Nidderdale weavers resided, the average age was slightly lower - 38.1 in 1841 and 61.5 in 1871. There was a similar rise in the average ages and reduction in the numbers of weavers in the handloom weaving townships of Appleton Wiske and Hutton Hudby, though the lower average age in 1841 compared with Nidderdale, suggests that the decline of hand weaving in Nidderdale had started earlier and progressed further in 1841. The increase in the average age of weavers in Brompton and Knaresborough was less marked than in the smaller, 

(21) See Appendix O
(22) See Appendix D Table 2
exclusively handloom weaving townships. This was partly due to the presence of powerloom weavers, whose average age tended to be lower than that of handweavers. (23) Owing to the failure of enumerators to consistently distinguish between power and handloom weavers an accurate count of the average age of hand weavers can not be made. I counted all male weavers in Knarosborough in five-yearly age groups excluding those specifically described as powerloom weavers; the most numerous age group was 15-30 years in 1841, 35-50 years in 1851, 40-55 years in 1861 and 55-70 years in 1871. The results obtained in this way indicate a more marked ageing weaving population between 1841 and 1871 than do the average of all male weavers. (24)

The poor law material would suggest that, once the resources of self-help and charity had become exhausted, - except in the years of depression in the 1830's and 1840's "when widespread unemployment existed side by side with low wages", (25) - the poor migrated before the need to apply for poor relief became imperative. Even though the various communities in the region retained an optimism in the future fortunes of their industry and so opposed migration - (the textile manufacturing districts for example, argued that distress was caused by the low price of the finished product and not over production and that the industrious weavers would migrate, leaving behind "the idle and impotent", (26) and without weavers "we must give up the trade" - and - "joy go with it". (27) - many weavers still opted to move to other employment outside North Yorkshire. The extent of distress relieved

(23) In 1861 in Osbotherley the average age of handloom weavers was 58.4 years while that of powerloom weavers was 29.8.
(24) See Appendix II Table 3
(26) P.P. 1834 (124) XXXIV p.627 Q.46
(27) P.P. 1842 (124) XXXIII p.627 Q.40
by the guardians gradually diminished, until by the second half of the century, able-bodied pauperism was minimal, not only in the agricultural unions but also in areas of declining industrial activity. The gradual disappearance of able-bodied pauperism, as market forces were allowed to operate without interference from poor law relief in the form of allowances in aid of wages, would seem therefore to represent a vindication of the principles of '1834'. That the workhouse deterred applications for able-bodied relief and encouraged men to seek work rather than accept maintenance as the only form of relief available can not be denied. The abhorrence of the workhouse, shared by all classes of the poor, is clearly illustrated in the case of an elderly, outdoor pauper in North union, who

"lives in a most miserable and neglected condition", having "had hitherto that horror and dread of the Union House that he refused to go in ..." (24) He having all alone decided he would rather die than go." (26)

Yet as the preceding chapters have shown, the New Poor Law, as envisaged by the advocates of 'less eligibility', can not take the entire credit for the reduction in and eventual absence of an underemployed, subsidised labour force in North Yorkshire. Orders compelling the administration of indoor relief were not implemented for several years after 1834 and, indeed, in a number of unions, outdoor relief to the able-bodied was never disallowed. Nevertheless, by the late nineteenth century, able-bodied pauperism was as rare in these unions as in those operating under the Prohibitory Order. Even in these declining industrial areas, during the early years of the New Poor Law, outdoor, able-bodied relief was not a permanent feature of poor law administration but coincided with periods of depression in the economy generally, when work elsewhere was similarly restricted, whereby both putting a brake on migration out

(24) North union. Man 8/1/1864.
(25) Leyburn 17/1/1863. Of 28 unemployed men in Bolton parish, some of whom applied to the overseer for relief, not a single one applied to the Board of Guardians for relief, following the Poor Law Commission's practice to allow the parish to raise outdoor relief from the rates on their insistence on the workhouse for these men.
of the declining areas and causing a proportion of non-resident families to return to their place of settlement and so swell the number of unemployed. Moreover, though it was originally intended that responsibility for the abolition of outdoor relief would rest solely with the central poor law authority, in practice, much discretion as to the form of relief remained with the local authorities. Even if the policy of 'less eligibility' had been fully implemented, with none of the loopholes that did exist, the supplementation of labourers' wages by voluntary agreement amongst ratepayers would still have been possible - yet there is no indication that it was resorted to except on isolated occasions in the worst years of economic depression. It was circumstances peculiar to the region rather than implementation of the principles of '1834', that realised the aims of '1834'. Unlike the expanding urban districts and the agricultural counties of the south and east, dependent on seasonal employment of labour, the poor law authorities were not faced with a seemingly intractable problem of pauperism amongst the able-bodied. Reduced entry into the declining industries, combined with movement out, resulted in a diminishing reservoir of able-bodied pauperism in North Yorkshire. As it became clear that the process of deindustrialisation was irreversible the objectives of the guardians corresponded with those of the central poor law authority; there was little temptation to spend ratepayers' money in order to retain a surplus population, particularly since alternative employment was readily accessible within relatively short migrating distance from traditional industrial areas. The workhouses can therefore be regarded as irrelevant to and, as non-able paupers formed an increasing proportion of the total, inappropriate for the problems of poverty in North Yorkshire. The success of the now Poor Law lay in the gradual introduction and incomplete implementation of the
law, reflecting an ability and willingness of the central administrators to compromise and adapt to local conditions, while retaining a limited but persistent degree of coercion and persuasion, without which undoubtedly, outdoor relief and the retention of men in declining occupations would have continued longer.
Appendix A - A map showing the unions of North Yorkshire
### APPENDIX B - Table 1. Population of North Yorkshire unions, 1831-1901

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Union</th>
<th>1831</th>
<th>1841</th>
<th>1851</th>
<th>1861</th>
<th>1871</th>
<th>1881</th>
<th>1891</th>
<th>1901</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Aysgarth</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>5,649</td>
<td>5,472</td>
<td>4,482</td>
<td>4,746</td>
<td>4,506</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bedale</td>
<td>8,348</td>
<td>8,596</td>
<td>8,972</td>
<td>8,650</td>
<td>8,430</td>
<td>8,270</td>
<td>8,228</td>
<td>8,436</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ensingwold</td>
<td>8,010</td>
<td>11,323</td>
<td>11,450</td>
<td>10,148</td>
<td>10,011</td>
<td>9,533</td>
<td>8,857</td>
<td>9,909</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Holmsley</td>
<td>11,207</td>
<td>12,010</td>
<td>6,832</td>
<td>6,093</td>
<td>6,056</td>
<td>5,919</td>
<td>5,626</td>
<td>5,176</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kirkby H. tide</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>5,932</td>
<td>5,624</td>
<td>5,739</td>
<td>5,661</td>
<td>5,514</td>
<td>5,093</td>
<td>4,791</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Leyburn</td>
<td>10,497</td>
<td>9,957</td>
<td>10,057</td>
<td>10,104</td>
<td>8,705</td>
<td>8,323</td>
<td>7,635</td>
<td>6,748</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Malton</td>
<td>20,951</td>
<td>21,949</td>
<td>23,129</td>
<td>23,482</td>
<td>22,082</td>
<td>23,027</td>
<td>21,662</td>
<td>20,454</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Northallerton</td>
<td>16,459</td>
<td>12,575</td>
<td>12,460</td>
<td>12,174</td>
<td>11,626</td>
<td>11,884</td>
<td>11,272</td>
<td>11,590</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pickering</td>
<td>9,473</td>
<td>10,253</td>
<td>9,978</td>
<td>10,547</td>
<td>12,737</td>
<td>10,678</td>
<td>10,474</td>
<td>10,059</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reeth</td>
<td>7,020</td>
<td>6,756</td>
<td>6,822</td>
<td>6,195</td>
<td>5,370</td>
<td>4,717</td>
<td>3,217</td>
<td>2,520</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Richmond</td>
<td>17,927</td>
<td>13,475</td>
<td>13,643</td>
<td>13,456</td>
<td>13,555</td>
<td>13,458</td>
<td>12,655</td>
<td>11,726</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scarborough</td>
<td>17,920</td>
<td>21,305</td>
<td>24,611</td>
<td>30,424</td>
<td>36,556</td>
<td>43,265</td>
<td>46,049</td>
<td>51,110</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stokesley</td>
<td>9,618</td>
<td>9,046</td>
<td>8,665</td>
<td>10,381</td>
<td>10,750</td>
<td>12,009</td>
<td>11,119</td>
<td>11,247</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thirsk</td>
<td>12,013</td>
<td>12,639</td>
<td>12,760</td>
<td>12,299</td>
<td>12,168</td>
<td>12,840</td>
<td>12,183</td>
<td>12,710</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Whitby</td>
<td>19,382</td>
<td>20,100</td>
<td>21,595</td>
<td>23,634</td>
<td>25,791</td>
<td>26,409</td>
<td>24,407</td>
<td>21,743</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gt. Ouseburn</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>12,167</td>
<td>11,532</td>
<td>11,698</td>
<td>11,955</td>
<td>12,064</td>
<td>9,574</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Knarlsborough</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>19,473</td>
<td>17,176</td>
<td>19,078</td>
<td>22,634</td>
<td>27,158</td>
<td>40,504</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pantley Br.</td>
<td>7,686</td>
<td>7,999</td>
<td>7,580</td>
<td>9,534</td>
<td>8,686</td>
<td>8,944</td>
<td>7,761</td>
<td>8,040</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ripon</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>15,993</td>
<td>15,742</td>
<td>15,967</td>
<td>16,447</td>
<td>16,058</td>
<td>15,529</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Selby</td>
<td>4,711</td>
<td>4,856</td>
<td>4,574</td>
<td>4,396</td>
<td>4,990</td>
<td>4,079</td>
<td>4,040</td>
<td>3,935</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Settle</td>
<td>14,322</td>
<td>14,096</td>
<td>13,762</td>
<td>12,529</td>
<td>15,134</td>
<td>13,802</td>
<td>14,071</td>
<td>14,319</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Skipton</td>
<td>25,283</td>
<td>28,736</td>
<td>28,764</td>
<td>28,590</td>
<td>32,400</td>
<td>37,094</td>
<td>38,948</td>
<td>45,261</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

cont'd
Appendix B - Table 1 - cont'd

The decennial figures must be treated with caution — account should be taken of changes in the size of the union. When union boundaries were altered the central poor law authority made the necessary changes to the population statistics in their Annual Reports by subtracting or adding the population of the detached or annexed township from or to the union total. Thus, by comparing the population figures in the Annual Returns it is possible to locate the year and the extent of the changes in population as a result of alteration in union size; these changes are marked from a to p, in the Table. There were several insignificant differences in union population in the intercensal years in the second half of the nineteenth century, which have been omitted from the Table. Where population changes occurred in the intercensal years, but there is no evidence of any corresponding alteration in union size, it is probable that the union boundaries were altered as a result of the Divided Parishes Acts, 1876, 1879 and 1882, Local Government Acts of 1888 and 1894 and the inclusion of extra-parochial places following the Act of 1868, 31 and 32, Vict. c. 122.

a - In 1869 Bedale gained several townships - Burton upon Ure, Burdrell with Couling, Clifton upon Ure, Rockwith, Thirn, Carthorpe.
b - 1895 Union Boundary Alterations (UBA)
c - 1895 UBA
d - In 1849 Helmsley lost Kirkby Moor'side, Great and Little Edstone, Fadmoor, Farnsdale (low quarter), Gillimoor, Bransdale West, Muscoates, Newton, Northolme, Skiplam, Nulburn, Wombleton, Hutton, East and West Farnsdale, Runington.
e - In 1849 Kirkby Moor'side gained Appleton le Moors, East and West Ness, Hormanby, Salton, Thornton Risborough.
f - In 1869 Leyburn lost Burrell, Burton upon Ure, Thirn, Rockwith, Clifton upon Ure.
Appendix I - Table 1 - cont'd

g - In 1069 Halton lost Salton, East and West Hess.
h - In 1079 Walthallerton lost Langthorne, Bedale, Aiskew, Crakohall, Firby, Rand Grange, Ainderby Myres, Backforth, Millersby, Thornton Watlass, Kirkby Fleetham, Scruton.
i - In 1069 Pickering lost Appleton le Moors, Thornton Riseborough, Normanby.
j - In 1070 Richmond lost Arkengarthdale, Ellerton Abbey, Grinton, Parrick, Kesth.
k - In 1075 Stokesley gained Picton, Yarm, Castle Leavington, Kirk Leavington, High and Low Worsall, and lost Hemlington and Barton.
l - 1095 UB A
m - 1085 UB A
n - In 1084 Paton Bridge gained Firstrith, Clint, Bishop Thornton.
o - 1085 UB A
p - In 1081 Skipton gained Sleden.

APPENDIX B - Table 2. Population of some of the major towns in North England, 1831-1901. (in 1,000s)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Town</th>
<th>1831</th>
<th>1841</th>
<th>1851</th>
<th>1861</th>
<th>1871</th>
<th>1881</th>
<th>1891</th>
<th>1901</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bradford</td>
<td>44</td>
<td>67</td>
<td>104</td>
<td>106</td>
<td>146</td>
<td>183</td>
<td>216</td>
<td>230</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Halifax</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>66</td>
<td>74</td>
<td>90</td>
<td>105</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Huddersfield</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>70</td>
<td>82</td>
<td>95</td>
<td>95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Leeds</td>
<td>123</td>
<td>152</td>
<td>172</td>
<td>207</td>
<td>259</td>
<td>309</td>
<td>366</td>
<td>429</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Blackburn</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>47</td>
<td>63</td>
<td>76</td>
<td>101</td>
<td>120</td>
<td>128</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bolton</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>51</td>
<td>61</td>
<td>70</td>
<td>83</td>
<td>105</td>
<td>115</td>
<td>168</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Liverpool</td>
<td>202</td>
<td>286</td>
<td>376</td>
<td>444</td>
<td>493</td>
<td>553</td>
<td>518</td>
<td>585</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Manchester</td>
<td>182</td>
<td>235</td>
<td>303</td>
<td>359</td>
<td>351</td>
<td>341</td>
<td>505</td>
<td>544</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oldham</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>43</td>
<td>53</td>
<td>72</td>
<td>83</td>
<td>111</td>
<td>131</td>
<td>137</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Preston</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>51</td>
<td>70</td>
<td>83</td>
<td>85</td>
<td>97</td>
<td>108</td>
<td>113</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wigan</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>39</td>
<td>46</td>
<td>55</td>
<td>61</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Middlesbrough</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>55</td>
<td>76</td>
<td>91</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Newcastle</td>
<td>54</td>
<td>70</td>
<td>88</td>
<td>109</td>
<td>128</td>
<td>145</td>
<td>186</td>
<td>215</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sunderland</td>
<td>39</td>
<td>43</td>
<td>65</td>
<td>78</td>
<td>98</td>
<td>117</td>
<td>131</td>
<td>146</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

APPENDIX B - Table 3. Population of the town and union of Scarborough, 1831 - 1901.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>1831</th>
<th>1841</th>
<th>1851</th>
<th>1861</th>
<th>1871</th>
<th>1881</th>
<th>1891</th>
<th>1901</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Scarborough T (with Falsgrave)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8,760</td>
<td>10,048</td>
<td>12,915</td>
<td>18,377</td>
<td>24,259</td>
<td>30,504</td>
<td></td>
<td>33,776</td>
<td>38,161</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scarborough union</td>
<td>17,920</td>
<td>21,305</td>
<td>24,611</td>
<td>30,924</td>
<td>36,556</td>
<td>43,265</td>
<td>46,449</td>
<td>51,110</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

...
### APPENDIX B - Table 4

Population of the townships and parishes in
Knaresborough union, 1801 - 1901

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Township</th>
<th>1801</th>
<th>1811</th>
<th>1821</th>
<th>1831</th>
<th>1841</th>
<th>1851</th>
<th>1861</th>
<th>1871</th>
<th>1881</th>
<th>1891</th>
<th>1901</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Hilton with</td>
<td>1,199</td>
<td>1,583</td>
<td>1,924</td>
<td>2,812</td>
<td>3,372</td>
<td>3,434</td>
<td>4,563</td>
<td>6,775</td>
<td>9,279</td>
<td>13,143</td>
<td>19,283</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Harrogate</td>
<td>759</td>
<td>814</td>
<td>1,324</td>
<td>1,426</td>
<td>1,376</td>
<td>1,387</td>
<td>1,893</td>
<td>2,547</td>
<td>3,355</td>
<td>7,300</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Penall</td>
<td>3,388</td>
<td>4,542</td>
<td>5,265</td>
<td>5,296</td>
<td>4,678</td>
<td>4,879</td>
<td>4,848</td>
<td>4,818</td>
<td>5,065</td>
<td>5,331</td>
<td>7,730</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Knaresborough</td>
<td>462</td>
<td>485</td>
<td>519</td>
<td>545</td>
<td>599</td>
<td>569</td>
<td>746</td>
<td>654</td>
<td>673</td>
<td>671</td>
<td>809</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Killinghall</td>
<td>814</td>
<td>853</td>
<td>1,373</td>
<td>1,598</td>
<td>1,435</td>
<td>1,413</td>
<td>1,426</td>
<td>1,360</td>
<td>1,431</td>
<td>1,411</td>
<td>1,656</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sivron</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brompton</td>
<td>146</td>
<td>175</td>
<td>226</td>
<td>248</td>
<td>201</td>
<td>241</td>
<td>235</td>
<td>184</td>
<td>162</td>
<td>130</td>
<td>155</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Burton Leonard</td>
<td>352</td>
<td>433</td>
<td>518</td>
<td>593</td>
<td>455</td>
<td>457</td>
<td>507</td>
<td>450</td>
<td>431</td>
<td>374</td>
<td>363</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Farnham</td>
<td>139</td>
<td>192</td>
<td>161</td>
<td>149</td>
<td>170</td>
<td>137</td>
<td>165</td>
<td>146</td>
<td>155</td>
<td>118</td>
<td>129</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Follescliffe</td>
<td>424</td>
<td>397</td>
<td>382</td>
<td>391</td>
<td>365</td>
<td>382</td>
<td>347</td>
<td>321</td>
<td>326</td>
<td>278</td>
<td>311</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ferensby</td>
<td>86</td>
<td>96</td>
<td>110</td>
<td>133</td>
<td>112</td>
<td>122</td>
<td>86</td>
<td>106</td>
<td>117</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>98</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Flesby</td>
<td>66</td>
<td>59</td>
<td>76</td>
<td>98</td>
<td>102</td>
<td>117</td>
<td>76</td>
<td>81</td>
<td>81</td>
<td>53</td>
<td>53</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pilkington</td>
<td>273</td>
<td>222</td>
<td>293</td>
<td>327</td>
<td>353</td>
<td>367</td>
<td>419</td>
<td>404</td>
<td>496</td>
<td>487</td>
<td>593</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Goldeborough</td>
<td>177</td>
<td>177</td>
<td>195</td>
<td>167</td>
<td>239</td>
<td>246</td>
<td>260</td>
<td>210</td>
<td>211</td>
<td>225</td>
<td>177</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Haughton-Haughton</td>
<td>459</td>
<td>418</td>
<td>490</td>
<td>445</td>
<td>455</td>
<td>461</td>
<td>533</td>
<td>448</td>
<td>497</td>
<td>390</td>
<td>472</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Haverah Park</td>
<td>71</td>
<td>76</td>
<td>87</td>
<td>98</td>
<td>101</td>
<td>103</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>84</td>
<td>64</td>
<td>71</td>
<td>272</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hild</td>
<td>144</td>
<td>120</td>
<td>86</td>
<td>110</td>
<td>114</td>
<td>114</td>
<td>219</td>
<td>173</td>
<td>166</td>
<td>171</td>
<td>178</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Flampton</td>
<td>191</td>
<td>190</td>
<td>206</td>
<td>221</td>
<td>229</td>
<td>207</td>
<td>330</td>
<td>250</td>
<td>291</td>
<td>253</td>
<td>236</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thirlestine</td>
<td>270</td>
<td>275</td>
<td>251</td>
<td>270</td>
<td>253</td>
<td>283</td>
<td>321</td>
<td>306</td>
<td>291</td>
<td>230</td>
<td>287</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scotton</td>
<td>220</td>
<td>237</td>
<td>252</td>
<td>292</td>
<td>298</td>
<td>297</td>
<td>259</td>
<td>242</td>
<td>215</td>
<td>168</td>
<td>190</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thurlstone</td>
<td>217</td>
<td>216</td>
<td>232</td>
<td>243</td>
<td>226</td>
<td>247</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Walkington</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
APPENDIX B - Table 5. Population of the townships and parishes in
Skipton union. 1861 - 1901

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>1801</th>
<th>1811</th>
<th>1821</th>
<th>1831</th>
<th>1841</th>
<th>1851</th>
<th>1861</th>
<th>1871</th>
<th>1881</th>
<th>1891</th>
<th>1901</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Skipton</td>
<td>2,305</td>
<td>2,866</td>
<td>3,411</td>
<td>4,181</td>
<td>4,842</td>
<td>5,044</td>
<td>5,454</td>
<td>6,078</td>
<td>9,091</td>
<td>10,376</td>
<td>11,986</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Barnoldswick</td>
<td>769</td>
<td>892</td>
<td>1,334</td>
<td>1,682</td>
<td>1,849</td>
<td>1,938</td>
<td>2,810</td>
<td>3,187</td>
<td>4,028</td>
<td>4,131</td>
<td>6,582</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thornton in</td>
<td>1,202</td>
<td>1,546</td>
<td>1,829</td>
<td>2,246</td>
<td>2,354</td>
<td>2,202</td>
<td>2,112</td>
<td>2,053</td>
<td>2,322</td>
<td>2,770</td>
<td>4,411</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Craven</td>
<td>1,323</td>
<td>1,608</td>
<td>1,904</td>
<td>2,137</td>
<td>2,346</td>
<td>2,508</td>
<td>2,582</td>
<td>2,714</td>
<td>3,329</td>
<td>3,866</td>
<td>4,304</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Silsden</td>
<td>533</td>
<td>694</td>
<td>787</td>
<td>989</td>
<td>1,052</td>
<td>1,320</td>
<td>1,475</td>
<td>1,570</td>
<td>1,629</td>
<td>1,942</td>
<td>2,397</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Glusburn</td>
<td>1,197</td>
<td>1,471</td>
<td>1,570</td>
<td>2,179</td>
<td>1,753</td>
<td>1,558</td>
<td>1,859</td>
<td>1,838</td>
<td>2,163</td>
<td>2,225</td>
<td>2,144</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cowling</td>
<td>1,140</td>
<td>1,349</td>
<td>1,870</td>
<td>2,249</td>
<td>2,458</td>
<td>2,305</td>
<td>1,815</td>
<td>1,928</td>
<td>1,901</td>
<td>1,828</td>
<td>1,925</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carleton</td>
<td>845</td>
<td>1,002</td>
<td>1,218</td>
<td>1,265</td>
<td>1,242</td>
<td>1,333</td>
<td>1,506</td>
<td>1,676</td>
<td>1,691</td>
<td>1,644</td>
<td>1,605</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saltersforth</td>
<td>398</td>
<td>503</td>
<td>686</td>
<td>725</td>
<td>675</td>
<td>573</td>
<td>423</td>
<td>396</td>
<td>391</td>
<td>487</td>
<td>615</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bradleys Both</td>
<td>385</td>
<td>412</td>
<td>506</td>
<td>614</td>
<td>557</td>
<td>571</td>
<td>442</td>
<td>487</td>
<td>514</td>
<td>542</td>
<td>609</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Appletreewick</td>
<td>244</td>
<td>309</td>
<td>312</td>
<td>425</td>
<td>467</td>
<td>305</td>
<td>354</td>
<td>358</td>
<td>281</td>
<td>229</td>
<td>250</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bank Newton</td>
<td>68</td>
<td>102</td>
<td>139</td>
<td>125</td>
<td>129</td>
<td>120</td>
<td>106</td>
<td>87</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>90</td>
<td>92</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Barden</td>
<td>191</td>
<td>206</td>
<td>219</td>
<td>214</td>
<td>212</td>
<td>208</td>
<td>371</td>
<td>382</td>
<td>391</td>
<td>173</td>
<td>133</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Beamsley</td>
<td>276</td>
<td>310</td>
<td>312</td>
<td>279</td>
<td>235</td>
<td>239</td>
<td>264</td>
<td>209</td>
<td>215</td>
<td>195</td>
<td>235</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bolton Abbey</td>
<td>120</td>
<td>105</td>
<td>127</td>
<td>112</td>
<td>127</td>
<td>109</td>
<td>122</td>
<td>142</td>
<td>169</td>
<td>142</td>
<td>142</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brackwell</td>
<td>173</td>
<td>185</td>
<td>176</td>
<td>160</td>
<td>153</td>
<td>157</td>
<td>140</td>
<td>115</td>
<td>105</td>
<td>130</td>
<td>115</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brodgen</td>
<td>189</td>
<td>158</td>
<td>233</td>
<td>229</td>
<td>219</td>
<td>179</td>
<td>122</td>
<td>105</td>
<td>110</td>
<td>120</td>
<td>98</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Buckden</td>
<td>280</td>
<td>326</td>
<td>382</td>
<td>309</td>
<td>387</td>
<td>304</td>
<td>335</td>
<td>333</td>
<td>297</td>
<td>239</td>
<td>236</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Burnsall</td>
<td>289</td>
<td>272</td>
<td>329</td>
<td>242</td>
<td>284</td>
<td>251</td>
<td>253</td>
<td>206</td>
<td>188</td>
<td>155</td>
<td>142</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Calton</td>
<td>98</td>
<td>89</td>
<td>76</td>
<td>79</td>
<td>79</td>
<td>75</td>
<td>56</td>
<td>52</td>
<td>59</td>
<td>75</td>
<td>54</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coates</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>158</td>
<td>97</td>
<td>88</td>
<td>101</td>
<td>138</td>
<td>122</td>
<td>131</td>
<td>99</td>
<td>70</td>
<td>98</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cold Coniston</td>
<td>342</td>
<td>257</td>
<td>345</td>
<td>336</td>
<td>242</td>
<td>289</td>
<td>238</td>
<td>266</td>
<td>337</td>
<td>392</td>
<td>279</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coniston</td>
<td>182</td>
<td>151</td>
<td>137</td>
<td>162</td>
<td>172</td>
<td>178</td>
<td>160</td>
<td>186</td>
<td>179</td>
<td>116</td>
<td>141</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cononley</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>1,159</td>
<td>1,272</td>
<td>905</td>
<td>1,012</td>
<td>829</td>
<td>881</td>
<td>786</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Curacee</td>
<td>191</td>
<td>162</td>
<td>179</td>
<td>150</td>
<td>153</td>
<td>159</td>
<td>139</td>
<td>135</td>
<td>127</td>
<td>91</td>
<td>117</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Draughton</td>
<td>175</td>
<td>246</td>
<td>279</td>
<td>223</td>
<td>211</td>
<td>188</td>
<td>178</td>
<td>173</td>
<td>178</td>
<td>204</td>
<td>205</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E. Halton</td>
<td>152</td>
<td>170</td>
<td>141</td>
<td>144</td>
<td>120</td>
<td>91</td>
<td>94</td>
<td>78</td>
<td>277</td>
<td>85</td>
<td>102</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Esslack</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>188</td>
<td>132</td>
<td>112</td>
<td>80</td>
<td>82</td>
<td>92</td>
<td>80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Embssay</td>
<td>623</td>
<td>692</td>
<td>861</td>
<td>891</td>
<td>962</td>
<td>948</td>
<td>1,028</td>
<td>1,104</td>
<td>1,167</td>
<td>940</td>
<td>1,022</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ashton</td>
<td>84</td>
<td>63</td>
<td>69</td>
<td>82</td>
<td>74</td>
<td>84</td>
<td>81</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>64</td>
<td>76</td>
<td>93</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Farnhill</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>459</td>
<td>581</td>
<td>464</td>
<td>490</td>
<td>561</td>
<td>655</td>
<td>626</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

cont'd
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Village</th>
<th>1801</th>
<th>1811</th>
<th>1821</th>
<th>1831</th>
<th>1841</th>
<th>1851</th>
<th>1861</th>
<th>1871</th>
<th>1881</th>
<th>1891</th>
<th>1901</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Flasby</td>
<td>120</td>
<td>150</td>
<td>134</td>
<td>143</td>
<td>140</td>
<td>124</td>
<td>113</td>
<td>110</td>
<td>120</td>
<td>163</td>
<td>98</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gargrave</td>
<td>728</td>
<td>897</td>
<td>972</td>
<td>1,062</td>
<td>1,176</td>
<td>1,214</td>
<td>1,403</td>
<td>1,291</td>
<td>1,287</td>
<td>1,296</td>
<td>1,267</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grassington</td>
<td>763</td>
<td>892</td>
<td>983</td>
<td>1,067</td>
<td>1,056</td>
<td>1,138</td>
<td>1,015</td>
<td>830</td>
<td>617</td>
<td>480</td>
<td>494</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hartlington</td>
<td>105</td>
<td>120</td>
<td>141</td>
<td>118</td>
<td>96</td>
<td>76</td>
<td>107</td>
<td>95</td>
<td>82</td>
<td>61</td>
<td>71</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hazelwood</td>
<td>181</td>
<td>208</td>
<td>209</td>
<td>221</td>
<td>220</td>
<td>202</td>
<td>185</td>
<td>181</td>
<td>173</td>
<td>173</td>
<td>148</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hebden</td>
<td>341</td>
<td>402</td>
<td>377</td>
<td>491</td>
<td>480</td>
<td>460</td>
<td>435</td>
<td>362</td>
<td>313</td>
<td>209</td>
<td>199</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hetton</td>
<td>172</td>
<td>212</td>
<td>180</td>
<td>176</td>
<td>191</td>
<td>187</td>
<td>155</td>
<td>164</td>
<td>142</td>
<td>142</td>
<td>119</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kettlewell</td>
<td>634</td>
<td>361</td>
<td>663</td>
<td>673</td>
<td>685</td>
<td>607</td>
<td>646</td>
<td>498</td>
<td>378</td>
<td>513</td>
<td>283</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kildwick</td>
<td>208</td>
<td>216</td>
<td>175</td>
<td>190</td>
<td>189</td>
<td>206</td>
<td>170</td>
<td>161</td>
<td>160</td>
<td>145</td>
<td>146</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Linton</td>
<td>186</td>
<td>294</td>
<td>313</td>
<td>343</td>
<td>303</td>
<td>352</td>
<td>284</td>
<td>179</td>
<td>127</td>
<td>117</td>
<td>158</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Netfield</td>
<td>101</td>
<td>179</td>
<td>210</td>
<td>206</td>
<td>210</td>
<td>229</td>
<td>133</td>
<td>211</td>
<td>177</td>
<td>145</td>
<td>127</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Norton</td>
<td>322</td>
<td>348</td>
<td>382</td>
<td>443</td>
<td>381</td>
<td>341</td>
<td>256</td>
<td>237</td>
<td>235</td>
<td>270</td>
<td>234</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ripston</td>
<td>177</td>
<td>192</td>
<td>145</td>
<td>115</td>
<td>121</td>
<td>123</td>
<td>107</td>
<td>118</td>
<td>130</td>
<td>136</td>
<td>123</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stirton</td>
<td>134</td>
<td>149</td>
<td>168</td>
<td>170</td>
<td>132</td>
<td>182</td>
<td>127</td>
<td>180</td>
<td>157</td>
<td>163</td>
<td>194</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Threshfield</td>
<td>201</td>
<td>184</td>
<td>237</td>
<td>212</td>
<td>221</td>
<td>271</td>
<td>177</td>
<td>186</td>
<td>167</td>
<td>119</td>
<td>124</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Broughton</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>219</td>
<td>203</td>
<td>162</td>
<td>188</td>
<td>177</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The table above lists the population figures for various villages from 1801 to 1901.
**APPENDIX B - Table 6. Population of the townships in Sedbergh union, 1801 - 1901**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>1801</th>
<th>1811</th>
<th>1821</th>
<th>1831</th>
<th>1841</th>
<th>1851</th>
<th>1861</th>
<th>1871</th>
<th>1881</th>
<th>1891</th>
<th>1901</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sedbergh T.</td>
<td>1,639</td>
<td>1,805</td>
<td>2,022</td>
<td>2,214</td>
<td>2,268</td>
<td>2,235</td>
<td>2,346</td>
<td>1,983</td>
<td>2,268</td>
<td>2,374</td>
<td>2,450</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Garsdale T.</td>
<td>571</td>
<td>648</td>
<td>679</td>
<td>657</td>
<td>681</td>
<td>709</td>
<td>618</td>
<td>911</td>
<td>602</td>
<td>535</td>
<td>429</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dent T.</td>
<td>1,773</td>
<td>1,663</td>
<td>1,782</td>
<td>1,840</td>
<td>1,887</td>
<td>1,630</td>
<td>1,427</td>
<td>2,096</td>
<td>1,209</td>
<td>1,131</td>
<td>1,076</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
APPENDIX C. A Survey of the printed census occupation tables.

There are problems in making a quantitative analysis of regional changes in occupational structure in the nineteenth century because of the absence of a consistent set of statistical abstracts. As the North Yorkshire region includes parts of the North and West Ridings the relevant tables are those based on unions but these exist only for the census years, 1851, 1861, 1871, and give the occupations of men and women, aged twenty and above. The occupation abstracts are based on the County/Riding and Boroughs in 1841 and, on the Riding and Urban Sanitary Districts in 1861 and Registration Counties in 1891 and 1901. The 1871 occupation abstracts are not as detailed as the two previous census abstracts. In 1851 and 1861 the occupations listed are:

Class 1. Persons engaged in the general or local government of the country.

2. Persons engaged in the defence of the country.

3. " " " learned professions.

4. " " " literature, fine arts, science.

5. " " " domestic offices.

6. " " " entertaining, clothing and performing personal services for man.

7. Persons who buy, sell, keep, lend money, houses, goods of various kinds.

8. Persons engaged in conveyance of men, animals, goods, messages.

9. Persons possessing or working the land and engaged in growing grain, fruit, grasses, animals and other products.

10. Persons engaged about animals.

11. " " " in art and mechanic productions.

12. " " working and dealing in animal substances.

13. " " " " " vegetable "

14. " " " " " mineral "

cont'd
Class 15. Labourers and others. Branch of labour undefined.

16. Persons of rank or property not returned under any office or occupation.

17. Persons supported by community and of no specified occupation.

In 1871 the occupations listed were only six:

1. Professional class.
2. Domestic.
3. Commercial.
4. Agricultural.
5. Industrial.
6. Indefinite and non productive.
### Table 1. Textile mills in the North Yorkshire (the West Riding) unions in 1836.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Union</th>
<th>Township</th>
<th>Cotton</th>
<th>Horsted</th>
<th>Wool</th>
<th>No. of Hands employed</th>
<th>Population 1831</th>
<th>%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Settle</td>
<td>Arncilffe Parish</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>213</td>
<td>14.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Bolton</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2,179</td>
<td>2,627</td>
<td>12.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Ingleton</td>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>1,228</td>
<td>9.0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Langcliffe</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
<td>250</td>
<td>35.6</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Settle</td>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1,627</td>
<td>23.0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Skipton</td>
<td>Addingham Par.</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>389</td>
<td>2,179</td>
<td>18.0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Skireholme</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>95</td>
<td>242</td>
<td>39.2</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Hartington</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>52</td>
<td>115</td>
<td>42.2</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Karnoldswick</td>
<td>4</td>
<td></td>
<td>142</td>
<td>1,602</td>
<td>9.0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Gargrave</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>247</td>
<td>1,032</td>
<td>23.7</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Airton</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td>30</td>
<td>179</td>
<td>22.1</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Kettellworth</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td>22</td>
<td>873</td>
<td>3.2</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Grassington</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td>159</td>
<td>74</td>
<td>13.0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Linton</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td>28</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>7.0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Skipton</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>426</td>
<td>4,161</td>
<td>10.9</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Amblesay c Eastby</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>212</td>
<td>891</td>
<td>24.5</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sedbergh</td>
<td>Sedbergh</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>189</td>
<td>2,214</td>
<td>8.6</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Bent</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>8</td>
<td>1,970</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pateley</td>
<td>Kenwith c Darley</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
<td>23</td>
<td>742</td>
<td>3.0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bridge</td>
<td>Thornton c Padaide</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td>75</td>
<td>304</td>
<td>24.7</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Fountains Garth</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td>18</td>
<td>413</td>
<td>4.3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Harthwaith</td>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
<td>159</td>
<td>973</td>
<td>17.7</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Beversley</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
<td>44</td>
<td>1,310</td>
<td>3.5</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Bishopside</td>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
<td>125</td>
<td>1,843</td>
<td>6.6</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Bishop Thornton</td>
<td>5</td>
<td></td>
<td>123</td>
<td>614</td>
<td>3.7</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Knaresborough</td>
<td>Scotton</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td>69</td>
<td>312</td>
<td>22.4</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Birstwith</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>91</td>
<td>747</td>
<td>12.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Knaresborough</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td>209</td>
<td>page torn</td>
<td>3.9</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Plumpton</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td>64</td>
<td>221</td>
<td>28.9</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Great Guseburn</td>
<td>Staveley</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td>18</td>
<td>330</td>
<td>5.4</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ripon</td>
<td>Galfay</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td>11</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Nickley</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td>75</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Bishop Monkton</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
<td>38</td>
<td>576</td>
<td>6.3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Bishopston</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td>85</td>
<td>113</td>
<td>72.5</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Tinkelsy</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td>59</td>
<td>259</td>
<td>22.6</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Source:** [1855, p. 138] E.Y.

The percentages are based on the estimates of the numbers of mill workers and the 1831 populations, both of which are cited in the table (with the exception of three townships where the population was torn out). However, it should be borne in mind that all the workers did not necessarily reside in the township in which the mill was situated.
APPENDIX D - Table 2. The number of textile mills and the size and age structure of the factory labour force in North Yorkshire parishes in 1839.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Textile Manufactured</th>
<th>Union</th>
<th>Parish(1)</th>
<th>No. of Mills</th>
<th>Under 21 yrs</th>
<th>Over 21 yrs</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Male</td>
<td>Female</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cotton</td>
<td>SKIPTON</td>
<td>Linton</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Burnscall</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>49</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Kettlewell</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Kirkby</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>55</td>
<td>60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Halham</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Garvagh</td>
<td>(2)4</td>
<td>185</td>
<td>240</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Skipton</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>St Mary le Coll</td>
<td>(2)4</td>
<td>185</td>
<td>240</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Darnoldswick</td>
<td></td>
<td>4</td>
<td>49</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SETTLE</td>
<td></td>
<td>Bentham</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>41</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Thornton</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Arncliffe</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Gingleswick</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>159</td>
<td>161</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SEDBERGH</td>
<td></td>
<td>Sedbergh</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>52</td>
<td>73</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Hampsthwaite</td>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KNARLBROUGH (3)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VORSTED</td>
<td>SKIPTON</td>
<td>Burnscall</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Linton</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>43</td>
<td>115</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Garvagh</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Skipton</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WOOLEN</td>
<td>SEDBERGH</td>
<td>Sedbergh</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Nynaghtar</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FLAX</td>
<td>STOCKBY</td>
<td>Stokeley</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>49</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Whitby</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>NORTHALLERTON</td>
<td>Canby</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Ummotherley</td>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>SETTLE</td>
<td>Lonther</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>69</td>
<td>152</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

cont'd
### Appendix D - Table 2 - Cont'd

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Textile Manufactured</th>
<th>Union</th>
<th>Parish(1)</th>
<th>No. of Hills</th>
<th>Under 21 yrs</th>
<th>Over 21 yrs</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Male Female</td>
<td>Male Female</td>
<td>Male Female</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Flax cont'd</td>
<td>RIPON (3)</td>
<td>Kirkby Halzeard</td>
<td>7 73 130 29</td>
<td>66</td>
<td>298</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Bishop Monkton</td>
<td>1 2 3</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Ripon</td>
<td>6 148 159 45</td>
<td>83</td>
<td>435</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GREAT OUSEBURGH</td>
<td></td>
<td>Staveley</td>
<td>1 4 1</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KNARESBOROUGH</td>
<td></td>
<td>Knaresborough</td>
<td>2 59 67 12</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>142</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Spofforth</td>
<td>1 11 20 4</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>50</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Hampsthwaite</td>
<td>1 9 7</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DELALE</td>
<td></td>
<td>Hasham</td>
<td>1 32 41 20</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>122</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: PP.1839 (41). 111

(1) Parish boundaries were not always coterminous with union boundaries.
(2) 3 mills not working.
(3) Unions of Ripon, Knaresborough, Great Ouseburn and Rysgarth were not formed until 1852, 1854, 1854 and 1869 respectively.
The number of male weavers, aged 20 years and above, in the unions of Stokesley, Pateley Bridge, Northallerton and in the town of Knaresborough in 1841, '51, '61 and '71.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>1841</th>
<th>1851</th>
<th>1861</th>
<th>1871</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Stokesley</td>
<td>171</td>
<td>101</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pateley Bridge</td>
<td>240</td>
<td>133</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Northallerton</td>
<td>366</td>
<td>314</td>
<td>253</td>
<td>236</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Knaresborough</td>
<td>359</td>
<td>242</td>
<td>184</td>
<td>121</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
APPENDIX E - Table 2. The number of male linen weavers, aged 20 years and above, in the townships comprising Pateley Bridge, Stokesley, Northallerton union and the town of Knaresborough, in 1841, '51, '61 and '71. (1)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>UNION - Township</th>
<th>1841</th>
<th>1851</th>
<th>1861</th>
<th>1871</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>PATELEY BRIDGE</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bishopside</td>
<td>135</td>
<td>61</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kenwith with Darley</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Greats (2)</td>
<td>-25</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thruscross</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Darlton</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thortonwaite</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bishop Thornton</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stonebeck Down (1841-3) Fountains</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Earth (1841-1)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hampsthwaite (3)</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Felliscliffe (3)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>STOKESLEY</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rutterby</td>
<td>34(4)</td>
<td>64</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stokesley</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ch. Cookton and Boughton v. N. Side</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ayton</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chariton</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nadby</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grathorne (1841-4) Ch. Faceby</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>NORTHALLERTON</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brompton</td>
<td>192</td>
<td>183</td>
<td>162</td>
<td>170</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Appleton Wide</td>
<td>78</td>
<td>70</td>
<td>52</td>
<td>39</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Osathorpey</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>43</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Borrowby</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Northallerton</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>43</td>
<td>-3</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oldfield</td>
<td>-5</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>West Newton</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hornby</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Malbury</td>
<td>-2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ellerbeck</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>KNARESBOROUGH TOWN</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20 years and over</td>
<td>359</td>
<td>242</td>
<td>104</td>
<td>121</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Below 20 years</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>394</td>
<td>274</td>
<td>206</td>
<td>133</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of adult males with no recorded occupation in 1841</td>
<td>45</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(1) The number of adult male linen weavers as a % of the adult male population has not been given as the printed census returns do not give the number of males, aged 20 and over, in individual townships.

(2) 1841 census schedules for Darce are missing.

(3) Some Knaresborough union in 1854.

(4) Includes 14 weavers, who could have been linen weavers of either linen or sailcloth.
Table 3: Adult male weavers as a percentage of the total population of the principal linen weaving townships in 1841.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Township</th>
<th>No. of male weavers aged 20+</th>
<th>Total Population</th>
<th>%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Hutton Rugby</td>
<td>87</td>
<td>1,037</td>
<td>8.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bishopside</td>
<td>135</td>
<td>1,937</td>
<td>6.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Drompton</td>
<td>192</td>
<td>1,535</td>
<td>12.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Appleton Viske</td>
<td>78</td>
<td>559</td>
<td>13.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conisbrough</td>
<td>53</td>
<td>1,029</td>
<td>5.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scriven with Textergate and Acresborough</td>
<td>359</td>
<td>6,113</td>
<td>5.8</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Obviously the actual size of the weaving population was much higher; the 1841 schedules generally recorded the occupations of heads of households and adult men only, though even these were occasionally omitted.

(1) The 1841 census abstracts do not give an age/sex breakdown of the populations of individual townships.
### APPENDIX F - Table 1.

The number of weavers - both sexes, all ages - (distinguishing where possible, cotton and worsted weavers) in the townships comprising Settle union, in 1841, '51, '61 and '71.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Townships</th>
<th>1841</th>
<th>1851</th>
<th>1861</th>
<th>1871</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lakeland</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Otterburn</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Malton Gill</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hawskirk</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thornton in Lonsdale</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Swinden</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Halton</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sceatrop</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stanforth</td>
<td>2 CJ</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Airton</td>
<td>3 CJ</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>West Halton</td>
<td>9 CJ</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tosside</td>
<td>10 CJ</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hellifield</td>
<td>12 CJ</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Norton in Ribblesdale</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(18 (1.1752))</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arncliffe</td>
<td>cotton</td>
<td>(PLC)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>labourers</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kirkby Halton</td>
<td>4 CJ</td>
<td>1 CU</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ingleton</td>
<td>4 U</td>
<td>1 CU</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rathmell</td>
<td>4 CJ</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Burton in Lonsdale</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>1 CU</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gigglesworth</td>
<td>23 CJ</td>
<td>8(2HL14)</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clapham</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(13CJ, 14)</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kappa</td>
<td>(13CJ, 14)</td>
<td>(5CJ, 14)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Austwick</td>
<td>92</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(67 (20 HL10))</td>
<td>79</td>
<td>6 CU</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(33 CJ, 32 CJ)</td>
<td>(33 CJ)</td>
<td>(32 CJ)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(30 CJ, 26 CJ)</td>
<td>43</td>
<td>5 WA CU</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Long Preston</td>
<td>34 CU</td>
<td>41</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(34 CU)</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>(11 CU, 1766)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(5 Delaine)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Langcliffe</td>
<td>63</td>
<td>59</td>
<td>all cotton mill</td>
<td>all cotton mill</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(50, 55, 540)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(45, 50)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(1k CJ)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Giggleswick</td>
<td>73</td>
<td>53</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>2 former HL1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(40, 53, 55)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(45, 52)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(10, 11)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(9, 20, 21)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Settle</td>
<td>123</td>
<td>171</td>
<td>51</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(105, 106, 113)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(135, 136)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(12HL, 135, 146)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(4, 15)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(6HL, 25HL)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(1) Abbreviations: N - none, W - weaver, C - cotton, W - worsted, HL1 - cotton handloom weaver, PLC - cotton power loom weaver.
APPENDIX - Table 2. The number of weavers and wool combers - both sexes, all ages - in the townships comprising Skipton union in 1851.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SKIPTON UNION</th>
<th>Hand loom weavers</th>
<th>Power loom weavers</th>
<th>Weavers</th>
<th>Wool Combers</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Thornton in Craven</td>
<td>2,065</td>
<td>1,452</td>
<td>223</td>
<td>565</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cowling</td>
<td>602</td>
<td>176</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cononley</td>
<td>669</td>
<td>46</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Skipton</td>
<td>174</td>
<td>263</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carleton</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>112</td>
<td>154</td>
<td>63</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Barnoldswick</td>
<td>61</td>
<td>241</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alasburn</td>
<td>91</td>
<td>263</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>37</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saltersworth</td>
<td>197</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Addingham</td>
<td>73</td>
<td>69</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>156</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bradleys Bath</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>181</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Backhill</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>121</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Castlefield</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>39</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cragrove</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Croftsea</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>156</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aldinack</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>156</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aldwick village</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coates</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bottlecull</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bracewell</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Buckay</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Norton</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sumsall</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Applestracewick</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>East Hallow</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Larden</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Irton v Thoralby</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Beasby</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Braughton</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bolton Abbey</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hardston</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hasso Wood</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hilton</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hetton</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

No weavers or woolcombers recorded in Flasby with Winterburn, Carlton, Ashto, Backen, Coniston Bold, Bank Heton, Coniston with Allacey, Broughton, Draces, Sacrley.
### Table 1. Total tonnage of dressed lead ore produced at Yorkshire mines, 1873 - 1900.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Tonnage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1873</td>
<td>4,906</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>74</td>
<td>4,901</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>75</td>
<td>4,049</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>76</td>
<td>4,199</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>77</td>
<td>5,011</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>78</td>
<td>5,918</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>79</td>
<td>5,152</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1880</td>
<td>6,975</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>81</td>
<td>4,171</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>82</td>
<td>4,513</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>83</td>
<td>3,269</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>84</td>
<td>2,621</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>85</td>
<td>3,129</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>86</td>
<td>5,767</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>87</td>
<td>3,173</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>88</td>
<td>2,629</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>89</td>
<td>2,096</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1890</td>
<td>1,665</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>91</td>
<td>1,499</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>92</td>
<td>1,282</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>93</td>
<td>1,293</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>94</td>
<td>1,139</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>95</td>
<td>675</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>96</td>
<td>479</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>97</td>
<td>716</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>98</td>
<td>1,156</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>99</td>
<td>1,059</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1900</td>
<td>655</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(1910)</td>
<td>(197)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: *Victoria History of the County of York, Vol. II* pp. 975-6
Table 2. The number of leadminers, aged 20 years and above, in the unions of Keelth, Skipton, Patley Bridge, Leyburn, and Nysgarth in 1841, '51, '61 and '71. (1)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Union</th>
<th>No: of leadminers 20+ yrs</th>
<th>No: of males, 20+ yrs</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ALBSTH</td>
<td>703</td>
<td>326</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>703</td>
<td>313</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>649</td>
<td>1435</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SKIPTON</td>
<td>248</td>
<td>280</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>313</td>
<td>217</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PATLEY BRIDGE</td>
<td>-(2)</td>
<td>188</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>201</td>
<td>135</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>6923</td>
<td>2249</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LEYBURN</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>159</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>159</td>
<td>73</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2290</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PATLEY BRIDGE</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>37</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>36</td>
<td>27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1560</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(1) The totals of leadminers are approximate because, as 1851 (1861 in Leyburn union) was the only census year that the census enumerators' schedules for all the townships in each union were examined, any leadminers in 1841, '61 and '71, in townships having no, or only a few, leadminers in 1851 (1861 in Leyburn union), will not be included.

(2) The enumerators' schedules for the principal mining township in Patley Bridge union are missing.
The number of leadminers, aged 20 years and above, in the principal leadmining townships of Keoth, Skipton, Pateley Bridge, Leyburn and Aysgarth unions in 1841, '51, '61 and '71.

(Incudes figures in 1841 relate to the number of men, aged 20+, who were not given an occupation by the enumerator. The bracketed figures in 1851, '61 and '71 indicate the number of leadminers below the age of 20.)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Poor Law Union</th>
<th>Townships</th>
<th>1841</th>
<th>1851</th>
<th>1861</th>
<th>1871</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>No: leadminers 20+ yrs</td>
<td>(58)</td>
<td>(122)</td>
<td>(125)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NORTHERN</td>
<td></td>
<td>Total Population</td>
<td>1,633</td>
<td>1,561</td>
<td>1,622</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>No: leadminers 20+ yrs</td>
<td></td>
<td>(45)</td>
<td>(69)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Total Population</td>
<td>1,243</td>
<td>1,283</td>
<td>1,147</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arkengarthdale</td>
<td></td>
<td>No: leadminers 20+ yrs</td>
<td>(54)</td>
<td>(46)</td>
<td>(28)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Total Population</td>
<td>1,241</td>
<td>1,321</td>
<td>1,005</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>No: leadminers 20+ yrs</td>
<td>(16)</td>
<td>(41)</td>
<td>(32)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NUKER CHURCH</td>
<td></td>
<td>Total Population</td>
<td>1,343</td>
<td>1,344</td>
<td>1,299</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>No: leadminers 20+ yrs</td>
<td></td>
<td>(18)</td>
<td>(12)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Total Population</td>
<td>594</td>
<td>598</td>
<td>611</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KEETH</td>
<td></td>
<td>No: leadminers 20+ yrs</td>
<td>(23)</td>
<td>(21)</td>
<td>(21)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Total Population</td>
<td>648</td>
<td>555</td>
<td>462</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(1) Includes 16 miners  
(2) Includes 8 miners  
(3) Includes 25 miners

A Township of Helbecks includes hamlets of Blades, Barf End, Peckham, Sunnyside, Kearton, Lodge Green, Lou Row, Futing, Cinsering, Scotch, Smearl.

B Chapelry of Nuker includes hamlets of Angram, Birkdale, Calvert House, Aith, Ivelet, Cold & Thorn, Nuker, Uxno, Rampsholme, Wed, Lawesgate, Seliron, Spring End, Stonoakland, Thwite, Pt of Foul Hill.

C Keeth Township includes hamlets of Fremington and Healsofa.

D Grinton Township includes hamlets of Harkerside, Cogden, Whioteadise, Cracknot.

E Parish of Harrick includes hamlet of Hurst.

cont'd
### Poor Law Union Townships

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Township</th>
<th>Total Population</th>
<th>1841</th>
<th>1851</th>
<th>1861</th>
<th>1871</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Grassington T.</td>
<td>Total Population</td>
<td>1,056</td>
<td>1,138</td>
<td>1,015</td>
<td>830</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>No: leadminers 20+ yrs</td>
<td>113</td>
<td>87</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>59</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reuben T.</td>
<td>Total Population</td>
<td>480</td>
<td>460</td>
<td>435</td>
<td>362</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>No: leadminers, 20+ yrs</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>58</td>
<td>45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Appletreewick T.</td>
<td>Total Population</td>
<td>467</td>
<td>305</td>
<td>354</td>
<td>358</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>No: leadminers 20+ yrs</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kettlewell T.</td>
<td>Total Population</td>
<td>685</td>
<td>607</td>
<td>646</td>
<td>496</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>No: leadminers 20+ yrs</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>52</td>
<td>47</td>
<td>52</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Starbotton</td>
<td>Total Population</td>
<td>(1)</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>6(2)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>No: leadminers 20+ yrs</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>6(2)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cononley T.</td>
<td>Total Population</td>
<td>1,159</td>
<td>1,272</td>
<td>905</td>
<td>1,012</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>No: leadminers 20+ yrs</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>49</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>12(5)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(1) Total population is for Kettlewell with Starbotton township.
(2) 2 were miners
(3) All 12 were recorded as miners.

### Patent Bridges

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Township</th>
<th>Total Population</th>
<th>1841</th>
<th>1851</th>
<th>1861</th>
<th>1871</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sacre cum Beverley T.</td>
<td>Total Population</td>
<td>1,329</td>
<td>1,265</td>
<td>1,297</td>
<td>1,137</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>No: leadminers, 20+ yrs</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>(52)</td>
<td>(23)</td>
<td>(15)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bishopside T.</td>
<td>Total Population</td>
<td>1,937</td>
<td>1,662</td>
<td>2,052</td>
<td>2,167</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>No: leadminers 20+ yrs</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(1) No census enumerators' schedules survive.

cont'd
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Poor Law Union</th>
<th>1941</th>
<th>1951</th>
<th>1961</th>
<th>1971</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><em>Leadhall</em></td>
<td>Total Population</td>
<td>200</td>
<td>273</td>
<td>440</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>No: Leadminers 20+ yrs</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>47</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Castle Bolton</em></td>
<td>Total Population</td>
<td>250</td>
<td>240</td>
<td>259</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>No: Leadminers 20+ yrs</td>
<td>19(1)</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Preston</em></td>
<td>Total Population</td>
<td>315</td>
<td>407</td>
<td>434</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>No: Leadminers 20+ yrs</td>
<td>9(3)</td>
<td>53</td>
<td>35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>West Witton</em></td>
<td>Total Population</td>
<td>594</td>
<td>550</td>
<td>239</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>No: Leadminers 20+ yrs</td>
<td>0(9)</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>42</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(1) Includes 9 miners

(2) Comprises 4 leadminers and 14 miners

---

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Place</th>
<th>Total Population</th>
<th>1941</th>
<th>1951</th>
<th>1961</th>
<th>1971</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><em>Calverby</em></td>
<td>Total Population</td>
<td>394</td>
<td>242</td>
<td>345</td>
<td>263</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>No: Leadminers 20+ yrs</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
APPENDIX H. DATES OF FORMATION OF NORTH YORKSHIRE UNIONS AND INTRODUCTION OF THE PROHIBITORY ORDER AND REGULATION ORDER.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>UNION</th>
<th>Date of (1) Formation</th>
<th>Date of (2) Introduction of Prohibitory Order</th>
<th>Date of (3) Introduction of Regulation Order</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AYSGARTH</td>
<td>2. 2.69</td>
<td>1869</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BEDALE</td>
<td>20. 5.39</td>
<td>1841</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BASHINGHOLD</td>
<td>20. 2.37</td>
<td>1841</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GREAT OUSEBURN</td>
<td>8. 6.54</td>
<td>1855</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HELLSLEY</td>
<td>10. 2.37</td>
<td>1852</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KIRKBY MOORSIDE</td>
<td>6. 3.46</td>
<td>1852</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MAERSBOROUGH</td>
<td>25. 5.34</td>
<td>1855</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LEYBOURNE</td>
<td>22. 2.37</td>
<td>1841</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LAXTON</td>
<td>12. 1.37</td>
<td>1841</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NORTHALLERTON</td>
<td>23. 2.37</td>
<td>1862</td>
<td>1852</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PATELEY BRIDGE</td>
<td>12. 2.37</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>1852</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PICKERING</td>
<td>10. 1.37</td>
<td>1841</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RICHMOND</td>
<td>27. 4.40</td>
<td>1842</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RIPON</td>
<td>4. 3.37</td>
<td>1855</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SARKBOROUGH</td>
<td>10. 1.37</td>
<td>1841</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SKELTON</td>
<td>1. 1.37</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>1852</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SKITTEN</td>
<td>14. 1.37</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>1852</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>STOCKBOUGH</td>
<td>27. 3.37</td>
<td>1852</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>THIRSK</td>
<td>21. 2.37</td>
<td>1841</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UNITBY</td>
<td>8. 1.36</td>
<td>1841</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


(3) 5th Annual Report of the P.U.C. 1852, p.10
Dame all honest men who have causes to pay
Let your care be attention to what I shall say,
Your view Vestry Law, restrictions and rules
Are left a parcel of asses and fools.

May worse than all that the intent upon evil.
Their works prove they are in league with the devil.
These human informals, their masters surpass
In planning out evil while drinking the glass.

Yet who could have thought it could enter their brains
As only such men as had hold of the reins,
This business most surely has hatched in hell
Do take from the prayer, their prayer books to sell.

Oh, Dick was diverted their tricks to behold
While gathering the trapsticks, or humps, to be sold
And Jenny, that sly fox along with his cue
Seized hold of their fury, the poor people to rob.

These hard-hearted monsters pursuing their plan
Seized clocks, sir, and cupboards and irying pan,
Fire-irons, hand-irons, kitchen table and all,
With various articles they made up the whole.

It is strange, sir, indeed, that all these wiseacres
Themselves should demean, and so be partakers,
Churchwardens and members of Vestry combine
To accomplish an object that was not divine.

Source: Cooper, *A History of Swaledale (1973)*

*pp. 4-5*
### Annual Poor Relief Expenditure, 1860-99, in South Union

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Total Cost of Relief to the Poor</th>
<th>Outdoor Relief</th>
<th>Inmaintenance</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1860</td>
<td>1,618</td>
<td>1,052</td>
<td>148</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1861</td>
<td>1,615</td>
<td>931</td>
<td>189</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1862</td>
<td>1,551</td>
<td>990</td>
<td>170</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1863</td>
<td>1,587</td>
<td>929</td>
<td>187</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1864</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1865</td>
<td>1,662</td>
<td>1,064</td>
<td>178</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1866</td>
<td>1,692</td>
<td>1,030</td>
<td>162</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1867</td>
<td>1,720</td>
<td>1,110</td>
<td>199</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1868</td>
<td>1,820</td>
<td>1,116</td>
<td>215</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1869</td>
<td>1,775</td>
<td>1,155</td>
<td>200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1870</td>
<td>1,651</td>
<td>1,079</td>
<td>181</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1871</td>
<td>1,715</td>
<td>1,070</td>
<td>203</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1872</td>
<td>1,695</td>
<td>1,055</td>
<td>190</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1873</td>
<td>1,496</td>
<td>957</td>
<td>156</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1874</td>
<td>1,246</td>
<td>799</td>
<td>119</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1875</td>
<td>1,227</td>
<td>782</td>
<td>131</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1876</td>
<td>1,556</td>
<td>803</td>
<td>142</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1877</td>
<td>1,566</td>
<td>777</td>
<td>157</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1878</td>
<td>1,472</td>
<td>867</td>
<td>102</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1879</td>
<td>1,732</td>
<td>838</td>
<td>173</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1880</td>
<td>1,615</td>
<td>876</td>
<td>200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1881</td>
<td>1,473</td>
<td>887</td>
<td>171</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1882</td>
<td>1,443</td>
<td>834</td>
<td>177</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1883</td>
<td>1,443</td>
<td>762</td>
<td>158</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1884</td>
<td>1,210</td>
<td>751</td>
<td>206</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1885</td>
<td>1,494</td>
<td>773</td>
<td>230</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1886</td>
<td>1,541</td>
<td>676</td>
<td>228</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1887</td>
<td>1,235</td>
<td>676</td>
<td>193</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1888</td>
<td>1,359</td>
<td>624</td>
<td>150</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1889</td>
<td>1,137</td>
<td>559</td>
<td>209</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1890</td>
<td>1,056</td>
<td>501</td>
<td>186</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1891</td>
<td>952</td>
<td>504</td>
<td>190</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1892</td>
<td>1,057</td>
<td>414</td>
<td>179</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1893</td>
<td>1,023</td>
<td>426</td>
<td>173</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1894</td>
<td>1,045</td>
<td>425</td>
<td>172</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1895</td>
<td>1,002</td>
<td>415</td>
<td>214</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1896</td>
<td>1,134</td>
<td>453</td>
<td>211</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1897</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1898</td>
<td>1,197</td>
<td>455</td>
<td>186</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1899</td>
<td>1,161</td>
<td>441</td>
<td>206</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Appendix I. Table 3. A graph showing the amount expended in outrelief and in-maintenance, 1861-98, in Reeth union.
### Table 4

Fortnightly sum expended in outdoor relief (to nearest £) in select years in Accth union.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>1860</th>
<th>1870</th>
<th>1880</th>
<th>1890</th>
<th>1890</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>40</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>40</td>
<td>44</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>42</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>42</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>12</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>39</td>
<td>39</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>39</td>
<td>41</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>40</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>40</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>40</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>39</td>
<td>41</td>
<td>44</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>39</td>
<td>41</td>
<td>39</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>39</td>
<td>41</td>
<td>52</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>39</td>
<td>41</td>
<td>41</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>39</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>41</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>39</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>39</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>39</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>39</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>39</td>
<td>39</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>39</td>
<td>41</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>39</td>
<td>41</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>39</td>
<td>39</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>39</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>39</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>37</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>38</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>43</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
APPENDIX J - Table 1. Monthly expenditure on occasional and casual relief in Knaresborough township from April 1831 to August 1834 (to the nearest ...).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Month</th>
<th>1831</th>
<th>1832</th>
<th>1833</th>
<th>1834</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>January</td>
<td>69</td>
<td>64</td>
<td>17</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>February</td>
<td>59</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>14</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>53</td>
<td>15</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April</td>
<td>44</td>
<td>41</td>
<td>51</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July</td>
<td>39</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>August</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>9</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>October</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>12</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>November</td>
<td>47</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>11</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>December</td>
<td>53</td>
<td>44</td>
<td>13</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: HM12 Knaresborough 923/27
Table 2. Number of applications for relief made to the Select Vestry of Knaresborough, 1842-50.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>1842</th>
<th>1843</th>
<th>1844</th>
<th>1845</th>
<th>1846</th>
<th>1847</th>
<th>1848</th>
<th>1849</th>
<th>1850</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jan - March</td>
<td>155</td>
<td>225</td>
<td>293</td>
<td>89</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>97</td>
<td>174</td>
<td>134</td>
<td>57</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April - June</td>
<td>281</td>
<td>253</td>
<td>135</td>
<td>81</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>123</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July - Sept</td>
<td>191</td>
<td>203</td>
<td>49</td>
<td>44</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>72</td>
<td>131</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oct - Dec</td>
<td>307</td>
<td>201</td>
<td>78</td>
<td>63</td>
<td>124</td>
<td>68</td>
<td>266</td>
<td>134</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Minute Book of Knaresborough Select Vestry, 1842-54.
### Table 1

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Three months ending Lady day:</th>
<th>Junt of York</th>
<th>Insufficient earnings</th>
<th>Other causes, not sickness, accident or infirmity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>North Riding</td>
<td>Norfolk</td>
<td>North Riding</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1839</td>
<td>69</td>
<td>188</td>
<td>114</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1840</td>
<td>47</td>
<td>47</td>
<td>87</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1841</td>
<td>66</td>
<td>114</td>
<td>105</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1842</td>
<td>93</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>107</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1843</td>
<td>96</td>
<td>66</td>
<td>96</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1844</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>120</td>
<td>123</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1845</td>
<td>66</td>
<td>95</td>
<td>95</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Source:** Annual Reports of the Poor Law Commission.

Population in 1841 - North Riding: 150,527
- Norfolk: 343,277

Norfolk was one of the south-eastern counties noted for the prevalence of aid in relief of wages -- a practice which continued unabated after the introduction of the new Poor Law. This return, particularly columns one and two, do not substantiate the much commented upon difference in poor relief administration between the North (the North Riding) and the south-east (Norfolk), though, as Digby has shown, in her study of the new Poor Law in Norfolk, there was considerable able-bodied pauperism, or account of insufficient earnings, in the guise of relief on account of sickness and accident.
APPENDIX A - Table 2. A return showing the number of able-bodied adult males relieved in North Riding unions during the half years ending Lady Day, 1844, and 29th September, 1844.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Union</th>
<th>Males destitute through sickness and accident</th>
<th>Males destitute through other causes (not old age or infirmity)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Lady Day 1844</td>
<td>29th Sept. 1844</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-------</td>
<td>----------------</td>
<td>----------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Relieved in HOUSES</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Casingley</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Helmsley</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Halton</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Northallerton</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pickering</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stokesley</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Whitby</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Relieved OUT OF HOUSES</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Casingley</td>
<td>72</td>
<td>51</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Helmsley</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Halton</td>
<td>67</td>
<td>151</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Northallerton</td>
<td>155</td>
<td>134</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pickering</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stokesley</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Whitby</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: [Record of 1844](#)
Table 3. A return showing the number of applications for relief from able-bodied men in North Riding unions from January to December 31st, 1649.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Applications</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sedale</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rasingwold</td>
<td>34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Helmsley</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Leyburn</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Malton</td>
<td>80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Northallerton</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rickering</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Richmond</td>
<td>42</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stokesley</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thirsk</td>
<td>33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Whitby</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: W.32 Hawley (41) 24/1/1650
A return showing:
1. The number of persons receiving relief on account of want of work.
2. The amount of such relief.
3. The number in receipt of relief in aid of wages.
4. The amount of such relief.

during the tenth week of the Christmas quarter, 1903, in the unions of the North Riding.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Union</th>
<th>1</th>
<th>2</th>
<th>3</th>
<th>4</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pensington</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>86</td>
<td>.53.10.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Malton</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>.1.15.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Northallerton</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>9/-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pickering</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>9/0^a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thirsk</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>5/3^a</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

none in Bedale, Leyburn, Kirkby Moorside, Seeth, Richmond, Scarborough, Stokesley, Whitby, Helmsley.

Source: orb.1832-9 (535) L.11.11
The number of able-bodied, adult males relieved in four North Riding unions on January 1st and July 1st in selected years.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>1866/7</th>
<th></th>
<th>1870</th>
<th></th>
<th>1875</th>
<th></th>
<th>1880</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Jan</td>
<td>July</td>
<td>Jan</td>
<td>July</td>
<td>Jan</td>
<td>July</td>
<td>Jan</td>
<td>July</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(1)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1st OD</td>
<td>7th OD</td>
<td>1st OD</td>
<td>7th OD</td>
<td>1st OD</td>
<td>7th OD</td>
<td>1st OD</td>
<td>7th OD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Salton</td>
<td>18(702)</td>
<td>17(692)</td>
<td>24(745)</td>
<td>23(734)</td>
<td>15(526)</td>
<td>7(515)</td>
<td>17(556)</td>
<td>16(554)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lasingwold</td>
<td>6(461)</td>
<td>3(445)</td>
<td>4(405)</td>
<td>4(410)</td>
<td>8(401)</td>
<td>2(330)</td>
<td>9(321)</td>
<td>5(285)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thirsk</td>
<td>1(302)</td>
<td>7(383)</td>
<td>4(361)</td>
<td>2(332)</td>
<td>3(297)</td>
<td>3(298)</td>
<td>6(340)</td>
<td>9(326)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bedale</td>
<td>9(350)</td>
<td>9(361)</td>
<td>10(366)</td>
<td>7(359)</td>
<td>3(261)</td>
<td>4(257)</td>
<td>2(237)</td>
<td>0(252)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1875</td>
<td>1880</td>
<td>1895</td>
<td>1900</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(2)</td>
<td>Jan</td>
<td>July</td>
<td>Jan</td>
<td>July</td>
<td>Jan</td>
<td>July</td>
<td>Jan</td>
<td>July</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>a</td>
<td>b</td>
<td>a</td>
<td>b</td>
<td>a</td>
<td>b</td>
<td>a</td>
<td>b</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>7</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>6</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>7</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>80</td>
<td>83</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**W** - Workhouse    **OD** - Out of Doors

(1) Total number of able-bodied males relieved in workhouse and out of doors

(2) Numbers of able-bodied males relieved out of doors only

(3) a - number of able-bodied males relieved on account of sickness, accident, infirmity

   b - number of able-bodied males relieved on account of other causes
### APPENDIX L

Half yearly accounts of three North Yorkshire poor law unions, showing the expenditure on non-resident poor relief.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>UNION</th>
<th>In Maintenance</th>
<th>Out Relief</th>
<th>Non-Resident Poor Relief</th>
<th>Common Charges</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>PICKERING</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1859 Oct</td>
<td>95</td>
<td>622</td>
<td>67</td>
<td>309</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1860 April</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>652</td>
<td>62</td>
<td>376</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oct</td>
<td>108</td>
<td>642</td>
<td>63</td>
<td>286</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1861 April</td>
<td>98</td>
<td>608</td>
<td>78</td>
<td>397</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oct</td>
<td>96</td>
<td>605</td>
<td>85</td>
<td>286</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1862 April</td>
<td>120</td>
<td>622</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>397</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oct</td>
<td>126</td>
<td>595</td>
<td>82</td>
<td>261</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1863 April</td>
<td>142</td>
<td>606</td>
<td>70</td>
<td>572</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oct</td>
<td>140</td>
<td>597</td>
<td>77</td>
<td>443</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1864 April</td>
<td>140</td>
<td>595</td>
<td>65</td>
<td>569</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oct</td>
<td>131</td>
<td>545</td>
<td>59</td>
<td>507</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1865 April</td>
<td>150</td>
<td>522</td>
<td>67</td>
<td>559</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oct</td>
<td>145</td>
<td>540</td>
<td>70</td>
<td>405</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>HITBY</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1859 Oct</td>
<td>253</td>
<td>924</td>
<td>103</td>
<td>1,075</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1860 April</td>
<td>265</td>
<td>842</td>
<td>87</td>
<td>1,150</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oct</td>
<td>279</td>
<td>970</td>
<td>86</td>
<td>1,047</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1861 April</td>
<td>321</td>
<td>892</td>
<td>96</td>
<td>1,138</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oct</td>
<td>310</td>
<td>965</td>
<td>114</td>
<td>1,175</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1862 April</td>
<td>319</td>
<td>899</td>
<td>127</td>
<td>1,291</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oct</td>
<td>324</td>
<td>962</td>
<td>129</td>
<td>1,705</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1863 April</td>
<td>354</td>
<td>823</td>
<td>104</td>
<td>1,795</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oct</td>
<td>312</td>
<td>875</td>
<td>92</td>
<td>1,795</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1864 April</td>
<td>273</td>
<td>860</td>
<td>85</td>
<td>1,525</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oct</td>
<td>257</td>
<td>960</td>
<td>85</td>
<td>1,504</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1865 April</td>
<td>246</td>
<td>824</td>
<td>80</td>
<td>1,637</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oct</td>
<td>159</td>
<td>759</td>
<td>84</td>
<td>1,813</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1866 April</td>
<td>220</td>
<td>740</td>
<td>78</td>
<td>1,811</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

cont'd
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>UNION</th>
<th>In Maintenance</th>
<th>Out Relief</th>
<th>Non Settled Poor</th>
<th>Non Resident Relief</th>
<th>Common Charges</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>KNARESBROUGH</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1855 April</td>
<td>358</td>
<td>1,284</td>
<td>97</td>
<td>163</td>
<td>661</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sept</td>
<td>291</td>
<td>1,222</td>
<td>61</td>
<td>201</td>
<td>595</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1856 April</td>
<td>359</td>
<td>1,291</td>
<td>68</td>
<td>179</td>
<td>820</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sept</td>
<td>296</td>
<td>1,350</td>
<td>64</td>
<td>203</td>
<td>610</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1857 April</td>
<td>396</td>
<td>1,318</td>
<td>62</td>
<td>177</td>
<td>691</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sept</td>
<td>297</td>
<td>1,299</td>
<td>65</td>
<td>182</td>
<td>607</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1858 April</td>
<td>254</td>
<td>1,248</td>
<td>72</td>
<td>178</td>
<td>896</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sept</td>
<td>254</td>
<td>1,217</td>
<td>66</td>
<td>177</td>
<td>785</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1859 April</td>
<td>264</td>
<td>1,116</td>
<td>58</td>
<td>146</td>
<td>745</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sept</td>
<td>291</td>
<td>1,230</td>
<td>67</td>
<td>137</td>
<td>690</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1860 April</td>
<td>267</td>
<td>1,298</td>
<td>66</td>
<td>112</td>
<td>709</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sept</td>
<td>291</td>
<td>1,296</td>
<td>64</td>
<td>117</td>
<td>725</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1861 April</td>
<td>292</td>
<td>1,275</td>
<td>62</td>
<td>111</td>
<td>842</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sept</td>
<td>294</td>
<td>1,343</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>130</td>
<td>731</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1862 April</td>
<td>200</td>
<td>1,291</td>
<td>73</td>
<td>116</td>
<td>826</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sept</td>
<td>291</td>
<td>1,373</td>
<td>66</td>
<td>125</td>
<td>890</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1863 April</td>
<td>293</td>
<td>1,411</td>
<td>62</td>
<td>123</td>
<td>1,171</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sept</td>
<td>321</td>
<td>1,459</td>
<td>63</td>
<td>125</td>
<td>1,042</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1864 April</td>
<td>297</td>
<td>1,309</td>
<td>54</td>
<td>127</td>
<td>1,047</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sept</td>
<td>297</td>
<td>1,358</td>
<td>56</td>
<td>126</td>
<td>959</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1865 April</td>
<td>316</td>
<td>1,447</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>116</td>
<td>1,060</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sept</td>
<td>291</td>
<td>1,421</td>
<td>48</td>
<td>103</td>
<td>1,004</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1866 April</td>
<td>374</td>
<td>1,485</td>
<td>55</td>
<td>102</td>
<td>1,128</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sept</td>
<td>88</td>
<td>1,421</td>
<td>48</td>
<td>94</td>
<td>2,412</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1867 April</td>
<td>397</td>
<td>1,500</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>58</td>
<td>2,609</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sept</td>
<td>404</td>
<td>1,493</td>
<td></td>
<td>100</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1868 April</td>
<td>519</td>
<td>1,661</td>
<td></td>
<td>80</td>
<td>2,908</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sept</td>
<td>503</td>
<td>1,704</td>
<td></td>
<td>88</td>
<td>2,553</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1869 April</td>
<td>524</td>
<td>1,758</td>
<td></td>
<td>79</td>
<td>3,009</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sept</td>
<td>451</td>
<td>1,779</td>
<td></td>
<td>70</td>
<td>2,922</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1870 April</td>
<td>474</td>
<td>1,752</td>
<td></td>
<td>67</td>
<td>2,979</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sept</td>
<td>498</td>
<td>1,718</td>
<td></td>
<td>58</td>
<td>2,958</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1871 April</td>
<td>557</td>
<td>1,683</td>
<td></td>
<td>58</td>
<td>3,071</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Table 1. The age structure of the population in each of the unions of Malton, Keath, Sedbergh and Nateley Bridge in 1951 and 1991.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Union</th>
<th>Age</th>
<th>1951</th>
<th>1991</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Malton</td>
<td>Under 15 years</td>
<td>56.3</td>
<td>33.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>15 - 20</td>
<td>25.0</td>
<td>25.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>20 - 45</td>
<td>17.5</td>
<td>17.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>45 - 60</td>
<td>11.3</td>
<td>12.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>60 +</td>
<td>9.2</td>
<td>9.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Keath</td>
<td>Under 15 years</td>
<td>40.6</td>
<td>52.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>15 - 20</td>
<td>24.3</td>
<td>24.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>20 - 45</td>
<td>17.0</td>
<td>13.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>45 - 60</td>
<td>9.5</td>
<td>14.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>60 +</td>
<td>7.6</td>
<td>10.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sedbergh</td>
<td>Under 15 years</td>
<td>33.2</td>
<td>34.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>15 - 20</td>
<td>22.5</td>
<td>25.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>20 - 45</td>
<td>17.5</td>
<td>17.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>45 - 60</td>
<td>11.2</td>
<td>11.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>60 +</td>
<td>9.3</td>
<td>11.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nateley Bridge</td>
<td>Under 15 years</td>
<td>37.2</td>
<td>54.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>15 - 20</td>
<td>24.3</td>
<td>24.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>20 - 45</td>
<td>16.2</td>
<td>17.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>45 - 60</td>
<td>12.7</td>
<td>13.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>60 +</td>
<td>9.1</td>
<td>9.9</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Table 2. The average age of linen weavers, aged 15 years and above, in several townships in North Yorkshire, 1861, '71, '81 and '91. (1)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Township</th>
<th>1861</th>
<th>1871</th>
<th>1881</th>
<th>1891</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Appleton Dale</td>
<td>39.6</td>
<td>36.2</td>
<td>39.4</td>
<td>49.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Osmotherley</td>
<td>33.1</td>
<td>40.3</td>
<td>45.0(2)</td>
<td>56.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brompton</td>
<td>35.0</td>
<td>37.4</td>
<td>39.6</td>
<td>41.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sutton Rudby</td>
<td>35.6</td>
<td>43.5</td>
<td>49.1</td>
<td>53.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hiddersdale</td>
<td>41.9</td>
<td>42.6</td>
<td>55.3</td>
<td>68.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bishopside</td>
<td>30.1</td>
<td>46.3</td>
<td>54.9</td>
<td>61.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Knaresborough</td>
<td>44.7</td>
<td>46.1</td>
<td>45.3</td>
<td>50.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(1) In Knaresborough the figures represent the average age of male weavers aged 20 years and above.

(2) Average age of handloom weavers in 1861 - 56.4
Average age of power loom weavers in 1861 - 29.3
Appendix M, Table 3. Three graphs showing the age structure of male linen weavers (excluding powerloom weavers) in Northallerton union, Nidderdale and the town of Knaresborough in each of the census years, 1841-71.
Northallerton union.

Appendix M, Table 3 cont'd
Appendix H. A survey of migration by the linen weavers of Knaresborough between 1841 and 1851.

Despite a diminishing weaving population in Knaresborough between 1841 and 1871 the numbers of weavers in 1851, '61 and '71, who had not been weavers in the previous census year, was surprisingly high. There were 53 weavers, aged 30 and over, and 41 below this age who appeared in the 1851 but not the 1841 census schedules and had apparently started weaving, at some date between 1841 and 1851. Obviously many of the weavers below the age of 30 would not have appeared as such in the previous census because of their youthful age. In the case of the older men it is reasonable to assume that their absence from the previous census denotes either their absence from Knaresborough or participation in another occupation. Although the number of weavers fell from 274 to 206 between 1851 and 1861 a high proportion were 'newcomers' - 58 weavers, over the age of 29, were not weavers in Knaresborough in 1851. In 1871 the number of 'newcomers' had fallen by more than half, though it still represented just under a fifth of the total male weaving labour force. In the majority of cases it is impossible to deduce from the census schedules how many were absent from Knaresborough or were engaged in different employment at the previous census. The large number of elderly weavers in this group would suggest that handloom weaving was sometimes taken up in old age when the usual occupation became impossible. The birth places of children, especially in large young families, can indicate to a certain extent, the movements of the father, though there is no knowing who were step-children, born to the mother by a different marriage. A study of family birth places points to frequent migration by linen weavers - eg.

1851. John Eorke - age 44 - born Knaresborough
  children - aged 11 b. Harrogate
     " 9 b. Leeds
     " 7, 2, 3 months b. Knaresborough

cont'd
Appendix K - cont'd

1871. John Dixon - age 54 - born Knaresborough
       children - aged 17 b. West Harlow
            9, 6 b. Harlow
            5, 2 b. Ransley
            1 month b. Knaresborough

Several men were weaving in 1841 and 1861, or in 1851 and 1871 and were absent in the intervening years, but it is not known how many moved away temporarily. The study of family birth places show men, born in
Knaresborough, moving away, largely to other linen centres (whether as adults or children is not known) and returning to Knaresborough. There is also evidence of men, not born in Knaresborough, coming to the town, especially from Barnsley. In 1851, of the 12 weavers, for whom it is possible to trace some of their movements, 7 came from or near Barnsley and 3 from Leeds. In 1861 6 of the 9 weavers were from the Barnsley area.
This pattern of migration amongst a weaving population is probably peculiar to Knaresborough, where, as we have seen, decay in the 1830's and 1840's persuaded many to move but, despite the contracting size of the workforce, the stabilisation of the industry and the introduction of powered weaving in the second half of the century encouraged migration into the town. There are very few instances of weavers coming to Knaresborough from declining handloom weaving areas in North Yorkshire.

The number of weavers in 1851, '61, '71 who did not appear in the census returns of 1841, '51, '61 respectively:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Total no: male weavers</th>
<th>Weavers aged 30+</th>
<th>Weavers 29+ yrs</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1851</td>
<td>27½</td>
<td>53</td>
<td>41</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1861</td>
<td>206</td>
<td>56</td>
<td>54</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1871</td>
<td>133</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
APPENDIX C. Family structure of the linen weaving population in Knaresborough, 1841-71.

I examined the family structure of linen weavers in Knaresborough in order to ascertain whether the destitution of weavers in the 1830’s and 1840’s was a direct consequence of a labour force comprising a high proportion of large, young families. Linen weaving in Knaresborough underwent prolonged and serious decline in the 1830’s and 1840’s, recovering c.1850, when linen production was maintained at a constant level for about twenty years. In each of the four census years approximately half the total number of male weavers were single, widowed or married, with no resident dependents. The proportion of weavers who had families consisting of children aged 14 and younger was only slightly larger in 1841 than in succeeding census years. Thus, although the total number of weavers steadily fell in the period 1841-71 the proportions of weavers with and without dependents remained fairly constant. However, the study applies to all weavers since the enumerators’ books do not distinguish between hand and power loom weavers. It is therefore possible that a family structure study of handloom weavers only would produce different results.

cont’d
I have not calculated the number of weavers having five or more children as a % of the total number of weavers.
### Manuscript Sources

#### 1. Public Record Office, London


<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Town</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>London</td>
<td>1654 - 37</td>
<td>(Vol. 63)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1736 - 97</td>
<td></td>
<td>(54)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Devons</td>
<td>1656 - 98</td>
<td>(55)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nott</td>
<td>1737 - 15</td>
<td>(55)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lancham</td>
<td>1650 - 42</td>
<td>(73)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hawley</td>
<td>1647 - 42</td>
<td>(73)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1635 - 46</td>
<td></td>
<td>(80)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1657 - 52</td>
<td></td>
<td>(81)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clements</td>
<td>1655 - 11</td>
<td>(11)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lantin</td>
<td>1642 - 39</td>
<td>(7?)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Braining</td>
<td>1655 - 34</td>
<td>(74)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cane</td>
<td>1655 - 71</td>
<td>(9)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Burst</td>
<td>1647 - 37</td>
<td>(27)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Farnell</td>
<td>1645 - 32</td>
<td>(22)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1655 - 33</td>
<td></td>
<td>(24)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1655 - 71</td>
<td></td>
<td>(24)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lambernt</td>
<td>1620 - 52</td>
<td>(30)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Corbett</td>
<td>1662 - 76</td>
<td>(13)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Smith</td>
<td>1655 - 75</td>
<td>(3?)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hocley</td>
<td>1637 - 76</td>
<td>(45)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Molleys</td>
<td>1677 - 92</td>
<td>(49)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Town</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>London</td>
<td>1654 - 71</td>
<td>(54)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1659 - 55</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lancingolf</td>
<td>1639 - 71</td>
<td>(1640 - 47, 1631 - 65 missing)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Court Lancing</td>
<td>1650 - 50</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Harborne</td>
<td>1634 - 71</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Darburn</td>
<td>1654 - 63</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elton</td>
<td>1656 - 41</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Doncaster</td>
<td>1657 - 56</td>
<td>(1557 - 5 missing)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cart Jorlow</td>
<td>1656 - 59</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hicshing</td>
<td>1656 - 70</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Icke</td>
<td>1652 - 79</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hicshorh</td>
<td>1659 - 75</td>
<td>(1646-7 missing)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hicshorh</td>
<td>1635 - 50</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1659 - 70</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1654 - 80</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1657 - 98</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1652 - 71</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1654 - 75</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1654 - 70</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1654 - 75</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1654 - 74</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
3. _Census Enumerators' Schedules._ (Micro-film copies are also kept by some County Libraries and Record Offices.)
   - RG. 107: Enumerators' Schedules 1841 and 1851
   - RG. 1/2: Ibid for 1861
   - RG. 3/10: Ibid for 1871

3. **North Yorkshire County Record Office, Northallerton.**

1. **Poor Law Union Records.**
   - BG/AYS: Aysgarth Board of Guardians Minutes 1869 - 1904
     - (1858 - 91 missing)
   - BG/B.M.1: Bedale B.G.M. 1859 - 49
     - 1852 - 56
     - 1874 - 97
   - BG/B.M.1/1-12: Easingwold B.G.M. 1844 - 1904
   - BG/B.M.2: Helmsley B.G.M. 1857 - 1904
   - BG/B.M.1/1-7: Kirkgate Boorside B.G.M. 1846 - 1903
   - BG/B.M.1/1-10: Aysgarth B.G.M. 1856 - 91
   - BG/B.M.1/1-10: Northallerton B.G.M. 1857 - 1905
   - BG/B.M.1/1-18: Northallerton Workhouse Admission and Discharge Books 1848 - 67
   - BG/KEE: Reeth B.G.M. 1840 - 1900
   - BG/KEE.1/1-13: Richmond B.G.M. 1857 - 1905
   - BG/KEE.1/1-15: Scarborouh B.G.M. 1857 - 1903
   - BG/KEE.2/1/1-6: Settle Letter Books 1841 - 66
   - BG/KEE.2: Stokesley B.G.M. 1839 - 94
   - BG/KEE.1/1-22: Whitby B.G.M. 1857 - 1904 (1845-55 missing)

2. **Township Records.**
   - PI/I.M.K.5/1: Arkengarthdale Vestry Minutes. 1840 - 62
   - PI/I.M.K.7/3: Arniston Select Vestry Memorandum Book 1816 - 26
   - PI/I.M.K.6: Knaresborough Select Vestry Minute Book 1816 - 42
   - PI/I.M.K.1/1: Minute Book of Knaresborough Select Vestry. 1842 - 54
   - PI/I.M.K.1/2: Pensions and Casual Relief Accounts of Knaresborough township. 1858
   - PI/I.M.K.1/2: Scriven with Tentergate Vestry Minute Book 1843 - 61
   - PI/I.M.K.2/1: Scriven with Tentergate Select Vestry Memorandum Book 1848 - 54
   - PI/I.M.K.2/1: Minute Book of Overseers of Scriven with Tentergate. 1850 - 49
The text on the page appears to be a list or a table with the following entries:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Simon</td>
<td>1852 - 90</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Notes: 1852 - 90 at H. Y. C. H. O. (1870 - ?? missing)
Printed Sources

a. Contemporary Works

1. Preliminary Papers

1834 (302) VI Report from the Select Committee appointed to inquire into the Practice of Paying the Wages of Labour out of the Poor Rates ...

1835 (515) LIX Abstract on Returns on Labourers' Wages.

1832 (243) XVIII Census of Great Britain, 1831. Accounts and papers relating to Population.

1832 (141) L Part V Report from Commissioners on Proposed Division of Counties and Boundaries of Boroughs.

1833 (612) V Abstract of the Population Returns of Great Britain, 1831.

1834 (44) XVI Report from the Select Committee on Agriculture, with minutes of evidence ...

1834 (44) XVIII Royal Commission for Inquiring into the Administration and Practical Operation of the Poor Laws. Report of the Commissioners.

1834 (44) XVlI Ibid. Appx A. Reports of Assistant Commissioners, Pt I.

1834 (44) XVII - XVIII Ibid. Appx B. (1) Answer to Rural Questions, pts 1 - V.

1834 (44) XIX - VI Ibid. Appx B. (2) Answer to Town Queries, pts 1 - V.

1834 (44) XVIII Ibid pt II

1834 & 5 William IV c 72 An act for the amendment and better Administration of the laws relating to the Poor in England and Wales.


1838 (250) A Report from the Select Committee on Handloom Weavers' Petitions, with minutes of evidence.
Reports by Inspectors of Factories.

1856 (56) x.xv

Power looms used in factories in United Kingdom.

1856 (76) x.xv

Reports by Inspectors of Factories.

1856 (103) x.xv

Persons employed in the mills and factories of the United Kingdom distinguishing ages.

1857 (404) X

Report from the Select Committee of the House of Lords on the State of Agriculture in England and Wales.

1857 - 6 (157) x.xll

6th Report from the Select Committee appointed to inquire into the administration of the Relief of the Poor ...

1857 - 5 (174) x.xlla

9th Report. Ibid.

1857 - 6 (185) x.xllb

10th Report. Ibid.

1857 - 3 (191) x.xll

11th Report. Ibid.

1857 (159)(201) x.xll

Reports by Inspectors of Factories.

1859 (51) x.xll

Return of mills and factories ... the number of persons employed in cotton, woollen, worsted, flax, and silk factories, of the United Kingdom.

1859 (135) x.xll

Number of factories within the district of each inspector, the number of mills visited. etc.

1860 (425 - 3) x.xllx

Number and names of the Unions to which no order has been sent for withholding outdoor relief to the able-bodied.

1860 (43 - 1) x.xll

Royal commission for inquiring into the conditions of the unemployed handloom weavers. Assistant commissioners' reports.

1860 (12) x.xll

Ibid.

1860 (206) x.xlv

Ibid.

1860 (139) x.xlv

Ibid. Report by Mr. Dickson.

1861 (155) x

Ibid. Report from the Commissioners.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Reference</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1842</td>
<td>(452) L.</td>
<td>Report from the Select Committee on the management of the Poor in Wakeley Union, with minutes of evidence, appendix.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1842</td>
<td>(422) LIV</td>
<td>Copy of all Orders issued by the Poor Law Commissioners to the Board of Guardians of Settle Union since 1st January last, and Resolutions of the Board thereon.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1842</td>
<td>(292) LIV</td>
<td>Correspondence relating to the granting of Outdoor Relief which has passed between the Poor Law Commissioners and the Board of Guardians of Lasingvold Union.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1842</td>
<td>(136) LIV</td>
<td>Return of each Parish and Township ... in which the Poor are managed under the Provisions of the Gilbert Act.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1842</td>
<td>(173) LIV</td>
<td>Copy of the Report of Mr. Clements to the Poor Law Commissioners upon inmates of Skipton Workhouse sent to a Factory.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1843</td>
<td>(510) XIII</td>
<td>Reports of Special Assistant Poor Law Commissioners on the Employment of Women and Children in agriculture.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1843</td>
<td>(172) XIV</td>
<td>Reports of Assistant Commissioners on the State of Gilbert Act Incorporations.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1843</td>
<td>(496) XII</td>
<td>Census of Great Britain, 1041. Enumeration Abstract. Part I.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1843</td>
<td>(537) XIII</td>
<td>Ibid. Population tables. (Age Abstract)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1844</td>
<td>(387) XVI</td>
<td>Ibid. Population tables. (Occupation Abstract)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1844</td>
<td>(249) X</td>
<td>Report from the Select Committee on Poor Relief (Gilbert Unions), with minutes of evidence, appendix.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1844</td>
<td>(583) V</td>
<td>Report from the Select Committee on Commons' Inclosure.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1845</td>
<td>(309) XII</td>
<td>Report from the Select Committee appointed on Poor Relief (Gilbert Unions).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1846</td>
<td>(275) XXIV</td>
<td>Number of able-bodied paupers receiving relief ... in each of the weeks in January 1845 and 1846 ...</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1847</td>
<td>(vi) A.</td>
<td>Select Committee appointed to inquire into the operation of the Law of Settlement and the Poor Removal Act ... 1st Report.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Bibliography - 7

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1847</td>
<td>2nd and 3rd Reports.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1847</td>
<td>Numbers of persons relieved in unions in Oxfordshire and the North Riding of Yorkshire... during half year ended 29th March and 29th September 1844 respectively.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1847</td>
<td>Report from the Select Committee on Agricultural Customs, ... with minutes of evidence.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1847</td>
<td>Reports and Communications on Vagrancy.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1847</td>
<td>Numbers of persons relieved with indoor and with outdoor relief in the week ending 20th February in the years 1846 and 1847 respectively.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1851</td>
<td>Reports to the Poor Law Board on the Operation of the Law of Settlement, on Rating, and on Close and Open Parishes; ... by J. D. Blamley, Poor Law Inspector, as to the North Riding of York.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1852</td>
<td>Ibid. Population tables II. Vol. II</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1852</td>
<td>Return of the number of persons relieved on the ground of being &quot;out of work,&quot; or &quot;in aid of wages,&quot; during the tenth week of the Christmas quarter 1852.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1853</td>
<td>Order by the Poor Law Board 1852 for regulating the administration of outdoor relief ... correspondence respecting the same; and amended order.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1853</td>
<td>Numbers of persons seeking relief on account of want of work during 10th week of the Christmas quarter 1852.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1854</td>
<td>Report from the Select Committee on Poor removal ... with minutes of evidence.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1857</td>
<td>Report from the Select Committee on ... the rating of lines, with minutes of evidence ...</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1859</td>
<td>Report from the Select Committee on Irremovable Poor ... with minutes of evidence.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Bibliography - 8

1861 (14) L
Return of the average rate of weekly earnings of agricultural labourers ...

1862 (413) LXX
Reports by Mr. Parnell to the Poor Law Commissioners on the Distress in the Cotton Manufacturing Districts.

1862 (3958) L

1863 (3221) LIII
Ibid. Population tables. Vol II

1864 (3589) XLV
Parts I and II. Report of the Commissioners Appointed to Inquire into the Condition of all Mines in Great Britain, to which the provisions of the Act 23 & 24 Vict do not Apply ... with minutes of evidence.

1867 - 8 (4028) XVII

1867 - 8 (4028) XVII
Ibid. Evidence from Assistant Commissioners.

1867 (4026) LIII
Regulations in force in every Poor Law Union ... as to the reception and relief of casual poor in the workhouses ...

1867 - 8 (35) LXI
Reports by Poor Law Inspectors on Workhouses in their respective districts ...

1872 (676) LVI pt. I
Census of Great Britain, 1871. Population tables Vol I

1872 (6751) LVI pt. II
Ibid. Population tables. Vol II

1872 (235) L
Return from each Poor Law Union ... as to industrial employment provided for indoor paupers ...

1871 (2778 - II) XVI
Royal Commission on the depressed condition of agricultural interests. Reports of the Assistant Commissioners.

1872 (3309 - I) XIV
Ibid. Minutes of evidence taken before the Commissioners.

1873 (3562) LXVIII

1873 (3563) LXIX
Ibid. Area, Houses and Population. Vol II.
Ibid. Area, Houses and Population. Vol XII.

Agricultural Labour. Assistant Commissioners' reports on the Agricultural Labourer: Mr. Wilkinson.


2nd Report from the Select Committee on Distress from Want of Employment.

Final report of the Royal Commission on Agricultural Depression.

Report of Departmental Committee on Aged "Residing Poor, with apprentices.

Report by A. Wilson Fox on the Wages and Earnings of Agricultural Labourers.

2nd Report by A. Wilson Fox on Wages, Earnings and Conditions of Employment of Agricultural Labourers.

Royal Commission on the Poor Laws and Relief of Distress. Reports of Commissioners.

Ibid. Appendix, Vol I. Minutes of Evidence ... 

Ibid. Special Reports from Dioceses in England and Wales ... 

Annual Reports of the Poor Law Commissioners.

Annual Reports of the Poor Law Board.

Annual Reports of the Local Government Board.
2. Contemporary Books.

J. Lackhouse, Old Records of Lead Mines on Brook How Gill, Hinderdale, 1635 to 1844. (c. 1800) (Microfilm edition. Leeds City Library)

R. Barnes, History of the Cotton Manufacture in Great Britain. (1697)

A. Brown, General View of the Agriculture of the West Riding of Yorkshire. Edinburgh (1799)

J. Purley, The History of Wool and Woolworking. (1689)

J. Caid, English Agriculture in 1690 - 1. (1852)

W. H. Jackson, History of Skipton. (1882)


R. V. Leonard, Economic Notes on English Agricultural Wages. (1914)

T. D. Lebel, The Agricultural Labourer: a Short Summary of his Position. (1907)


W. B. Wright, The Craven and North West Yorkshire Highlands. (1902)

A. Scott, Upper Hinderdale with the Forest of Knaresborough. (1905)


H. Thompson, Sedborh, Grassdale and Bent. Leeds. (1932)

W. Tuke, General View of the Agriculture of the North Riding of Yorkshire. (1800)

A. S. Leaman, The Lines Trace, Ancient and Modern. (1964)
5. Newspapers and Journals.

Burniston's Northern Luminaries 1649 - 55 in British Museum.

Craven Weekly Pioneer 1869 - 66 in B..n.

Marrogate Advertiser 1876 - 46, 1850 - 56 in Marrogate Public Library.

Leeds Advertiser and Skipton Mercury 1856 - 7 in B..n.

Leeds Intelligencer 1857 in B..n.

Leeds Mercury 1856 - 40, 1855 in B..n.

Kinson and Richmond Chronicle 1879 - 1886 in B..n.

Scarborough Express, 1860, 1879 in B..n.

The Whalley Advertiser 1844 - 45 in B..n.

Whitby Times, 1879 in B..n.

Yorkshire Gazette 1850 - 47 in York City Library.


4. Directories.


Bibliography - 12


1940 History, Gazetteer and Directory of the East and North Riding of Yorkshire. Sheffield, Whirl, (1940)


B. Secondary Works

1. Secondary Books


Tannen, His Industrial North in the Last Decade of the Nineteenth Century. Leeds, (1920)
Bibliography


Bibliography - 14

C.S. Cowling, The History of Lamingwold and the Forest of
Witudes. (1963)

Cambridge. (1962)

J. Dickinson, Mines and Miners: A History of Lead Mining
in Airedale, Harfordale and Huddersdale.
Bradford. (1972)

H. Bingle, A History of Usmotherley and District.
Northallerton. (1950)

J. D. W. Dunbabin, Rural Discontent in Nineteenth Century Britain.
(1974)

Manchester. (1971)

Scarborough. (1960)

A. Fieldhouse and R. Jennings, A History of Richmond and Swaledale.
(1976)

F. and J. Ford, A Guide to Parliamentary Papers ...
Oxford. (1955)

D. Fraser, The Evolution of the British Welfare State:
A History of Social Policy since the Industrial
Revolution. (1973)

D. Fraser, (ed), The New Poor Law in the Nineteenth Century.
(1975)

B. T. R. E. A. Social and Economic History of Britain,

J. Harris, Unemployment and Politics: a Study in English
Social Policy, 1836 - 1914.
Oxford. (1972)

J. Hartley and J. Kilby, The Old and Writters of the Sales.
(1971)

J. Martill and others, The Great Debate on Poverty: Eight Essays on
Industrialization and "The Condition of
England." (1972)
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Author</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Publisher</th>
<th>Year</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>J. lascelles</td>
<td>A History of the English Agricultural Labourer.</td>
<td>(1909)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C. maythornwhite</td>
<td>Aggregate Story, 1770 - 1834.</td>
<td>Claypan</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E. Hopwood</td>
<td>A History of the Lancashire Cotton Industry.</td>
<td>Manchester</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C. J. Hunt</td>
<td>The Lead Minors of the Northern Pennines in the Eighteenth and Nineteenth Centuries.</td>
<td>Manchester</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C. J. Hunt</td>
<td>Regional Wage Variations in Britain, 1850 - 1914.</td>
<td>Oxford</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B. Inglis</td>
<td>Poverty and the Industrial Revolution.</td>
<td>(1973)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E. J. Jones</td>
<td>Agriculture and the Industrial Revolution.</td>
<td>Oxford</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D. R. March</td>
<td>The Changing Social Structure of England and Wales, 1600 - 1914.</td>
<td>(1965)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>J. R. marshall</td>
<td>The Old Poor Law, 1795 - 1834.</td>
<td>(1965)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B. R. Mitchell and C. M. c.ane</td>
<td>A Sut of British Historical Statistics.</td>
<td>(1962)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Bibliography - 16

L. Unby, (ed), Short Guide to Records. (1972)

W. North, Tessie's Economic Heritage. Cleveland. (1979)


A. Maistriek, Mines and Miners of Swaledale. Clapham. (1959)

A. Maistriek, Old Yorkshire Dales. Newton Abbot. (1967)

A. Maistriek, The Pennine Dales. (1968)

A. Maistriek, Lead Mining in the Yorkshire Dales. Clapham. (1972)


A. Maistriek and D. Jeonnings, A History of Lead Mining in the Rennines. (1955)

Bibliography - 17

Linton Civic Society, Linton: some aspects of its history. Lichfield. (1972)


A. Royle, Old Skipton. Clayhall. (1959)


J. Saville, Rural repopulation in England and Wales, 1861 - 1931. (1977)

J. Singleton, Industrial Revolution in Yorkshire. (1976)

J. Silver, An Economic History of Poole. Poole. (1969)


S. and D. Seb, English Local Government, English Poor Law History Part II: The Last Hundred Years. (1972)

R. Wilson, (ed), The History of Louth. Louth. (1972)

A. Wright, Cleveland. In a - a Guide. Clayhall. (1972)

S. Wright, (ed), An Introduction to British Historical Sociology: From the Sixteenth to the Nineteenth Century. (1959)


D. Bythell, "The History of the Poor." (English Historical Review, Vol. XCVI 1971)


J.C.J. Harrison, 'The origins of east Cleveland and Rosedale Ironstone miners from the 1671 census.' (C.I.H.A., No. 19, Winter, 1972-3)

S.J. Holderness, 'Personal mobility in some rural parishes of Yorkshire, 1777 - 1822.' (Yorkshire Archæological Journal, Vol. 42, 1971)

S.J. Holderness, 'Voven and 'Close' parishes in England in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries.' (Agricultural History Review, Vol. 20, 1972)

E.M. Howell, 'Welsh agricultural labourers in the nineteenth century.' (Welsh Historical Review, Vol. 6, 1972-3)

J. Hunt, 'Labour productivity in English agriculture, 1650 - 1815.' (Economic History Review, 2nd Ser., Vol. X, 1958)


Middlesbrough Tutorial 'The Teesside and Cleveland industrial labour force in 1851.' (C.I.H.A., No. 4, April 1959)


J.S. Owen, 'Mining failure in Cleveland, 1908 - the Killhope Lines.' (C.I.H.A., No. 15, Autumn 1971)
Bibliography - 20


B. Thompson, 'Poor Relief in Nineteen:' (...: ... Publication, No. 1, Nov. 1973)

A.M. Whitaker, 'Coal Mining in Brandale and Farndale in the 18th Century,' (The Ryedale Historian, No. 4, April 1969)

3. Theses.

A. Caplan - The Administration of the Poor Law in the Unions of Southwell and Basford, 1656 - 1811. (Thesis 1968-7 (Nottingham))

A. Digby - The Operation of the Poor Law in the Social and Economic Life of Eighteenth Century Norfolk. (Thesis 1973-7 (East Anglia))

D. Duckley - The New Poor Law and County Durham. (Thesis 1973-2 (Durham))

D. Handley - Local Administration of the Poor Law in the Great Broughton and Moorhill Unions and the Chester Local Act Incorporation, 1676-1710. (Thesis 1969-70 (Manchester))

Bibliography - 21

H. Lawson - Poor Law administration in South Shields, 1830 - 1890. (.... 1971 - 2 (Newcastle))

H. Winter - Social administration in Lancashire, 1850-1947. Poor law, public health and police. (.... 1965-7 (York))

J. M. B. Pike - The administration of the poor law in rural Surrey, 1834 - 35. (.... 1950-1 (London: Wirkbeck))

J. Roberts - The development of the textile industry in the West Craven and the skipton district of Yorkshire. (.... 1956-7 (London: L..)).

J. Rose - The administration of the poor law in the west riding of Yorkshire, 1835 - 37. (.... 1955-6 (Oxford))

J. J. Thomas - Poor Law administration in west Glamorgan, 1834 - 1930. (.... 1951-2 (Cardiff, Swansea))

J. J. Thompson - The poor law in Cumberland and Westmorland, 1834 - 71. (.... 1970 (Newcastle))