

The Churches at Crayke
1859-1861

50 acres of Glebe land. The tithe book a few years later (1863) said that Crayke had 2779 acres, 3 rods and 9 perches.

A paper of 1861 on the Rectory refers to Glebe land now called "the Gallowgates" being separated by a Public lane, and the upper Gallowgates being bounded on the West by the lane called "Back Lane".

In 1859 there were in Crayke two Wesleyan Methodist Chapels and a Primitive Methodist Chapel. One of the Methodist Chapels was in Key Lane believed to be in the building now used as a garage by the Meadowcrofts.

The birth of a future
Dean of St. Pauls at
Crayke - 1860

William Ralph Inge was born at Crayke Cottage in 1860, the son of the Curate, William Inge and Susan Mary (nee Churton). The future Dean of St. Pauls lived at Crayke for the first 14 years of his life. He wrote later that one of his earliest recollections was the view of the Minster, 12 miles away, from the Southern windows of the Rectory. Young Inge was educated at home until 5 months before he went to Eton, spending just one term at Mr. Parrys Preparatory School at Slough.

William Ralph Churton, elder brother of Susan Mary was a godfather of her son.

Crayke School 1863 -
A School Log Book

Her Majestys Inspector of Schools Code of Regulations had been received in 1862, and Masters at Schools had to keep a Log Book, and this was started at Crayke in 1863 by the Schoolmaster, Mr. J. Wilkinson. The school, started in 1846 as a Boys School, to which had been added a Girls School in 1855, was by 1859 a Mixed School and an Infants School. This new log book ran from 1863 to 1895 and though only supposed to cover school matters, became a record of a stormy period recording upsets between the School Masters and the Managers (the Rector etc), and in which there were 12 Schoolmasters due to resignations and dismissals.

School Fees and School
Finance - 1863

The School, which was subject to Inspection by H.M. Inspectors for its educational efficiency as well as by the Diocesan Inspector for its Religious teaching, had two sources of income to maintain it. One was by a Government Grant based upon the number of pupils and their efficiency at the annual test of the Inspectors, and the other gathered under the authority of the Church who were responsible for running the school was a charge of 2d per week for a labourers child, and 4d a week for a farmers child or those other than labourers.

There is a calculation in the log book on the fees paid:-

| | |
|--|----------------|
| 23 children of Farmers etc. at 4d a week | 7s 8d |
| 43 children of labourers at 2d a week | 7s 2d |
| | <hr/> |
| | 14s-10d a week |
| | <hr/> |

Then follow two calculations:-

| | | |
|--------------------|---|----------|
| 14/10d at 40 weeks | = | £29-13-4 |
| 14/10d at 47 weeks | = | £34-17-2 |

This presumably was what should have been received as a minimum or maximum in a years schooling from this source.

The Government grant was around £33 to £40 a year. On this income the school had to be managed, its heating, lighting, repairs, school slates, books, inks and all teaching devices.

If school fees were not paid up, or if the school did badly in the annual test and had the grant cut, all these things suffered and this was the source of trouble in years to come between the Master and the School Managers.

Some labourers could not afford the school fees, and in some cases Archdeacon Churton, Mr. Inge the Curate, Mrs. Waite at the Castle and Mrs. Greenwood, the tenant at the Hall paid their school fees.

This did not always mean that all went well, for in 1863 William Snowball was warned about his sons bad attendance and that he was wasting the fees paid by Mrs. Greenwood.

The Masters salary, paid by the School Managers (the Rector etc) was around £90-£99 per annum.

The Laying of the foundation Stone of the new portion of the Church - 1863

On St. Peters Day 29th June 1863, the Foundation Stone of the new portion of St. Cuthberts Church (the North Aisle) was laid, and the ceremony was held between 2 and 2.45

p.m. and the School attended the ceremony. This new north Aisle was completed in 1868.

Mr. Wilkinson succeeded by Mr. Foster at the School 1863

Mr. John Wilkinson, probably the first Master at the School and certainly there in 1853, left on 19th September 1863 on appointment as Master to the Lower School at

Appleby in Leicestershire. He was 38 yrs old. Awaiting the arrival of the new master, the School carried on under Mr. Inge, the Curate, who with the pupil teacher taught the boys, and the Sewing Mistress taught the Girls.

The departed Master, Mr. Wilkinson recorded in the Log book how he kept fit, he rose soon after 4 a.m. and read, wrote and exercised to 7.30 a.m. He instructed Mr. Pearson the pupil teacher from 8 a.m. - 9 a.m. Then he took School 9-12 and after lunch to 4.30 p.m. Then came recreation to 6 p.m., and Music and reading to 8.30 p.m. By this he preserved his health.

The new Master, Mr. William Batty Foster took over on 16th November 1863, he was late Master of the National School at Cleethorpes. He had trained at York in 1859 and after one year had gained a 3rd Class Certificate and for a while had been pupil teacher at Barwick in Elmet. Thomas Pearson remained as the pupil teacher.

Mr. Foster remarks in 1863 of the return to the School of a boy and a girl who had been absent for a year. The School inspector reported in 1864 that the children were neat and well behaved and that ... "some of the girls do not look very strong." However he adds that the girls needlework is better than that usually found in North Yorkshire. Next year 1864 school attendance dropped when measles were rampant in the village.

Dr. Whytehead buys the
White Timbered Cottage
on Crayke Hill 1863 and
his other properties

below it was rented to David Melsham (Welsom), and later occupied by his widow.

The tenant at the Hall was Mrs. Greenwood, Dr. W.Y. Whytehead was probably living at this time with his son at Wyton near Bilton on Hull. Mrs. Greenwood held the tenancy until 1872.

Around this time Crayke Hall had some alterations, from a photograph, the two Georgian windows which had been in the present dining room had been replaced by a large bow window, but the study at the Church end of the house still had its Georgian window. A new portion had been added on to the East end of the Hall in which was located the new kitchen and above it the maids rooms, superseding the maids rooms in the attic. The old Kitchens at the back near the croquet lawn became in this period a dining room, and a photo shows it filled with a heavy dining table with ornate legs and other solid furniture. It was in later years to become a drawing room.

St. Cuthberts Church
1865

In 1865 the Chancel of the Church was being restored, and a new North Aisle was being added. In its North Wall were three windows of two lights each similar to the older windows in the Church. The aisle had three bays and old material was used in its building. This building operation necessitated the move of Sir John Gibson's memorial from the old North Wall and in 1865 Archdeacon Churton said that the memorial was without any remaining inscription. He obviously did not like the memorial saying - "being composed of perishable material and executed in plaster, was so much decayed, that it was thought right to lay the fragments of the two horizontal figures where they may be seen through a trap door, below the floor." Archdeacon Churton added - "Another figure of a female, barbarously designed and executed, remains in a niche in the wall nearly opposite the pulpit. The work is of the seventeenth century."

However, the figures of Sir John and his first wife did not remain under the Church floor for ever, and now lie on the Church floor near the south wall near the Parsons stall.

The old kneeling figure, now headless remains loose in the Church.

A record was prepared by Archdeacon Churton for the visit of the Archbishop of York in 1865. He said that the Curate, William Inge was absent from ill-health, that the average number of Communicants was 30, and the average numbers attending a Service was 200, but in all the Sunday attendance was probably less than 300 out of a population of 600. He mentions that there was a mixed school and an infants school, and the Mistress of the Infant School taught needlework to the Girls (of the mixed school). There were 100 children in the School. Finally, Archdeacon Churton reported - "there are some cases of irreligion and immorality, but I trust not on the increase."

There was also a record of the acreage of the Glebe land, the Rectory House and Lands 2 acres, 1 rod, 13 perch, Gallowgates on the Oulston road six closes of 18 acres each, 8 acres of glebe land - the Share, marked on the tithe map by the numbers 611, 770 and 771 to 777.

Crayke School
1865-1866

The School seemed to run quietly under Mr. Foster and with Archdeacon Churton as the senior School Manager. They had good reports from the inspectors. They had the usual absences when haytime came or in potato picking time. Occasional minor indisciplines are recorded, William Musgrave punished in March 1866 for throwing a stone through the school window, and the boys were constantly breaking down the laurels planted in front of the school. Surprisingly the Girls in 1866 were recorded as having the "Girls Holiday" on 1st May as a May Day celebration.

Entertainment in the school included a performance in the School on 9th October 1865 by a "Wanderer", with of course Archdeacon Churton's permission, and on 29th November in that year there was a "Penny Reading" in the schoolroom in the evening.

Crayke Cottage 1868

The Curate, Rev. Wm. Inge, was building a substantial wing on to his house Crayke Cottage in 1868.

Canon Raine's Paper - 1869
on the Order of building
of the Castle

Canon Raine, mentioned before in this narrative read a paper to the Yorkshire Architectural Society in 1869. Canon Raine in his paper had given his theory of the order in

which the buildings of the Castle were constructed, and he quoted Lelands and the 1560-70 descriptions of the Castle. He also made his own comments on the buildings which are quoted here, together with additional comments made by Pevsners Guide. Mr. Higham and others.

The Great Chamber. Canon Raine says "the present Castle, the Great Chamber of the old building is the only perfect structure to remain on the hill (1869). For its dimensions my reader must be referred to the accompanying ground plan. It is of considerable altitude, and there is a view from it towards the West which leads the eye far away to the Craven and Westmorland hills.

It is excellently built, but without any ornament whatever, and the stone bears no mark of decay. It is lighted by a few narrow oblong windows. There is an entrance from the East into the basement story by a rude door which is now built up, but the chief entrance seems to have been by a door in the wall at the North-East corner, opening into the first floor, and which must have been approached by steps of wood or stone. The interior of this house was filled up with oak panelling, probably by the Allensons in the 17th Century.

Subsequently it was used, I believe as a farm house, but in recent years it has been made the residence of Captain Waite, Lord of the Manor, who is most anxious to conserve everything that remains of the Castle, of which he is the owner."

Further comments on the Great Chamber in Pevsners, "Yorkshire, The North Riding" gives the outside dimensions of the Great Chamber as about 70 ft x 30 ft (Though the whole building is known as the Great Chamber, the actual title belonged to the main hall which occupied the whole of the first floor). Pevsner says of the access door in the N.E. Corner that as the doorway to the Kitchen basement is close by, one must assume that a stair case building, probably of timber was attached here. He remarks that the first floor chamber had moulded beams and is now sub-divided.

Mr. Higham's description of access to the Castle is that the main hall in this building, the Great Chamber proper, was entered through a pointed arch at the East end of the North side of the Castle (now blocked up). A second similar archway gave entrance to the floor above and the two were probably connected by an outside wooden staircase building. Access to the top floor may have been by ladder or spiral staircase. The entrance to the ground floor was by a smaller archway on the East side, now partly blocked up to form a window.

Mr. Higham further describes the building as having outside dimensions of 70 ft 9 ins and 28 ft 4 ins, being built into the side of the hill, and being of four stories high, and from the ground to the top of the embattlements it is 48 ft high. Its four square turrets are also embattled and are chimneys, although the one at the eastern end may have been a lookout post at the top of a spiral staircase. A garderobe or privy was let into the western wall on each floor.

The first floor Chamber had moulded beams, one fireplace at the West end, and one midway down the south wall to heat the rest of the Great Chamber. The ground floor, like the first floor, was originally one apartment and had an earth floor to about 1850.

According to Pevsner's guide, a handsome staircase with twisted and turned balusters was put in during the 18th Century, and there are also other minor Georgian features. This internal staircase was put in from the ground floor to the first floor and Georgian type doors were fitted to the rooms created by the sub division of the two floors. The floor above was still reached at this time through the original arched entrance on the North side.

Between 1840 and 1890, when the Castle was owned first by William Waite and next by his son Captain Waite, substantial alterations were made to the Great Chamber (and to the undercroft of the old kitchen).

It could be that it was Captain Waite who had installed the Georgian staircase and doors from some old Georgian building. He did increase the internal staircases adding one between the 1st and 2nd floors, and this was linked by a tall landing to the original arched entrance to the 3rd floor. Also an internal staircase was built to the top floor.

He probably installed the chimney piece that bears the Coat of Arms of the City of York.

A new wing was built on to the North East, beyond the landing, to provide a billiard room. A windmill was used to pump water into a cistern in the grounds, and then it was pumped by hand to a cistern in the Castle.

The Kitchen Undercroft

Canon Paine says in 1869 "Adjoining this building (the Great Chamber) towards the north are the remains of Bishop Neville's kitchen, the basement with some excellent ribbed vaulting is perfect, but the kitchen which stood above is gone. The West wall with an ancient window in it was removed not many years ago. The thin slip of a building extending from the Kitchen towards the North was probably Bishop Neville's larder. To the East of this larder is a mound of earth covering we may safely conjecture the remains of the early English Hall."

Pevsner comments "of the Kitchen range, only the basement is preserved. Before it was subdivided, it must have been most impressive, for it is tunnel vaulted, and crossed by thirteen heavy

unmoulded transverse arches or ribs."

The undercroft, designed as a storehouse was 45ft 10ins long and 19ft 6ins wide and was below ground level on the North side. A spiral staircase led from its N.W. Corner to the Kitchen above and another doorway led into the basement of the five storied Great Tower on the west side.

It is possible that the way from the Great Chamber to the Great Tower was via the Kitchen.

Of the kitchen above its undercroft, nothing remains, it was 22ft x 20ft.

During the period around 1780 the undercroft was used as a cattle shed. Between 1840-90, the Waites divided the undercroft into pantry, larder and wine store, and a passage was driven through to the ground floor of the castle. Later the Kitchen for the Castle was created in the undercroft.

The New Tower

In 1869 it was described by Canon Raine as follows "We now walk a little to the East, and come to the remains of what was called in 1560-70, the New Tower. It contained amongst other rooms, a spacious hall and parlour, from the windows of which there must have been a magnificent view down the slopes of the park towards Brandsby. Of this building nothing remains save a portion of the basement and a fragment of the story immediately above it, and our knowledge of what previously existed there, is derivable only from the ancient ground plan and specifications.

The basement is to a great extent of Early English Construction, and upon it the 15th Century building has been erected. The entrance towards the west was through a porch with a great gate. There were rooms above it, one of which, with its vaulted roof was in existence about 1780 when Hutchinson wrote his "History of the County Palatine of Durham.

The small building to the North of the parlour was probably the garderobe. Below it is a deeply sunk pond, into which the drainage of this part of the Castle would probably flow."

The plan of the New Tower 1560-70 shows the Western porch as 13ft wide and 12ft long, a passage way about 15ft long ran east with doorways into the Hall (which was 29ft x 27ft externally) on the North, and the Chamber to the East. The Chamber was 42ft x 33ft internally.

There were staircases to the upper and lower rooms. With its porch the New Tower had an 'L' shape and part of it was still standing c. 1780.

All that remains now are the porch walls and part of the passage and stairway, and below the lower vaults.

It is not known why this New Tower had been built, or whether it was linked to the earlier buildings or not.

Gatehouse

Canon Raine said that "some traces of the Gatehouse have been discovered near the present entrance into the grounds." It would appear that a wall had surrounded the Castle buildings.

A Chapel at the Castle
and the Altar Stone

As a Bishops residence, it is most likely that there had been a chapel at the Castle, but no site is known. Canon Raine in commenting on this said "there is an ancient altar stone which had probably belonged to it but it is out of its proper place." This stone was according to Mr. Hogg's recollections formerly in the housekeeper's room in the Castle, and the corners cut off to allow it to fit into the window arch looking to the East. Then it was removed when the Castle was renovated and placed on bricks, and upon it a frame for the hot water cylinder was set up. Next it was removed in 1920 and placed in the new North Aisle in the Church on the East Wall. Mr. Hogg said "I think that a better thing would have been to set it up as an altar and used on special days." Mr. Hogg's wish has come true, and in 1965 it was set up as an altar in the North Aisle of St. Cuthberts.

Crayke School 1870-1873 -
Three Masters

Mr. Foster left on 4th April 1870. It is recorded that - "he received the most hearty expressions of affection from the children, their parents and the Managers of the School. His character, conduct and attention to duty have been entirely satisfactory for the six and a half years during which he had charge of the school.

The new Master appointed on 5th April 1870. was Mr. George Ridley Davidson who was born on 16th July 1819, who held a certificate of the 3rd Division. He had been a Pupil Teacher in a Boys National School at Berwick on Tweed 1863-68, and this had been followed by two years Teacher Training from 1868-69. Despite his lack of experience, he recorded that he did not think very much of the standard of knowledge in Crayke School. In Arithmetic, the boys don't think, there is very little general information in the School, he had to give a sketch of English History to the school as he found only two boys in the school who had heard of such a thing. Composition was poor.

Finally he cautioned boys against shooting stones from catapults and remarked "The Church Clock keeps bad time."

Presumably as a result of his new broom action, a number of children left school, and he had a brush with Mr. Inge who overruled his suggested alteration of the girls curriculum.

In January 1871 he records during the month the intense cold which hindered working, in February he mentions "Ordinary work viz: drudgery - brains scarce" and "Slavery with arithmetic of Standard V" and "Ditto with Standard III dictation."

By now school attendance was compulsory since the School Attendance Act of 1870, but Mr. Davidson complains of irregular attendance. The Annual Report of the Inspector in May 1871 said that the School had sadly fallen off, that the unsettled state due to the change of teacher was by no means solely accountable for it, and a decided improvement was demanded.

Mr. Davidson recorded on November 10th. 1871, that new windows were put in "to enable us to work better in the afternoons, but still rather dark." On November 17th, the school had an afternoon off for putting in a window at the West End."

The Annual report of the Inspectors for 1872 blasted Mr. Davidson and deducted a 10th of the Grant for the School until satisfactory results were produced.

It is not surprising that Mr. Davidson left the school on April 7, 1872, being succeeded by Mr. Edward Varah, aged 39, who had been educated at Wiston Grammar School, Yorks., was a scripture reader in Sheffield for 3 years. He had been Assistant Master at Pitiman National School for one year, Master of Stanningham National School for two years, and Master of Braithwell Endowed School for eleven years. He was therefore very experienced, and he reported that the discipline in the school was bad. In May 1872 smallpox had broken out in the village, some children were vaccinated.

Mr. Varah the Schoolmaster was sad at the loss of his best pupil Edwin James Ellis who had gone to a Grammar School in February 1873 to finish his education, and in July of that year Margaret Smith went to a Ladys School to finish.

In February 1873, Archdeacon Churton visited the School and thought that the alteration made to the school steps was a great improvement, he came next in April to enquire about boys who had been throwing stones.

In 1873 there is the first mention of games at school, the Master recording that he played cricket with the boys.

The annual report said that the school had improved, but not as much as had been hoped after it had fallen so low.

In 1874 Mr. Varah's boys cricket team beat Mr. Benslys Boys of Easingwold.

The Demolition of the
old "Poor" Cottages on
Brandsby Street 1871

At the end of the old Constables Account book is an entry dated in 1871 on the demolition of the old Poor Cottages, the parish cottages which had been sited at the end of Crayke

village on the road leading to Brandsby. After their demolition, Mr. Turner bought bricks to the value of £1-12-0 and 1/9d for gates. Mr. Knowles paid £1 for tiles at 4/- per hundred (500 tiles). John Gilleard paid 7/6d for wood, and Capt Waite paid 12/- for the site of the old buildings. This sale raised £3-13-3 but there had to be deducted a fee of 7/6 to cover the auctioneers taking fee (5/-) and tender (2/-). This left £3-5-9, from which £1-16-0 was paid out for the repair of other Poor Houses, and the balance was paid to Mr. Knowles, Crayke's Poor Law Union representative of the Easingwold Poor Law Union. Later this balance was transferred in 1878 to the Parish Clerk, Mr. Clark, and it was expended in repairing Parish property.

The Departure of the
Curate - Rev Wm. Inge
from Crayke 1873

The Rev. William Inge had been in ill health and around 1873 he left Crayke for Abewas near Burton on Trent. On 30th October 1873, Mrs. Waite of the Castle and Mrs. Turner from the

Hall went to the school and suggested to the children that they should subscribe to a testimonial to Rev. Wm. Inge, who had helped in the school, and the children responded heartily.

Mrs. Turner was the wife of Mr. William Thorne Turner who had succeeded Mrs. Greenwood as the tenant of the Hall around 1872 and he had become one of the School Managers.

The Turners lived for many years in Crayke as recorded by a tablet in the Church. He died at Scarborough in 1887.

The death of Archdeacon
Churton and the appointment
of Rev. M.E. Stanborough
1874

Archdeacon Churton died in 1874 and the School Log gives this precisely as 11 a.m. on 4th July. He was a notable theologian, scholar and writer. He had accumulated a very large library of Spanish books, being interested in

the literature and very interested in foreign theology.

His best known work was "The Early English Church." He had a love for poetry and it is said that Cervantes was his delight, "Dante" in Italian, Spenser, Shakespeare, Wordsworth and Scott.

He undertook translations and original compositions. In his memory it was said that his personal influence was based upon what he was rather than what he said or did. Parishoners, even the simple and unlearned, loved and honoured his unworldly and gentle life, his laborious diligent habits, his kind sympathy and generous, though not indiscriminating bounty. He dealt firmly with his "charges" (the annual speech to the gathered clergy of the Archdeaconry) with the troubled state caused by large secession to the Roman Communion during his time.

The new Rector appointed by Lord Beaconsfield in October 1874 was the Rev. Morris Edgar Stanborough, MA, of Caius College, Cambridge. He visited Crayke and the School in that month but he did not take up his post at Crayke until January 1875.

A new road direct from
Crayke to Easingwold 1874

Up to 1874, the route from Crayke to Easingwold was still by the ancient way to the Stillinton Road or by Brastley Lane. There was a footpath

across the fields which ran from Daffy Lane to "Crayke Field" on Easingwold territory. It left Daffy Lane on the South side of Halfway House, and at the Easingwold end the entrance into "Crayke Field" was by a gate at the top end of Uppleby. Bulmer West Highways Board, set up by the Highways Board Act of 1862 made the new direct road, linking the East end of Mill Lane, Easingwold with Daffy Lane at Halfway House. The work was carried out in 1874. On 5th February 1875 the Auditors of the Highways Board passed the Account for the road for £334-3-4½.

Crayke School and a
Scarlet fever epidemic
1875-1876

The year started with cold weather, and on 12th February 1875, Enoch Atkinson "the worst boy in the school" broke a window with a snowball. On 19th February, Thomas Shepherd, the best boy

in his Standard at School, was killed by a Threshing machine. On 19th April the Rector gave a tea for all the children in the School, followed by a cricket match for the boys in Mr. Ellis's field, and games for the girls in the Rectory grounds. Mr. Chomley and Mr. Waite each gave 2/6 to buy a flag for the school.

By August 1875, Scarlet Fever was very bad in the village and two thirds of the Scholars either had it or had just had it in the month. In November it was recorded in the school log that the Scarlet Fever was still bad, and in the next year 1876 cases occurred in January, February and July.

Miss Elizabeth Jeeves was the sewing Mistress and occasionally was helped by the Rectors wife. The standard of sewing required from the girls was that those over 12 years were to be able to cut out and make any ordinary garment. Girls from 7 to 12 years had to make a dolls apron, to set a patch into an old garment, and to darn a stocking. They were able to raise a sum of £2-18-9½ in June 1876 from a sale of their needlework done in school and Miss Jeeves handed over the money to Mrs. Stanborough for the school finances. In November

1875, Leonard Rickaby was unwise enough to hit the sewing mistress in the face with a snowball.

The School Annual reports were moderate. In 1875 the school received from the Managers a new map of Europe, 2 dozen Geographies, and 2 dozen Grammars.

In November 1875 two boys at the school had stolen 3d out of a sewing box during the lunch hour. (The log records them as "Roman Catholics" perhaps to explain such a crime in a Church of England School). However afterwards at school, one confessed at once and gave up one penny. The other confessed the next day and gave up 1½d. Each received 5 strokes of the cane. The reason why the second boy had delayed his confession was that he had spent the 1½d he had taken on "3 packets of lemon kale at the shop of Andrew Johnson and then got the 1½d from his mother to refund to the School." Whenever the hounds met near Crayke, some boys went absent from school.

In October 1876 Francis Rickaby stabbed himself in the chest accidentally with a penknife. The choir trip in 1876 was to Castle Howard. Penny Readings occurred at intervals in the evenings at the School, and on December 1st they had a full house with 179 present.

In May 1876 the School Inspector recommended that in addition to the Master and the Sewing Mistress an Assistant Teacher should be engaged at once.

School happenings 1877
a New Class room, a
Schools Attendance
Committee, and Mr. Varah
leaves

January 1877 started the year with measles in the school. Jane Bilton stuck a pen into her arm in a scurrage with Eliza Clark, and half an inch of the pen remained in her arm and she had to be taken by her Mother to Dr. Hicks. In April

the School report was on the whole satisfactory, and Miss Eliz. Jeeves the Sewing Mistress was appointed Assistant Mistress.

On 18th May 1877 the building of a new classroom for the school began, and on 28th June 1877 a meeting was held to form a School Attendance Committee, and the Crayke attendance officers appointed were Mr. Michael Newlove, James Hodgson and George G. Lambert. Subsequently their activities seemed to have little effect upon the irregular attendance of some scholars. The collection of School pence, the attendance fees, was greatly in arrears and difficult to enforce as some just stayed away when the pressure was on.

Mr. Varah records that he had lost a few pupils, two to the R.C. School in Easingwold and one to the Wesleyan School at Easingwold. Mr. Varah records triumphantly later that the two R.C.s returned as there was no equivalent standard at the R.C. School. The Church accounts for 1877 shew that Mr. Varah was paid £2 for playing the Harmonium.

Summer brought a Chicken Pox outbreak, the Choir trip to the Hambleton Hills, two boys stole peas out of Mr. Knowles field and were reported to the School. They were punished and the peas were recovered.

In November the Rev. Morris Stanborough brought a young man and his sister to look at the school, they were to be the next master and mistress. It was hinted that the school had a debt and perhaps the contract with the new young couple meant less money to pay out.

However, Mr. Varah left on 10th November for an appointment at Stockwith School, Lincolnshire, and Miss Jeeves the Assistant Mistress went to Hurwith School, Durham in December.

Families with children
in Crayke 1877

Before he left Mr. Varah entered in the School log an interesting survey of families in Crayke in 1877. There were sixty-one families in the village which had between them 170 children. Of these 170 children, 60 were under five years of age, 107 were five and over and under fourteen, and three who were over 14 years and who attended school.

Of the sixty under fives, twelve went to school and of the 107 between 5 and 14, eighty-five attended school and twenty-two did not, but these included the Rectors five children and Capt Lemprieres two who though they did not attend Crayke School were presumably educated elsewhere. Some probably went to the R.C. School or the Wesleyan School at Easingwold.

The details of the families and the numbers of children attending or not attending Crayke School are as follows:-

| <u>Name of Parent</u> | <u>Under 5 yrs</u> | | <u>5 and under 14</u> | | | <u>Over 14</u> |
|-----------------------|--------------------|----------------|-----------------------|----------------|--------------------|----------------|
| | <u>Total</u> | <u>At Sch.</u> | <u>Total</u> | <u>At Sch.</u> | <u>Not at Sch.</u> | |
| John Wright | 3 | - | 2 | 1 | 1 | - |
| Henry Leamon | 2 | - | 2 | 2 | - | - |
| John Grainger | 1 | - | 2 | 1 | 1 | - |
| John Lief | - | - | 1 | 1 | - | - |
| Henry Bywater | 2 | - | - | - | - | - |
| Enoch Atkinson | - | - | 1 | 1 | - | - |
| John Hood | 1 | - | 2 | 2 | - | - |
| A. Webster | - | - | 4 | - | 4 | - |
| Joseph Shepherd | 1 | - | 3 | 3 | - | - |
| William Johnson | - | - | 1 | 1 | - | - |
| G.H. Pettinger | 3 | - | 5 | 5 | - | - |
| Wm. Dennis | 1 | - | 4 | 3 | 1 | - |
| John Farrar | - | - | 1 | 1 | - | - |
| J. Booth | - | - | 1 | 1 | - | - |
| R. Ellis | - | - | 4 | 4 | - | - |
| William Gilleard | - | - | 3 | 3 | - | - |
| John Rimmer | - | - | 1 | 1 | - | - |
| John Rimmer Junior | 3 | 1 | - | - | - | - |
| J. H. Roe | - | - | 2 | 2 | - | 1 |
| Wm. Loble | 2 | 1 | - | - | - | - |
| Wm. Wilson | 1 | 1 | - | - | - | - |
| Wm. Mountain | 2 | 1 | - | - | - | - |
| James Knowles | 1 | - | - | - | - | - |
| Thos. Rickaby | - | - | 3 | 3 | - | 1 |
| Robert Kilvington | 2 | - | 4 | 3 | 1 | - |
| Richard Snowball | - | - | 2 | 1 | 1 | - |
| John Smith | - | - | 2 | 2 | - | - |
| D. Garbut | 1 | - | 1 | 1 | - | - |
| A. Johnson | 2 | 1 | 2 | 2 | - | - |
| John Gilleard | - | - | 2 | 2 | - | - |
| Thos. Humphrey | 2 | 1 | 3 | 3 | - | - |
| William Dobson | - | - | 3 | 3 | - | - |
| R. Robinson | - | - | 1 | 1 | - | - |
| Christ. Ellis | 2 | 1 | - | - | - | - |
| Thos. Hildred | - | - | 1 | 1 | - | - |
| Widow Knowles | - | 1 | - | - | - | 1 |
| David Scobe | 2 | 1 | - | - | - | - |
| John Scobe | 2 | - | 3 | 3 | - | - |
| John Cookshaw | - | 1 | 1 | 1 | - | - |
| Thos. Smith | 2 | - | 3 | 2 | 1 | - |
| Christ. Britton | 1 | - | 2 | 2 | - | - |
| Thos. Gibson | - | - | 1 | - | 1 | - |
| J. Horsley | - | - | 1 | 1 | - | - |
| C. Beedham | 2 | - | 2 | 2 | - | - |
| Mrs. Bell | - | - | 1 | 1 | - | - |
| Rev. W. Stanborough | 1 | - | 5 | - | 5 | - |

| <u>Name of Parent</u> | <u>Under 5 yrs</u> | | <u>5 and under 14</u> | | | <u>Over 14</u> |
|---------------------------|--------------------|----------------|-----------------------|----------------|--------------------|----------------|
| | <u>Total</u> | <u>At Sch.</u> | <u>Total</u> | <u>At Sch.</u> | <u>Not at Sch.</u> | |
| Thos. Allen | 2 | - | - | - | - | - |
| Wm. Smith | - | - | 1 | 1 | - | - |
| Wm. Bell | 2 | - | 2 | 2 | - | - |
| Capt Lempriere | 2 | - | 2 | - | 2 | - |
| E. Varah (the Master) | 2 | 1 | 1 | 1 | - | - |
| Geo. Johnson | - | - | 1 | - | 1 | - |
| Wm. Ramsden | 3 | 1 | 1 | 1 | - | - |
| Widow Parkinson | - | - | 1 | - | 1 | - |
| G. Cleaver | 2 | - | - | - | - | - |
| Hy. Sturdy | - | - | 2 | 2 | - | - |
| John Clark | 2 | - | 3 | 3 | - | - |
| Matthew Clark | - | - | 2 | 2 | - | - |
| Richard Robson | 1 | - | 2 | 2 | - | - |
| R. Bilton | 1 | - | 4 | 3 | 1 | - |
| Geo. Brown | 1 | - | 3 | 2 | 1 | - |
| Sixty one families | 60 | 12 | 107 | 85 | 22 | 3 |

Mosswood Farm bought by
Dr. Whytehead 1877

In 1877 Dr. H.Y. Whytehead bought Mosswood Farm and by now his Crayke Hall Estate was large and second only in size to the Manor Estate.

He was still living away from Crayke, at Bewholme with his son Rev. Robert Yates Whytehead the Rector of Nunkeeling in East Yorkshire. The Vicarage was in Bewholme. Dr. Whytehead also held a considerable estate at Nun Keeling being one of the principal landowners.

1878-1881, Four new
Masters in four years -
Mr. Wheatley, Mr. Newton,
Mr. Emerson and Mr. Tait

The School now entered a period which must have been upsetting for the childrens education, and arose from the financial stringency of the School Managers, and clashes with the Masters. First came Mr. Wheatley on

14th January 1878, he had been trained at Durham 1876-77 and had gained a 2nd Certificate at the end of his first year, and had served his apprenticeship at St. Cuthberts National School, Bensham, Gateshead. His wife Mary became the sewing mistress. Mr. Wheatley thought the old school timetable to be unworkable, and also he set to work to restore discipline in the school. One instance was when he kept the first class in for gross disobedience because they had kept a tuning fork with which they kept amusing the rest of the school and would not give it up. He records that Mr. Jackson had asked that his sons may be excused homework because they have three miles to go and then have farm work to do every night. In 1880 Mr. Wheatley complains that the attendance officer was not acting upon reports of absenteeism - "so that children who ought to be at School are running about the village, the parents waiting to see if more of the gentry will come forward to pay the fees." Also some grown up boys were enticing children to stay away from School. He records that school fees were much in arrears and that some had not paid for months.

Some distant farmers were not sending their children until they were 7 years of age and they had to be placed in standards where they were not fit for the annual examination, however, despite this, in his few years Mr. Wheatley obtained good inspectors reports and he obtained from his results a Government grant of £60 which was looked upon as a high water mark by his successors. He complained of the bad light in the school, and during his time a ventilator was placed

in the Classroom and new railings were put up in front of the School in June 1880.

In November 1878 there were very severe snowstorms and one on the 12th was so severe the school closed, and there was 26 inches of snow.

Mr. Wheatley resigned in October 1880 and was appointed to Norham Endowed School - a later Master commented - "This man, though he was successful, he could not be induced to stay in this "comfortable shop" more than 2½ years."

Mr. J. Newton was appointed Master on 4th October 1880 he had a 2nd Class Certificate in the 1st Division and his wife Hannah who was appointed Assistant Mistress had a 2nd Class Certificate. They had four children Esther, Chas, Lewis and Fred, all of school age. The school was examined by the inspectors only six months after he had come and the report was disastrous and it said the school was backward, and the low number of scholars on the exam schedule (55) disqualified the school from a grant. The religious teaching was reported on by the Diocesan Inspector as good. But the Government inspector had recommended a few children to receive prizes for their work, but Mr. Newton said that there was no fund for this and it came out of the Rectors pocket. Mr. Newton was abruptly dismissed on 4th July 1881 as the bad exams results after only six months were blamed upon him.

The new Master was Mr. George E. Emerson, formerly Master of Scalby National School, with his wife who was engaged as the Assistant Mistress. He reacted fairly quickly to the situation and sent in his resignation in the first week, saying "I informed Mr. Stanborough that I intended leaving as soon as my three months were up."

He complained that his predecessor had not rearranged the children in their standards according to the exam results, that they were backward in Arithmetic and Spelling. He sent a child home to get her face and hands washed and her hair brushed. He found out that some children had only been paying 2d a week when they should have paid 4d as Farmers children and had no doubt that there were many others.

He left at the end of the Quarter and was succeeded by Mr. R. Tait on 3rd October 1881. Four masters in four years, of which the children in 1881 were taught by three, Messrs. Newton, Emerson and Tait. It is not surprising that the standard was low in the school, and the unfortunate Mr. Tait had to tackle this, and be faced with the financial restrictions due to the loss of the grant, and the sad mess that the school fees had got into by then.

However, Mr. Tait was to last until 1884, when he too was dismissed.

Mr. Tait's four trying years 1881-1884

Mr. R. Tait came from Bilsby Board School, Alford, Lincolnshire, and his wife Sarah also taught at Crayke. He found all the standards lamentably deficient with one exception, the singing on which he remarks - "a pleasing and somewhat hearty style of singing." He made very full entries in the log including great details of minor incidents. Mrs. Tait gave one girl a "gentle" slap for talking in sewing, later Mrs. Tait was followed to Smiths shop by the girls grandmother who rudely addressed her on the slight punishment adding "Sarah was only talking." Mrs. Tait was upset, and so Mr. Tait spoke to Sarah Beedham in school next day and records that he told her "You did wrong to tell your Grandma" to which Sarah replied "Please Sir, I did not know that Grandma would act so."

In 1881 he records the arrival of quantities of new Geographical readers, copies, pens, pencils, paper, printers, clothing, slates and Heywood's tables.

In November Mr. Sturdy came to the school to complain about his boys wet cap, and the Master told him that there were not enough pegs in the school for the boys caps, and hence soft caps must go into the owners pockets. If wet they could be dried by the fire, and Mr. Sturdy went "respectfully away," but next month two dozen new double hat pegs were put in by Mr. Clark the joiner.

In November 1881, the Rector provided, at his own expense, a new 8 day clock for the school, and he addressed the school and reminded them that Labourers had to pay 2d a week for each child and people above labourers, 4d. The School was still dark in winter so that there was difficulty in afternoon work.

In December he gave Sarah Sturdy a slap with the cane for breaking school rules by taking her sewing home on Tuesday night without permission. Sarah in the afternoon wilfully pricked a finger on the caned hand and told her mother that Mr. Tait had done this. Mr. Sturdy came to the School and charged Mr. Tait with this act, luckily for him the Rector was present who found out from witnesses that Sarah had done this herself, and the Rector addressed the school on the great sin of telling lies and spoke some serious words of admonition to the girl. She stayed away a few days after that. Mr. Tait complained that the rough state of the desks militates against the neatness of the work.

In January 1882, depressed by the low Standard of work he began to detain a class every evening after prayers. Mrs. Lempriere, wife of Captain Lempriere called in on a farewell visit to the School in March 1882 just before she left with the family for Bangor. There was still a lot of absenteeism, and the Committee got as far as fining some parents 5/- or 6/-. The Rector made a present of a new Table to the School. The Annual report said that the school was still backward though the children were well behaved. Though this may have been so in school, cases occurred when people went to the school to ask for punishment of children for acts outside school. In March 1882 four boys were punished for interfering with the Postmans Haycock, in July eight children were punished for chasing Mr. Ellis's pea-fowls on a Sunday, Wm. Sturdy received two slaps for throwing stones at Allen Roe's dog. In January 1883, six girls were punished for playing ball too close to Mrs. Newton's house (The Cottage)

Mr. Ellis of Mount Pleasant Farm on the occasion of his daughter's marriage in July 1882 held sports for the school children in the afternoon.

The school was still troubled over the collection of school fees during these years. When Mr. Annett of Crayke ruptured a blood vessel and died in October 1882, Mrs. Waite of the Castle paid the school fees for his children Frederick and Lucy.

At Mr. Tait's suggestion, the Rector agreed that all pens and holders belonging to pupils be sent home, and only those of the school to be used. He said that this will save time as parents are shy about pen money. The choir trip in May 1882 had been by van to the beautiful village of Wass by Coxwold.

One of Mr. Tait's ventures was a Night School for young men which he started in October 1882, but after only 5 weeks he closed it down as only 7 pupils attended, and he said that he would open it again if he could have 12 pupils.

Afternoon school on 1st January 1883 was cancelled so that the scholars could attend a party at the Castle on the occasion of "a marriage tomorrow." On 13th January, Mr. Curtis, a painter from Stillington was in the School in the evening from 5 p.m.-6.45 p.m. shewing his paintings - "very effective views of Scarborough, Somerset House, Chester Cathedral etc. under a powerful magnifying glass. He charged the scholars 1d. each.

On February 10th the School had a half holiday to prepare for an entertainment of "Music, Magic, Elocution and Ventriloquism" by Miss Adelaide Aldis.

Mr. Tait records, Geography is to be taught. Standard 2 - had to learn definitions and examples, Standard 3 to know about England, Wales and Yorkshire, Standard 4-5 about Scotland, Ireland, Colonies of N. America (not the West Indies), Cape Colony, Hindoostan and Australia. He ruefully reported that when describing large areas of water it was difficult for many of the children who had seen no water larger than Crayke Mill dam.

The annual report said that there had been steady progress and congratulated the Tait's, but mentioned that the Class room was inconveniently small.

In June 1883 there was Whooping Cough in the Village, Mr. Tait records his remedy, "Any child who coughs severely I cure by making it stand in front of the empty fireplace. The stench proceeding from the soot cures, or rather checks the cough."

In November 1883, he had the railings on the West Side of the School repaired by John Clark as the Girls and the Infants played there.

The annual report of May 1884 said that there had been creditable progress except the Arithmetic of the Mixed School was defective, and the younger infants were backward, but then came the unexpected thunderbolt which referred to the Girls Privy - "the unseemly remarks on the door shall be obliterated. Neglect of this makes me hesitate much in recommending any merit grant to the School." The Rector came to the rescue and recorded in the school log that - "the marks were on the Girls Privy door before poor Tait came to the School. The said Privy is in a private yard, the door generally stands open, when so, the marks are unseen and so unfortunately were passed over by the carpenter while painting."

The Rector was President of Crayke Cricket Club and on 26th April 1884 the School had a half holiday for the Cricket match in Crayke between Married and Single members.

Then the blow fell upon poor Mr. Tait. On 21st May 1884 to quote - "The Rector told me in the presence of Mr. Jno. Newton (one of the school Managers) that an Organist is required for the Church Harmonium. I cannot play that instrument so that I am to look out for another situation, but the Rector promised to allow a reasonable time as situations are not obtained easily."

On August 9th he wrote in the Log "I have not got another appointment yet - altho' I am trying every week."

During September he records that on a Tuesday, Crayke Parish Tea at a 1/- per head was held in the School, followed by races in Mr. Knowles field. In the evening a Ball was held in the School up to 11 pm. On the following Wednesday there was a tea for the Children of Crayke at 3d. per head. The Hushwaite Brass Band attended the Games and the Ball. The School now changed its school year to end on 31st January instead of 31st March so as to coincide with the Easingwold Schools. On October 18th, 1884, a new Stove

(Musgraves Patent) arrived from York, and later Smith, the Plumber fixed it in the class room, and the School Managers bought 4 barrows of coke.

The Rector told Mr. Tait that he had engaged another Master, together with his sister. Mr. Tait signs out in the week ending 29th September saying "I myself leaving for an appointment in London. I shall claim $\frac{1}{2}$ of 9/12 of Grant - R. Tait."

A later Master wrote in the Log "Mr. Tait did good work but was dismissed with the pretence that an organist was required, though his daughter was quite capable of taking the place of Miss Stanborough (the Rectors daughter) at the Harmonium."

Methodist Chapels 1883

It is probable that by 1883 there was only one Wesleyan Methodist Chapel in the village instead of two, possibly the one remaining was that in Key Lane. The Primitive Methodist Chapel was still in existence on the Stillington road out of Crayke.

Mr. Cowling of Easingwold found an entry in a local builders day book which says - "29 May 1883 - white-washing Craike Wesley Chapel - 4/6".

Mr. Jopling the new Master arrives 1884 and leaves in 1886

Mr. John Jopling succeeded Mr. Tait he could play the harmonium as well as teaching. He came on 29th December 1884, and his sister Mary, also to teach at Crayke arrived on January 5th direct from the Diocesan Training College, Durham.

The annual report in May 1885 said that the school was in a miserable condition except for its discipline which was satisfactory. The Inspector recommended that as soon as funds permitted, the brick floor of the school should be replaced by one of wood. The Inspector ended with a threat, that unless a great improvement was made the Government grant would be reduced. Continuity of education was disrupted by much absenteeism and on one occasion only 51 attended out of the 102 on the School books. The 1886 report said in May that there had been some improvement but that ~~was better~~ results should have been much better, and that the infants were sadly neglected.

Mr. John Jopling who had obviously read the Log of his predecessors and understood the signs, entered on 26th June 1886 - "Am leaving my present situation."

A later master (Mr. Roberts) who devoted himself to follow ups on former masters wrote:- "The desired organist arrived in the person of Mr. John Jopling, whose sister was also trained and certificated. He stayed 18 months and resigned when he heard that he was going to be dismissed. After he left Crayke, Mr. Jopling received testaments from his new Rector and Lady Carlisle which showed that he was a good teacher."

At Crayke he is accused of being fat and inefficient and the originator of the School Debt. Mr. Joplings own comments were that the Crayke salary was inadequate for two trained teachers and he found that the school was not what it had been represented,

Mr. J. Lyles, the new
Master lasts 4½ years
and Miss Dobson's
Private School at
Crayke 1886

Mr. Joseph Lyles took over on 5th July 1886, he said afterwards that he had thought of resigning soon after he arrived. He was described as a good experienced Batterseaman. He thought that the salary was not good enough, but he stayed 4½ years, perhaps because he had a large family. In school he records he was assisted by Sarah Titmarsh a monitor. Mr. Lyles first reaction was that - "the irregularity of the children is something wonderful." This not only meant their periods of absence, but they did not arrive at school in time.

He found himself in competition with Miss Dobson's private school in Crayke. On 13th August 1886 some children left him for Miss Dobson's school, but she did not take all of them in, so when the rejected ones returned to Mr. Lyles school he promptly raised their fees from 2d. to 4d. In October 1886 Miss Dobson had fifteen children in her private school which interfered with the average attendance expected at Crayke Parish School. Absence was troubling Mr. Lyle, in one week in October 13 children were absent the whole week, and on 29 October he records "Four boys absent, having been to see the monkey."

Electric Light at the
Castle 1887

the Castle to inspect the Electric Light."

On May 24th, 1887, the School Log records "The School Children were invited by Mr. and Mrs. Whites to

The School under
Mr. Lyle 1887-1890

In February 1887, Mr. Lyle had several encounters with parents. He had caned Jonathan Scobey for throwing ink into Horace Wilson's face. Scobey's mother objected to him being caned and threatened to take her boy from school. Mr. Lyle wrote - "Master hoped she will as he is the most troublesome boy in the parish." On 4th March young Scobey left for good, being hired by Mr. Peacock.

On May 24th, 1887, the School Log records "The School Children were invited by Mr. and Mrs. Whites to

There was a row with the parents of two girls. It arose when Hannah and Ada Hood required new copy books, their mother sent word that they were not to have them (The Hoods had to pay for them). The Master said that he should have to ask Mr. Stanborough how he was to teach them to write. The next day John Hood, their father, told Mr. Lyle that his children have "over much writing", and that, if Mr. Lyle went tittle-tattle to Mr. Stanborough, other people could too. "I don't know what he means" writes Mr. Lyle. "His children do 8, sometimes 9 lines of copy book in a week. He threatened to take them away as he said their writing did not improve. This is an absolute untruth, and he knows it as they have improved very much. Ada had a copy book on December 14th 1886 nearly 5 months since - Hannah on October 26th 1886 over six months since." On Nov 12th, the Log records - "John Hood has sent his children to the Ladies Seminary, wherest we rejoice."

21st June 1887 - a whole holiday as it was Jubilee Day, the school log says "God Save the Queen."

Absence was still very troublesome at the School, at one time 50% were away in the summer of 1887, one parent was fined 5/- by the Attendance Committee for his child's absence. In 1888 a girl of 12 yrs who had a bad attendance record, being employed when away, at a farm, could not even pass Standard 2. In May 1888, two girls were absent being employed in cow tending for G. Johnson, the Postmaster. On November 1st 1889, Mr. Lyle records "Arthur Wright, having past no standard, and being 13 years of age has retired, and was hired by Mr. Ellis."

Despite this by 1889 the Annual Report of the Inspectors was quite good, and some improvement noted, and the School was given a good merit grant.

Of the children who did go to school he mentions that Fred Davis and Josh. Shaw were disciplined for pulling the School bell in the evening of 3rd October 1887, by feeling thro' the window for the rope. Some children of one family who did attend, normally were away with bad feet, and they could not get their shoes on their feet. He writes in July 1888 "The Bywaters have returned to the fold having eschewed the path that leads to the Academy." He caned boys for being late. On 24th April 1890, he caned R. Nottingham, C. Jackson, L. Jackson and E. Johnson for heating the poker and using it as a weapon to keep other children out of the school during the dinner hour. C. Brown, a girl was burnt to death at home on Feb 7th 1890 thro' playing with fire. Two children, returned from the Academy, failed their tests.

On the weather, a very heavy snowstorm closed the school on 20 Feb 1888, and heavy snow prevailed for a week, and again in March there were very heavy falls of snow, and in November 1890 are recorded the first snow storms of the season. Whooping Cough began in June 1889, and for periods in that month and July the school had to be closed. Mr. Lyle did not recommend any treatment for it as did one of his predecessors. The Inspector observed again about the School brick floor and said "A boarded floor should be provided during the present year." In May 1890 the Log says "The new floor is a great improvement to the room."

One of Mr. Lyle's last entries says - "the desks are old and clumsy, and ill provided with ink wells. A new blackboard and easel are needed."

Mr. Lyle signs off on 28 September 1890. His successor, Mr. Roberts, wrote that Mr. Lyle had, thought the salary was not good enough, nor the school to be what it had been represented, and he added that Mr. Lyle was a good experienced Master, who had thought of resigning at what he saw soon after he arrived.

Mr. Roberts adds - "He was dismissed, though doing good work and getting good reports, despite a Private School in opposition. He stayed the longest, $4\frac{1}{2}$ years, and was sent adrift with a large family of little ones."

The Sale of the Castle and Estate 1890, and the Castle as a Shooting Lodge

In 1890, Captain William Waite sold the Castle and Estate to Mr. Stephen Cliff. Before he left Crayke, Capt Waite held at the Durham Ox, as Lord of the Manor, a Court Leet and Court

Baron. According to the Yorkshire Gazette of 28th Feb 1891, Easingwold Magistrates had appointed Crayke Castle as an occasional Court House. Mr. Stephen Cliff, the new Lord of the Manor did not live in the Castle but carried out large scale renovations to it in 1890 and used it as a Shooting Lodge.

Wyndham Hall renamed as the Manor, 1890

Mr. Stephen Cliff took up residence at Wyndham Hall and renamed it "The Manor." He added largely to this early 17th Century Farmhouse, but

the old building remained intact. It is of stone, and the two storied porch and some of the mullioned windows are late Elizabethan or Jacobean. The original panelling is still in the dining room and the stair case to the attic has old balusters. It is believed that during the penal times Wyndham Hall had sheltered a priest, and the attic has panels painted with religious subjects.

After 1890, Mr. Cliff had more panelling put in. It is ancient panelling from Howley Hall near Morley, West Riding. Howley Hall had been the seat of the powerful Savile Family, their seat fell into decay, first due to civil war damage, and a subsequent decline, and its end came when in the late 1800s a coal seam was opened up in its grounds and the pit railway ran past its front door.

Mr. Roberts, the new Schoolmaster 1890

On 13 October 1890, Mr. James Roberts, a trained Parchment Certificated Master took charge of Crayke School. He was late the Principal teacher of West Hamingfield National School, Chelmsford and formerly Schoolmaster of Castle Howard Reformatory School. He was assisted by his wife. He was to be a formidable opponent of the School Managers whom he regarded with suspicion after reading the fate of others in the Log Book. He found the school to be backward, inattentive, playful and disorderly. At once he had the fence repaired where it had been damaged by the children. He said that the clumsy desks had no compartment for slates, and that much noise and confusion was involved in collecting and giving out slates at every lesson, and as each slate is owned by a scholar the disorder and time taken was great.

Mr. Roberts asked all to stand up who never spoke or behaved conspicuously, all remained seated which confirmed the Masters forebodings. Mr. Roberts set out to restore order, and up to December 1890 there are many punishments by the cane. He admits to surprise about his pupils when his supposedly backward children gave an entertainment for their parents with dialogues, solos and duets that quite impressed him.

Mr. Roberts begins to restore punctuality and discipline at School

The School Log began in 1891 with comment on unpunctuality, for instance on 13th January Mr. Roberts says - "At 3 minutes past nine by the Masters watch, the Church and School Clocks, there are only 22 children in their places. On a former occasion there were only six. The want of punctuality is a cause of much disorder and interruption. A deal of time is wasted in this school with one thing and another, some out of the Province of the Master." By 10 past nine on 13 January the number of children present had increased from 22 to 37.

The children were still inattentive and talkative. Mr. Roberts records that on 29th January, at playtime 10 scholars ran to a funeral without permission, and so they were kept in school for 20 minutes. Hannah Hood was "talking and hiding something behind her hand, is forgiven, mutters and answers impudently, is brought out and receives two stripes on each hand. However he was gaining ground for on February 12, he was surprised - "the scholars bent over their reading lesson in an earnest and attentive manner, and what is more on Feb 16 - "When the Master stepped into School at 9 o'clock the children were all standing ready in their places, the bell being rung at the same time."

Also in February he records a subject which brought conflict with the School and Rector and Parents. The School had to go to Church once every week and on certain special days. In winter the parents did not like their children having to go to a cold church. Mr. Roberts said that "some parents prefer their children to remain at home, or at school rather than go to a cold church, consequently some wait for the scholars to go to church and then go to school, whilst some parents keep their children home. On Feb 25 he sent all the scholars available to Church, they numbered 26.

Mr. Roberts appreciation
of the Schools troubles
from 1863-1890

Mr. Roberts was greatly disturbed by conditions at the school, and he wrote this in the Log book in 1891. "Important Note, I have read through the log book and make the following

observations there from:-

1. That from the commencement of the Log Book 1863 to the present date, a period of 28 years, there have been 11 Schoolmasters here making 2 years the average stay of schoolmasters here. Such a state of affairs speaks volumes, and is certainly very bad especially for a Church of England School which claims to be a benefit in its morality and principles. This school has done no permanent good, and made no lasting impression on the minds of its scholars, for no teacher has stayed long enough to influence the conduct of the young men and women, its former scholars and the parents of the present pupils, whilst the bad example set by the School authorities has done mischief immeasurable, dropping the reins, and spreading bad principles, discontent, and disrespect for authority and matters educational - all this and more, apart from the financial and educational loss to the school.

A teacher and his stay here is well known as a by-word and a laughing stock. In conversing with villagers, I find the only teacher who made any impression was a Mr. Foster who stayed 7 years previous to the present Rectors arrival, in this parish. His results in school were also praiseworthy.

2. There is much irregularity and little co-operation from parents, Attendance Officer or Attendance Committee.
3. There are rather more obstacles to contend with here than are common in Agric. Village Schools.
4. There are few or no outside helps or influences to maintain order, regularity or good conduct. All must spring entirely from the inside.
5. Only on two occasions has the change of teachers been noticed by Her Majesty's Inspector."

There is no doubt in Mr. Roberts mind that all this decline began after the Rev. Stanborough came to Crayke, as Mr. Stanborough had to see and sign the log, one presumes that he must have read the above, and this must have strained relations. It is noticable that by now, Mr. Stanborough's writing in the log has become rather shaky. The Church Accounts for 1889/1890 say that £3 was paid toward repair of floor in the School.

School Happenings and
Crayke Nigger Minstrel
Troupe 1891

In March 1891 there was more trouble over children having to attend Church with the School, parents wrote and said they would not permit their children to do so. One boy went

home in defiance, but his sisters went to Church. Mr. Roberts comments "Do parents send their children to school or church? is naturally in the teachers mind. No trouble in attendance when church day is not held." There was very heavy snow in March 1891, and in the same month Mr. Roberts admitted two girls from Miss Dobson's private school which he said was gradually falling off in numbers. He is scathing about the Arithmetic teaching at Miss Dobsons and says "the work of deception and robbery going on there." On 1st April he says "I find that out of the 58 scholars at this school at present, 13 have seen 4 schoolmasters here, 16 have had 3 different Masters, and the rest 2. Some of the present young men of the village have been taught (?) here by as many as 6 schoolmasters and knew other masters.