

"On 7th April 1891 the Crayke Nigger Troupe (Mr. Jas. Roberts - Interlocutor) gave a successful entertainment here last evening, full room, the proceeds to give the children a treat in the Summer." This is the first record of Mr. Roberts active participation in village entertainment and his efforts to raise money to improve the school.

During the afternoon before the Nigger Minstrel show when preparations were being made, a boy, Ed, Nottingham rang the bell and was punished with a box on each cheek. This brought Mr. Nottingham to the school with a threat of a summons and that he would hit the Master next time, and challenged Mr. Roberts "to come out." Mr. Roberts said - "he also went to the Rector and made a big story out of it, threatening he would withdraw his children from the School which would be looked upon as a great boon." Mr. Roberts added "The same boy I since find has pulled out nails that the Master put in the desk to hang slates upon. The Nottingham boy is a troublemaker." The Nottinghams left school but returned in June and the father said that he was sorry for the occurrence. Mr. Roberts records in April - "Found at last, Jno. Taylor rec'd 2 stripes for making water on the terrace. His father approved of the punishment."

At this time Miss Mason was the Assistant Teacher and Mrs. Roberts the Girls Sewing Mistress.

The 1891 report was unsatisfactory, but not blamed upon the Master but there were warnings about the future. The Managers erased from the log (by drawing a thin line across them) items entered in the Log that infringed the code.

In this year Mr. Davidson a former Schoolmaster at Crayke and Miss Jopling a former teacher called upon Mr. Roberts, and no doubt they compared notes.

On 4th July 1891 the school had a holiday and childrens treat on account of the marriage of the Rectors daughter.

Childrens Treat August
27, 1891

Mr. Roberts entry in the Log is quoted in full. "The children of the Day School had their first treat, which will be long remembered by them. Items

of the Day:- Flags flying over school, school house and parents houses. Procession with flags and Crayke Band. Church Service, Sports, Games and many prizes. Capital tea for the children and parents, a toy present for each child, also a packet of sweets, nuts, bun, etc. Public Meeting in the evening. Rev & Mrs. Stanboro', Schoolmaster. Sunday School Teacher on the platform. Prizes for regularity given by Mrs. Stanboro'. Songs by School Children. Speech by Mr. Matthews who had seen great improvement in conduct and manners of the children. Good conduct certificates to Luke Dennis, Lapis Prince, and Charlotte Dobson. Luke Dennis and Laura Clark got the Teachers Prize for being best conducted boy and girl in and out of school. Alice Hood the best attending Scholar will wear an attendance medal with ribbon and clasp on her breast during school hours. Whilst marching out of school a little boy tripped over lower part of desk protruding out and had a nasty long gash across his forehead. Master complains he is often tripped himself by the desks.

This School Treat was a great personal success for Mr. Roberts, he had raised money for it by concerts, Nigger Minstrels etc.

Mr. Roberts gives a warning to the School Managers 18th November 1891

retirement from Crayke." Next day Mr. Roberts notes "A specially called full Choir Practise with explanations makes the Master hope and believe that this branch of his work may mend. Attendance at School improves without the assistance of the Attendance Committee, Officer or Magistrates."

Raising money for the School, and the Private School closes in 1892

The entry in the log reads:- "The Choir part of the Masters engagement here as Schoolmaster is, and has been, very uncomfortable and unsatisfactory, and may seriously affect this school with another change by the Masters

The year 1892 began with a childrens entertainment that raised £2-5-7½ for Prizes. On 15th January there was a Concert and Dance in the School which raised £8 for new desks. There

had been much co-operation on the part of the Managers, Schoolmasters and Parish on this occasion, and by Crayke Band - the Bandmaster being Mr. J. Roberts, Master of the School. A comment was made that more would have come but the snow was thick on the ground. January and February of 1892 mention snow on the ground and still snowing, cold and slippery, and on 10th March the log records "Great Snowfall". On 24th February 1892, the hammer of the large Bell fell from the school tower, but no one was hurt, it was not replaced until 21st March.

Money raising activities continued for the school and on 29th February the school children gave an entertainment "Juvenile and Lady Christy Minstrels." The money was for the school treat in the summer. In March, six new convertible desks arrived, they were carted to Crayke gratuitously by a scholars parent. The Master thought they would be an immense gain upon the others in Organisation and Discipline in the School.

In January two more scholars from the Private School came to Crayke School and on 4th April 1892 - Mr. Roberts records "One of children admitted is from the Private School, I believe the last. Miss Dobson is leaving for Easingwold. This private school was flourishing when I arrived here. Free Education as to school pence commences today. Greatest number present after Private School is closed." His numbers soon rose to 69.

The School report for the year was good, and it received a Government Grant of £46-1-0 and a drawing grant of £1-14-6.

On 1st July 1892, a Scholars Savings Bank was opened in connection with the Post Office Savings Bank.

In July there were 41 girls in needlework class, so it had to be done in the large room as the class room was too small for it.

The School treat took place on 7th June 1892, and present were the Rector and Family, Mrs. and Miss Matthews, the Band and friends. The Dance in the evening raised 45/- for the Desk Fund and "Crayke Band and Mr. Sam Johnson with myself provided Music." In July, four scholars L. Dennis, R. Kilvington, Laura Clark and L. Bywater each received a valuable book for excellence in an "Examination on Tit-Bits." Many thousands in the U.K. competed, amongst them 8 from the school, and of these four gained prizes.

The school break from the beginning of September was for five weeks. Mr. Roberts considered that - "A playground for these talkative children would be a gain to the school in allowing them to let off steam." In November the new stove was in use instead of the fire and it was reported as a considerable gain to the school

which could now be comfortable and warm in winter. There were still cases of long absence. In December Mortimer Clark was punished with 3 stripes for gross misbehaviour - pulling a seat from under a boy.

The school building still needed improvement - Mr. Roberts said on 15th December 1892 - "Any one now stepping into the room would immediately notice the various and disorderly positions of the scholars during copy book lessons, all stooping, twisting and straining their eyes to catch the poor light from behind. I am considering an alteration to the desks.

A Presentation to the
Bandmaster of Crayke Brass
Band - December 1892

Mr. Roberts records on 23rd December "It might be of interest connected with the School to know that yesterday evening the members of the Village Brass Band presented their Bandmaster (myself) with a pretty and useful present." Mr. Roberts seemed to take part in village activities to a greater degree than his immediate predecessors.

Entertainments, and the
new school desks bought
in 1893

As usual the year began with snow that lay on the ground, but the stove made the school comfortably warm. On 13 January Mrs. Matthews gave a tea and entertainment at the Hall and each child received a present such as a pocket book, needle case, drawing slate etc. On the 6th Feb there was a Desk Concert and Dance to raise money for the other new desks, and if possible a Masters desk. The Rector appealed to the Village for help to improve the School, its fabric and approaches. Performers in the Concert were Mr. Matthews, Alf Ellis, C. Dennis, Sam Johnson, Mr. Roberts, Mrs. Roberts, Jas. Wm. Roberts, Mr. & Mrs. W. Wood, Mrs. Brignall, Miss Munby (later became Mrs. Cockin, and mother of Mrs. B. Spencer of the Hall), Miss Dorothy Place, Miss Matthews, Miss Newton, Miss Laws and Master Colling.

Mr. Wm. Johnson of Mill Green, a parent of four scholars, presented the school with a gilt framed picture entitled "Fighting for the Standard." From money raised the school bought from Browns of York twelve large pictures - Giraffe, Zebra, Elephant, Ostrich, Whale, Races of Mankind, Shipbuilding, British Birds, Tiger, Reindeer, Boat and Camel.

On 14 February there was a Childrens Entertainment to pay for piano tuning, expenses for the Concert, Curtains and pictures and co-operating were Miss Mason (Under Mistress), Miss Hogg (Sunday School Teacher), Miss A. Pearson and Mr. Jos. Gibson. The childrens recitations received great praise from Mr. Matthews who was "no mean scholar". In April the last four new desks arrived, carted free by Mr. Dennis and Mr. Roberts the Master handed over the whole of the money to the Rector to pay for the desks and curtains, leaving a credit balance of £1-15-11.

On 22nd March 1893, Mr. Roberts found on his house window - "... a piece of paper about a tipy boy being punished by a clergyman, and the clergyman was fined. Written in black lead was some bad language."

Laura Clark was tried as Monitor in the School. The hat pegs were removed from the School into the Porch as required by the Education Department. On 24 April Mr. Roberts recorded than an Infant had fallen down seven of the lower steps of the School causing bumps on his head, and also on 26th April that two children had fallen down the steps in the last two days.

The School report 1893 was that the Mixed School was just efficient, an improvement, the Infants were not so good and no grant was recommended unless proper accommodation was provided, to quote "for in the present building they cannot be suitably taught without interfering with instruction in the older School." In May an Architect measured and made a plan of the School:-

	<u>Length</u>	<u>Br.</u>	<u>Height</u>	<u>Cu. ft.</u>
Class Room	11½'	10 ft	10½'	1,204
School Room	43½'	161/6'	16 ft	11,209

In June the children were greatly interested in the new Class Subject - Geography, and particularly map drawing.

A new Salary Contract
between the School
Managers and Teachers
1893

On 22nd May 1893, at a meeting of the Managers at the Rectory, a fresh agreement was drawn up by the Managers represented by Rev. Stanboro' and Mr. Newton by which Miss Mason, Assistant Teacher was now employed by,

and responsible to the Managers, and the Master alone was employed for a fixed salary.

The Celebration of a
Royal Wedding
6th July 1893

In July 1893 the Duke of York married Princess May (later to become King George Vth and Queen Mary). The Easingwold Advertiser said that at Crayke the event was celebrated by

Sports in Mr. George Knowles field and that taking part was the Crayke Brass Band, and present was the Town Crier of Crayke, Kit Wright. The School log records that there was tea as well as sports for the whole parish and that the children with their teachers had their photo taken. The Sunday School had a treat at the Hall on 11th July and one at the Rectory on 21st July.

The remaining events for 1893 in the School log, was a clash between Mr. Roberts and Mr. Rolshaw the Under Game Keeper, whose boy had been punished for ill treating another. The Under Game Keeper had, according to Mr. Roberts, tried to intimidate him with bullying language. On 31st October despite the cold weather there was no fire made in the School and Mrs. Brown the cleaner said she was waiting for orders from the School Managers, but it was not until 2nd November that fires were started, and from then attendance returned to normal. The School received a good report in December, but the Inspector reported that nothing had been done to improve School accommodation. In mid December there was an Influenza epidemic in the village, it laid out Mrs. Brown from 15-22nd December and there were no fires in the School.

In December 50 children asked to join the "Band of Hope" and some had joined the "Childrens National Guild of Courtesy." The School was still running its Savings Bank.

Crayke Residents 1893
and their occupations

In 1893 Crayke had 437 inhabitants, its rateable value was £4132, it had 2779 acres and crops were Wheat, Barley, Oats and Beans and seeds.

Residents listed for Crayke in Kellys 1893 Directory include Mrs. Blakey, Mrs. Knowles, Mrs. Lief, Mason Oswald Matthews (tenant of Crayke Hall), John Henry Metcalfe (tenant at Crayke Castle), John Newton, JP, Crayke House (? Cottage), Rev. Morris Edgar Stanbrough, MA, Rector and Rural Dean; Ashton and Smith, farmers of Dial Lodge. Charles Atkinson, Carter. George Beedham, farmer.

Ralph Bilton, carter. Thomas Bilton, boot and shoemaker. Benjamin Brown, farmer at Park House. Albert Clark (junior) joiner and wheelwright. Matthew Clark, carpenter. William Clark, farmer of Home Farm. Mark Daniel, farmer of Lawn House. John Dennis, farmer and carrier. William Dennis, farmer. John and Thomas Dobson, farmers. Robert Dobson, farmer. Christopher Ellis, shopkeeper. Edwin Ellis, farmer. Richard Ellis, farmer of Mount Pleasant. Thomas Smith Ellis, farmer of Mosswood Lane. Mrs. Mary Farmery, dressmaker, Thomas Farmery, boot and shoe maker. John Farrar, farmer. John William Farrar, farmer of Mosswood Lane. George Gawthorpe, farmer. Joseph Gibson, tailor and shopkeeper. John Gilleard, farmer. Robert Gilleard, bricklayer. William Gilleard, farmer. Thomas Granger, blacksmith. Panson Hodgson, farmer. Charles Hogg, builder, joiner, wheelwright and painter, contractor for buildings and covered folds, estimates free. John Hogg, wheelwright and carpenter. Robert Hudson, farmer. John Huxtable, farmer of Bumper Castle. Thomas Jackson, farmer. Andrew Johnson, farmer, carrier and shopkeeper. George Johnson, tailor, parish clerk and Post Office. Samuel Johnson, farmer. William Johnson, farmer. John Jones, farmer of Halfway House. Henry Kilvington, farmer of Zion Hill, Robert Kilvington, farmer. George Knowles, farmer, butcher and cattle dealer. Benjamin Lascelles, farmer. James Maynard, farmer. Edward Myers, farmer. Hugh Nottingham, Durham Ox P.H., Thomas Pearson, farmer of Stocking Hall. John Henry Roe, shopkeeper. William Smith, tailor, draper and shopkeeper. Richard Snowball, farmer. John Spirit, shopkeeper. Robert Stockell, farmer of Oulston Lane. William Summersgill, farmer. Charles Turner, farmer of Windham Hall (the present Manor), Ward and Britton, farmers of Providence Cottage and John Wright, farmer.

By occupations listed above, there were:- 41 farmers, 2 carters, 2 boot and shoemakers, 3 joiners and wheelwrights, 1 carpenter, 2 carriers, 6 shopkeepers, 1 draper, 1 dressmaker, 3 tailors, 1 bricklayer, 1 blacksmith, 1 builder, 1 painter, 1 postmaster, 1 butcher, 1 cattle dealer and 1 publican.

George Johnson's Post Office received letters from Easingwold at 6.10 a.m., the box closed at 6.45 p.m. (Sundays 3.45 p.m.), and the mail was despatched at 6.50 p.m. (Sundays 3.50 p.m.). Postal Orders were issued at the Post Office, but were not paid, and Easingwold was the nearest money order and telegraph office. G. Johnson also looked after the Church Clock. The two carriers journeyed to York on Saturdays, Andrew Johnson to the White Horse, Coppergate and John Dennis to Mann's Yard, Goodramgate.

James Robert was the schoolmaster, and the average school attendance was 55.

Crayke Parish Council 1894

An Act of Parliament in 1894 created Parish Councils and one was formed at Crayke. At the same time Easingwold

Rural District Council was created. The North Riding County Council had been formed already by an Act of 1888.

Mr. Roberts the Master receives his notice of dismissal 1894

The School log starts 1894 with the record of the weather - January 2 - weather stormy, snow; January 9. Heavy fall of snow, January 10th snow thick on ground and snow came again in

February lying thick on the ground, and on 13th March - "Snow storm. Burial of Mrs. Ellis, mother of four children." However, in the periods between snow there was a football match, Hovingham v Crayke, the captain of the Crayke team being Jas. Roberts - Master of the School. On the 9th of February the log records - "Meeting last night

to ward off a School Board, last years Government report read, unfair reflection cast upon past teachers." On 16 February the Log says -

"Received a note from Rector requesting attendance at 12 at Mr. Newton's House (The Cottage) to meet the School Committee. The Master received notice of his dismissal from Crayke. He wrote notes to each of 3 Managers asking reason for his dismissal and said notice to quit will not make any difference. The School will continue in its progressive work."

A New Class Room for the School 1894

The School Log records the start of work in the School to provide the new class room which had been the point of School Inspectors reports as a necessity. The Church Fund contributed money to the School Alteration Fund. On 28 February Messrs. Newton and Knowles called in to look at the top part of the partition being constructed. On February 23rd the school had a holiday to allow the new Classroom to be finished and on 26th February 1894, the new classroom was finished and used for the first time, despite the cold weather and that as yet no stove or heat had been installed. Mrs. Matthews of the Hall sent a good blackboard to the school.

A Public Meeting of Parents, Ratepayers and Villagers censures the School Managers

A public meeting of parents, ratepayers and villagers was held on 16th March 1894 to consider the frequent changes and dismissals of teachers at Crayke and the dismissal of the present Master. Mr. Robert Dobson, a ratepayer and parent presided, and a resolution was passed without a single dissent - "That this meeting strongly protests against the action of the Managers in dismissing the Schoolmaster and respectfully begs to suggest that the Managers withdraw the notice of dismissal."

Mr. Radcliffe, a Headmaster, and Mr. F. Peaker of the Executive of the National Union of teachers addressed the meeting on behalf of the Master.

Following on the meeting was the Government Inspectors report which said that the School was starting a new year in favourable conditions, but this did not seem to influence the School Managers at all and Mr. Robert says on 11th April - "The New Masters household goods came today, five weeks before, to be stored in the Rectory cow house." March and April were cold but there were no fires allowed in the School by the Managers, perhaps a pointer to the financial condition of the School - on March 29, Mr. Roberts says "No fires in School all this week - it is very cold and the children are starved." - "16th April 1894 - two children - Knowles, admitted today.

"In Darkest Crayke" by the York Advertiser - 1894

Mr. Roberts records in the School Log that "In Darkest Crayke - schoolmasters warned off" was the heading of an article by the Editor of the York Advertiser on Friday, 13 April 1894. It referred to the Management of, and frequent changes of teachers at this school, and says Mr. Roberts - "shows the real reasons outside of the school, attacking with facts the pretended reasons for the Masters dismissal."

On 20th April - "I have not received from the Managers the twice promised testimonial, nor have I yet another school to go to.

My two predecessors from whom I have heard, both complain of the manner Crayke Managers give testimonials, Mr. Jopling receiving his three months after he had left." However on 23rd April Mr. Newton told Mr. Roberts that a testimonial signed by the three Managers had been sent to the school to which the Master had applied.

The School grants, and the reason for Mr. Roberts dismissal

Mr. Roberts complained that the portfolio was kept so close, and from the Masters by the Managers that he knew only the grant for the year ending 1890, viz. £33-3-3 which was previous

to his arrival. He had found out and compared this with the 1894 grant as follows:-

	<u>Year Ending 31 Mar '90</u>	<u>31 Mar '94</u>	<u>Increase</u>
Grant	33- 3-3	40-18-6	7-15-3
Schoolpence	23-14-7	25-10-0	1-15-5
Drawing Grant	None	1-14-6	1-14-6
Population Grant	None	10- 0-0	10- 0-0
	<u>£56-17-10</u>	<u>£78- 3-0</u>	<u>£21- 5-2</u>

Mr. Roberts reveals the reason for his dismissal in the statement - "My dismissal was for the financial welfare of the School. it will then appear that the Managers were not satisfied with handling a £21-5-2 increase upon what was already good for the school. Again according to arrangements when appointed the Teachers salary would be £99-14-4 plus house and garden, but the new arrangements of 24 May 1894 made it £95 - thus the Managers are taking to themselves from the Teachers Salary £4-14-4, and having increased grants into the bargain."

A "disgraceful scene" at the School and Mr. Roberts Farewell - 1894

On 7th May 1894, Mr. Roberts said he had obtained an appointment without the Managers recommendations and that he had not yet received or seen the

Testimonial from the Managers. On the

11th May the Rector called at the School and settled the final salary, and Mr. Farrar (the 3rd Manager) followed, and to quote Mr. Roberts - "when another disgraceful scene was held in the classroom, the Rector saying the Salary given by Crayke Managers could not induce "good" Teachers to come here. My successor will draw his own conclusions." The last entry in the Log says "At a largely attended meeting in this School last evening, Mr. Roberts was presented with a Tea and Coffee service and carving knife, fork and steel in a case from his well wishers in the Parish (not including the Managers) and a box of mathematical instruments on behalf of the school children. Mr. Robert Dobson presided at the meeting and Mr. Gale after an able, sensible and sympathetic speech, handed the articles to the late schoolmaster.

We do not have the views of the School Managers over this unhappy period, but obviously lack of money to run the school was a major cause of trouble, plus conflict over the Masters duties with the Church organ and choir. Mr. Roberts seems to have been a very able man, he raised up the standard of the school, he raised money for equipment, for the Childrens treat, took part in entertainments, led the Crayke Brass Band, and captained the Football team. He was obviously well liked and respected in the village.

Early recollections of
Crayke by Mr. Hogg of
Crayke from circa 1894

Crayke. His account would date from about 1893 or thereabouts, and also contains his grandfather's memories of Crayke in yet earlier days.

Mr. Hogg was born in 1885 and died in 1965 aged 80. His recollections are recorded in his hand written notes in a small red covered note book now belonging to the Misses Knowles of

"I remember a Court House, boot house and coach house (at the castle). On the south side of these was a green house in which grew peaches. The coach house became unsafe as the front wall on the south side began to move. There was a stable with loose box and two (stantary?), also a privy and ash pit. Also a water pump which is now taken away and the well filled in, stood between the two buildings mentioned about opposite the dining room window.

There were some bones found in the wall and were said to have belonged to a girl who had been walled up where the wash house now is. I saw them before they were sent off, I think to London.

There was a turret with winding stairs near where the entrance to the kitchen now is. I remember what now are the kitchens and other places being just an old building used as a cowhouse, and one man could always keep 19 cows and a bull, but if he got 20, one always died. The room now used as a dining room used to be the kitchen and had a flagged floor and a wide fireplace. The St. Cuthberts table top x was formerly in the room then used by the housekeeper, and no doubt two of the corners were cut off to allow it to fit in the window arch looking towards the East. It was removed from there when the Castle was done up, and was fixed up on brick walls, then a wood frame and boards were put on top for the hot water cylinder to stand on. It was later removed and placed in the Church in the new aisle on the East Wall.

I think a better thing would have been to have it set up as an altar and used on special days. xx

The old staircase and hand rails were taken from an old house in York and were bought by Mr. Cliffe, and my father fixed them up. The new wing was built to celebrate Waites xxx coming of age. The Castle was lit up for the occasion and a ball given. The engine to make the electric light was a steam one. I remember seeing a beautiful chandelier made of cut glass with do....(?) and button shaped pieces, and all tied together with copper wire. It eventually all came to pieces as the copper (suspension) give way. It was like those seen at Buckingham Palace.

The new stairs near the East Entrance were put up at the time of the alterations somewhere around 1896 onwards. A windmill was put up after water was found in the Home Farm field, and used to pump water up into two big cisterns, one in the top attic and when it was full a wheel was turned on the second floor and directed the supply into a cistern just above the WC near the new staircase. When it was full, the overflow ran out and was conveyed to a well near where the garage now stands. If the wind failed to blow, the gardener or someone had to do the pumping with a foot pump just through the East door.

x The old altar stone now re-established as an altar.

xx This has been done now.

xxx Of Hushwaite

I remember seeing bloodstains on the bedroom floor which came from the wound in Mrs. Metcalf's arm inflicted by herself with her husband's razor. She got run down in health. Mr. Metcalf would not believe she was dead and would have big fires kept on to keep her warm. When he realised she was dead he insisted on the room and everything in it being left just as she had left it. Her (garters or gaiters?) at the foot of the bed and her knitting just where she left it and a face was drawn on her pillow. Mr. Metcalf used to say he descended from a high up family. He was a small gentleman rather after the style of a Frenchman and had a pointed beard. He gave my father and I a banana each and had to show us how to eat it as we had never seen one before.

On the brow of the hill near the dungeons looking towards Yearsley there used to be a greenhouse, also tomato house, and were heated with hot pipes. I have helped to paint them

Mr. Patrick Frederick Hunter had some dog kennels built and kept fox terriers and used to catch rats for a hobby. He used to drive a sledge drawn by two ponies yoked in tandem when snow was about

Mr. Hunter also had some wood stables and loose boxes put up where the brick built garage now is, and when Mr. Fisher came to the Castle he did not like it, so we removed it to the Castle field at the bottom of the steep hill on the Oulston Road, and it was later taken to Mill Green Farm

The carved stone head above the entrance to the porch is supposed to represent a blind (?) King. I fear it was rather damaged by some of the young men there who made it a target for their rook rifles.

Mr. Edward Fisher who had Mills at Thirsk and Huddersfield way was very fond of Crayke and would have liked to buy the Castle but Mr. Stephen Cliff would not sell it to him

I have seen the front of the Durham Ox lined with two or more rows of game of various kind laid out before being packed up and sent off.

It was in Mr. Fishers car that my father had his first and only ride in a motor car when he was taken to vote at Easingwold. He could not realise hardly that he had been for the driver of the car, a Darrach (?) did the journey in 4 minutes each way and the road had a lot more corners in it then than now.

I am told that Mr. Fisher wept when he left the Castle

At one time in my grandfathers time it (the cottage at the bottom of our Street) was a Roman Catholic Chapel, and his uncle, Charles Hogg, married the priests housekeeper. Charles Hogg came to Crayke in 1804 in answer to an advertisement for a joiner

.....His woodstore shed and stable and cartshed had a thatched roof (One day) he was taken to York on horseback with some corn, and while there saw two men and a woman hanged. The scaffold was put up near the Castle wall in St. Georges Field, and the prisoners were brought through a door or window on to the scaffold. He was scared of the crowd. He later saw two men hung. One was a hardened (?) criminal and before his legs were strapped together on the drop he said his father always said he was so lazy that he would die with his boots on, but that he would make him a liar, and he kicked his boots off among the crowd. The other, quite young, began to weep and the other told him to keep his heart up, it would soon be over.

My grandfather married a butchers housekeeper who had his shop next to The Cottage where Dean Inge was born x. Miss Dobson lives there now, and the window is facing the street at the top of Jack Lane.

My grandfather always said the railway line through Alms to the big cities would not have been laid so soon had it not been for a severe gale which blew many plantations quite flat, and the owners were glad to get rid of the trees for sleepers The roads were blocked with fallen trees.....

There used to be some small cottages on the left hand side on turning the corner to go to Easingwold called the Barracks. They were quite low and coloured yellow and as children we were told they were haunted and so we used to hurry past them at dusk.

I remember the Water Mill being in good order and ground flour and later just pig meal.

I remember seeing the thatch being blown off (Mr. Hutchinson's house) while we were in school. It damaged the roof of Oak Cottage, now done away with xx. A Mr. Lacles (Lascelles lived there. The (thatched) roof at the back came quite low and some young chaps for a lark climbed up and dropped a goose down the kitchen chimney and scared the old people who lived there. I helped to board up the bottom of the chimney for Mrs. Matthews (of the Hall) who at that time owned it, but had a trap door left so that people could see the original chimney. A brick chimney was built up inside to suit the modern fireplace. The old chimney was a wonderful piece of work with stout pieces of oak for the main spars, stout riven (?) lathes and plasterwork with cowdung clay and straw. On going upstairs into a cupboard like place there was a door into the chimney, no doubt used to put bacon into the chimney to smoke.

Over the doorway was carved THOS. JOHNSON 1614, I think the date was (Note - an account in a book says it said "MAY 14, 1613 - THOS. JOHNSON") and when the timber cottage was pulled down the wood was put in the new stone built house for Miss Matthews.

I remember Mr. Cooper, a well sinker, being gassed in the stone well on the Green. He went down to try to get his son out. It appears that a pocket of gas had formed over the water and unfortunately they had not tested the well for gas. My father was going through the square at the time and Mr. Cooper called to him "Will you come Mr. Hogg, something is wrong with my lad." It was unfortunate that they did not test before going down. They were at our house for tea on the Sunday, and Mother ask if they ever had an accident, and he said no, only once a ladder broke and in falling he broke his leg. My sister played the organ, and my word what a grand bass voice he had and how we enjoyed the happiness little knowing that the next day his voice would be stilled.

He was eventually got out with ropes and grappling iron and the son somehow did not get so much gas and was got out. He was a big fine chap. I can just see them walking him about and working his arms. He gave up well sinking and joined the Police force

x January 1860

xx The timbered cottage c. 1638 which was on the site of the present oak cottage until its demolition in 1937.

At that time there were two houses next to the one where Miss Ena Johnson now lives, and when they were taken down, the stone now in the front wall of the Wesleyan Chapel was recarved, and a space was cut in it, and a glass jar with some papers and I think some coins were put in before it was walled up. It has 4INS on it. There was a big crowd and as each person gave a donation of money, there were loud cheers. I rather think that Mr. F. J. Todd of Easingwold had a good bit to do with the planning of it. He had an office in Uppleby.

The idea of making the village well deeper and so hold more water did not go according to plan, so the shale and stuff taken out had to be put back as the water leaked out

Mr. J. Spirit, who had a wooden peg-leg, did trapping to and from the Easingwold and other stations, or wherever people wished to go, also did Harry Smith and also Sam Johnson.

In former years before wireless time signals the middle bell in the church tower used to be rung a few minutes before 8 a.m. as a kind of warning, and directly the clock began to strike it stopped ringing, except on the first Sunday each month when Holy Communion was celebrated at that time, so the Sexton had to just go and do his duty so that people could set their clock right.

My grandad used to say that there had always been people named Johnson at Mill Green Farm for as long as people could remember, and one lot used to drive a horse and trap into Scarborough one day, have a rest, and come back selling fish on the way.

(A bus used to go to York every Saturday). It held about 8 inside, and 4 outside, and butter and egg baskets were on the roof, and two horses pulled it. I cannot remember how long it took, but some had to get out at some of the Inns for something to revive them, as the bus got stuffy and some could not stand the rumble the wheels made

Mr. Stephen Cliff provided a real good do for Queen Victoria's Jubilee (1897). A large tent was put up in a field and what a grand spread of food, and local people each had tables which were a picture. At night a bonfire was lit on the hill Mr. Cliff also gave mugs to the schoolchildren, blue for girls and red for boys. We had medals too, and a grand display of fireworks. There was food for all and to spare, and people on the road too were given a good helping in paper bags."

Crayke - 1896-1899

By 1896 or 1897, Mr. Watson had become the Headmaster at Crayke School, and thus began a 30 year period of stability under his direction. Benjamin Brown who had lived in the old timbered cottage on Crayke Hill sub let it to John Kidson for £6 p.a., and in turn Brown paid Dr. Whytehead the owner £4 p.a.

On 12th October 1899 a Court of the View of Frankpledge, with the Court Leet and Court Baron of Stephen Cliff Esq. sat at Crayke. Its Jurors were Thomas Bilton, Benjamin Brown, Thomas Dobson, John William Farrar, Robert Hudson, William Johnson, Robert Lawson, Thomas Metcalfe, George Wright, Arthur Albert Walker, William Turner, ----- Johnson and Robert Pickering.

Death of Dr. H.Y. Whytehead
1895

Dr. Henry Yates Whytehead, MD. formerly of Crayke and late of Bewholme died at Campsall near Doncaster on 31st December 1895. where he had been

living with his son Rev. Roberts Yates Whytehead now Vicar of Campsall. His estates at Crayke, Nunkeeling and Campsall were left to the Reverend R.Y. Whytehead, who let the Hall at Crayke and some land to Mason Oswald Matthews Esq.

The Rev. R.Y. Whytehead was admitted to his Crayke property by the Manor Court on 22 October 1897 but he did not come to live at Crayke.

The break up of the Crayke
Hall Estate 1899

Four years after he had inherited it the Rev. R.Y. Whytehead sold the Crayke Hall estate which had been built up since 1747, the time that

John Bowman had built the Hall.

The sale was held at Harkers Hotel, York on Wednesday, 26th July 1899 conducted by Mabbett and Edge of 127 Mount Street, Grosvenor Square, London, the solicitors were Messrs. Champney and Long of Gloucester and the land agent was Mr. C.M. Forbes of 14 New Street, York.

The Sale Catalogue described it as the valuable residential and agricultural property known as the Crayke Hall Estate, situate within the Parishes of Crayke and Stillington, and comprising five choice grazing, dairy and mixed farms with homesteads, numerous desirable accommodation holdings and several cottages etc., the whole extending to an area of about 530 acres and including an old fashioned family residence containing three reception rooms, ten bedrooms and dressing rooms and usual offices, stabling for five horses, and delightful pleasure grounds, fruit and kitchen gardens and paddock.

The entire property being let and producing an actual and estimated income of £750 p.a.

The properties were split up at the sale and the lots were:-

	<u>Lot</u>	<u>Area</u> A. r. p.	<u>Rental</u>	<u>Sold for</u>
1.	Crayke Hall and two cottages next to the Hall, the Hall field and gardens.	6 1 2	£56	£1550
2.	Timber Framed Cottage, Buildings and Gardens (next below the Hall and cottages)	- - 27	£4	£70
3.	Cottage in Key Lane (now Kye Dun)	- - 19	£5	£67
4.	Cottage in Key Lane (now Stac Polly)	- - 27	£8	£180
5.	Maynard House Farm	45 1 34	£45-12-0	-
6.	Stocking Hall Farm	52 2 35	£57- 5-0	-
7.	Accommodation Land	15 3 38	£20- 2-6	-
8.	Mount Pleasant Farm	81 0 12	£102- 2-6	£2450
9.	Low Pasture Ground	17 0 14	£20	£460
10.	Low Close and Middle Fields.	18 2 8	£18	-

	<u>Lot</u>	<u>Area</u> A.r.p.	<u>Rental</u>	<u>Sold for</u>
11.	Low Langwith Close	4 2 33	£8	£153
12.	Accommodation Land	6 2 11	£13- 5-0) £575
13.	Accommodation Land	5 2 27	£11- 6-0	
14.	Square Croft	4 1 31	£8	£250
15.	Mosswood Farm	134 2 34	£185	£4,000
16.	Old House Farm (next Mosswood Gr.)	51 0 37	£60-10-0	-
17.	Accommodation Land	26 2 3	£26	-
18.	Pound Garden	- - 18	£1	£29
19.	Great and Little Crab Mills	6 0 28	£10-10-0	£280
20.	Crab Mill Close	4 1 36	£9	£220
21.	Little Crab Mill Close	3 0 11	£5-10-0	£135
22.	Top and Middle Ruddings	11 0 38	£21	£530
23.	Lower Ruddings	7 2 25	£13	-
24.	Great Nut Beans	4 1 25	£6-10-0	-
25.	Little Nut Beans	2 1 8	£3	-
26.	Accommodation Land	19 0 4	£25	-
	Total	A 530 Q. 8	£742-13-0	

Properties bought by
M.O. Matthews - The
Hall and Cottages

1886 Mason Oswald Matthews bought Lots 1, 2 and 3, the Hall with its grounds in which he had been living as tenant since 1895, the three cottages below his House on Crayke Hill. These were the present Bishops Cottage (called at that time the Gardeners Cottage) and next to it the former Horners Cottage in which Mr. Gouldthorpe was a tenant, and below these the old timbered cottage. The Cottage he bought in Key Lane is the present Kye Dun. It was let to Mr. John Wilson. Actually at the Sale, lots 1, 2 and 3 had been bought by H.E. Leatham of Aldersyde, Dringhouses, but before conveyance he sold them to Matthews for £1787 plus £287 tax by the Act. Lot 4, the present Stac Polly was bought by Samuel Johnson a former tenant, (it had been occupied previously by Andrew Johnson and then by Mrs. Jane Johnson.)

Crayke Church 1900-

A memorial was placed upon the south wall of the Church in 1900 - to "William Thorne Turner, for many years resident at Crayke Hall, who died at Scarborough aged 57 years, August 12, 1887 and his wife Anne, died at Scarborough January 1st 1900 aged 63."

In 1901 a new heating apparatus was installed in the Church, and subscribers over £1 were Mr. Cliff, Rev. Stanborough, Rev. H. Churton, Bishop Churton, Rev. Inge, Messrs. Hodson, Hunter, Knowles, J.H. Wright, Matthews, C. Hogg, Love, Farrer, Rev. J. Ellis, Miss Hayden, Miss Matthews, Mrs. Hunter, Messrs. Lawson, R. Gilleard, J.S. Ellis, J and H Gilleard, H. Knowles, L. Watson and E. Wright.

In 1901, the Church purchased drapings, price 6/- for the service for the Queens funeral, and a carpet for the Sacrarium cost £2-18-0.

The living became vacant in 1904, and Mr. Hogg of Crayke wrote to Rev. R.Y. Whytehead, son of the late Dr. Whytehead, living at Campsall Vicarage, asking him to come to Crayke as Rector. In reply the Rev. Robert Whytehead wrote - "Dear Mr. Hogg, your kind letter has given me much happiness. I regard it as a striking testament to the memory of my dear Father that the people of Crayke should take so much interest in the idea of having his son to live among them once more. Whether I am allowed to come or not, I shall never forget the kind feeling which has prompted this movement on your part. Crayke and its people will always be dear to me, and it would be a great happiness to be allowed to end my days among you."

I will write to you again when I know the result of your efforts whatever may come of them. Believe me, your sincere friend - R.Y. Whytehead."

Mr. Hogg's effort was not successful. The new Rector appointed in 1904 was the Rev. Arthur Westcott, son of a Bishop of Durham.

A New Wesleyan Chapel and the Stone with the ancient sacred monogram - 1902

A new Wesleyan Chapel was built in 1902, situated on the East side of Church Hill, Crayke. A tablet over the door read "Wesleyan Chapel 1902", and let into the brick of the front

wall was a stone with an ancient crowned shield bearing the sacred monogram which had been thought to have come from Marton Priory. It would appear that this was the ancient stone mentioned by Archdeacon Churton in Gills History - "there are some stones to be seen in the walls of these cottages which appear to be brought from the ruins of the Castle, particularly two near the corner of the street on the right hand side to one who ascends the hill, which contains the monogram IHS in characters of the 14th Century." These cottages were on the site of the new Chapel, Mr. Hogg in his recollections describes this stone as being from one of the two houses pulled down next to Miss Johnsons.

Crayke 1903-1913 (the New Church Organ 1904)

The Parish Magazine of 1903 was printed by G.H. Smith of Easingwold, and had sections for Easingwold, Birdforth, Crayke, Husthwaite,

Raskelf and Thormanby. It cost one penny.

The Crayke Notes in December 1903 are gloomy - "The Annual Harvest Festival was celebrated on November 8th. The circumstances are somewhat depressing so that it is no matter for surprise that the collections taken on the day, which as usual were given to York Hospital, shewed a falling off as compared with previous years. The services were fairly well attended but the number of coins in the collections being only 240 as compared with 338 last year, shews that the congregations were also considerably less. Owing to the lateness of the year, the decorations could not be so elaborate as usual, nor so effective, but what could be done was well done."

After commiseration with Mr. and Mrs. John Hogg for the loss of their son John Charles aged 19, the Crayke notes conclude:- "Before these notes appear in print, a special Vestry meeting will have been held to consider the question of obtaining an organ for the parish Church. At the moment of writing one can only hope that the meeting will awake enthusiasm and do something to further this admirable project."

However, things must have gone well at the Vestry Meeting for next year in October 1904 the Parish Magazine says "The new organ has arrived in Crayke. It only remains now to pay for it. It will probably not be used until paid for, unless an exception is made in favour of the Harvest Festival. The re-arrangement of the Chancel fittings in preparation for the organ has been admirably carried out by Mr. Charles Hogg."

A Church Organ fund was begun in 1904 to pay for the new Positive Organ, and in two years it had reached £190. Amongst the subscribers were Mr. Cliff, Mr. Fisher, Rev. A. Westcott, Mr. Hodgson, Mr. Matthews, Mr. C. Hogg, Mr. G. Knowles, Rev. C. Inge, Mrs. Inge, Rev. J. Ellis, Mr. F. Robinson, Mrs. Love, Mr. Penty, Mr. Swift, Mr. Stansfeld, Mr. Fletcher, Mr. T. Knowles, Miss Walker, Mr. Farrar, Mr. A. Ellis, Mr. and Mrs. J.W. Farrar, Miss S. Johnson, Mrs. Pallister, Mr. J. Hogg, Mr. J. Gilleard, Mr. G. Wailes, Mr. J. Sturdy, Miss Brooke, Mrs. Ellis, Mrs. Robinson, Mr. H. Taylor, Mr. Hellyard, Mr. Gibson, Mr. B. Brown, Mr. Holsa, Mr. G. Wright, Mrs. Hudson, Mrs. Wallace, Mrs. Hebblethwaite, Mrs. Corkshaw, Mrs. W. Waites, Mrs. Mercer, Mrs. Garth, Mrs. Dobson and Mrs. Marshall.

The organ had cost £160, carriage by rail was £4-8-4 and erection charge was £5-5-0.

Samuel Johnson who lived in the present Stac Polly in Key Lane died on 9 November 1904 and his widow Mary lived in the property until her death in 1930.

In July 1904 the Sunday School Children were entertained to tea and games at the Rectory, and the members of the Girls Friendly Society went to Scarborough for their annual excursion. In August the Mothers Union were entertained to a Garden Party at the Rectory - "the weather was all that could be desired. The skill and agility displayed by some of the Mothers, and others, at Bowls and Rounders excited much admiring comment." In the same month the Choir boys went on a trip to Whitby.

On travel, the back of the Parish Magazine in 1904 was the Railway timetable for the nine trains out and nine trains in, on a weekday on the line from Easingwold to Alne by which travellers from Crayke could catch connections to the North or South, or to Pickering.

It is recorded that in 1905 the Parish of Crayke had an area of 2876 acres of which 1426 acres was arable land, and 1155 acres laid down to grass, plus 51 acres of woodland.

In July 1906, confirmed at St. Cuthberts Church Crayke by the Bishop of Beverley on 15th March were:- Boys, Thomas Benson, Harold Gibson, Thomas Brown, Charles Pearson, Colin Gibson, Alfred Pearson. Girls - Kate Bramfitt, May Pearson, Elsie Mary Hogg, Margaret Ann Smith and Francis Simpson.

At the Annual Vestry Meeting the Rector spoke a few words about the new Education Bill, and a resolution proposed by Mr. G. Knowles, seconded by Mr. J. Gilleard was carried unanimously. It read - "That this Vestry views with indignation the proposals contained in the Education Bill of 1906 in the matter of religious teaching, regarding them as essentially unjust to the Church of England, and opposed to the liberty of the people."

An article in the Parish Magazine also attacked the Bill by which the Education Authority had power over Church School buildings and it was thought that there was a threat to Church teaching.

The Diocesan Inspector reporting on religious instruction in Crayke School said that the younger children were now more ready in answering. H.M. Inspectors report on the school said however that there was a want of self reliance amongst the children.

Jurors at the Manor Court meeting in October 1904 were George Beedham (Foreman), William Britton, Alfred Ellis, Robert Gilleard, William Gilleard, T.J. Grainger, Frederick Johnson, Wm. Leckenby, Thomas Metcalf, Thomas Belt Piercy, Wilfred Roe, Wm. Geo. Smith and John Wright.

Matthew Oswald Mason of the Hall died in 1906 and his widow held the property for her lifetime and then it was to go to his daughter. Ets Matthews, and the latter was admitted by the Manor Court on 25 Oct 1906.

In 1907, only three years after its installation, the Church Organ had to have the bellows repaired. In 1910 eight blue cassocks for the choirboys were bought for £4-12-0.

The First World War 1914-18

Sixty men from Crayke served in his Majesty's Forces in the 1914-18 War, and of these eight were killed. A memorial in St. Cuthberts Church

gives the names of the killed, and an illuminated scroll in the village hall records those together with the others who had served in the Armed Forces.

The screen in the Church is the memorial, central above the screen is a wooden cross with below it "1914-18". Carved along the top of the screen is "To the Glory of God and in grateful memory of the men of Crayke who fell in the Great War."

Underneath are their names:- Thomas Benson, George Child, William Halliday, Edgar Hogg, John Fred Kidson, Ernest Martin, Alfred Pearson, Ellis Wells.

This memorial was completed between 1920-23. The illuminated Scroll in the Institute besides the names of the war dead, list the following as having served in the Forces. Alexander Benson, John Edward Benson, Norman Bilton, William Robert Britton, Tom Brown, Arthur Clark, Ernest William Clark, Charles Coe, George Credland, William Colpitt Dennis, Fred Dobson, Harry Dobson, Percy Farnshaw, Edmund Ellis, James Farmer, Herbert Harry Gibson, Robert William Gilleard, Charles Kingsley Groves, Edward Gordon Groves, Stanley Guy Hogarth, George Arthur Hyde, Edwin Johnson, Samuel Harris Johnson, Thomas Kilty, Alfred Redvers Kirk, Geoffrey Knowles, Oliver Knowles, Roger Ellis Knowles, Frederick Lancaster, William Needs, John Bruce Norton, Harold Parsons, Harry Pearson, John Pipes, Thomas Pipes, William Pipes, Robert Russell, George Simpson, William Snowden, Albert Taylor, John Taylor, Harry Walton, Horace Watson, Arthur Brooke Westcott, George Foss Westcott, Arthur Williamson, George Edward Williamson, Ernest Wilson, John William Wilson, Walter Wilson and Arthur Wright.

From about 1914, and for many years afterwards, Inge Cottage, opposite the Misses Knowles house was used by the men of the village as a reading room and meeting place.

The Church had a new boiler in 1914, in 1915 there were contributions from the Church to Princess Mary's Fund, the Red Cross, for Disabled Soldiers, York and Easingwold Hospitals, and for war work of the Church Army.

In 1917 there were contributions to the Prisoner of War Fund, and for the children of Blinded Soldiers.

In 1918 money was raised by the sale of lead from Organ Pipes, and in that year contributions went to the French Red Cross, the Prisoner of War Fund and the King George Vth Fund.

The 1920s

The Rev. Arthur Westcott, who had been Rector at Crayke since 1901 was succeeded by the Rev. Theodore Catton of Corpus Christi College, Cambridge in 1920. A branch of the Womens Institute was formed at Crayke, and its first President and founder member was Mrs. Dorothy Scott, wife of Colonel Robert Scott who had rented the Castle from Mr. Stephen Cliff.

In 1922 a Church Fete raised £31, and a new Bible and Hymn books were bought for the Church, which in 1923 was still lit by oil lamps and candles, and it is mentioned in the Parish Magazine that there was the traditional snow at Christmas.

Folk Dancing Classes were held in the village Institute in 1924. In 1925 the population of Crayke was given as 421, and the acreage as 2876. Kellys directory of that year lists the residents of Crayke and their occupations - Colonel John Graham Buchanan Allardyce, CMG, DSO, was tenant at the Castle (Col and Mrs. Scott had gone to live in Easingwold that year). Rev. Theodore Catton, MA was the Rector, Mr. Stephen Cliff lived at Crayke Manor, at the Hall were Mrs. Matthews, her daughter Miss Eta Matthews, and Mrs. Matthews brother Rev. Canon James Colling, MA, George Knowles, JP, Miss Knowles, Robert Porter Nicholson lived at Crayke Cottage. Oliver Banks, farmer, Henry Jas. Bell, farmer of Woodhouse Farm, Thomas Bilton, shopkeeper and Post Office (in the present Post Office house), William and John Bowes, farmers of Crayke Will Farm, Robert Braithwaite, farmer, Thomas Calvert, farmer of Mount Pleasant, Albert William Clark and William Ernest Clark, joiners, Francis Coates, farmer of Woodfield, John Thos Curny who farmed over 150 acres at Culston Lane. John Dennis, farmer, Christopher Ellis, farmer, Edwin Ellis, farmer. John William Foxcroft, tailor. Joseph Gibson, tailor and shopkeeper (in the house which is now Mr. Shaws). Harry Gilleard, farmer, George James Grainger, blacksmith, William Haley, farmer of Launds Farm, John Thos. Hall, farmer of Mill Green Farm, Alfred Hoffman, commission agent. Charles Hogg and Sons, joiners and wheelwrights. Mrs. Elizabeth Husband, boarding house and apartment (Major Wellesley's residence now), Andrew Harris Johnson, boot and shoemaker. Edwin Johnson, bricklayer, John Penty Jones who farmed over 150 acres at Halfway House. Alfred Lewis Kirk, farmer of Thom Thumb Farm, George Knowles, farmer and butcher, Wilfred Roe, grocer, George Simpson, bootmaker, Henry Styles, Durham Ox P.H., William Thompson, farm bailiff to S. Cliff, William Tomlinson farmer of Mosswood, Roger E. Knowles, Hon Secretary to the Village Club and Institute, George Warriner, farmer, Charles Watson, Schoolmaster, clerk to Parish Council, assistant overseer and bailiff of the Manor of Crayke. Frank Wells, confectioner, James Wells, farmer of Zion Hill Farm, Matthew Wilson, farmer. T. William Little Wray, farmer, George Wright, gardener to the Hall, George William Wright, farmer of Stocking Hall. Tom Wright, farmer, and William Yates farmer of Home Farm.

Crayke had therefore in 1925 two shops and a grocers, a confectioners, a butcher, two boot and shoemakers, two tailors, two joiners establishments, a blacksmith and a boarding house. It is thought that piped water reached Crayke in 1925 and there were stand pipes in the village.

The Parish Magazine records during 1925 that Miss Gladys Gilleard, Miss Joyce Knowles and Miss Jeanne Nicholson were

successful in the Womens Institute Dramatic Competition in York, and it also said that the Carnegie Public Library has been a great boon in Crayke and thanked Mrs. Roe for her work as librarian.

1926 the year of the General Strike left little record, the Parish Magazine says that it postponed the Mothers Union outing that year. In March 1926 there is a mention of Wireless in its infancy - the Mothers Union had a meeting with an address, and the entertainment to follow was to be provided by the fairly newly established Wireless, but the Rector notes sadly after the event - "however the Wireless Concert after was rather a failure." Mr. Watson the Schoolmaster had been ill in 1925 and he resigned in December 1927. He had been Head of the School for over 30 years. His successor was Miss Gilleard who began an even longer term of service to the school than that of Mr. Watson. On the 11th April 1927 a Silver Coffee service was presented to Mr. C. Watson in the school at 7 p.m. The Rector spoke of the inestimable service Mr. Watson had given not only as schoolmaster but in many other things.

On 5th January 1927, the Castle, Hall and the Cottage combined to entertain the village children in the Institute with tea and games. Banks bakery was established in Crayke in this year and during these years of the 1920's. Kemp's bus ran to York on Mondays, Tuesdays and Saturdays. The Parish Magazine in 1927 congratulated George Butler for nine years good service as a boy in Crayke Church Choir, and on Sunday July 31, 1927 the ancient altar stone was unveiled in Crayke Church, fastened to the wall in the North Aisle. It had been moved from the Castle and Colonel Allardyce, the tenant of the Castle represented the Lord of the Manor at the ceremony.

On 20th June 1928, the extension to the churchyard of St. Cuthberts was consecrated by the Bishop of Whitby. It was formerly part of the Castle land. The Church accounts bore the bill for the new fencing of £17 which apparently was a strain on the finances.

In 1928 Mr. Stephen Cliff, Lord of the Manor, died, and was succeeded by his nephew Mr. Anthony D. Cliff.

Crayke Cricket team had a successful season in 1928 in a match against Stillington the Captain took 8 wickets for 18 runs, he did the hat trick at Hushwaite and against Brandsby. Mr. O. Hutchinson scored a century, not out.

Parts of the old organ were sold in 1929 and new cassocks were bought for the choir, and a new hedge planted around the churchyard.

Crayke in the 1930s

Mrs. Worsley became the tenant at the Castle during the 1930s. Electric light came to Crayke in the early 1930s, and in 1931-32 a subscription list was opened to pay for the installation of Electric light in the Church. The subscriptions received amounted to £4-11-6 and the cost of installation was £42. The subscribers were Mrs. Cliff, Mr. and Mrs. Catton, Mr. S. Knowles, Mr. and Mrs. Watson, Mr. and Mrs. Nicholson, Miss Matthews, Mrs. Worsley, Mrs. Inge, Mr. and Mrs. J. Hogg, Miss Hogg, Mr. J.W. Hogg, Miss S. Gilleard, Mrs. Pearson, Mrs. Boggett, Mrs. A. Wright, Mrs. Dunning, Mrs. Williams, Mrs. Pratt, Mr. Tomlinson, Mrs. Gibbons, Miss Dobson, Mrs. Hudson, Mr. Mark, Mr. Hayes Johnson, Mr. Gibson, Mr. J.W. Farrar, Mrs. and Miss Wells, and Mr. J.I. Jones.

The Wesleyan Methodist Church, the Primitive Methodists and the United Methodists joined together in 1932 to form the Methodist Church.

In Crayke, the Wesleyan Chapel on Church Hill continued in use for the new Methodist Church and the Primitive Methodist Chapel fell into disuse. Craykes first council houses Nos 1 to 4 Sycamore Cottages were built on the Easingwold road out of Crayke in 1933.

The Church Organ in St. Cuthberts Church was in considerable disrepair in December 1933 and in danger of collapse due to a leaking roof above it. After repairs to the organ the Church fund was in debt in 1934. Also money was needed to keep the School at Crayke, still a Church School, out of debt.

Manorial dues were ended by an Act of Parliament on 30 December 1935 on payment of compensation, and these were paid off by house owners. There was an epidemic of Whooping Cough in the Village. The Rector organised Literary and Dramatic Lectures for Crayke.

In 1936, Mr. Oswald Hutchinson became the Parish Clerk and the Hogg family ended a long and honourable service as Parish Clerks of 50 years.

Mrs. E.M. Matthews of the Hall died in 1936. Her daughter sold off the cottage (now Kye Dun) in Key Lane to Mr. J.W. Dodsworth of the Market Place, Easingwold. By now the back bedroom had been added on to the Hall by building over the lobby to the large room at the back and over the little yard between it and the churchyard.

Mrs. Mary Johnson who lived in the present Stac Polly in Key Lane died in September 1936 and her executor Mr. H.J. Jones, Ironmonger of York, sold the house to Mrs. Marjorie Bannister of Croft Place, Easingwold, wife of Harry Bannister, Merchant. At the time of the sale the house was called "Ivyholme", and Mrs. Bannister renamed it as "Keelayne."

In 1937 Miss Matthews, who lived at the Hall decided to have a new house built for her. To make way for it the little cottage (Horners Cottage of old) which stood down hill from Bishops Cottage, and the old timbered cottage dating from 1613 were pulled down. On this site the present Oak Cottage was built. Miss Matthews moved into her new house, and she let the Hall to Mr. E.M. Rutter, a Passenger Manager of the LNER at York for a rent of £90 p.a.

It was during Mr. Rutter's time that the new Tennis Court was dug out of the east side of the hill and the Roman, Saxon, Viking and Mediaeval finds were made, and one of the finds, the Saxon Cross (c. 800 AD) was placed in the care of St. Cuthberts Church in 1937.

On 12th May 1937, the Coronation of King George VI and Queen Elizabeth, Crayke held a celebration, at 9.45 a.m. a special service in the Church, 2 p.m. Sports for the children in Square Croft and at the same time a cricket match at the cricket ground, at 3.45 p.m. Coronation Mugs were presented to the children, and then from 4 to 6.30 p.m. there was a Childrens tea at the Castle for those up to 14 years. For the Adults there was a tea in the Institute.

With the end of the 1930s came the Second World War in 1939.

The 1940s

Serving with H.M.s Forces in 1940 were Harold Ellis, Leslie Ellis, Ronald Ellis, Edward Norman, Herbert Norman, Alfred Gibbons, Thomas Pawson and Christopher Wells.

It was found in 1940 that they could not "black out" the Church windows to comply with the Air Raid precautions, so in winter the

the Church Evensong had to be held around 3 p.m. In January 1940, the old oil lamps of the Church, which had been kept in hand after electricity had been installed, were given to local units of the Army in response to an urgent appeal for help for Soldiers on duty. In 1941, the Castle became a Womens Land Army Hostel, and Mrs. Womley the former tenant left in 1942. In this latter year Mr. Albert Temple of St. Peters Grove, York, became tenant of the Hall, and stayed for two years.

The Parish Magazine offered sympathy to those involved in the disastrous fire at Crayke on Sunday, 10th January 1943. Mrs. Rodwell lost her husband in the fire, and a small evacuee boy lost his life. The Rodwells had been resident in Crayke for some time, and the late Mr. Rodwell had been a shorthand teacher.

In 1944, Mr. Watson, the former Schoolmaster, handed over to Mr. J.W. Dodsworth the post of Church Treasurer which he had held since 1932. (Mr. Watson died in 1947).

Mr. J. Noyes of 37 Askem Lane, York, became the tenant at Crayke Hall in 1944. Blackout regulations were relaxed in 1944 and enabled Evensong to take place at the proper time.

In 1946 heavy repairs and waterproofing were carried out on the Church roof. Mr. Oswald Hutchinson, the Parish Clerk, returned in 1946 on his release from the Forces.

After 27 years as Rector, the Rev. Theodore Catton left the living in 1947. He was succeeded by Rev. William Francis Cotton who was instituted on 6 June 1947, aged 57. Immediately before coming to Crayke, the Rev. Cotton had worked for many years in Rangoon and India.

At the time of the change over the Rectory was reported upon as being in a very poor state of repair, one wing being semi-derelict. Presumably the restrictions of six years of war had contributed to this state of affairs. The Diocesan Registrar in a report in April 1947 was annoyed that the former Rector had removed a bath from one room to another and had put in certain hot and cold water services without permission of his board. A further report in May 1947 said that the Rectory was in a deplorable condition and that it would be impossible for any new incumbent to occupy it unless it was put in order.

The work to be done involved demolishing a wing of the Rectory (the one that had been added in 1839 when the third story had been removed) and the remainder was to be reconditioned. An extract from the "Expenditure of Benefice Capital for Parsonage Improvement" form says "This large Parsonage house is in a very poor state of repair, and a wing of it is described as being semi-derelict." Queen Anne's Bounty approved the scheme for the reconditioning and mentioned the filthy condition of the existing decorations and the dilapidated state of the building.

The work was done by J. Small and Sons, Chapel Street, Easingwold, the wing was demolished, the kitchen re-tiled, and the old larder was converted into a back porch. The cost of the work was £468-5-6 and the bill was paid in 1951.

In 1948 the Church chimney was rebuilt. The Rev. W.F. Cotton formed a Male Voice Choir in Crayke, which gave concerts in the village and later went to other villages.