### Cumbria Archive Service



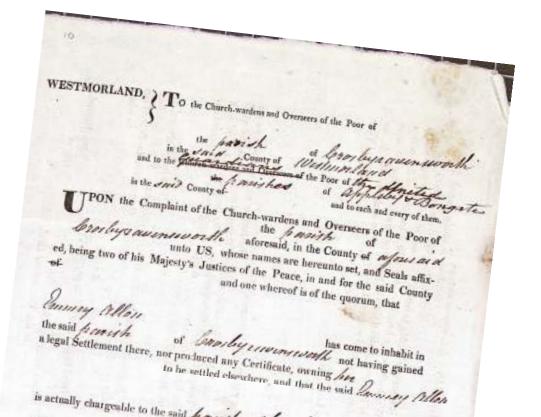
### **Poverty in Cumbria The Poor and the Parish** A historical perspective

This display looks at how poverty in Cumbria was addressed before the advent of the Welfare State in in 1948. Three themes are highlighted, namely, the Poor Laws which date back to the 16th century and remained in force up to the passing of the National Insurance Act of 1948, public health and the work of charities. The 19th century saw a period of radical change with the overhaul of poor laws as the Elizabethan Acts became increasingly expensive and discredited. The growth of urban populations led to over crowding and squalor and we look at the impact of this and efforts to address overcrowding in our two largest towns, Barrow and Carlisle. Finally we look at the work of two charities working in the Port of Whitehaven in the 19th century.

The Act of Settlement, 1662, set out the ways a poor person could legally claim settlement in a parish. Children obtained settlement in the place in their parish of birth, even if illegitimate. Overseers were often anxious to remove pregnant unmarried women before the birth of the child. In the 18th and 19th centuries the cost of poor relief rose steadily and the removal of paupers to their parish of origin was a common.

Orton have agree to be quiced by your Openion as to the Sauper's Settlement without going to them ter Spions for the determination of Question by the magistrates -You will therefore advise to which fireremstances above static belongs with your keasonsforsuch Opinion Jam of opinion that the settlement of the Sacepen-

Case .. Clezabeth Rorsefell, Singlewoman, wasborn in\_ the Parish of Orton, in the founty of Mestmortand, and is now about 30 years of age. ... At Whitsuntide 1010 the was hired by one John Rawes of the Parish of posty Ravensworth toyear, and served that year with him . at the and of this year she hired to the same master for another Apar, and continued in the same service in the said-Jarish of posty Havensworth for five full years



is actually chargeable to the said franch of brook open soon to the We the said Justices, upon due Proof made thereof, as well upon the Examination of the said Justices, upon due Consideration had of the Premises, do adjudge the same to be true t and we do likewise adjudge that the levels Factor

upon Oath as otherwise, and neewise upon due Consideration had of the Premises, do adjudge the same to be true ; and we do likewise adjudge that the lawful Settle-ment of *Inte* the said *Internation Mathematical Constants* 

is in the said participation of Children & Borngatan We do therefore require you the said Church-wardens and Overseers of the Poor of the said francisco of Bearburn work of the Poor of the said francisco of Bearburn work or some or one of you, to convey the said Country Alley

from and out of the said for and of his orley a versional to to the said Parishof Official and Song and a said and to deliver a to the Church markers and Overseen of the Poor there, or to some or one of them,

to the Church wanders and Overseens of the Poor there, or to some or one of them, together with this our Order or a true Copy thereof, shewing to them the Original and we do also hereby require you the said Children with this our Order or a true Copy thereof, shewing to them the Original Poor of the Given of the Said Children with the to receive and provide for Inhabitant of your Given of the Correlation Day of Given in the Given of the Given of the Correlation the Majesty King George the Given of and in the year of our Lord One

PRESTED UT R. BATEMAN, APPLEBY, AM. Spibion

Roberty Milner

Day of June in the fifty prints and Seals the Investigation his Majesty King George the Think and in the year of our Lord One Thousand Eight Hundred and Print Here.

Documents relating to settlement survive in great quantities in parish collections and generally include settlement examinations where a person's place of settlement is established, certificates where a person has been accepted by the parish and removal orders where a person is deemed not to be legally settled in a parish and is ordered to removed by the Parish Constable to his or her parish of origin.

A new settlement could also be obtained through apprenticeship for more than a year.

distinct Hirings at the commencement of each ... year for the daupers service during the answingthere was not in fact a siscontinuance of the service, and therefore if the olo master had been leving, and had removed into Orton with the orupor in his provice a faw months aper Whitenday 1015 Japprehend that the would have acquired a settlement in Onton after the had been there 40 days. -In the next place at has been long settles that source with the executor is equivalent to a m continuance of service with the accorded Master. Ladock & St Eroden Bear Sett- C-119-Av Hardporn with Newton 12 East Hip 31. Therefore I are one objection to the coupling of the service in Octon with the former source in-Early Aucenscooth and in that case there with De a hering for a year; an abiding in the same service one whole years and a residence for them Lost Al days in buter or as to give the pauper a settlement in that Brish. H. Raincock\_-Liverpool February 10th 1019 200

At Whitsuntide 1015 the received her Mages and hired again to her said master for another year m as she had done before When she had served bas two months under this last Hiring her master died, and left his son John Rawes the younger his Executor. The Dauper without coming to anynew agreement went to live with Rawes the Younger, the Gyecutor of her late master al Tawcett Mill in the Brish of biton in the same founty and continued to serve him at that place until martinmas1015 when the Jauher received from Rawes the younger one half of the yearly Magesfor which she had been hired by her deceased master, and then quitted the service of the mi Execution altho one half of the year for which the had been last hired by her late master was Then einer pired ..... The Sauper is now under a suspended .....

Order of Kemoval, and the principal In habits

Settlement Examination and removal order for Elizabeth Horsfell of Orton, Westmorland. Ref. WPR7/7 (Kendal Archives)

Register of Parish Apprentices, for the				Parilo of Grosbage covensiverthe According to Act of Parliament, Ch. 46, 7th May, 1802.							
the second s	His or her Parents Names	Their Reüdence	Name of Perform to whom bound or affigned.		His or her Refidence.	Term of the Appen- ficethly as Affguntnis	Apprentice or Adigament For,	Overfeers Parties to the Indeature or Affigument	Magiftrates affenting, to be figned by themfelves		
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Register of apprentices for the parish of Crosby Ravensworth, Westmorland.

Ref. WPR7 (Kendal Archives)

Before 1834 the Poor Law was administered by the parish. The Acts of 1597 and 1601 provided for the annual election of Overseers of the Poor. In Cumbria there was a considerable variation in the way poor relief was provided at Parish level. In Kendal poor relief was provided through the Workhouse.

The volume to the right shows a list of overseers and inmates of Kendal Workhouse, taken from the 1787 Census of Westmorland.

Ref. WQS/PC (Kendal Archives)

Actives within Milling And Andrews Miln. Asterto Milner Danders Jago & Bradewoon Coty Lego k-Contente Milner Cloning Coursend Jackey diarenal John Hound · marilace Changes Sancey Do Rich Maw Jeggy Harrison Men Fawest Junen Jahn Townshlow Jegry May Hourses Brabin Green George Server hin locaberry Real Tinkindon Some go Varient Hecks 13 i Sectory Bankader Betty Troughton the comes forming. The Wills the Joughton Calina Dollar Aggineas Do Calinon Dollar Martinay Do Martinay Do Martinay Do Martinay Do Martinay Do Dulla Magroy Mathew Thoughton Tomes Whithead G. House Sind Micho

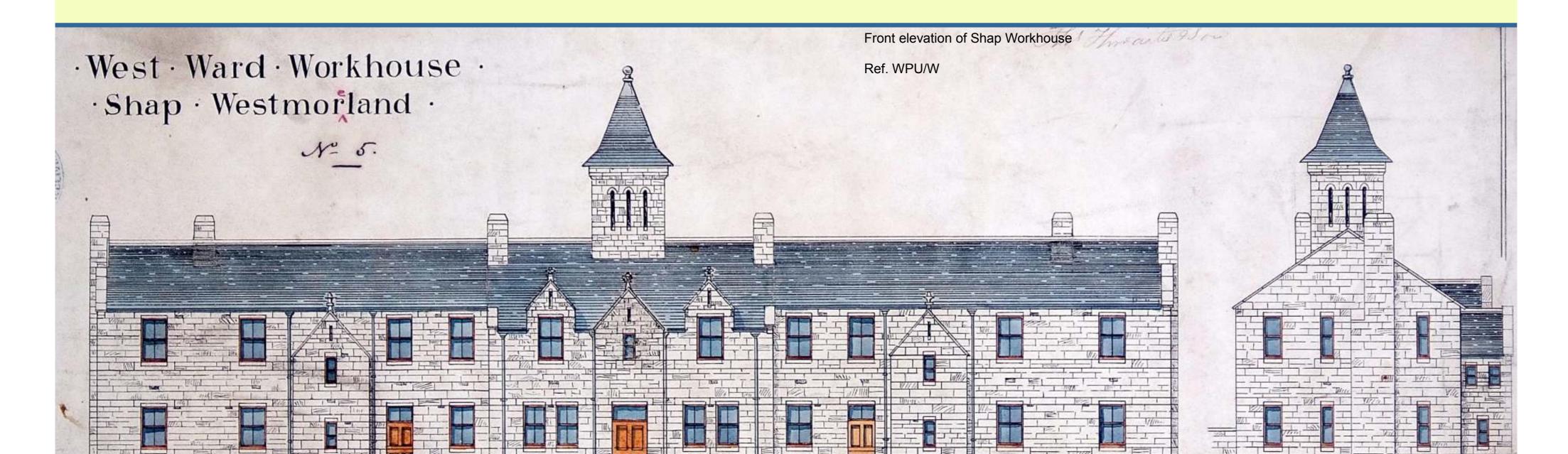
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# Cumbria Archive Service

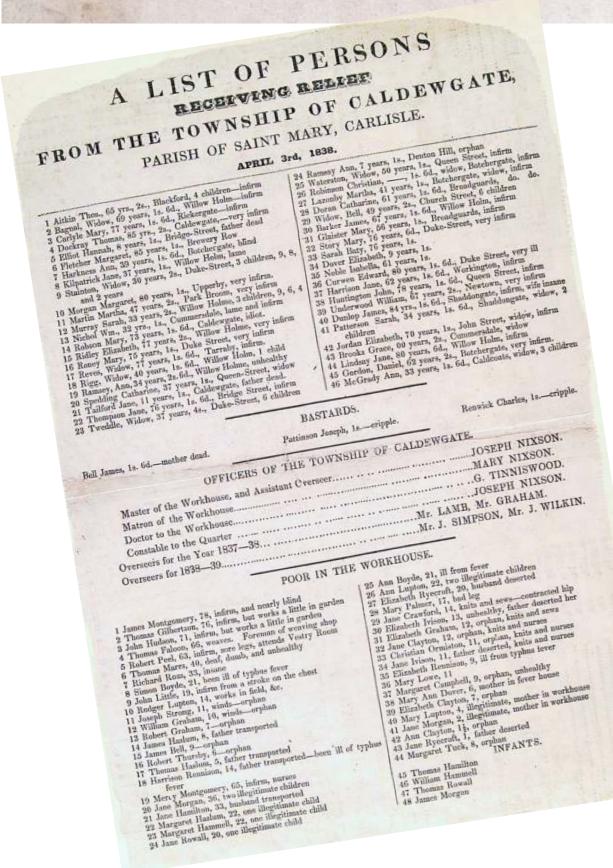


## **Poverty in Cumbria** A historical perspective

## **The New Poor Law** 1834-1948



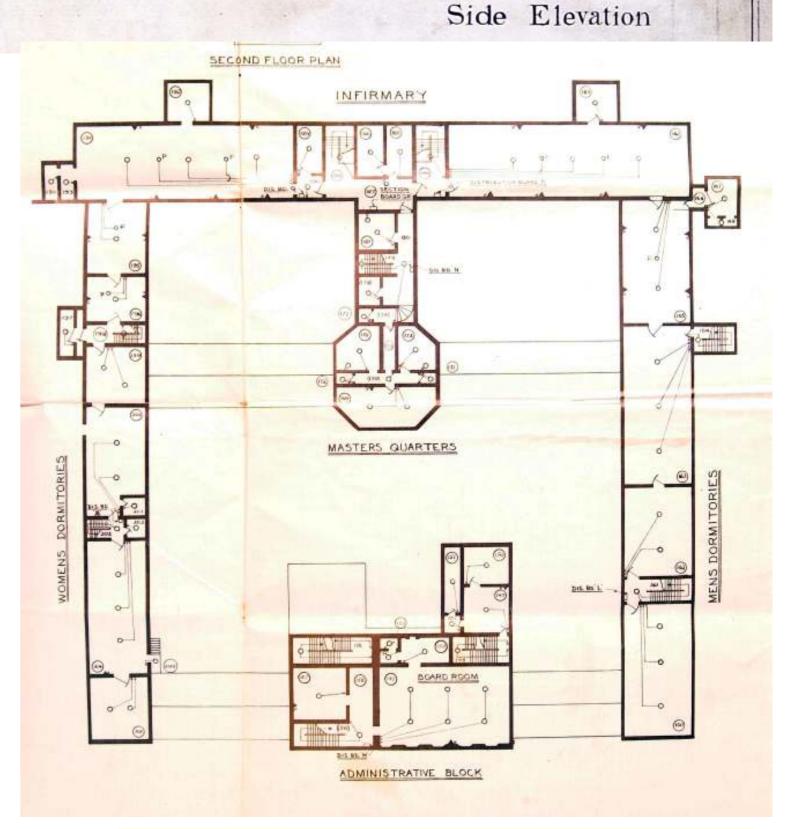
Main Building Front Elevation of



By 1834 the Elizabethan Poor Laws had become discredited and a new uniform system of poor relief was ushered in with the Poor Law Amendment Act of 1834. Parishes were organised in to new Unions with elected Boards of Guardians.

At its heart was the workhouse which would provide an austere level of relief to inmates. In many cases new purpose built institution were built. This panel shows the elevation for Shap Workhouse built in the 1870s and a floor plan of Ulverston workhouse. In a number of cases existing workhouses, such as those at Kendal and Milnthorpe continued in use after 1834.

The life of the inmate was regulated as shown by the dietary tables below. As the 19th century progressed attitudes to certain classes of poor, particularly children, resulted in changes such as the provision of education.



Floor plan of Ulverston's new Union workhouse, built 1837-1838 (Barrow Archives)

With the establishment of Poor Law Unions in the 1830s a new and much harsher system was introduced for dealing with the poorest members of society.

This is a list of named paupers receiving poor relief from the township of Caldewgate in the Carlisle Poor Law Union. Some people received a weekly allowance at home while the less fortunate were sent to live in the workhouse.

16	At a Obecting of th	w Board of Guardians of the	PENRITH UNION.	held on the Twelfth day of March, 1901, if was Desi	ivad, in accordance with the requirements	of the Workhouse R	egulation (Dietaries an	of Acc	ounts) Order, 1900, that t
DAY.	CLASSES.	following Dictary Tables for BREAKPAST.	the Paupers of the re Additional for Classes 12, 26, 36, & 42 (when report- ed by Medical Officer to be processary), & Children.*	DINNER.	SUPPER.	Quarters ending Midsu Additional for Classes 2b and 4b only.*	CLASSES.	DAY.	Alternative Foods to be issued the event of failure of the ordinary sepply on any day
SUNDAY.	i and i.a	Bread S or, Cadha I pin, Boster J or.        n      6 co., n        n      1 pin, n        n      5 co., n        n      1 pin, n        n      5 co., n	County, actuates.	$\begin{array}{cccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$	Tornal 5 on , Batter ( on , Ten 1 pint . 6 on , 1 m. , 1 pint . 7 0 on , 1 m. , 1 pint . 7 0 on , 1 m. , 1 pint . 6 on , 1 pint , 1 pint . 6 on , 1 pint , 1 pint . 6 on , 1 pint . 7 0 on , 1 pint		1 and ta.      Bis        8 and 3a      Womes        8 and 3a      Non        4 and 4a      Womes        2b      -        4 and 4a      Womes        4 and 5a      Womes        4 and 5a      Womes        4 and 5a      Womes        4 and 5a      Womes        5b      -        6b      -        6b      -        6b      -	NUN	$ \begin{array}{llllllllllllllllllllllllllllllllllll$
MONDAY.	2 and 34	1 plat, 1 plat Broad &, Batter § ers, Galles I plat 	- 104, - 1314 - 104, - 1314 - 104, - 1314 Bread 2 cs., Dector § 10.	Harlant Seng Li plata, Read 6 as. - 1 plat - 4 var. - 1 plat - 4 var. - 1 plat - 4 var. - 1 plat - 4 var 8 var. - 1 plat - 4 var 9 var. - 1 plat - 4 var 9 var. - 1 plat - 3 var 9 var. - 1 plat - 3 var 9 var.	Tread 2 cor, Perridge 1) picts, Treads 1] or.        a      2 cor, a      1 picts, b      1 pict        a      8 cor, bector j cor, Teo j pict      a      1 pict        a      8 cor, b      1 cor, a      1 pict        a      8 cor, b      1 cor, a      1 pict        a      8 cor, a      1 cor, a      1 pict        a      6 cor, a      1 cor, a      1 pict        a      6 cor, a      1 cor, a      1 pict        a      5 cor, b      1 cor, a      1 pict        a      5 cor, b      1 pict      1 pict        a      5 cor, billet + pict      1 pict        a      6 cor, cor, b      2 pict	Brud I on, Book § pier	1 ant 1a	A	Calles I par, Recel 8 m, Game 3 m a 1 part, a 8 m, a 5 m a 1 part, a 8 m, a 1 m a
	3 and 28 Women 2 and 28 Ken 4 and 48 Women 25	Pandigs 14 plan, Skinned 30.0 ( pist      -        , 1 plan,	Brail 4 or, Classe 19 or. a 4 m, a 19 or. Brail 2 m, Botter 1 or. a 5 m, a 1 m.	Banne 2 des, Brond 4 an, Printere or other Vegetables 12 dr.      # 8 an.        a      3 da.,	Bond S an. Milk 1 pint 	- Cosse i pire, Breel 5 m 	1 anil 1a	C.	Collie 1 pint, Head S m., Chann 7 m = 1 pint,, 6 m.,, 7 m = 1 pint,, 6 m.,, 1 m = 1 pint,, 6 m.,, 1 m = 1 pint,, 6 m.,, 2 m = 1 pint,, 6 m.,, 1 m Corres pint,, 6 m.,, 1 m 
VEDNESDAY	3 and 3a. Wornen 2 and 2a. Main 4 and 3a. Wornen 7b. Man 4b. Wornen	$\begin{array}{llllllllllllllllllllllllllllllllllll$	• 1 m, • 1 p m. • 1 m, • 1 p m. • 1 m, • 1 p m. • 1 m, • 1 p m.	$ \begin{array}{cccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$	Bread C ers. Mills T pa- - 5 exc	Beerel I are, Milk ± pire) a I etc. a L piret	1 and 10. Ken 5 and 20. Ken 6 and 60. Wernen 50 Ken 60. Wernen 6 Children, 8 to 16 0 Children, 8 to 16		Collies 1 piet, Benni 1 m., Channa 1 m.      m.      m.      1 piet,
THUR	1 and 13	$\begin{array}{cccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$	- 4 m, - 19 m. - 4 m, - 19 m. - 4 m, - 19 m. - 19 m. - 19 m. - 19 m. - 19 m.	Bailey Song Up plane, Bread & in.      ·	Participa 12 picas, Scienced 2028 1 picat - 1 picat . 1 picat Frend 8 cc., Sature 1 er., Tox 1 picat - 6 cm., - 1 pica, - 1 picat - 6 cm., - 1 pica, - 1 picat - 6 cm., - 1 pica, - 1 picat - 6 cm., - 1 picat - 6 cm., - 2 picat	- Brood I ve., Bastlan J plan 	6b	JRSDAY	Coller L pint, Brand P an, Classer 2 an - 1 pint, a E an, a Fan a 2 pint, a Fan, a Fan a 2 pint, a 6 an, a 7 an - 1 pint, a 6 an, a 7 an - 1 pint, a 6 an, a 7 an - 1 pint, a 6 an, a 1 an Corea pint, a 6 an, a 1 an - 1 pint, a - 1 pint, a 6 an - 1 pint, a -
X	4 md 4a. Women 2b. Nen ab. Women 5	$ \begin{array}{llllllllllllllllllllllllllllllllllll$	. 10, . 110. . 10, . 110. . 10, . 110. . 10, . 110.	Mage Show 1 plat, Trend 8 on - 1 plan, - Kon - 2 plan, - Kon - 2 plan, - Kon - 2 plan, - Kon - 2 plan, - Kon	Trend I or, Gred I   pains Con, I plot Con, I plot Con, Son I plot Con, J on, I plot Con, J plot Con, I plot Son, J plot Son, I plot Son, I plot	Grovijpies, Regerios - . ipies, silos -	1 and 1a Nan 3 and 2a	FRIDAY.	Collin 1 pers Brand 8 m., Channe 2 m. a. 1 pinty m. 4 cong. a. 2 m. m. 1 pinty m. 4 cong. a. 1 m. Granna 1 pinty m. 4 m. m. 1 m. m. 1 pinty m. 4 m. m. 2 m.
TURDAY.	2 and 2a	. 0 m., 1 pas . 0 m., 5 mm r j m., 0 mm 1 pre . 5 m., 1 j m., 1 pre . 6 m., 1 m., 1 pre . 4 m., 1 pre, 1 pre	. (m 11m. . (m 11m. . (m 11m.	Sen Fulling 15 or. Blakable er Sloved Fratt y plat - 16 m y plat - Ul m y plat - Ul m., - y plat - 16 m., - y plat - 16 m., - y plat - 16 m., - y plat - Sennry Hirry I gli, Poiston or other Vegetable 4 m. Sau Tudding (on	Pointige 1] plans, Skinned Milk 1 pink	un m Head 2 er, Cons j pint a 2 m, a j pint	1 and 1a Nen 5 and 3a Women 2 and 3a Men 4 and 6a Women 20	SATURDA	Colles I pice, Brand S or, Chenn S o a. I pick, a. E on, a. 2 o a. I pick, a. E on, a. 5 o a. I pick, a. 6 on, a. 5 o a. I pick, a. 6 on, a. 1 J pick, a. 6 on, a. 1 Comp pick, a. 6 on, a. 1



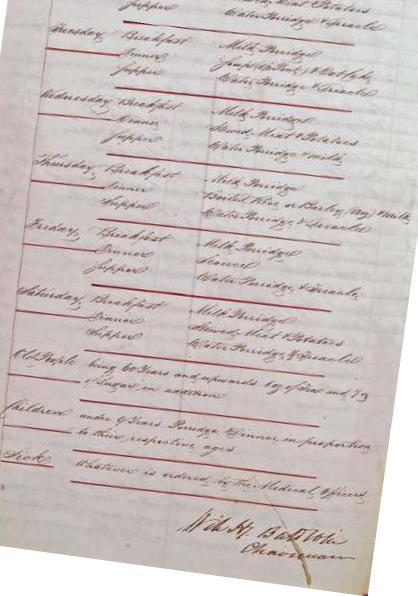
Ref. SPC 44/2/91 dated 1838 (Carlisle Archives)

#### **Dietary sheet for Penrith Workhouse.**

Anyone who was unable to support themselves and their dependents was sent to live in the Poor Law institutions that were commonly known as workhouses. These institutions were run on very strict lines - men and women and adults and children were segregated on admission forcing families to be split up. This is the weekly dietary sheet for the workhouse at Penrith for 1901.

Ref. SPUP 336 dated 1901 (Carlisle Archives)

Real ?' Do, Human, Frich



Non a ... The Guardiana hereby down that for all the John Converses of the depression of the solveness of th J. W. SMITH, Clerk. Date-1.21k March, 1901. R. HEYWOOD THOMPSON, Presiding Chairman. Dute-1216 March, 1904



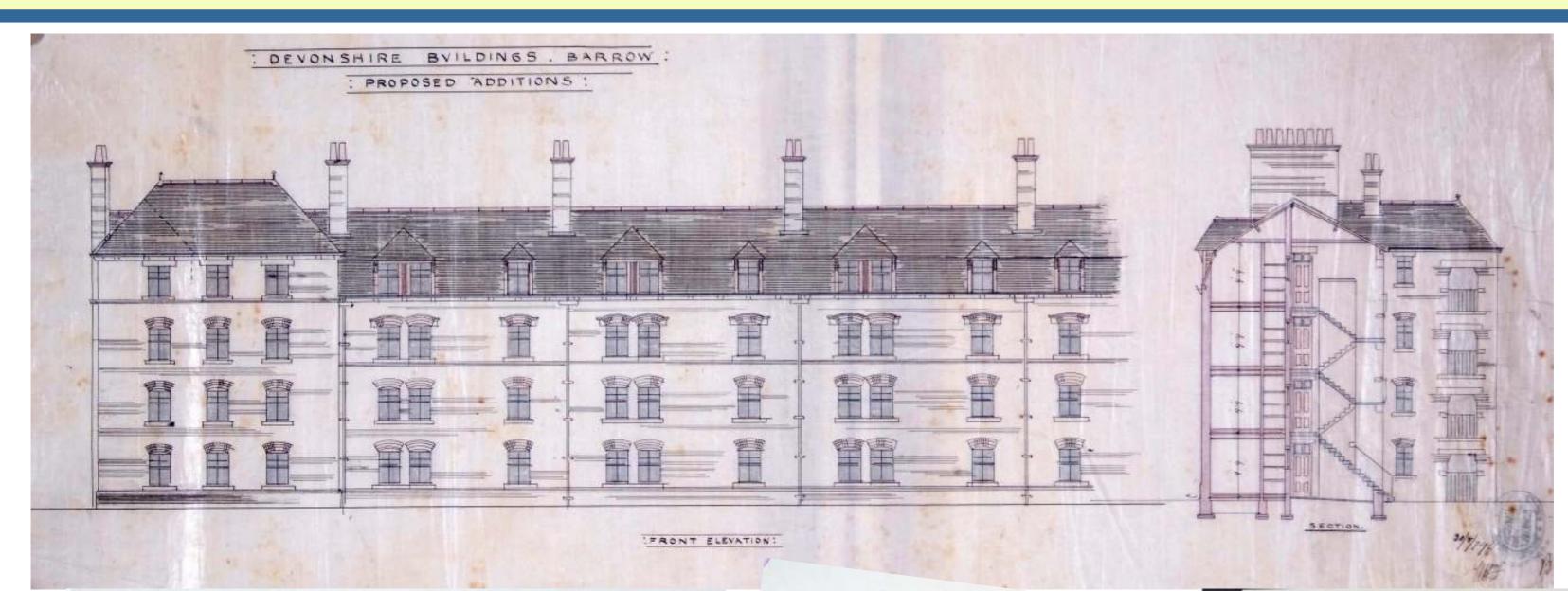
# Cumbria Archive Service



## **Poverty in Cumbria** A historical perspective

## **Public health**

### Improving living conditions for all.



#### **Devonshire Buildings**

To accommodate a growing work force the Ship Building Company constructed the Devonshire Buildings on Barrow Island.

These flats were fashioned on the plans used to build the notorious Gorbals tenements in Glasgow.

They consisted mainly of 1 and 2 bedrooms and a living room and could house up to 264 families. There were also cellarage, a wash house and ground apportioned off as bleaching greens. According to a company press release the Devonshire Buildings were 'Fitted up with every convenience on the most approved modern principle'.

REF. NO.2.

Hingstown No. Ja



a portion of four houses in California, Kingstown. This property is frequently flooded owing to the absence of gullies in the road; at the rear this road is about 3 feet higher than the house floors, and the only means of carrying away the surface water from this road is by a 4"gully setucied under the water tap shown in this photograph.

Mingstown neg



#### Sanitary inspection photographs

Many parts of the county were without basic sanitary facilities such as underground sewers, drains and water pipelines until well into the 20<sup>th</sup> century. These photographs show the situation that existed in the hamlet of Kingstown, just north of Carlisle, around 1905. The Sanitary Inspectors observed slop and refuse water being thrown into the streets and houses that were deemed unfit for human habitation.

Ref. CaH9, circa 1905 (Carlisle Archives)

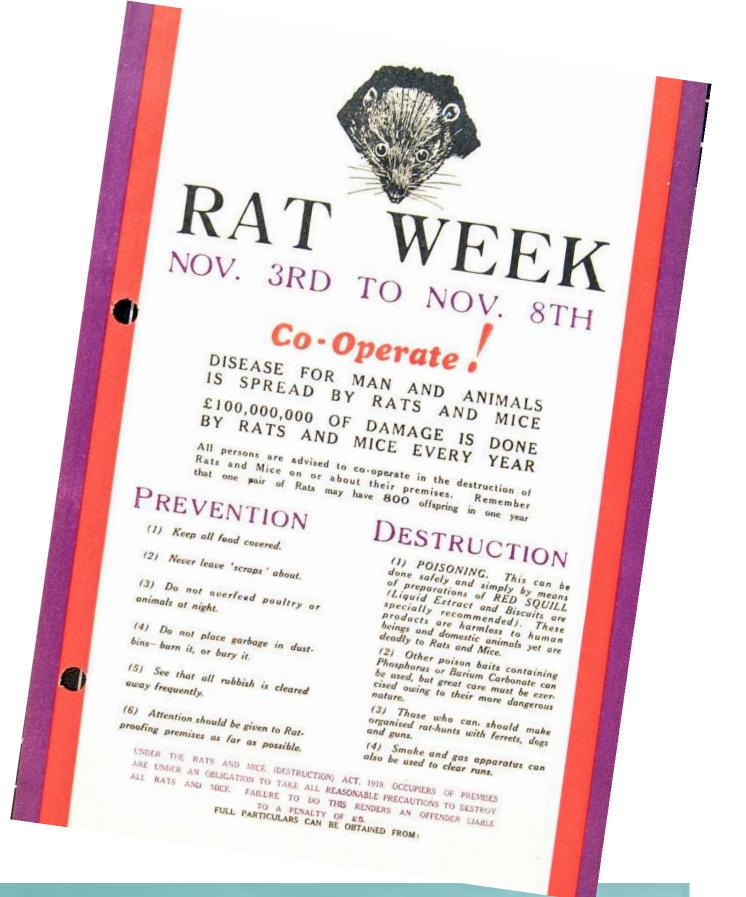


NEW STREET CLEARANCE AREA.

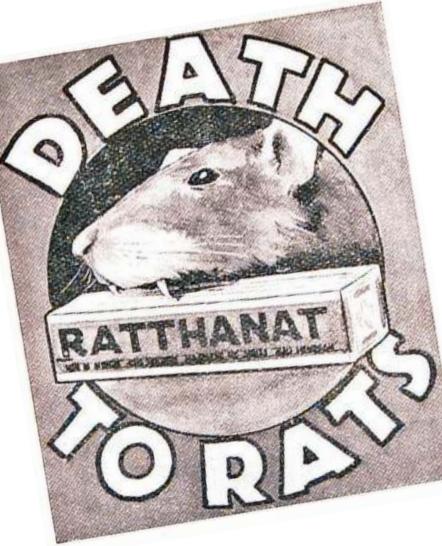
#### **Biggar Bank**

ното No.28.

The Housing Act of 1935 allowed greater subsidies for slum clearance and compelled local authorities to make a full survey of local housing conditions. In February 1938 an inquiry was held to decide upon the Council's intention of clearing away some 28 huts and caravans at Biggar Bank. These were built mainly of wood, corrugated iron and tarred felt. Rooms were less then 8 feet high, there were inadequate sanitary arrangements and lighting was mainly by oil lamps. As a result of the inquiry, and other action, some of the huts and caravans at Biggar Bank were removed. The remainder lasted until well after the Second World War. (Barrow Archives)



#### Rat week



The Prevention of Damage by

TONE: BOYAL HIFA + CABLES: QUININTAR + DIRECTORS: D. SIMPSON, W. SIMPSON, M.

Pests Act, 1949, encouraged all local authorities to ensure that their districts were kept free from rodent infestation.

Two Rodent Control Operatives were employed by Barrow Borough Council to carry out periodic inspections and exterminations. The work was carried out free of charge with the exception that owners of business premises paid for the cost of materials and labour.

The national rat week campaign served to highlight the risks of rodent infestation to general public health.

(Barrow Archives)

Simpson House, Sheppy Place, Minories, London

Sth October, 1930.

J. Orr, Esq., Town Hall, Barrow in Purness.

Dear Sir,

GA/JT.

Rat Week is again approaching, and this year in the campaign against the Rat Evil there is available a new weapon, i.e., "RATTHANAT", the infellible raticide produced by the Berlin and Brandenburg Chamber of Agriculture.

During the short time that "RATTHANAT" has been on the British market, it has established a high reputation for efficiency, while on the Continent it has been adopted by many Government and Public Authorities as the official rat exterminating medium.

We can conscientiously recommend "BATTHANAT" to your notice, and we trust that, after a porusal of the enclosed leaflet, you will come to the conclusion that "RATTHANAT" is indeed unique, and worthy of at least a trial.

We shall be glad to be of service to you, and we remain,

Yours truly, RAT EXTERMINATORS, LTD. aleras Manager .

P.S. We are allowing to Municipalities and Public Authorities a discount of 33% on orders above 10/-, and 50% on orders above £2 off the fixed retail prices.

www.cumbria.gov.uk/archives

### Cumbria Archive Service



## **Poverty in Cumbria** A historical perspective

### Wilson and Piper's Charities Whitehaven

Dated 23 Coliba DIC This Indenture of three Parts made the twenty third Day of October in the 56th Geo 3. 1816 Between The Migher Hourable William Carl of Lousdale Viscount Lowther of Whitehaven in the brandy of bumberland Bargain and Sall of a Huight of the most noble Order of the Garter Lord of the Maner of Saine Bees in the ~ said bounty of the first Part Matthew Piper of Whitehaven aforesaid Gentleman of the second Part and Thomas Hartley of Smithwarte in the said bounty of burne Cog! Milliam Hartley of Reselvill in the same County Bog! Sohn Harrison -Joseph Gunsen and George Harrison all of Whitehaven aforesaid Esquires Thomas und Mr. Matthew Piper-Brocklebank Solu Brochlebank George Dawson Robert Dawson Sohn Barwist Stohn Brazy and William Miller all of Whitehaver aforesaid Merchants Thereas Micholson Surollia in his Mapsty's high of Sporing file in the said boundy of buncherland Merchand and Pler How younger and Michael Matter of Whitehaven aforeraid Gentlemen of the third Part Whereas the said Matthew Piper is minded and desirous to found and for ever to whatigh a ~ Charity School in the Foun of Whitehaven for the Chucation of sixty poor Boys belonging Manufil according to the said Sever of Matchaven or the Mightourhood thereof in Maning Moiting anthingte Jun hore-Guaging Marigation and Bette keeping and in Crair to provide an anunal Sum for the Sayment of the Schoolmasters Salary and other Surposes hereinafter mentioned here hall agreed to invest the some of 2 2000 Mary 25 por Care Bank annulles ne the fames of Soud his in Stances herenafter mentioned and in the mean fine are concertant in the annual Surveyers thered

The county's Archive Centres contain records of many local charities which had striven to alleviate poverty in their localities in past centuries. Many were supported by wealthy people who had bequeathed money to support and sustain a charitable cause. The provision of relief often went hand in hand with a wish to assist the advancement of those in need.

of Ground in High Sweet Traise and Declaration of Source 2000 Mary 5 per ben Bank unallis - Being the Establishunen a bliasity section by the Regile Houtette William Carl of Sourday

boart of Chancery the fourteend Day of November in the year of var ford 1816 baing first duly 11 1111 Junor

EXAMINATION OF PIPER'S MARINE SCHOOL, WHITEHAVEN. Re-printed from the WHITEBAVEN HERALD, of June 21st, 1866, by order of the Trustees, for distribution amongst the Subscribers to the Fund for building a Dicelling-House for the Master. The Free School in High-street, Whitehaven, built by the late Earl of Lonzdale, and endowed by the late Mr Matthew Piper, was examined on Monday by the Rev. G. E. Hoskins of the Higham, that nothing can profit you more, fo profitable unto all things, as well the assisted by the Rev. Canon Dalton. 'The following Trustees of the school were present-Messrs W. Miller is as the life which is to come Mr Satris, on the part of the Trustees, invited the (the only original trustee now surviving). Jos. Miller eorge Poile, G. W. Brown, T. C. Dixon, J. Forster Rev. Canon Dulton to express his W. B. Gibson, John Kitchin, and Wm. Smith.

There were also present-Mrs Forster, Corkickle : end, Mr Hoskins, in exc friend, hir floskins, in examining the senses, but had pleasure in saying he thought it must be very satisfactory to the Trustees to know it was in such a state of proficiency. Some of the hoys he had Rev. Mr and Mrs Ewing ; Mrs W. B. Gibson, Mr Wm. Wilson, Corkickle, Mr S. Braithwaite, Lowther Street, and a number of the parents and friends of Street, and a number of the parents and means of the boys. The pupils, 65 in number, mustered, as nemal, in full tale, all clean and tidy, and were put through a sifting examination in English reading and grammar, geography, Scripture knowledge, arithme-tic writing from distotion. Sc., Sc., in all of which they acquitted themselves very satisfactorily, reflect-

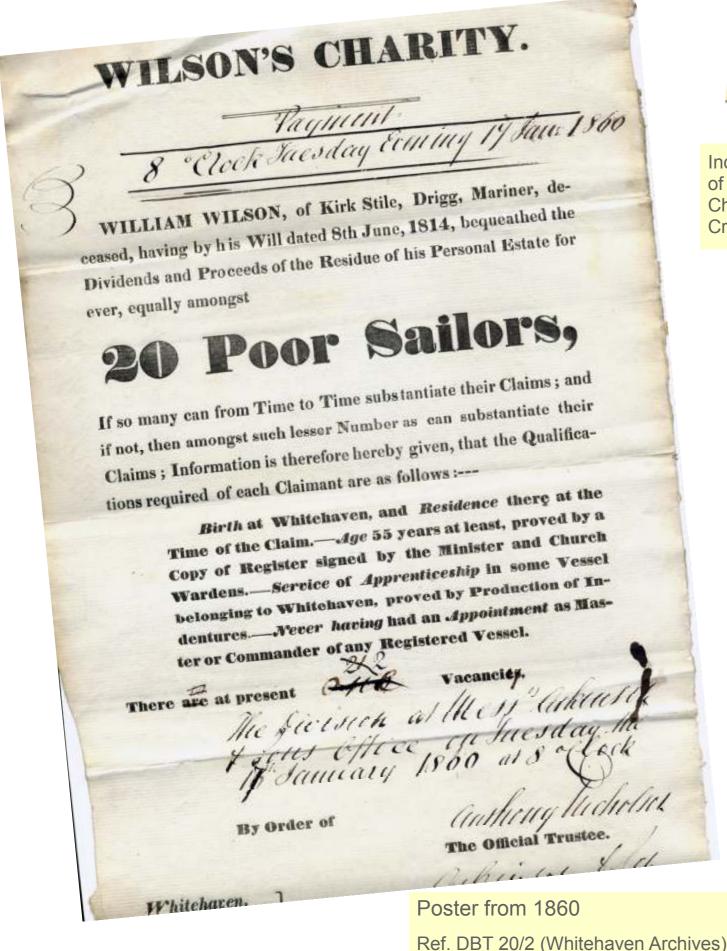
#### **Piper's Charity, Whitehaven**

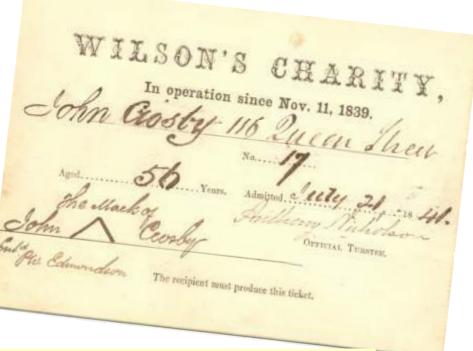
The records of Piper's Charity form another fascinating record of charitable work, on this occasion of Mr Matthew Piper, as well as illuminating many aspects of Whitehaven life. Piper, a member of the Society of Friends, died on 24 October 1821 aged 91. His obituary (Cumberland Pacquet 22 October 1821) stated that he had 'amassed a considerable fortune by parsimonious economy' and with his money he founded and endowed a soup kitchen in Whitehaven, and also three schools in Whitehaven, Kendal and Lancaster.

Whitehaven's Marine School was the product of Piper's charitable endowments, with the stated aim of helping educate sixty poor boys from the town. The curriculum, as outlined in some of the surviving records seems to be in accord with the subjects studied in Whitehaven with a view to boys becoming seamen or apprentices on merchant ships and the trust deed talks about equipping the boys with 'Reading, Writing, Arithmetic, Guaging, Navigation and Bookkeeping'.

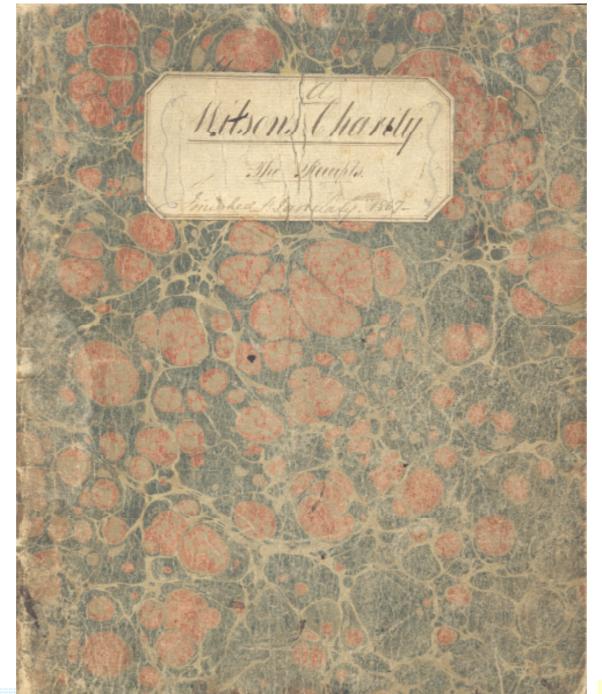
Whitehaven's Marine School continued 'turning out ... well educated lads, whose reading, writing and 'rithmetic at Piper's School never cost their poor parents one penny' until 1908 when the school was sold and the money realised was used to purchase the site of the grammar school which was built in the same year.

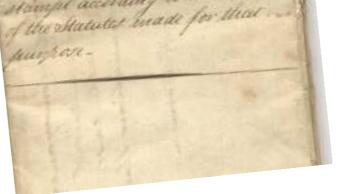
Ref. DBH 28 (Whitehaven Archives)





Individual membership cards survive for many of the poor sailors who applied to Wilson's Charity: this is from applicant no.17 John Crosby





The Trust deed of Whitehaven Marine School was dated 1816 and the school established in 1822.

Ref. DBH 28/1/11 (Whitehaven Archives)

Examination of the Marine School, 1866

Ref. DBH 28/6 (Whitehaven Archives)

ing credit upon both themselves and their efficient with, at the call of Mr Smith, three hearty cheers 

A. regular attendance, and general at Acanough. Second-reading, grammar, John Stubhs. Third-reading, grammar, ariting, John Savage. The three foregoing prizes. Others were given as follows: Academic Good endourd. William Reading-PIPER'S MARINE SCHOOL, WHITEHAVEN. [REPORT BY THE REV. G. R. HOBELNS.]

My HOAXINS having, at the request of the Trustees, handed the prizes to the request of the said he might be allowed, as having had the pleasure as conducting the examination, to convertibute the since might be allowed, as having had the pleasure a conducting the examination, it congratulate the Transfees on the general efficiency of the relation. No one could look around and note the general time and manner prevailing amongst the children without and manner prevailing amongst the the found the light form that was one of the most important parts of effort that was one of the most important parts of the stars exclude the the found the light form thoy knew very little is the was therefore both surpoised and pleased with the general state of the shool, the boys' mice way of reading, and the timetic the results were not so accurate, as a manine them, they would acquit themaver the quantions pair to them on and all the stars and the method of works aramine them, they would acquit themaver and the data even, the bad examined in arithmetic, he bolieved if he were to come back acti day and the class in he had examined in arithmetic, he bolieved if he were to come back acti day and the stars in the bad examined in arithmetic, he bolieved if he were to come back acti day and the stars in the bad examined in arithmetic, he boys would have justified enes in expecting the balave at he bad examined in arithmetic, he boys were rather too acreasing axis into the stars in the bays were rather the assigned the the stars in the stars in the saw they and the evident knowledge of the subject evident the balave, be to were to come back acti day and the general excellence of such visit and distributed the stars in the sole and prever the stars in the bays were rather too acre

day, on behalf of the Traitees. The ordeal reflected great credit on the recently appointed Master, Mr Clarke. The whole tone and distipline of the boys Clarke. The whole tone and distipline of the boys were the theme of general admiration. The reading and grammar were very fair, excepting that the usual fault of Camberland youths was prevalent— they did not speak distinctly, simply because they did not open their mouths and use their lips suffi-ciently was full due in some measure to imple

THIS old foundables

knew how to work the suma. On the whole, from all he had seen, he bollswed the school could compete with any whool of its kind in the county. And now, little people, said the rev. gentleman, addressing the boys, let use say one word to you. No master whatever, even if he had the windom of Solomon and the strength of Herceles, can do sverything himself. He must look to the older boys in his school to help teach the younger ones. I therefore appeal to you to help your master. Remember he has many trials—many difficulties to cope with and overgome; but that his care and labours are very much alleviated when he sees you all striving

#### Wilson's Charity for Poor Sailors

William Wilson's bequest provided for sailors in need in one of Cumbria's largest ports, Whitehaven. Through his will he provided that his money (stocks) be invested to provide funds for the upkeep of twenty poor sailors in the town. The conditions of this were: the sailors would be paid if they were 55 years old or over; if they had never been promoted; and had served as apprentices. All this information had to be proved by their indentures. The charity began in November 1839.

£500 of William Wilson's money had been put into the fund as an initial investment. If there were less than twenty sailors applying for help, then the money should be split accordingly. If there were more than twenty sailors applying for the money, it was up to the trustees to divide the payments. The charity also provided for the funeral expenses of the applicant sailors. Throughout the existence of the charity, approximately £1182 was put into the fund, and used for the support of sailors. Each sailor who received payments had a card with his details on to prove his identity. As some of the men were illiterate, they drew a 'mark' in place of their signature and a trustee would then indicate their name.

Ref. DBT 20/1-13 (Whitehaven Archives) The 5th Jayment 23 duly 1820 Receivers Acknowledgments John helley. Attestak Joseph Bowners Theread Kirkportrain & 10

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**Payments Account Book** Ref. DBT 20/3 (Whitehaven Archives)

enoch devile Hachen ane Chr hor Collevood . Kellunde Clarker Acquin amed Maben nº american n'hrothy nº Hellone nopelson 14 Crobber

List of sailors who received payment in 1844. On receipt of the payment of £1 10<sup>s</sup> most placed a mark instead of their signature. Ref. DBT 20/3 (Whitehaven Archives)

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