

EDWARD HALL – AGENT to the MACCLESFIELD CANAL COMPANY

Edward Hall was Agent to the Macclesfield Canal Company between 8 May 1826 - 19 September 1844. He was the son of David Hall and Mary Huxley. His father was Mayor of Macclesfield and the family lived at Butley Hall, Macclesfield. Edward Hall was born 6 May 1793 and died 14 December 1874. He attended King's School, Macclesfield.

John Gardner, of Bridlington, has transcribed and indexed Edward Hall's Journal. Edward Hall was John Gardner's great great grandfather – Edward's son, Clarence, was John Gardner's grandmother's father. The Journal - a single notebook - has entries always on the right hand page. When Edward Hall reached the end of the notebook he turned the book upside down and continued – until he ran out of paper – then he stopped! The first entry is dated 6 April 1806 – the final entry was made in December 1858.

John Gardner began transcribing the Journal in 1989 using a BBC computer – this was subsequently replaced by a Compaq – with a hard drive! I believe that it was finally completed in 2000.

I received a copy of the transcription (a substantial A5 sized document, also containing photocopies of original pages from the Journal, an index and appendices) in September 2001. The transcription also contains fascinating details of contemporary events for the years covered by the Journal.

I have “transcribed” some of John Gardner's transcription! This has been a fascinating task. Edward Hall led a very interesting life – joining the Navy from school and becoming Aide de Camp to the Duke of Clarence. He travelled widely throughout Europe. I have concentrated on Edward Hall's involvement with the Macclesfield Canal and the surrounding district. A most revealing aspect of this was Edward Hall's close professional and personal / family relationships with Stephen Heelis, Solicitor to the Canal Company, and with James Meadows, Agent to the Peak Forest Canal Company.

Graham Cousins
September 2002

Extracts from the Journal of Edward Hall – Agent to the Macclesfield Canal Company

1806	Joined the Navy on 6 April 1806 as a Midshipman on “HMS Trusty” at Spithead. Skirmishes against the French
<i>In 1806</i>	<i>IK Brunel born on 9 April</i>

1807	In Copenhagen where the British seized the Danish fleet as a punishment for joining Napoleon’s “Continental System”
<i>In 1807</i>	<i>Napoleon concludes peace with Britain – Tilsit - 9 June Anglo-Swedish alliance – Sweden and Britain to continue war against France Gas is first used to light the streets of London</i>

1808 – 1809	Action against Denmark and Norway
<i>In 1809</i>	<i>In Sweden Gustavus IV arrested by the Army – He abdicated on 29 March</i>
<i>In 1810</i>	<i>Christian, new King of Sweden, died. Bernadotte proclaimed heir</i>

1812	
May 13	Passed as a Lieutenant
Jul 18	Flag Lieutenant to Admiral Martin at Riga
<i>In 1812</i>	<i>Luddite riots spread to the north of England</i>

Winter 1812 – 1813	Frozen up at Carlsrona
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1813	
Mar 14	Carried dispatches to Lord Cathcart at Kalisch
	During the summer of 1813 acted as naval Aide De Camp to HRH the Duke of Wirtemberg – Commander in Chief of the combined army besieging Dantzic
Dec 15	London. Promoted to the rank of Lieutenant and appointed to HM Sloop “Rattler” off the coast of America
<i>In 1813</i>	<i>“Puffing Billy” built</i>

1814	
Jan	Went home for a few days to see his friends at Butley Hall, Macclesfield and then set sail to find his ship in the Caribbean
May	Joined his ship at Bermuda
Summer	Spent in the Caribbean
Nov 30	Set sail from Canada for England.
Nov 30 – Dec 25	Off the Lizard
Dec 27	Anchored at Spithead
<i>In 1814</i>	<i>George Stephenson builds his first locomotive</i>

1815	
Jan 12	Moored at Deptford
Jan 27	Paid off the ship's company and struck the pendant of HMS "Rattler"; went to London
Feb	Went to his father's – Butley Hall, near Macclesfield
Summer	Socialising
Sep	Went to Beverley, Bridlington and Scarborough
Oct	Went to Paris
<i>In 1815</i>	<i>Corn Law restricts import of corn and raises price of bread Humphrey Davy invents miner's safety lamp Macadam began using crushed stone and bitumen SS Marjory operates commercially on the Thames</i>

1816	
Mar	Returned to London

1818	
May 6	Father gave up Butley Hall and the family moved to London
Sep	Went to Hanover, Germany
Oct	Appointed Aide de Camp to the Duke of Clarence
Dec	Brother Sam appointed as a Chaplain to the Duke of Clarence
<i>In 1818</i>	<i>Bernadotte became King Charles XIV of Sweden First iron passenger ship on the Clyde</i>

1819	
	Travelled throughout Germany and then to Holland
Sep	Returned to London
Oct	His father and "Mrs Hall" were at Brighton
Oct	Duke and Duchess of Clarence returned to England at the beginning of October – from then on Edward Hall spent a lot of his time at Clarence House
<i>In 1819</i>	<i>Charles Halle (Halle Orchestra) born – 11 April Princess Victoria born – 24 May "Peterloo" massacre in St Peter's Square, Manchester – soldiers killed anti-Corn Law demonstrators – 16 August James Watt died aged 83 – 19 August</i>

1820	
Feb 16	Attended the funeral of King George III – Duke of Clarence had given him tickets
	Moved to Old Cavendish Street, Old Cavendish Square. Spent time with new King George IV
Jul 26	Went to Chatham for the launching of “Trafalgar” – “a fine new three decker of 112 guns”
Jul 30	Embarked from Dover for a tour of the Netherlands via Calais, Dunkirk, Bruges to Zele Hoeck. Visited Ghent and Antwerp. Travelled to Brussels (October), Liege, Spa, Maestricht
Nov	Returned to England. Took lodgings at 41 Bury Street, St. James. “Frequently at Clarence House”
Dec 10	Duchess of Clarence gave birth to a daughter – two months premature - immediately baptised and named “Elizabeth”
Dec 11	Ordered by HRH Duke of Clarence to take “dispatches” to her Serene Highness the reigning Duchess of Saxe Meiningen, mother to the Duchess of Clarence
Dec 12	Sailed from Dover.
Dec 18	Arrived at Meiningen. Visiting with the Royal Court. Visited Coburg.
Dec 25	Arrived back at Meiningen at 8.00am. At Court.
Dec 31	“Took leave” of the Duchess – presented with a gold snuff box
<i>In 1820</i>	<i>Regent’s Canal opened in London George III died – succeeded by the Prince Regent as George IV – 29 January</i>

1821	
Jan 1	Left Meiningen and proceeded to Coburg. Spent time with the Duke of Coburg
Jan 3	Started return journey to England at midnight
Jan 13	Arrived in London – had dinner with the Duke and Duchess of Clarence
Mar	Lodging at 41 Bury Street, St. James, but frequently at Clarence House and Bushey Park with the Duke and Duchess of Clarence – and at balls and parties every night
Jul 8	HRH despatched him to Calais to meet the young Duke of Meiningen, brother to the Duchess of Clarence. Arrived back on 14 July
Jul 19	Attended the King’s Coronation at Westminster Abbey
Sep	Accompanied the Duke of Meiningen back to Calais
Oct 1	Returned to Macclesfield
Oct	Walking excursion in Derbyshire
Dec 19	Ball at the “hotel” in Macclesfield
<i>In 1821</i>	<i>John Rennie died – 4 October</i>

1822	
Jan 9	Returned to London - 41 Bury Street
Jan 12	Went to Bushey to visit the Duke and Duchess of Clarence
Apr 6	Got one year's leave of absence from the Admiralty
Apr 9	Travelled to Boulogne from Dover on a steam boat and onwards to Paris
Apr 23	Sir Charles Steuart, the British Ambassador in Paris, presented Edward Hall to His Majesty Louis 18 th and to the rest of the Royal Family
May – Jun	Social rounds in Paris
Jul 27	Left Paris en-route to Switzerland
Aug 1	Arrived in Geneva
Aug – Oct	Touring in Switzerland
Oct 18	Left for Milan
Nov 10	Arrived in Florence
<i>In 1822</i>	<i>Civil war in Spain First railway to use steam locomotive for freight haulage at Hetton in County Durham John Nash's Brighton Pavilion completed</i>

1823	
Jan	In Florence
Jan 5	Unexpectedly met Jules de St Cricq, an old friend from Paris
Jan 12	Decided to accompany St Cricq to Rome. St Cricq was ill with mental health problems - his behaviour "bizarre"
Jan 15	St Cricq drove off without Edward Hall. The servant threw Hall's trunk off the carriage - otherwise he would have been left without any clothes!
Jan 18	Arrived in Rome and found St Cricq's lodgings
Feb 16	Arrived in Naples
Mar 17	Returned to Rome
Apr 4	Returned to Florence
Jun 6	Sent a box of his books by sea to England
Jun 20	Arrived in Venice
Jul	Milan and Turin, Aix les Bains
Aug	Aix, Geneva, Dijon. His brother, Charles, arrived in Exeter from India, but he was very ill
Aug 16	Determined to return to England to see his brother
Aug 23	Arrived in Paris
Aug 25	Heard of his brother's death in Exeter
Aug 28	Left Paris
Aug 31	Arrived in London
Sep 2	Went to Bushey to see HRH Duke of Clarence
Sep 26	To Macclesfield
Nov 8	Received the box of books despatched from Florence
Nov 19	Dined with Frank Philips at Longsight
<i>In 1823</i>	<i>Work began on building the British Museum Stephenson builds the first iron railway bridge The Lancet first published Brighton Pier opened – 12 November</i>

1824	
Jan 2	To Runcorn by canal boat. Visited his old friend De Gaudrion. Introduced to his niece - Miss Sarah Smith
Jan 3	Visited the salt mines at Northwich
Feb -Mar	Macclesfield, Oxford and London
Apr - May	Residing in London. Spending his time in endeavouring to forward his interests either in the Navy or in some civil situation under Government
Aug - Sep	Tour of the Lakes of Westmorland and Cumberland
Nov	Making "chymical" experiments and studying the silk trade
In 1824	<i>Portland Cement patented</i>

1825	
Apr 2	Joined his brother Tom in Macclesfield in the silk trade. Occupied helping him in business - building a factory, making a reservoir etc. Bought French Loom and Lisage and got Frenchmen to teach him the French system
In 1825	<i>Stephenson builds "The Rocket" Buckingham Palace reconstructed for George IV Telford's Menai Bridge completed – September First passenger railway opened – Stockton-Darlington – 27 September</i>

1826	
	Removed the machinery from the old factory to the new one. Occupied putting up steam engine and machinery etc
May 16	Accepted the situation of Agent to the Macclesfield Canal
Jun – Jul	Occupied levelling and surveying the intended line of the canal along with Messrs Crosley and Taylor
Aug	Fitting up his house in Park Street
Sep 8	To Congleton and Newcastle and back
Sep 11	To Manchester and back to Macclesfield
Sep 15	To Leek and back to Macclesfield
Sep 19	The partnership between Edward Hall and his brother Tom dissolved by mutual consent.
Sep 21	Married Miss Sarah Miles Smith at Runcorn. Brother Sam performed the ceremony. Brother Tom was groomsman. Gaudrion gave a reception at Runcorn. Returned to Park Street, Macclesfield
In 1826	<i>Conway Bridge completed Riots in Lancashire against power looms Menai Bridge officially opened – 30 January</i>

1827	
	To Manchester and back
	To Manchester. Slept at G Winter's
	To London
	Went to London with his wife
	Duchess of Clarence's evening party
	To Cheadle and back
	Committee of Macclesfield Canal at Congleton
	First child (Clarence) born
	Clarence christened at the Old Church, Macclesfield
	Dined at Rev Edward Stanley's at Alderley to meet Captain Parry
	Canal Committee at Congleton to let the second part of the lots to the contractors
	<i>Beethoven died – 26 March</i>

1828	
	To Congleton and back on canal business
	To Congleton and back on canal business
	To Congleton and back
	To Congleton and back
	<i>The Duke of Wellington became Prime Minister – 22 January</i> <i>Regent's Park opened – 27 April</i> <i>Foundation of University College London</i>

1829	
Jan 14	To Congleton and back
	Tom's business fails
	Meeting of Tom's creditors
	To Manchester and back
	Meeting of Tom's creditors
	Second child (Charles Huxley) born
	To Trent & Mersey Canal Office at Stone
	To Manchester, at G Winter's
	With Meadows along the Ashton Canal
	Returned to Manchester
	To Stone - Trent & Mersey Office
	To Etruria and Newcastle and back to Macclesfield
	To Manchester
	<i>Sir Humphrey Davy died – 29 May</i> <i>First scheduled omnibus service inaugurated in London – 4 July</i>

1830	
	To Stockport and back
	His father died. His father had been living in a house in Mill Street, Macclesfield - originally Edward's Aunt's house
	His father's funeral
	To Congleton and back
	Sold the silk factory
	King George IV died
	Left home and on the 25 th arrived in London at the Blenheim Hotel
	Attended the Levee of King William IV
	Called on Prince Leopold
	Called on Duchess of Kent
	His landlord, Mr Beaumont, began altering the back premises of the house
	To Congleton
	Mr Beaumont finished the addition to the house
	<i>George IV died – succeeded by his brother as William IV Opening of the first passenger and freight railway (Liverpool – Manchester). Huskisson killed by Stephenson's "Rocket" – 15 September</i>

1831	
	Joseph Buckley arrived
	Joseph Buckley left
	To Marple and back
	To Congleton, Red Bull, Tunstall, Biddulph etc
	To Bollington, Marple
	To Congleton
	To Manchester
	To High Lane
	To Congleton
	Joseph Buckley dined
	Third child - eldest daughter - (Louisa Margaret) born
	Brother Sam obtained the Rectory of Middleton Cheney
	To Manchester
	To Manchester
	To Manchester, Rochdale and Halifax. Dined at Mrs Prescott's
	At Calder and Hebble Canal Office. Dined at William Morris'
	To Huddersfield. Called on Mr Raistrick and Mr Bradley Clay. Dined at Mr Atkinson's
	Attended Huddersfield Canal Meeting at Ashton
Jul 27	Louisa christened
Aug 6	Salary from Macclesfield Canal Company raised to £300 per annum
Aug 22	Wife and children at Runcorn. Went by steam boat from Weston Point to Anderton and Northwich and then by coach to Middlewich and to Macclesfield
Sep 1	Commenced building new Canal Office
Sep 6	Attended at the Marriage of his brother Sam to Miss Ann Holdsworth (Wakefield)
Oct 27	To Congleton, Red Bull etc

Nov 9	The opening of the Macclesfield Canal. Dinner at the Town Hall for 400 guests
In 1831	<i>Cotton Mills Act restricted the working day to 12 hours for under-eighteen year olds</i> <i>John Rennie – New London Bridge completed</i> <i>William IV crowned – 8 September</i>

1832	
Apr 4	Removed desks, books etc from Canal Office on the Green to the new office on the wharf
Jun 30	Took his wife and children in boat to Marple
Jul 13	To Manchester. Slept at Mr Meadows'
Oct 11	Meeting in Manchester of the Committees of the Ashton, Peak Forest and Macclesfield Canals
Nov 2	Fourth child – second daughter - (Emily) born
Dec 5	Emily christened
Dec 7	To Manchester. Slept at Mr Pickford's
Dec 13	Messrs Ryle and J Brocklehurst elected MPs for Macclesfield – being the first MPs that Macclesfield had ever had
In 1832	<i>The Reform Bill gave poorer people more representation in Parliament</i> <i>Babbage designed his Analytical Engine – the first programmable computer</i>

1833	
Jan 17	Lady Seymour and son, William, came to stay until 30 January
May 6	Mr Frank Phillips and his son called
Aug 28	To Red Bull and back
Sep 30	To Manchester and back
Oct 7	Canal Committee at Red Bull
Dec 6	Subcommittee of Canal to High Lane to meet Mr Baxendale
Dec 7	To Manchester. At Mr Pickford's
Dec 13	William Townsend elected Recorder of Macclesfield
In 1833	Tories adopted the name "Conservative" Trevethick died – 22 April Factory Act forbade the employment of children under nine years old in textile mills – 29 August

1834	
Jan 27	Dispensary Ball
Feb 11	Canal Subcommittee met to examine the charges against Mosedale and Kinsey
Feb 22	Mosedale and Kinsey discharged
Feb 24	R Turner began as his clerk at the Canal Office
Mar 3	Kinsey reinstated
Apr 7	Elected sidesman of the old Church
Apr 29	Fifth child - third daughter (Mary Adelaide) born
May 10	Mr Turner left the Canal Company's service
May 23	Little baby Mary being very ill was baptised at home by Mr Cruttenden. His wife was also very poorly
Jun 7	To Hall Green and back

Jun 11	Took his wife to visit her Uncle at West End, Hampstead
Jun 16	To the Colonnade Hotel, Charles Street, St James. Dined and then to the French Play
Jun 17	Captain Fair dined with them and then to the Italian Opera
Jun 18	To see Matthews
Jun 19	To Mitcham to see Lady Seymour. At night to the Italian Opera
Jun 21	Audience with the Duke of Saxe Meiningen and returned to West End
Jun 26	To the Festival at Westminster
Jun 27	Called on the Duchess of Kent
Jun 29	Returned home leaving his wife at West End
Jul 7	To Manchester and back
Jul 30	To London, West End, Hampstead
Aug 9	With his wife to Oxford and then to his brother's Rectory at Middleton Cheney, near Banbury
Aug 15	Dined at Henry Holdsworth's at Drayton Rectory near Wroxton
Aug 19	To Macclesfield. Charles Miles there
Sep 18	Took Clarence with him to Manchester and back
Nov 13	To Bosley Locks with the boys
Nov 28	To Whitelaggs Wharf with the boys
Dec 15	To Manchester and back
<i>In 1834</i>	<i>The Poor Law Amendment act provided workhouses for the destitute to be administered by elected bodies and not Parish Councils – 14 August</i> <i>Telford died – 2 September</i> <i>Houses of Parliament destroyed by fire – 16 October</i>

1835	
Jan 2	Stepmother died
Jan 7	Her funeral. Louisa's cap caught fire and burnt her forehead
Jan 13	Mr Ryle and Mr J Brocklehurst re-elected as MPs for Macclesfield
Apr 18	Took possession of the house he was going to rent from Mr Wardle
Apr 18 - 22	Painting and whitewashing new house. Slept in new house
Apr 23 - 24	Removing furniture
May 9	Sworn in as Warden of Old Church
May 11	Gave up possession of Beaumont's house in which they had lived for 8½ years
May 21	To Prestbury with the boys to call on Joseph Swanwick
May 25	Sixth child - third son (Edward Smyth) born
Jun 25	To Congleton and Hall Green
Jun 29	To Manchester and back
Jul 1	To Congleton and back
Jul 2	Edward Smyth baptised and christened at the Old Church
Jul 7	By boat to Hall Green and slept at the Red Bull
Jul 8	Committee surveyed the canal
Sep 25	To Congleton with the boys

1836	
Jan 28	To Manchester and back
Mar 21	With Mr Stanley and his son Owen to examine the stone quarries in Sutton
Apr 6	Clarence began going to school
May 7	Sworn in as Senior Churchwarden
May 11	F A Philips came
May 12	With Mr Philips, Mr Watts and Mr Nichols to Biddulph and Knypersley
May 15	Annular eclipse of the sun
May 19	With wife and children to Congleton
Jun 6	To Manchester to meet the Committee of the Ashton and Peak Forest Canals about the proposed new Birmingham and London Canal
Jun 23	To Marple
Jun 24	To Manchester. Slept at Heelis's
Jun 29	With Mr Philips and Mr Watts on deputation to the Birmingham Canal Company. Slept at Streatham
Jun 30	To Birmingham. Dea's Hotel
Jul 1	In Committee Boat with several other deputations to examine the new works of the Birmingham Canal
Jul 2	With Meadows to several Canal Offices
Jul 3	Arrived home. Brother Sam and his family at his sister's in Mill Street
Jul 13 – 14	Survey of canal
Jul 15	Sam and his family returned to Middleton
Aug 24	To Manchester about the Sutton Reservoir
Aug 30	Dined at Mr Cholmondeley's. Knutsford
Aug 31	With Messrs Cholmondeley, Winter, Brown, Watts and Meadows to Anderton and Dutton and returned to Knutsford. Dined at Mr Cholmondeley's and returned home
Sep 7	With Mr Brown to examine the site of the intended Sutton Reservoir
Sep 26	Elected one of the Board of Guardians
Oct 4	Little Charles' face dreadfully burnt by an explosion of gun powder thrown at him by a "scoundrel" who escaped
Oct 29	To Manchester about the Sutton Reservoir
Nov 8-10	Making plans for a new Union Workhouse
Nov 29	Seventh child - fourth son (Arthur Francis) born
Dec 2	His plans for the new Poor House, having been approved by the Board of Guardians, were sent to the Commissioners of Poor Laws by whom they were also approved
In 1836	<i>The Chartist Movement for the improvement of Parliamentary representation for the working class began Edmund Davy discovered acetylene Work on Brunel's Clifton Suspension Bridge began Arc de Triomphe completed – began 1806</i>

1837	
Jan 6	Arthur Francis christened at the Old Church
Jan 11	To Manchester and back
Feb 15 - 16	Trying for water by boring in Mr Daintry's land in Upton
Feb 18	Agreed with Mr Daintry for the land in Upton
Mar 25	Received tenders to build his intended new house in Upton
Mar 28	Accepted John Booth's tender
Mar 30	Election of new Poor Law Guardians
Apr 6	Began to sink well on his land at West Bank, Upton
Apr 26	Began the foundations of his house at West Bank
May 6	Went out of office as Churchwarden
May 20 – 23	Making fences around his land at West Bank
May 24	Public Dinner at Hotel on occasion of Princess Victoria's 21 st birthday, being of age
May 25	Dined at Alderley Rectory
May 27	Bishop of Norwich called
Jun 6	Paid Daintry for the land and received deeds
Jun 16	Began the brickwork of new house
Jun 20	King William IV died
Jun 25	To Manchester
Jun 26 – 27	Survey of Peak Forest Canal
Jun 28	At Buxton Races
Jun 29	Returned to Macclesfield. Queen Victoria proclaimed
Jul 27	Brocklehurst and Grimsditch elected MPs for Macclesfield
Aug 9	Began slating roof of new house at West Bank
Sep 4	Dale began to work for Edward Hall - making new garden
Sep 18	Lonsdale, the Canal Clerk, died
Sep 21	Attended Lonsdale's funeral
Sep 22	Embankment of canal at Jolley's Valley gave way
Oct 28	To Leek with Dale to Nunn's Nursery. Planting garden
Nov 29	With Nichols to survey proposed Biddulph Canal and Railway
<i>In 1837</i>	<i>Isaac Pitman invented his system of shorthand Constable died – 31 March King William IV died. Victoria proclaimed Queen – 20 June Queen Victoria adopted Buckingham Palace as the official royal residence – 13 July Brunel's "Great Western" launched at Bristol – 19 July Euston Station opened – 20 July (the first in London)</i>

1838	
Jan 3	F A Philips arrived
Jan 4	With him to Biddulph and back
Jan 5	Philips left
Jan 12	To Manchester and back
Jan 13	To Manchester and dined at the bank with Mr Frank Philips
Jan 14	Dined at Thornfield with F A Philips and returned home
Jan 22	To Congleton and back
Jan 26	To Mr H H Williamson
Jan 29	Bishop of Norwich lunched with the Hall's
Jan 30	To Manchester
Feb 2	Dined at Mr Robert Williamson's, Ramsdell Hall, to meet Mr Watts. Slept at Congleton
Feb 3	With Mr McKenzie and Nichols to Biddulph, dined at Congleton and returned home
Feb 7	To Congleton and back
Feb 15	To Congleton and Biddulph with McKenzie
Feb 28	To Manchester with Nichols to meet McKenzie about proposed Biddulph Canal and Railway
Mar 3	Eighth child - fourth daughter (Harriette) born
Mar 30	Harriette christened
Apr 4	To Newcastle to see Mr Thomas Fenton on the Biddulph business
Apr 30	Removing furniture to new house at West Bank
May 10	Gave up possession of the house in Park Street to Mr Thomas Wardle
May 21	To Manchester. Wrote to Mr Winter about Grand Junction Railway. Dined and slept at Thomas Bent's
May 22	Introduced to Mr Thomas Cooke
May 25	To Manchester
May 28	Foundation of Hurdsfield Church laid
Jun 1	Canal burst at Clayton's new basin
Jun 12	Finished coping yard walls
Jun 25	Sent testimony to Grand Junction Railway Company
Jul 9	To Manchester and back
Aug 17	To Manchester. Returned home Aug 18
Aug 27	With Mr Watts to Birmingham
Aug 28	Meeting of Carriers and Canal Companies at Dee's Hotel
Aug 29	Returned to Macclesfield
Sep 4	To Manchester. Slept at Heelis's
Sep 15	Dined with Meadows. Returned home
Sep 17	To Hall Green and back
Oct 3	To Manchester and back
Dec 3	To Stone to Trent & Mersey Select Committee
Dec 7	Macclesfield Canal Committee. Salary raised to £500 per year
During 1838 Edward Hall gradually became more involved with projected railway companies – later events suggest unsuccessful forays into this area	
In 1838	Queen Victoria crowned – 28 June

1839	
Jan 6	Violent hurricane. Mr Wood's reservoir burst
Jan 8	To Marple and back. Children ill with ring worm
Jan 16	To Manchester. Dined with the Ashton Canal Committee at York Hotel
Jan 20	To Manchester and then with Meadows to Wolverhampton. Called on Shipton and Browning
Jan 21	To Birmingham and Coventry. Saw Mr Beck and Mr Warner. Then to London
Jan 22	Called on Mr Robins, Honourable Mr Bouverie, Mr McNeil and the Bishop of Norwich
Jan 23	With Meadows to Oxford. Called on Mr Lee, Mr Donnell, Mr Thompson and Dr Symonds
Jan 24	To Coventry. Called on Mr Warner
Jan 25	Coventry Canal Committee came to "us". To Birmingham and then home
Jan 28	Meadows "came over" to dine
Jan 30	To Manchester to attend meeting of the Ashton and Peak Forest Committees
Feb 5	To Manchester on business with Meadows, Simpson, Buckley and dined at T Bent's
Feb 6	Dined at Rowland Bent's
Feb 8	To Manchester. Called on Mr Cooke, Mr Robert Garnett and Mr Winter. Slept at T Bent's. Sent Testimonial to the London & Birmingham Railway Directors.
Feb 18	To Manchester and back
Feb 22	To Red Bull, Hall Green and back
Feb 27	By railway to London
Feb 28	Attended London & Birmingham Board of Directors. Mr Baxenaale elected. Returned home
Feb 29	Macclesfield Canal Committee
Mar 27	To Manchester to attend Peak Forest Canal Committee
Apr 13	To Congleton and back
Apr 25	Meeting of Diocesan School Society
Apr 29	Colouring outside of the house
May 28	To Congleton
May 29	To Marple
Jun 1	Commenced papering the bedrooms at West Bank
Jun 3	Goodwin commenced painting the house inside
Jun 17	F A Philips came
Jun 18	With F A Philips and Mr Watts to Mr Robert Williamson's
Jun 22	To Manchester and back
Jul 15	To Manchester and back
Jul 22	Chartist Meeting. Out with the Macclesfield Constables
Aug 12	Chartist Meeting. Out with the Macclesfield Constables
Aug 13	With wife to Manchester to visit Mr and Mrs Meadows. To the Opera - edl Puritani
Aug 15	Returned home. Overturned in the Potter Coach. Several passengers hurt.
Aug 16 - 17	Chartist meetings. Out with the Constables
Sep 4	Mrs Meadows and the children came – left on 12 Sep
Sep 13	To Congleton

Sep 30	Preliminary Protestant Meeting
Oct 7	Meeting of Protestant Association in National School
Oct 18	To Congleton
Oct 23	Large public Protestant Meeting at Macclesfield Town Hall. Edward Hall acted as chairman at the meeting
Oct 28	Conservative Dinner at National School
Nov 8	Protestant Association meeting to elect Officers. Edward Hall was elected President
Nov 22	Meeting about proposed Christ Church School
Nov 27	To Manchester and back. Meeting of the three Subcommittees of canals
Nov 30	James Dale left my service
In 1839	<i>Chartist Riots. Protesters killed. The leader (John Frost) transported Steel cables first made First national railway timetable (Bradshaw) published – 25 October</i>

1840	
Jan	Protestant Association Meeting at the National School
Feb 10	The Queen's Marriage
May 9	Sworn in as Warden of Prestbury Church
Jun 3	To Manchester and Liverpool
Jun 5	To Manchester. Dined with Aspinall Philips and returned home
Jun 8	To Manchester to attend meeting of the Committees of the three canals and returned home
Jun 18	Seized Robins & Co cart horses. Went to Manchester and back
Jun 23	To Coventry to attend meeting of canal delegates
Jun 26	Mr Bostock commenced putting up an iron verandah on three sides of the house
Jul 4	To Manchester and back
Jul 9	Painting dining room
Jul 18	Mr Bostock's men finished putting up the verandah
Jul 31	Received new dining room furniture from Kaye of Manchester
Aug 18	To Manchester and back
Aug 31	To Mr Heelis'. Manchester Concert
Oct 16	Opening of St James Church, Sutton
Oct 29	Conservative Operative Dinner at the National School
Nov 2	To Stockport to swear in Canal Constables
Nov 21	To Congleton for same
Dec 17	To Manchester and back

1841	
Jan 25	General Meeting of Protestant Association at Macclesfield National School
Feb 16	To Manchester and Liverpool
Mar 12	George Broad began work for Edward Hall as gardener
Mar 22	To Manchester and back
Mar 25	To Manchester and back
Apr 5	To Marple
Apr 8	To Hall Green
Apr 13	Meeting at Prestbury Church to elect new Wardens
Apr 21	Repainting walls of dining room
Apr 27	Bishop's visitation. Edward Hall went out of office as Warden of Prestbury Church
May 14	To Manchester and back
May 18	Ninth child - fifth daughter (Georgina) born
May 18	To London on a deputation
May 19	Meeting of canal deputations at the Grand Junction Canal Office. Returned home
May 29	To Manchester and back
Jun 4	To Hall Green to examine Mr Robert Williamson's railway
Jun 5	Tried Mr Sutton's steam boat on the canal
Jun 16	Little Georgina christened
Jul 1	Brocklehurst and Grimsditch re-elected MPs for Macclesfield. Ryle's Bank stopped payment
Jul 9	Egerton and Cornwall Legh elected MPs for the County
Jul 12	To Manchester and back
Aug 11	To Manchester. Sent testimonials to Manchester & Birmingham Railway directors. Slept at Heelis'
Aug 14	To Dane Aqueduct
Aug 16	To Manchester. Dined at Rowland Bent's
Aug 17	Canal Committee at Heelis' office. Salary reduced to £400. Dined at Mr Fleming's
Aug 18	Returned to Macclesfield
Sep 2	To Manchester. Audience of Manchester & Birmingham Railway Directors
Sep 13	To Manchester to meet Coventry Canal Committee at Kenworthy's
Oct 13	To Manchester and back
Nov 8	To Manchester about canal assessments. Slept at Heelis'
Nov 17	To Marple etc
Dec 9	To Congleton etc
Dec 14	To Congleton etc
Dec 16	Meadows "came over"
Dec 18	To Bollington
In 1841	<i>Brunei's broad gauge railway London - Bristol completed</i> <i>Thomas Cook starts his travel agency</i> <i>Punch first published</i> <i>New York Herald Tribune first published</i>

1842	
Jan 7	To Congleton etc
Jan 17	The three girls went to visit Mrs Heelis. Clarence and Charles to Mrs Meadows
Jan 21	To Manchester and brought the children home
Feb 7	To Astbury about the Commutation
Feb 21	To Hall Green. Mr Robert Williamson's Railway Tunnel etc
Mar 1	Death of his old friend De Gaudrion at St Malo
Mar 4	To Manchester and back
Mar 10	Appeal against Marple Rates at Stockport
Apr 6	To Manchester about Dane Aqueduct
Apr 16	With Mr GW Buck to examine the state of the Dane Aqueduct. Mr and Mrs Buck to dinner
Apr 22	Colouring the outside of the house
Apr 26	With the Subcommittee to Mr Robert Williamson's
May 5	Appeal against Marple Poor Rates at Stockport. Thence to Manchester to see Mr Buck
May 28	To Hall Green etc
Jun 13	To Dane Aqueduct. Men building buttresses
Jun 18	To Dane Aqueduct. "Boys with me"
Jun 22	To Peak Forest Canal etc. "The two Boys with me"
Jul 1	To Dane Aqueduct. "Mrs Edward and the children with me to Cloud Hill"
Jul 6	To Dane Aqueduct with the two boys and up the Cloud Hill
Jul 12	To Manchester and back
Jul 15	In boat with the boys to Marple, Ashton, Manchester and back home
Jul 28	With boys to Dane Aqueduct and to Mr Daintry's at North Rode
Aug 12	Mob turn out in Macclesfield
Aug 19	Heelis dined with us
Aug 23	To Dane Aqueduct
Aug 24	To Manchester and back
Aug 30	To Manchester to see Mr Buck
Sep 2	To Manchester
Sep 19	With Mr Buck to Dane Aqueduct
Sep 28	"Little Darling Georgina died" "A sad grief to us all"
Oct 1	Georgina's Funeral
Oct 4	To Dane Aqueduct with the Ladies and Boys. To Astbury and Old Moreton Hall
Oct 5	With boys to Dane Aqueduct
Dec 1	To Congleton etc
Dec 7	To Marple in Boulton's Fly Boat. Harriette ill of convulsions
Dec 26	To Ramsdell Hall. Opening of Mr Williamson's Railway
In 1842	<i>Treaty of Nanking. China cedes Hong-Kong to Britain</i> <i>Income Tax reintroduced</i> <i>Anaesthetic first used for surgical operation</i> <i>Illustrated London News first published</i>

1843	
Jan 9	Attended Income Tax Commission
Jan 13	Severe storm
Feb	Children ill with hooping cough
Feb 11	Harriette very ill - had leeches
Feb 19	Heavy gale of wind broke four windows and damaged the roof of the house
Mar 10	To Marple about the Canal Income Tax
Mar 13	To Hall Green. Cinder Hill etc
Mar 17	An earthquake
Mar 22	To Manchester about loans to Canal Company
Apr 4	My brother William's death
Apr 7	William's funeral
May 4	To Congleton. Pulling down the Canal Bridge No 75
May 11	To Manchester and back
Jun 7	At Bollington stopping leak in canal bank
Jun 11	To the Locks, Hall Green etc. Slept at Mr Williamson's
Jun 20	To Manchester and back
Jun 22	With children to Prestbury
Jun 28	With Mrs Edward and children to Buxton and back
Jun 30	With Mrs. Edward and children to Gawsorth, Astbury, Moreton Hall, Hall Green and back
Jul 3	To Marple
Jul 22	To Manchester to attend Peak Forest Committee
Jul 31	Lady Seymour and William arrived
Aug 1	Lady Seymour and William left
Aug 4	Mr and Mrs Meadows dined with the Hall's
Aug 7	Clarence and Charles went to Mr Meadows and returned on 14 August
Aug 11	With Mrs Edward and children to Alderley Edge
Aug 23	To Manchester and back
Sep 20	To Manchester and back
Sep 23	To Manchester and back
Sep 25	Charles ill of inflammation
Sep 30	"Mrs Edward" taken dangerously ill
Oct 2	To Manchester and back
Oct 3	"Mrs Edward" had a relapse
Oct 6	Charles had leeches to his nostril
Oct 9	Charles had leeches to his temples
Oct 10	Charles had leeches to his nostril and mustard plasters
Oct 12	Clarence taken ill - leeches
Oct 13	"Mrs Edward" getting better
Oct 18	Charles bled with leeches in the seat
Oct 19	Emily ill
Oct 23	Wife and Clarence worse again. Clarence had mustard plasters
Nov 10	Clarence better
Dec 4	Charles worse again
Dec 7	To Manchester and back. Charles better
Dec 22	To Manchester at Heelis'

In 1843	<i>Marc Brunel's Thames Tunnel : Rotherhithe - Wapping : Opened 25 March Brunel's Great Britain (the first all metal liner and the first to be screw driven) launched in Bristol (19 July) Nelson's 17-foot statue is set atop column in Trafalgar Square (3-4 Nov)</i>
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1844	
Jan 10	To Manchester with Clarence and placed him as Clerk in the office of Messrs Slater & Heelis - Solicitors. Dined and slept at Heelis'
Jan 11	Dined at T Bent's
Jan 15	To Manchester and with Meadows to Wolverhampton
Jan 16	Called on Mr Hays etc, then in Shipton's Fly Boat to Birmingham. Back by rail to Wolverhampton and Stafford
Jan 17	To Norbury Junction on the Birmingham & Liverpool Canal in the steam tug. Back to Stafford and then home
Jan 26	I dined and slept at Thornfield. Meeting of the three Canal Committees at the Peak Office
Feb 15	To Manchester and back
Feb 21	To Manchester - dined at Heelis'
Feb 22	Attended Peak Forest Committee Meeting and returned home
Mar 9	To Manchester and back
Mar 13	To Marple
Mar 15	To Hall Green
Mar 16	Hurricane
Apr 16	To Manchester about ballot to pay off loans
Apr 24	To Adlington. Removed the canal bridge No 25
May 2	To Manchester to see Heelis and F A Philips
May 6	Heelis dined with "the Hall's"
May 7	To Manchester with Clarence, slept at Heelis'
May 8	Called on Mr Edward Tootal and on W Hamilton. Returned home by the packet boat on the canals
May 14	With "Mrs Edward" to Manchester to be present at the Confirmation of their eldest son - Clarence. Dined and slept at Heelis'
May 15	Returned home. To Leek to join Mr Buck
May 16	Walking down the Churnet Valley to Uttoxeter
May 17	With Mr Buck and Mr Lawton to Derby. Back through Ashbourne and Leek to Macclesfield
May 29	To Manchester and back
May 30	Dined at North Rode
May 31	To Manchester. Settled about the proposed Churnet Valley Railway
Jun 1	Issued the first Prospectus of the Churnet Valley Railway in which my name appeared as Secretary
Jun 5	To Manchester about the Churnet Valley Railway. Slept at T Bent's
Jun 21	To Manchester to see Meadows, Heelis and Hamilton. To Thornfield to see F A Philips
Jun 22	With F A Philips to Manchester and then returned home
Jun 26	To Hall Green etc
Jul 2	To Manchester and back
Jul 8	To Manchester and slept at Hamilton's
Jul 9	With Mr Rupert Ingleby, R C Sharpe and George Peel. Returned home
Jul 11	To Manchester to attend Peak Forest and Ashton Canal Committees

Jul 15	To Manchester and back on Churnet Railway business
Jul 16	To London on canal business
Jul 17	Attended meeting of Deputations about the General Canal Bill. Waited on the President of the Board of Trade. Returned home
Jul 18	Annual Meeting of Canal Proprietors
Jul 19	To Manchester. Attended Committee of the Churnet Valley Railway
Jul 22	To Derby
Jul 23	Churnet Valley Railway Committee meeting. Dined at Radbourne Rectory with Rev Chandos Pole
Jul 24	With Mr Cox to call on Sir Henry Avery, Lord Waterpark, Sir T C Sheppard etc. To Rocester and to Mr Rupert Ingleby's
Jul 25	Called on Lord Shrewsbury at Alton Towers
	To Leek. Dined with Mr Cruso. Called on Mr Davenport; returned home
Jul 27	To Manchester and back
Jul 30	To Manchester – making out share lists
Aug 3	To Leicester. Thence to London
Aug 5	With Messrs Stokes and Scott, shareholders, examining share lists. Called at Hoare's Bank etc.
Aug 6	To Derby
Aug 7	Railway Committee at the Midland Hotel. Returned home
Aug 8	To Manchester - making allotment of shares
Aug 14	To Manchester to attend the Committee of the Macclesfield Canal
Aug 17	To Manchester on railway business
Aug 19	Mr Hamilton came over and I went to London on railway business
Aug 20	Called on Messrs Stokes, Scott and on Mr Ord and Mr Edmonds
Aug 22	Called on Mr Ord and Mr Gravatt
Aug 23	Called on Mr Ord and Mr Gravatt and returned to Manchester
Aug 24	Called on Mr Hamilton, Mr Critchley and Mr Wright about my proposed extension of railway to Tamworth. Returned to Macclesfield. Called on Messrs Watts and Broderick about the same
Aug 25	With Hamilton to Birmingham
Aug 26	To Derby, Leicester and Nottingham – to see the Subcommittees at each place, then back to Derby and thence to London
Aug 27	Called on Ord, on Williams Deacon and on Edmonds, Buck and Creed
Aug 28	With Mr Creed and Mr Glyn
Aug 29	Called on Buck, Ord, Williams & Co., Scott etc. then down to Leicester
Aug 30	Interview with Mr Berridge, then up to London again and thence back again to Leicester
Aug 31	Returned home. Canal business. Bank labourers pay day etc
Sep 2	To Manchester. Called on Hamilton and Buck
Sep 3	Meeting with Mr Buck and Mr Hamilton. Returned home. With Mr Watts on canal business
Sep 4	At Canal Office with Mr Norbury etc. To London
Sep 5	Called on Mr Glyn. Audience of the Board of Trade in company with Hamilton, Macaulay and Buck
Sep 6	Attended the Board of Directors of the London & Birmingham Railway. Meeting Ord, Buck, Gravatt etc. Down to Manchester
Sep 7	Sending out new plans and prospectus. Returned home
Sep 9	To Manchester
Sep 11	From Manchester to Birmingham

Sep 12	Railway Committee at Birmingham. Returned home
Sep 16	To Manchester. Slept at Hamilton's
Sep 17	Allotment of Churnet Valley Railway shares. Slept at Hamilton's
Sep 19	Macclesfield Canal Committee - gave up the principal agency of the canal
Sep 25	Issuing railway scrip at Manchester and getting deeds signed. Dined with Critchley
Sep 28	Issuing scrip at Macclesfield
Oct 1	Interview with Lord Dalhousie and the Board of Trade (London). Issuing scrip and getting deeds signed
Oct 9	Churnet Valley Railway Committee at Queen's Hotel, Birmingham. Thence to Manchester
Oct 12	Messrs Watts and Norbury audited the canal accounts. Received a present as a testimonial from the servants of the Macclesfield Canal Company
Oct 14	To Birmingham. Subcommittee of railway. Returned home. Young Johnson commenced as his Railway Clerk
Oct 15	Mr Buck came over to survey the west side of Macclesfield
Oct 17	To Alton Towers on deputation to Lord Shrewsbury. Thence to Newcastle under Lyne
Oct 18	Attended public meeting at Stoke with Hamilton about railways
Oct 19	Subcommittee at Birmingham
Oct 24	London - Issuing scrip and getting deeds signed. Dined with Ord
Oct 29	The Subcommittee met Mr Cubitt
Oct 30	Railway Committee (Birmingham)
Nov 4	Met Mr Cubitt and Mr Buck in Macclesfield - then to Manchester
Nov 5	To Birmingham with Hamilton to meet Buck and Cubitt
Nov 6	Subcommittee at the Queen's Hotel. To Cheltenham and back to Birmingham
Nov 14	To Manchester. Deputation to the Manchester & Birmingham Co and to the Trent Valley Co. Dined and slept at Mr Sharpe's at Bramhall
Nov 26	To London
Nov 27	Deputation to Lord Granville Somerset. Called on Mr Cubitt, Robert Stephenson, Mr Creed, Mr Burke, Williams' Bank, Edmonds etc. To Manchester
Nov 28	Preparing plans and sections of railway. Dined with Critchley at the Club
Nov 29	Preparing plans etc. with Stevens, Lawrence Ord, Oakden etc. Dined together at Royal Hotel
Nov 30	To Crewe. Back to Manchester by a Special Train, then Special Train to Stafford and thence to Lichfield to deposit plans and sections etc with the Clerk of the Peace
Dec 1	In the evening from Lichfield to Stafford
Dec 2	To Manchester. Interview with Mr Cooke. Dined at Hamilton's
Dec 9	To Manchester. Mrs Edward with him. Purchased a new Grand Piano
In 1844	<i>The European potato blight strikes Ireland causing famine Railway mania results in the building of 5000 miles of track in two years Morse transmits a message from Washington to Baltimore The Admiralty decree that "Larboard" shall be called "Port" Dumas - The Three Musketeers</i>

1845	
Jan 31	The Board of Trade reported in favour of the Churnet Valley Railway
Feb 8	In London – meeting with Trent Valley and London & Birmingham Railway Committees. Returned home
Feb 10	To Manchester – packing up books and papers. Went to London
Feb 12	In London – attended London & Birmingham meeting
Feb 13	Commenced at his new office – No 1, Old Palace Yard. Further allotment of shares
Feb 24	Left Morley’s Hotel and went to lodgings at No 15, Bury Street, St James’
Mar 3	Churnet Valley Railway Petition presented
Mar 14	Churnet Valley Railway got into Committee on Standing Orders
Mar 17	Made the formal proof in Committee on Standing Orders
Apr 22	Churnet Valley Railway thrown out on Standing Orders
Apr 24	Met with Pottery Railway Committee
Apr 30	Meeting of the Amalgamated Committee – to be called the “North Staffordshire”
May 6	Wrote to Mr Ricardo and resigned the situation of Secretary to the North Staffordshire Railway
May 17	Fifth son (Frederick) born
May 20	Met the North Staffordshire Committee
May 23	Joined the South Midland Railway as a Director
May 24	Delivered up all books and papers of the Churnet Valley Railway to Mr Samuda
Jun 14	Baby christened - Frederick
In 1845	<i>The planet “Neptune” discovered</i> <i>“The Scientific American” first published</i>

1846	
Jan 28	Chepstow Railway Co money frozen
Jan 30	Chepstow Railway Co dissolved
Mar 4	South Union Railway (Bill) thrown out (of Parliament) on Standing Orders
Jul 16	Dined with Macclesfield Canal Committee
Oct 12	Cambrian Railway Co dissolved

1847	
Feb – Mar	Litigation re Chepstow Railway began
Aug	Decided that house at West Bank, Macclesfield must be sold

1848	
May 5	Left Macclesfield
Jul 4	Family rented a house in Westbourne Close, London
Aug 4	Youngest son Frederick died
Aug 18	Litigation re Cambrian Railway began

1849	
	Litigation re the railway companies continued

1850	
	Cambrian Railway debt paid off
	Chepstow Railway litigation continuing

In 1851 the family went to live in France, near St Malo. Mrs Hall was becoming increasingly arthritic. They moved via Paris, Heidelberg and Wiesbaden to Belgium (May 1854). In November 1855 they moved to Dover and then in March 1856 took a lease on Cotfield House, near Exminster. The family continued to live at Cotfield House until 1866, but the damp climate of Exminster was not good for Mrs Hall's rheumatism. They then moved to Clifton, Bristol.

[Mrs "Edward" \(Sarah\) Hall died 31 December 1867 – Edward Hall died 14 December 1874](#)