

FRANCIS JAMES CHAVASSE

of

**Wylde Green House, Sutton Coldfield
(Bishop of Liverpool 1900-1923)**

A Typical 1860s 'Teenager'?



**A Talk given by Janet Jordan, a Member of Sutton Coldfield Local History
Research Group, at Sutton Coldfield Library on 18th September 2015 , based
on part of the Diary of Francis James Chavasse written between September
1862 and October 1865**

Introduction

We all know what a teenager is these days - someone between 13 and 19, who may or may not be afflicted or, indeed, afflict others with a whole series of emotions and problems as he or she grows to maturity! Of course, in the 1860s, the term, 'teenager', hadn't been invented, and yet even then young people would have always gone through the same trials and tribulations.

Francis James Chavasse who lived in Sutton Coldfield was one of them. He was part of a very large Victorian family of some social standing, with a strong Evangelical upbringing. We are fortunate that he left a diary during his 'teenage' years and, not surprisingly, it is full of facts about his hobbies and pastimes. But were these the pursuits of a typical teenager? I will leave you to decide after you have heard what he actually did in his spare time. We are going to use the section of his diary which he wrote between his sixteenth and nineteenth birthday, after which time he went up to Oxford University.

But before we do that, you might like to hear a bit about his background.



1. Francis James Chavasse, aged 14 and 22

Background to the Teenage Years of Francis James Chavasse (1862-1865)

He celebrated his sixteenth birthday on 27 September 1862. You might think, living as he did in Wylde Green House, Sutton Road, one of the largest and most expensive properties to be built in the area at that time, that his parents would give him, perhaps, an expensive fob watch or even a pony. But no, what he wanted and what he got was a carpet bag. He also received a tie pin, a knife, a couple of neckties, a toothbrush and a diary, from his brothers and sisters. Obviously, the Chavasse family didn't go in for expensive presents!



2. Wylde Green House, 1907

Thomas Chavasse, his father, an eminent surgeon and local doctor, had been married twice, with nine children by his first wife. His second marriage to Miriam Sarah, produced another five and Frank was the eldest of them. In fact, there was a photo taken of this second family in 1868 showing also Frank's siblings, Miriam and Ada, and Tom and Hodgson. Some of Thomas' older children were still living at home, so money had to be spent wisely, but,

although their possessions were few, they were rich in learning, provided by good schooling, books, simple hobbies and outdoor activities.



3. *The Family of Thomas and Miriam Chavasse 1868 (Frank wearing the Boater Hat)*

And so, Frank would be the first to admit that he had a good life, that is, apart from his 'problem' which had manifested itself a year or so before and with which he would have to live for the rest of his days.

It appeared following a bout of measles whilst he was boarding at Chesterfield Grammar School, a curvature of the spine which was said to be as a result of neglect at the school and also Frank's failure to mention anything untoward. This left him no longer fit for normal schooling and so he was sent for private tuition to Mr Felton in Walmley, a Sutton man well regarded for his classical teaching.



4. *Chesterfield Grammar School*



5. Walmley Village, showing the building that was Mr Felton's School in the 1860s

Frank's cousin, Horace Chavasse, was able to provide some work experience for him at his firm in Oxford Street, Digbeth, which sold bedsteads among other things. It was easy for Frank to get there. He caught the train at Wylde Green Station and got off at the Passenger Station in Curzon Street. By going down Canal Street and left into Bordesley Street he was only 5 minutes away.

6. Plan of Birmingham 1851 showing the short distance from the Passenger Station at Curzon Street to Oxford Street



As a worker, he didn't always come up to scratch. His diary recalls an incident in which, through sheer carelessness, he ordered a 'French' bed for a customer, rather than the 'Half Tester' which was required, probably incurring the firm in a financial loss. The expected telling off did not materialise due to his rather tolerant employer!



7. Antique 'French' Bed and 1860s Half-Tester Bed

Six months after his sixteenth birthday, his parents were still worrying about his spinal problem and took him to a Consultant in Birmingham. The advice could not have been more unwelcome. Frank was to:

- Give up business for two years
- Lie down 5 or 6 hours every day
- Go for physiotherapy
- Take quinine, steel, bark & cod liver oil (which probably accounts for the frequent bouts of diarrhoea that beset him)
- Have beer for his dinner & new milk instead of tea & coffee
- Hang by the arms for a quarter of an hour twice a day
- Walk every day

This regime forced him to spend hours on his own and it was during these moments of quiet that his conscience bothered him a lot - what a miserable sinner he was ... no time for Jesus - what more could he do to promote the faith - and so on. He felt 'cold' towards his religion - the Evangelical faith in which his good parents had brought him up. This was the time when the seed was sown for Frank's later decision to turn his life around and make the Ministry his career. In later years, this path led him to the top of the tree when he became Bishop of Liverpool, supervising the building of its great Anglican Cathedral. Today his grave lies just outside its walls in the middle of the only piece of green area surrounding it.



*8. Frances James Chavasse's burial place, on the green outside
Liverpool Anglican Cathedral*

The enforced rest also gave him time to recuperate and for a few years he was able to combine a private education with many of the pleasures that were open to a somewhat privileged young man in Sutton Coldfield.

And so now here are some of the many pastimes that he enjoyed.

ART AND PAINTING



This subject does not seem to be top of his list! He never mentions drawing as a possible pastime for himself although it was probably taught at his boarding school in Chesterfield. The only account of drawing lessons at Wylde Green House was for Frank's sisters. They were taught by Frank's private French tutor, M. de Lattre, who lived in Maney. A family visit took them once into Birmingham to Robert Thrupp's, a well known photographer who had a studio at 66 New Street. On that occasion, in 1864, Frank was impressed enough to mention that one of Holman Hunt's pictures was being exhibited (probably *The Light of the World*).

9. *The Light of the World*
Holman Hunt's picture

BAGATELLE AND BILLIARDS

It seems there was a Bagatelle table in the Chavasse household, which was occasionally used to while away the hours. This picture shows a bagatelle table that could be folded up. They probably used cues, as you would in billiards. Frank played with friends and visitors alike, so there seems to have been no age barrier. And the Ladies were just as good at it as the men!

As far as Billiards was concerned, this was a game that Frank said he never had any desire to play.

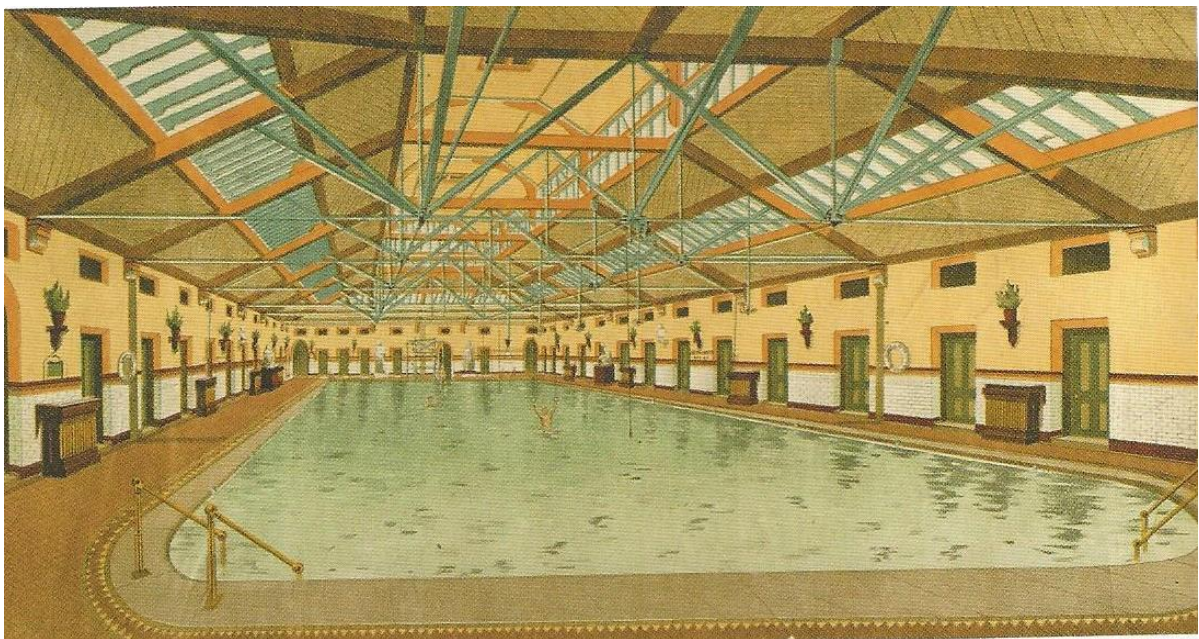


10. *A Victorian Mahogany Bagatelle Table*
by Thurston & Co. Mid-19th Century

BATHING AND SWIMMING

Although bathing is not exactly a pastime, swimming is, and Frank often refers to the fact that he "went to the baths" or "went for a bathe", usually with a friend or two. In August 1863, when he was 17, he wrote that he "Drove Mamma & Miriam in the pony carriage to Sutton. Was measured for some new boots. Wrote out a good deal of my Essay in my book. Went to the baths with Charles (his older brother). I am a great coward in water."

It is not clear if these latter baths were in Sutton or, indeed, whether they were used for the purposes of having a good wash rather than swimming. If they were in Sutton, their whereabouts remains a mystery. He also mentions a couple of bathing trips into Birmingham where he did go swimming. The main one at the time was in Kent Street which had opened in the 1850s and where there were 69 private and 3 plunging baths as well as two swimming pools. Here, the cost of a private bath was 2d for warm water and 1d for cold and it included one clean towel.. Others were opened in Woodcock Street and Northwood Street in the early 1860s.



11. Kent Street Baths, 1848, lithograph of the interior

Some of Frank's 'bathing' episodes took place in Walmley Brook, at the bottom of Wylde Green Road, where he would go with one or both of his brothers, Hodgson or Tom. September was the last month of the year in which they would consider doing it as the water had become rather cold by then!



12. Walmley Brook, Wylde Green Road (early 1900)

The time, however, for serious bathing was on his holidays in the summer months. In June 1863, Frank went to Portsmouth, or Southsea to be exact, an area that was being built up as a sea bathing destination. Every day he went to the beach with his family or friends. Someone gave him swimming lessons, the sea perhaps not the best place to do it!

In August, 1864 he went to Whitby. One occasion there rather amused him - "It was rather good fun, for just as we were getting into the water, a party of ladies came by. Fortunately, we had not taken off our trousers!"

Two years later, he went Tenby and, again, they got into some difficulty on the beach. A man came up to them asking for their names and addresses. Frank gave the details, supposing him to be a newspaper man who was collecting the names of visitors. However, he turned out to be the Inspector of

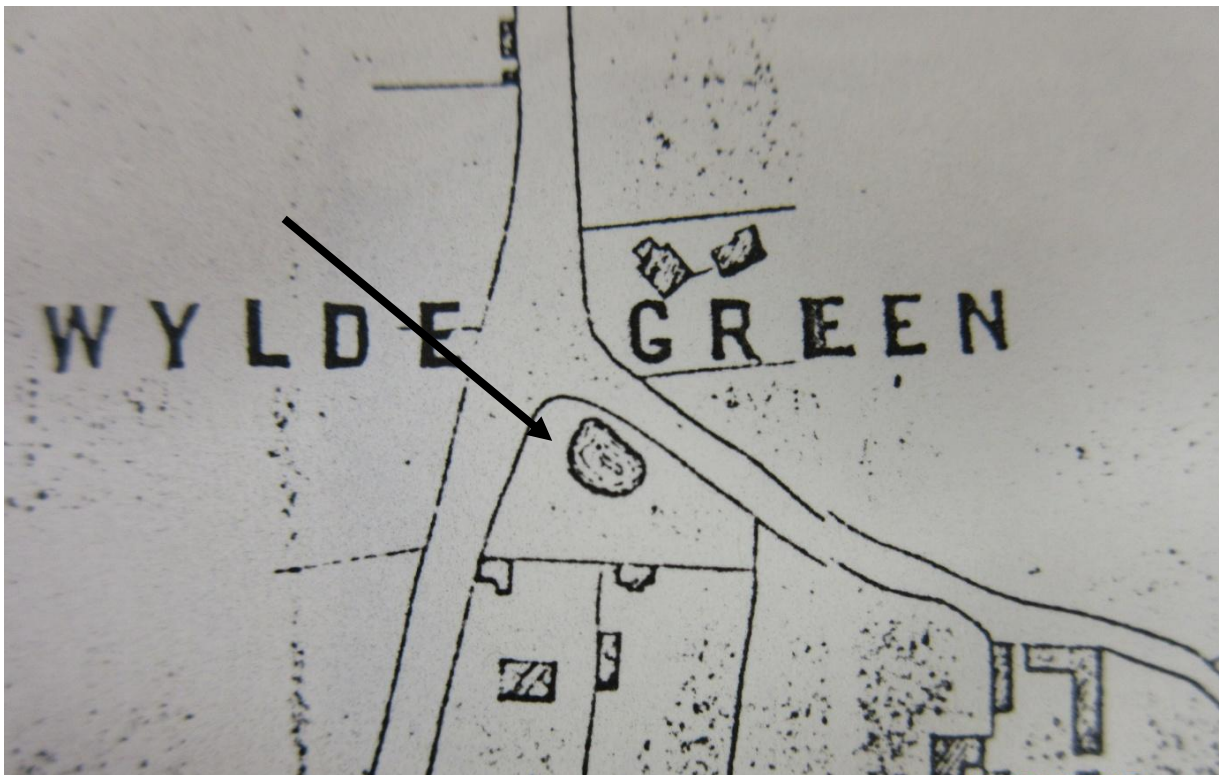


13. The Inspector of Nuisances, 1860s

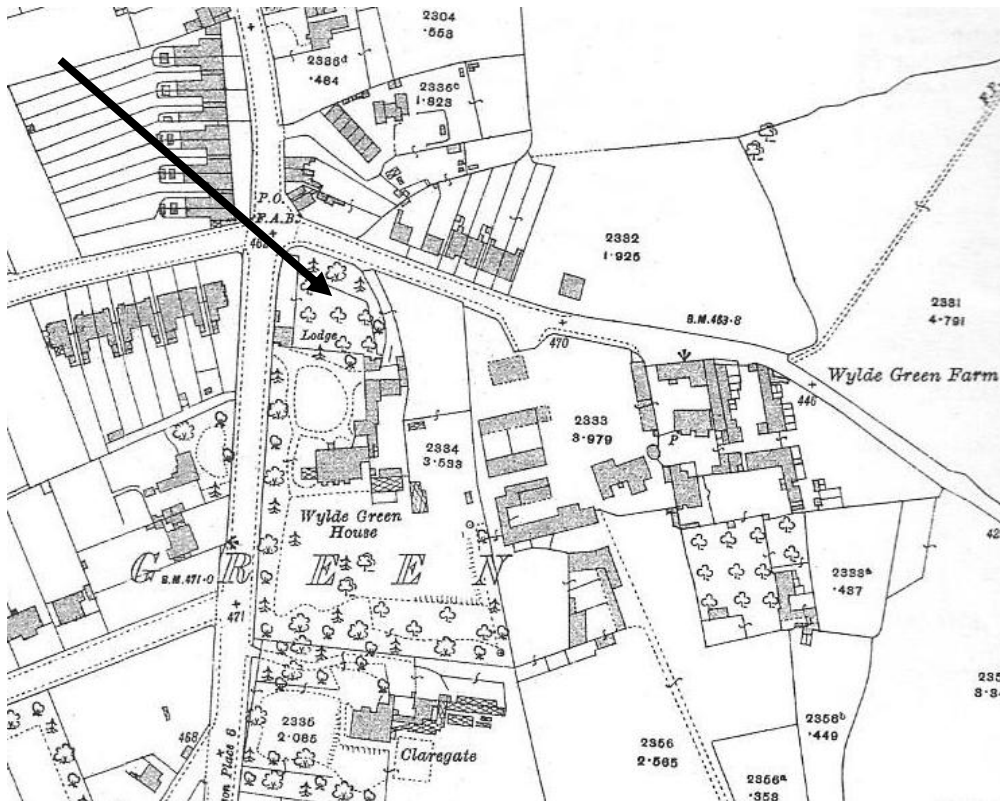
Nuisances (what we would call a Public Health Inspector) who had taken down their names for bathing from the shore, contrary to the statutes of the time. Of course the boys were somewhat indignant. The man did admit that proper notices should have been put up, but the fine was £2. To pay £2 and have their names published in the paper was a bit embarrassing and some of his friends took a gloomy view of things; others were more cheerful and thought they would hear no more of the matter, which was the case, much to their relief!

FISHING

One of Frank's favourite pastimes was fishing and he seems to have tried most of his local fishing grounds. A puzzling entry in his diary for spring 1863 (when he was 17) mentions a pool which he says was across the road from his home. This must have been the one that appears to have been in front of Wylde Green House, as shown by this old map, drawn in 1864.

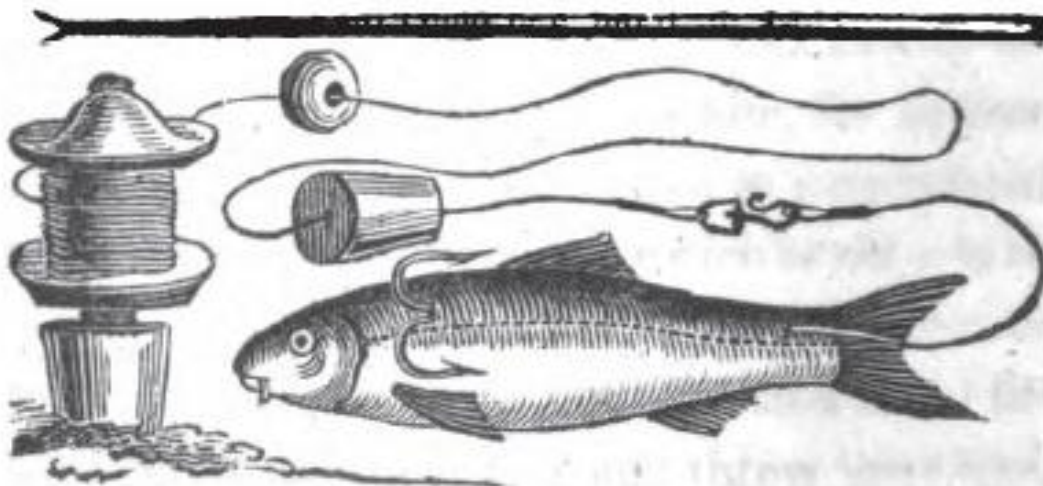


14. The pool or pit in front of Wylde Green House in 1864



15. Ordnance Survey Map 1913 showing Wylde Green House (the pool having disappeared)

The pool is no longer there, but at that time it was certainly large enough for him to try a spot of trolling, a term which meant moving a baited fishing line slowly through the water, either from the shore or from a slow moving boat.



16. Fishing with Trimmers, 1815

'Trimming' was another method he mentioned. This was definitely frowned upon by true anglers of the day because one used a whole live fish as bait. A line was inserted in the bait between the skin and flesh and a cork was attached to the line which kept it afloat. The bait would stay alive for several hours this way, which seems rather cruel.



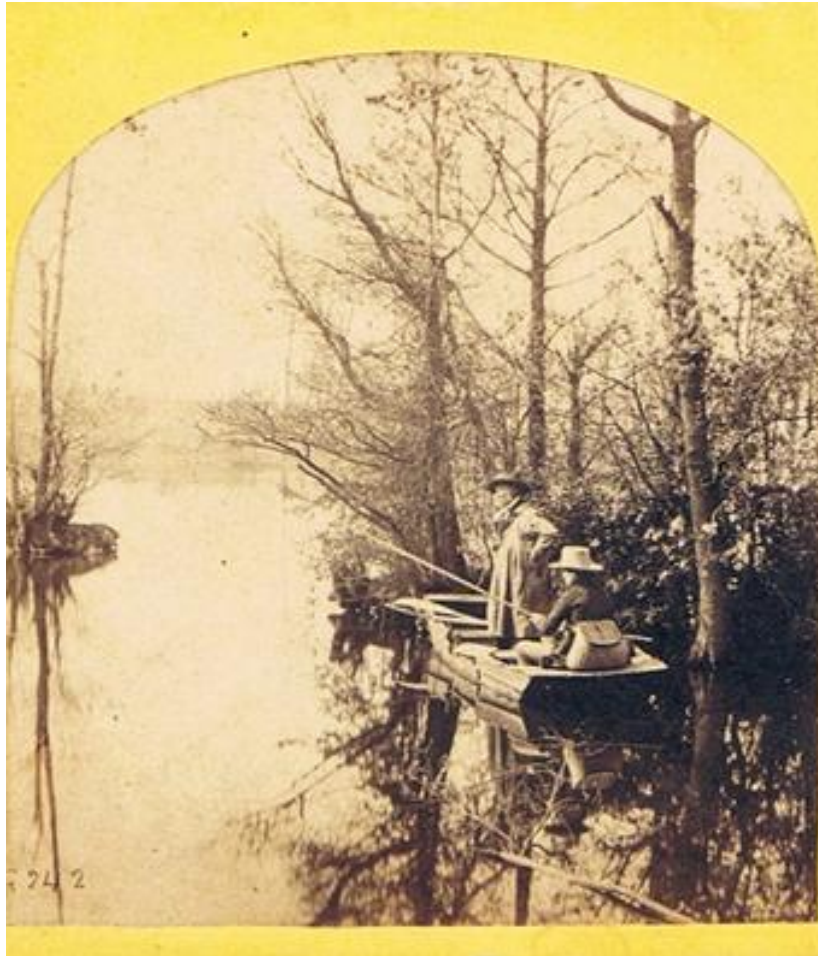
*17. Fishermen (likely to be) in Sutton Park, approximately 1859
(Stereoview, by William Grundy, photographer, who lived in Sutton Coldfield)*

As you can imagine, all the pools in Sutton Park were very popular and it may be that Frank felt more confident as he grew older in using them. In September 1863, he took his younger brother, Hodgson, on a fishing expedition said to be at Mr Cooper's in the Chester Road. This was probably Powells Pool, which was near to a Mr Cooper's Old Park Farm. Here, Frank pulled out a nice roach weighing about $\frac{1}{2}$ lb, but after that, for a long time, he said, "the beggars would not bite". Eventually they caught one weighing about $\frac{1}{4}$ lb, but that was all. They weren't too bothered because Hodgson found some blackberries, so their day ended with the boys having a good feast.

They fished at Blackroot Pool, which was then known as Perkins' Pool after a Sutton man known as 'Shirley Perkins' who had lived at Moat House. They also fished at Bracebridge Pool, where, on one occasion, they only caught 10 small perch and Frank blamed it on the wind for being in the wrong direction! On these outings, very often, Mr Grundy, an old family friend who lived in one of the big houses near Erdington, went with them. They needed him - he

brought along all the landing nets and trimmers! Often, they would set off very early in the morning - sometimes still there at teatime hoping for a catch.

There were lots of other little lakes and pools that they could use around the area. There was one at Penns, another at Little Aston, and yet another which proved a real winner. This one belonged to Mrs Sadler who lived in the High Street and she said they could use it. Here they used the trimmers and caught nearly 100 perch, although they did throw half back in again.



18. *Fishermen (likely to be) on one of the lakes in Sutton Park, approximately 1859 (Part of a stereoview, by William Grundy, photographer, who lived in Sutton Coldfield)*



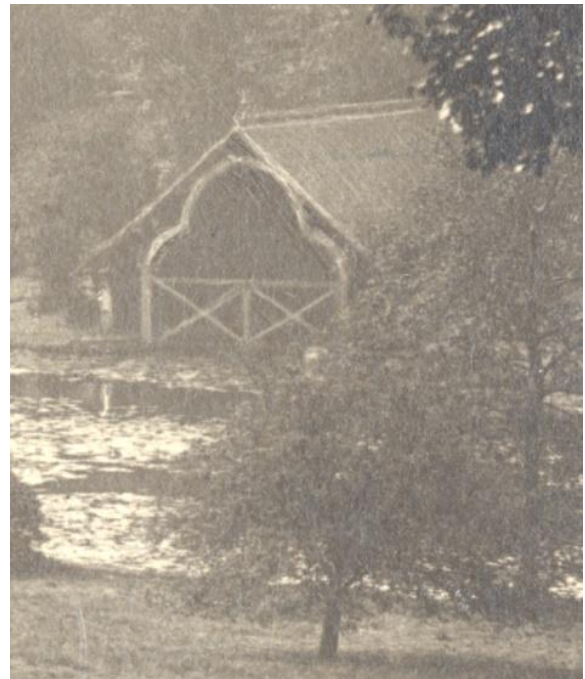
19. Great Barr Hall Lake, 1900?

One trip made a big impression on Frank. He went with Vincent Holbeche, his best friend, to Great Barr Hall, which had the most beautiful lake.

Now, it seems unlikely that Sir Francis Scott, the owner, would have allowed just anyone to fish there, so perhaps the boys just happened to move in the right circles! William Lakin, the groom at Wylde Green House went with them. He drove them in the dog cart, pulled by their old horse 'Jack'. They reached the Hall at 8.10 in the morning, put the horse up at the Stables and got the key to the boathouse from the gardener. As a special favour on that particular day, they were allowed use the trimmers.

What really impressed Frank was the boathouse. It had an encaustic, or inlaid, tiled floor, a little stained glass window at one end and white walls covered with blue spots - all said to have cost Five Hundred Pounds. The boat they were given had no oars, only a pole to shove themselves about with, so William got that job and very hard work he found it! They reached the clear water, having made their way through a terrible mass of weeds and, for a very long time, caught nothing. Eventually, William and Vincent got one good roach

each by using the trimmers, but, later on, a thunderstorm seemed to bring the fish to the surface and they caught seven or eight perch - which provided more bait for the trimmers and thus enabled them to catch two pike, one weighing 6½lbs the other 4lb. When it was time to go home, they returned to the boathouse. Horror of horrors, they found the key missing! Thankfully, it was the gardener who had taken it. 'Old Jack' then got them home in the record time of 26 minutes. Frank said that they'd spent a most enjoyable day in one of the most lovely places in the midland counties.

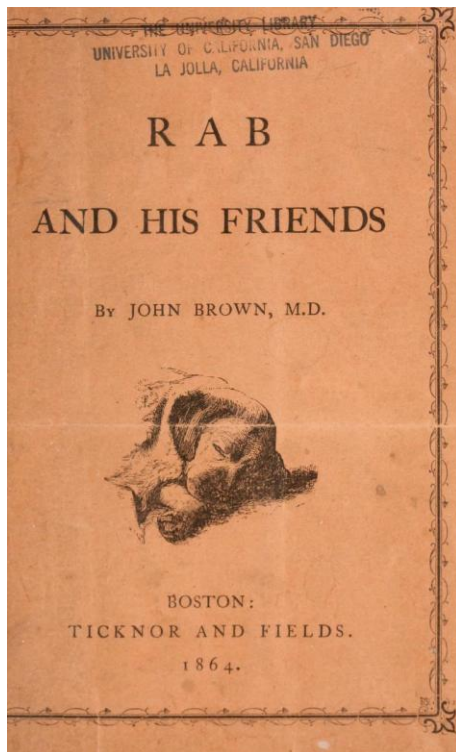


20. Great Barr Hall, Boathouse

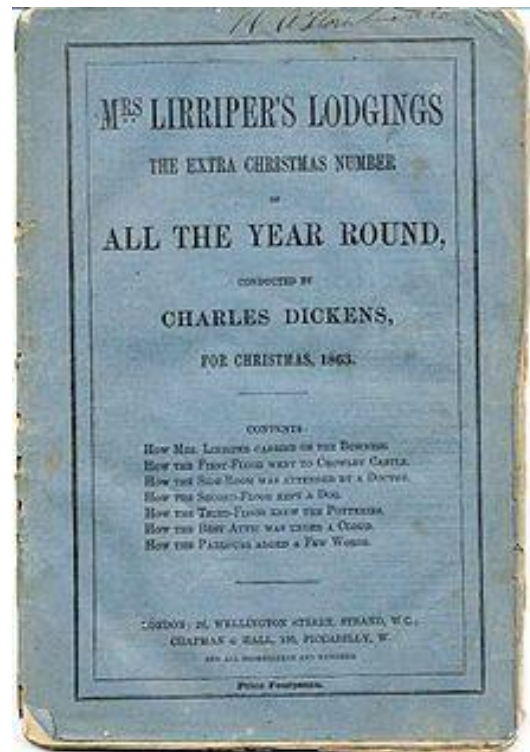
BOOKS, MAGAZINES ,NEWSPAPERS and the LIBRARY

One of the most widely read books of all time, John Bunyan's 'Pilgrim's Progress' was given to Frank's mother by his Grandmamma Wilde, who lived in Withybrook, Coventry. She seems to have been instrumental in fostering a love of books in the family. This one, he was rather taken with. A short while after, she sent him a book as well - 'Rab and His Friends' by Dr John Brown, a very popular story about a dog which probably appealed to his apparent love of animals.

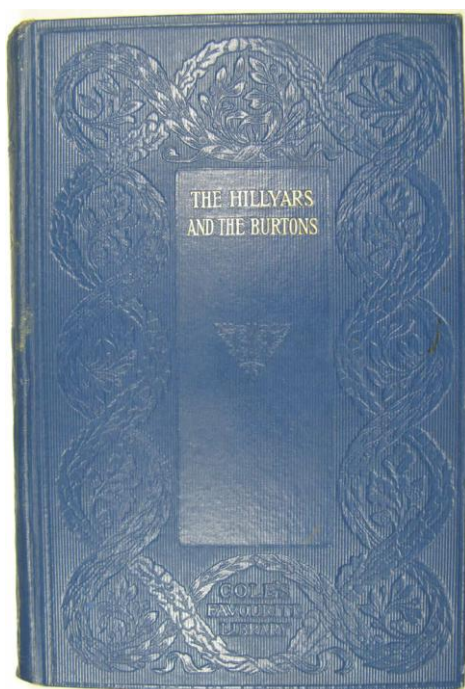
Never, seemingly, without a book, he had to combine reading for pleasure with reading for his education. For a while, he might be wading through Chaucer, Shakespeare or Milton's 'Paradise Lost', and then you would find him trying something a bit lighter. For instance, there was Dickens' 'Mrs Lirriper's Lodgings', Sir Walter Scott's 'Peveril of the Peak' or 'The Hillyars and the Burtons' written by Henry Kingsley. One book, 'The Household of Sir Thomas Moore' by Anne Manning hadn't then long been published, and that was one he really enjoyed.



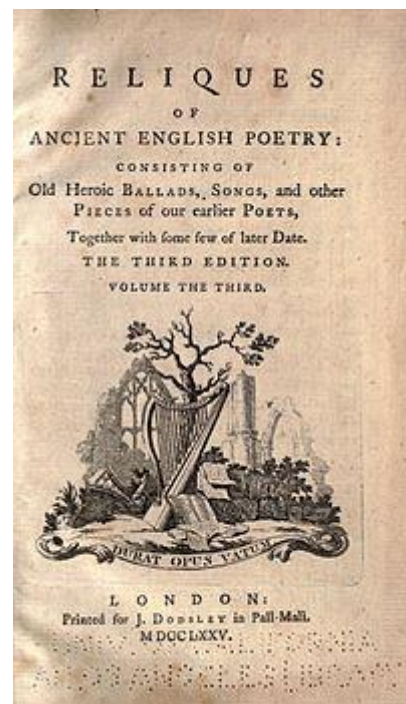
Rab and His Friends
by Dr John Brown, 1864



Mrs Lirriper's Lodgings
by Charles Dickens, 1863



The Hillyars and the Burtons
by Henry Kingsley



Percy's Reliques, 1775

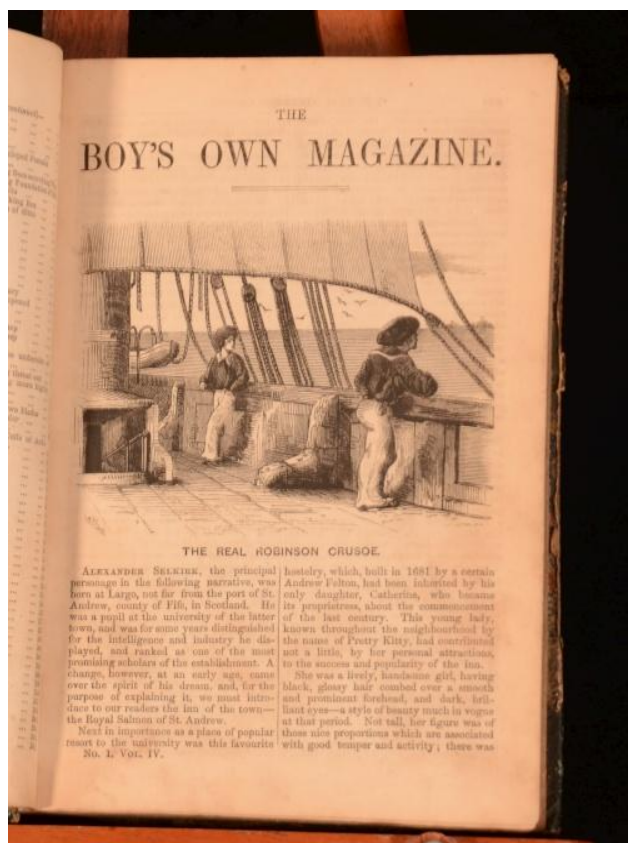
21. Four of the books that Frank read.

On the other hand, titles such as 'Arcadia' by Sir Philip Sidney, 'Percy's Reliques', 'Passage of Thermopyle', 'Thucycidides', and authors such as Livy, Homer, Linnaeus and Sophocles, speak volumes. These must have been background reading for his Greek Studies.

There were others, which he seems to have read for pleasure but which were probably also background reading for his religious studies such as Wilberforce's 'Practical View of Christianity', Spurgeon's 'Sermons on Baptism', 'The Life of Reverend Legh Richmond' and 'The Pathway of Safety' by the Anglican Churchman, Ashton Oxenden. One can't imagine young men finding any of these easy reading these days!

Of course, in the Evangelical Chavasse household, more spiritually orientated material would be available and copies of the *Band of Hope Review* was ordered once a month. This was a magazine intended for young people, to instil in them a sense of Christian values. It paid particular attention to the virtues of abstinence. Frank's later decision never to drink, smoke or dance must have been influenced by this magazine! But it wasn't the only one.

There were specific boys' magazines that came out at the end of every month. Generally, Frank bought them from Brentnalls in Sutton, just off the High



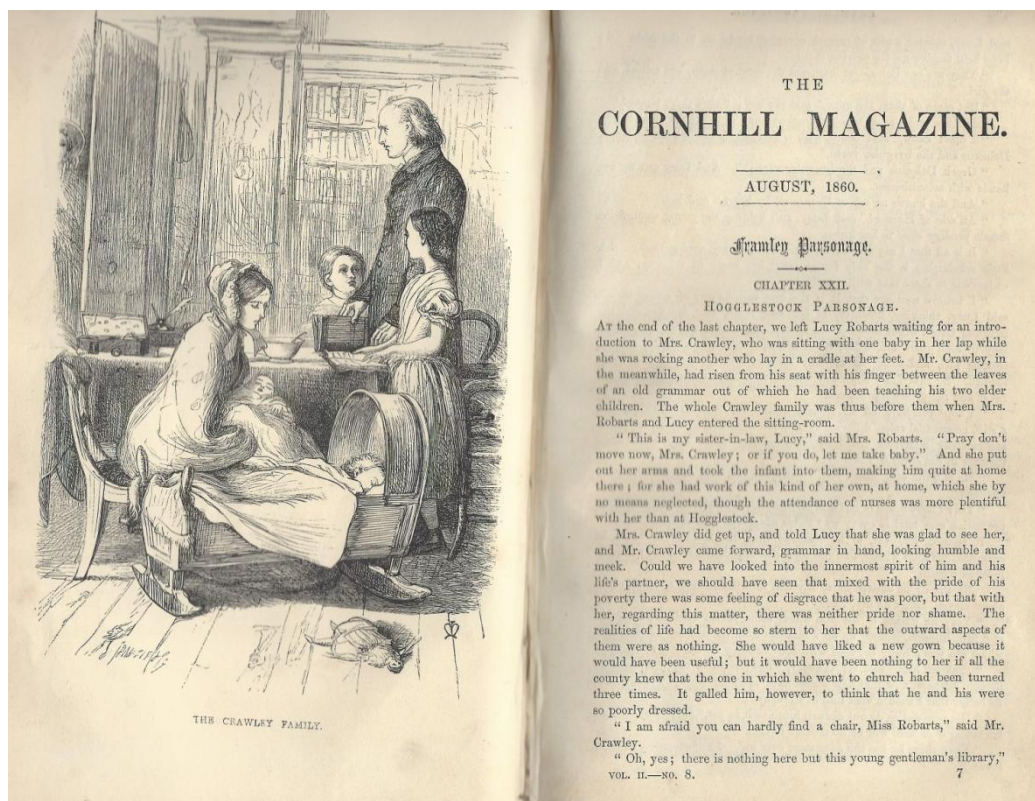
Street, failing which he'd pick them up when he went into Birmingham Town Centre. The attraction was their essay competitions. He dearly wanted to win a prize and spent many hours writing in on all sorts of subjects, such as 'The Electric Telegraph', and 'The Origin and History of Surnames'.

But he had no luck, at least with the Boy's Penny Magazine. Eventually, he did have some success with the 6d. Boy's Own Magazine. But even that came after a disappointment. His diary reads:

22. *The Boy's Own Magazine*, 1860

"1862 Oct 31. Today I got my Boy's Own Magazine. It was with a beating heart I went to Matthison (probably the owner of Brentnalls). "Yes it has come." "Could I have it." "Oh Yes." I felt almost ready to drop. I took it in my hands, quietly turned to the end, cut it open with my paper knife, glanced my eye down the list and found I was nowhere. No, not even honourably mentioned. I felt that old Mr Matthison was looking at me, so I shewed no surprise. Four times have I tried. For the first, and the worst, I **was mentioned**, for the last three I was not. Well! I am none the worse for trying. I am nevertheless not disheartened. I shall try again , God willing."

And he did try again, narrowly missing out on a prize for the "History of the Translation of the Bible into English" an essay which earned him third place.



23. *Framley Parsonage*, Chapter XXII, serialised in the *Cornhill Magazine*, August 1860

As Frank matured, he progressed on to more adult journals. These could be found in the Reading or News Rooms in all the large towns, including Sutton Coldfield and Birmingham, even Lichfield. What he liked was 'The Cornhill Magazine' and 'Blackwoods'. These contained widely diverse articles (a bit like today's Reader's Digest), but they also serialised such classics as Trollope's 'Framley Parsonage' or Gaskell's 'Wives and Daughters' and it was in one of

these that he read 'Mrs Lirriper's Lodgings' probably in Dickens' own magazine, 'All the Year Round'.

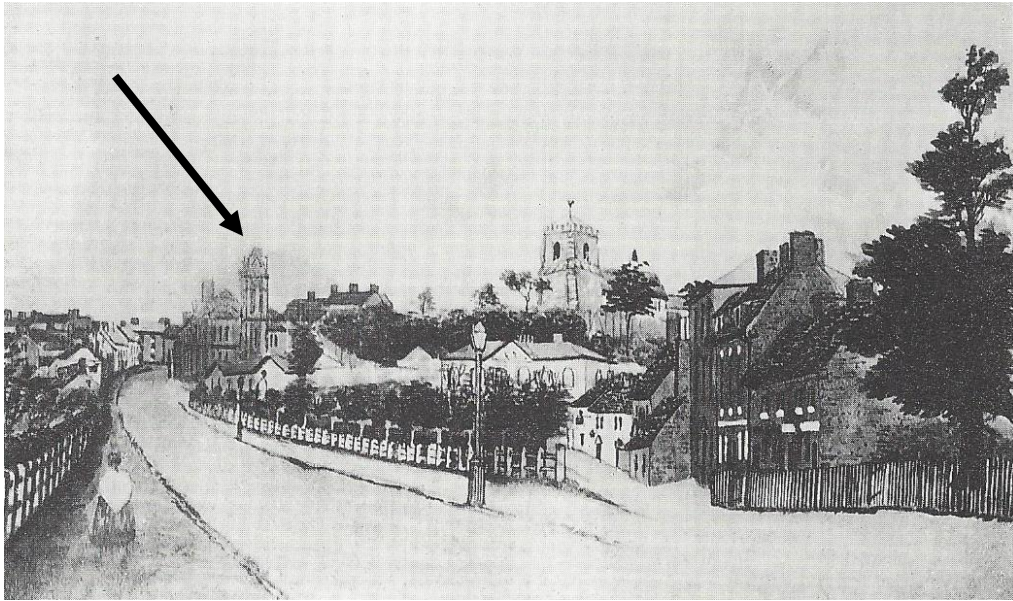


24a. Birmingham Reading/Newsroom, 1830, Corner of Waterloo Street/Bennetts Hill



24b. A similar building, built by Richman and Hutchison in 1830, on the opposite corner to the Newsroom, showing BBC, Birmingham Banking Company initials (the Company which went bankrupt and in which Frank's father was a Director)

However, equally important to Frank were the newspapers, which could be read free of charge. 'The Times' was his favourite. So, if he happened to go into Birmingham, perhaps on an errand for one of the family, about once a month he'd nip in to the Newsroom, which was then on the corner of Bennetts Hill and Waterloo Street.



25. Town Hall in Mill Street, Sutton Coldfield, c1869

More often, though, he went to the Reading Room in Sutton, calling in on his way back from visiting friends or having a lesson with Mr Smith, the headmaster of the Grammar School, who was tutoring him in later years as he prepared to go to University. This Reading Room was very conveniently situated in the brand new Town Hall built in 1859 in Mill Street. Here he could access all the papers and magazines that he wanted.

In Sutton, both the Reading Room and the Library were in the same building. In Birmingham, however, there were Libraries all over the place. It is not clear where Frank went for his books. There was an 'Old Library' in Union Street and a 'New Library' in Temple Row West and it seems likely that he would have used the latter, being nearer to the Reading Room in Bennetts Hill.



However, things changed on 6th September 1865, when the new Central Lending Library opened - he was one of the first to sign up!

26. Opening Day of the Birmingham Central Lending Library

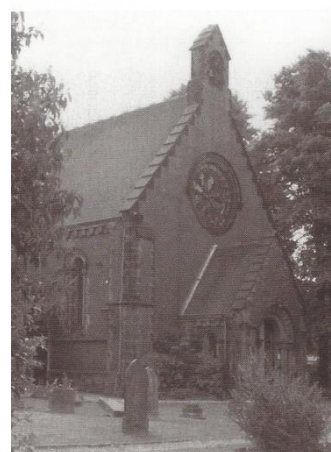
CHURCH

For those who do not believe in God, a visit to church may represent a chore rather than a pastime. For Frank, who seemed destined from his youth to fulfil some function within the Evangelical Church, it was something he relished.

His diary shows that much of his daily life was centred on learning about, practising and promoting the faith in which his parents had brought him up. His reading matter, for instance, seemed heavily geared towards the tenets of his religion and much of his quiet time was spent pondering spiritual questions and grappling with his conscience.

Sundays were church days, very often two visits being undertaken, mostly to St John's at Walmley, occasionally to Sutton Parish Church. One could be forgiven for thinking him a bit of a goody goody in church, but he wasn't. He struggled the same as everyone else with a wandering mind during the services and was easily distracted, even to having a good laugh at the antics of people around him. One thing that could be said of him was that he appreciated a good sermon. For example, one about the 'Lord's Day Observance Society' went down well, as did another on the 'Irish Church Missions'. Many of the Christian Societies were promoted in these sermons, for example, 'The Society for Christianity amongst the Jews', the 'Church Pastoral Aid Society', the 'South American Missionary Society' and he must have had more than his fill of them over the years.

Frank was confirmed in April 1864 as he approached his 18th birthday, an occasion about which he felt somewhat ashamed of himself, for, having got out of bed late, it left him with insufficient time to find the entrance to the school room at Holy Trinity, where the Bishop was waiting, and thus he was late for the service. Luckily, it didn't affect his ability to receive the Sacrament for the first time a month later and soon after he decided that his future would be in the Ministry and it was from then on that he was sent for tuition by the headmaster at Bishop Vesey School.



27. St John's Church, Walmley



The Church, itself, put other tasks his way. At that time, the Religious Tract Society was operating in Sutton Park and Frank was given the job of replenishing the books given out by the distributors in the park. These people made a beeline for the hoards of visitors who come on the Sunday train excursions and one can imagine that the well known 'Sunday at Home' tract would frequently be seen littering the train back to Birmingham!

28. *The Sunday at Home, 1865*
A Family Magazine for Sabbath Reading

In 1864, he was sent on a Sunday School Teacher's Course, and given a class of boys at one of the churches, probably St John's. Poor Frank, he was never able to fully control them! For a couple of years he struggled to get their attention, their behaviour during the classes always leaving much to be desired, but Frank blamed himself for not praying enough for them. When he was asked to give up this class and take on a younger set, it rather wounded his pride, and even with a new group he was not too successful. Yet he persevered. Time was to prove that he had it in him to make a big difference to the lives of those he taught.

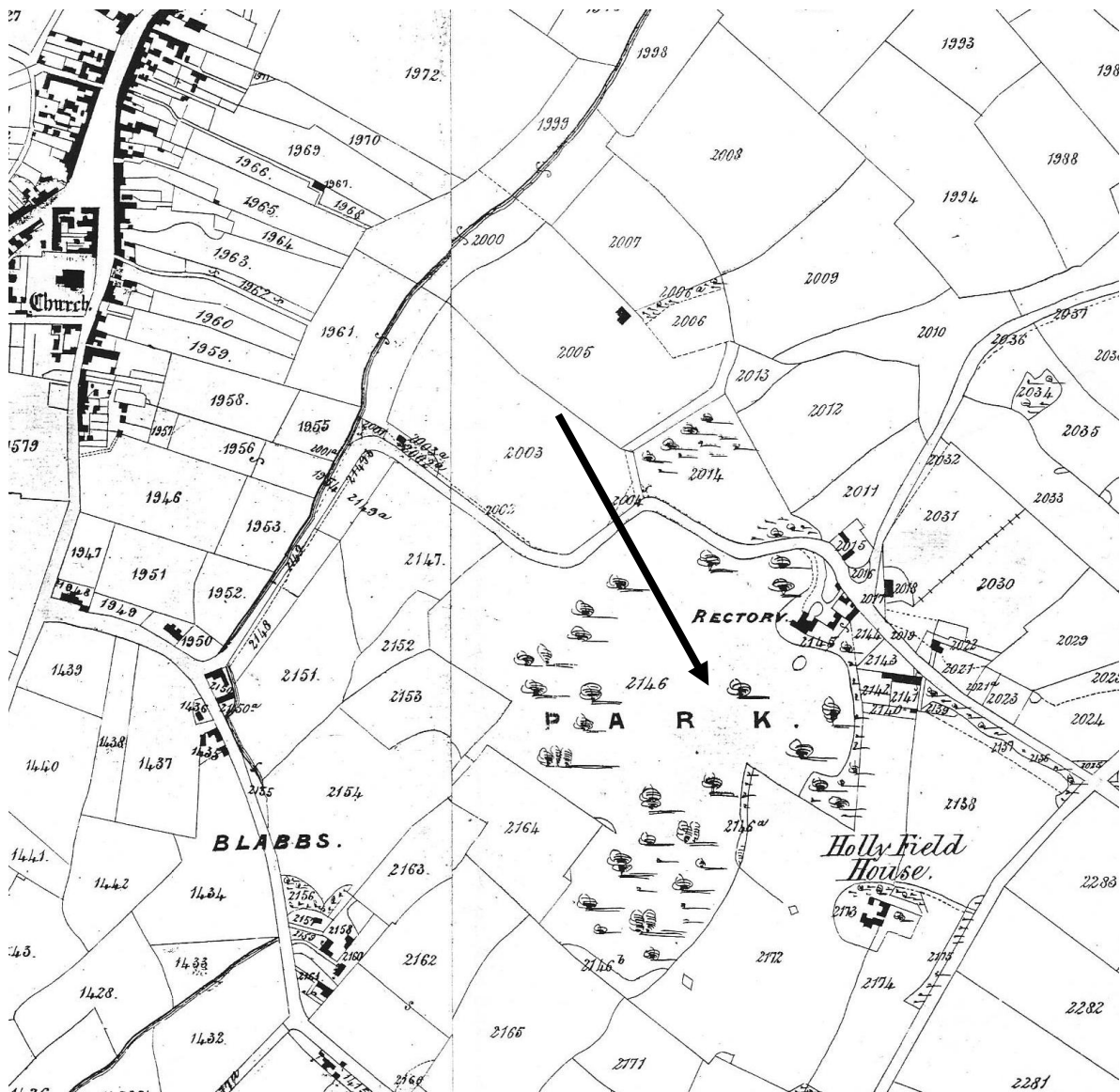
Of great support to Frank during this time was the Vicar of Walmley, the Reverend Gilbert William Robinson, who was very influential in guiding him through his frequent bouts of self-reproachment and doubt. His sister, Miriam, was also a great sounding board for him and with whom he frequently walked home from church, sharing their feelings about the faith.



29. *Rev. Gilbert William Robinson*
Vicar of Walmley (1845-1884)

CRICKET AND FOOTBALL

Frank was never going to be an athletic young man, bearing in mind his disability and small stature, but this did not take away his enjoyment of sport. No doubt he learned the rudiments of cricket and football at his boarding school, and, after months spent lying in bed and hanging by his arms as instructed, he was pronounced fit again - at least, enough to play cricket regularly, either in the Rectory grounds or up at the Grammar School fields. He used to travel down to Sutton on his pony, leaving it at one of the inns, perhaps the nearby 'Boot Inn'. Some of the cricket equipment, he said, was kept at the Cottage, but, as there were many of these scattered around The Rectory, it would have to be a guess as to which one it was



30. The Rectory Grounds, Sutton Coldfield, 1857

Football in the 1860s was still then in its infancy, the Football Association only having been founded in 1863. Frank mentions it a couple of times in his diary - one of them bemoaning the fact that the bladder had burst in his football, putting an end to the fun. This, of course, was the era of footballs being made with pigs bladders.



31. Antique Pig leather bladder Football

CROQUET, QUOITS AND SQUAILS

Wylde Green House boasted some wonderful gardens, but it was the rear lawn where one would find plenty of action in the summer months. As with many other large houses in Sutton, the family had laid out a croquet lawn to take advantage of the latest game to hit England in the 1860s. All sorts of people would come round, not always invited, to spend the evening, sometimes waiting for the music to end or the sun to go down before they went home again! They came either for an informal gathering or for a party, but, whatever the occasion, the Chavasse Family always extended a warm welcome. It is nice to see that the old and the young would play together - the only requirement was that you had to be of the same social class. The servants don't appear to have been included!



32. Wylde Green House, rear view showing the croquet lawn

This new and lovely pastime would be enjoyed throughout the town during the 1860s. Sometimes they would all meet up at the Rawlins' mansion at Penns, set in its idyllic surroundings, where the lawns swept down to the lake.

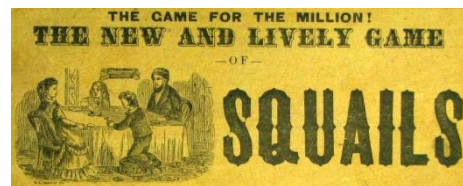
Another popular venue was up in the High Street, where the Holbeche Family



lived. These much loved friends had gardens at the rear of their property overlooking the fields to the east of Sutton, taking in the panoramic view of the Rectory grounds and Whitehouse Common.

33. *"The Game of Croquet", published in "Harper's Weekly" September 1866*

Apart from croquet, there were two other games that were popular. One was Quoits, a version of Hoopla, where one threw a small hoop to land on a distant spike. Frank didn't like this game - well, he was no good at it! Squails was the other game, a sort of miniature bowls, where one shoved a disc from the edge of a table to see how near one could get to a central disc (a jack) and thereby earn points.



34. *Squails*

DANCING, DRINKING, PLAYING CARDS

There was a time when Frank could be said to like playing cards and having a dance, although he could never be accused of liking a drink. At sixteen years of age, he was often to be seen at balls, dancing with his half-sister, Maggie, or the other young ladies who happened to be there. There was one in particular, Euphrosyne, who did not dance but who captured his heart. This made a huge impact on his life at the time and he was shattered when she died a couple of years later. So upset was he that most of the references to her in his diary were torn out and nothing that was left tells us anything about her or what the circumstances were relating to her death.

In 1864, when he was 18, he was still enjoying Whist and Cribbage, and also 'Muggins', a sort of domino game, favoured by Mr. Pooter in 'Diary of a Nobody'. These he played with Vincent Holbeche, his best friend.

By 1865, it had all changed, possibly as a result, on one occasion, of an over indulgence of beer which left him feeling rather sick. He had also made a bit of a fool of himself once on the dance floor. However, the change of heart could, of course, be down to the Temperance movement that was sweeping the country at the time. From then on, he vowed never to indulge in dancing, drinking or playing cards again.



35. *Dancing (not one of Frank's favourite pastimes)*

COLLECTING FERNS, FOSSILS AND AMMONITES

In the Mid 1800s, there was a craze for collecting all sorts of things and ferns were a real passion especially among the ladies, so, when Frank went to the Isle of Man on holiday with his friends, he brought some back for his sister Maggie.

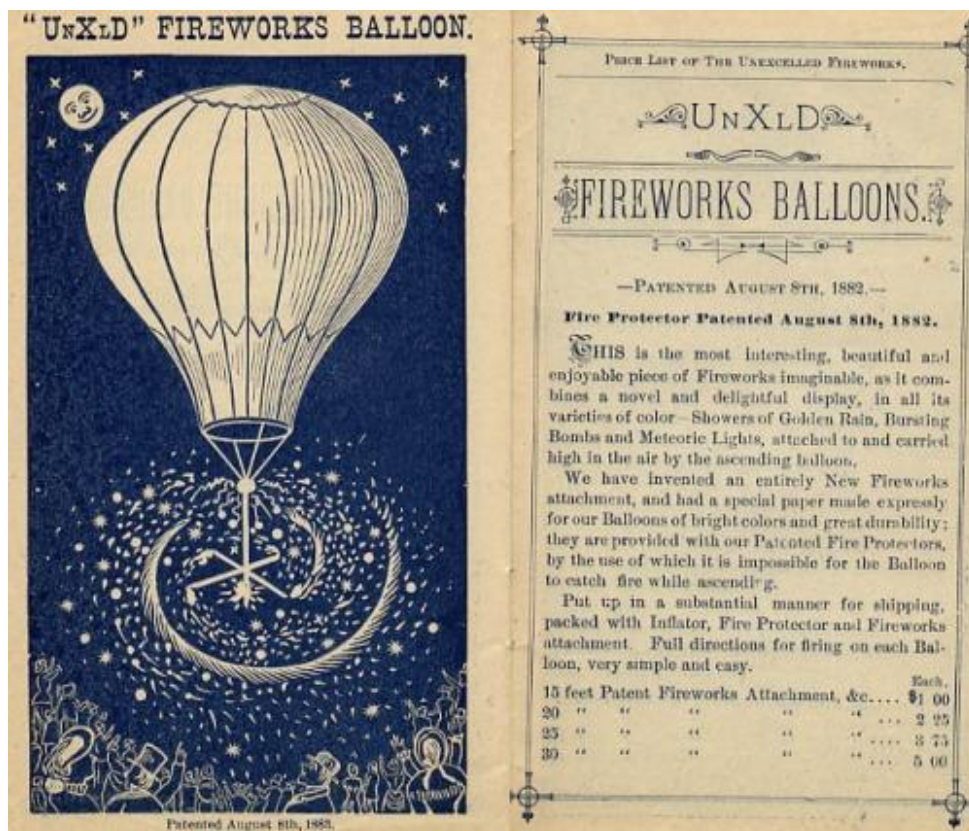
The fossils and ammonites, he found when on holiday in Whitby, where they were known to be in an area called 'The Scar'.



36. *Gathering Ferns*

FIREWORKS

November 5th, as today, was always celebrated with fireworks, either at home or at an organised event. Frank says that £8 was spent on them at the Grammar School in 1864- the equivalent of at least £500 in today's money. The year before, in 1863, they actually set off a fireworks balloon in the Grammar School field, but as it wouldn't go higher than the school house, Frank thought they hadn't balanced it properly.



37. *Fireworks Balloon 1882, perhaps a later model of the one set off at the Grammar School in 1863.*

HOLIDAYS

1863

Frank's father, Thomas Chavasse, was a man of some standing in Sutton. Not only an eminent doctor and surgeon, he had been Warden in 1862 and 1863, was one of the Grammar School Governors and a major shareholder of The

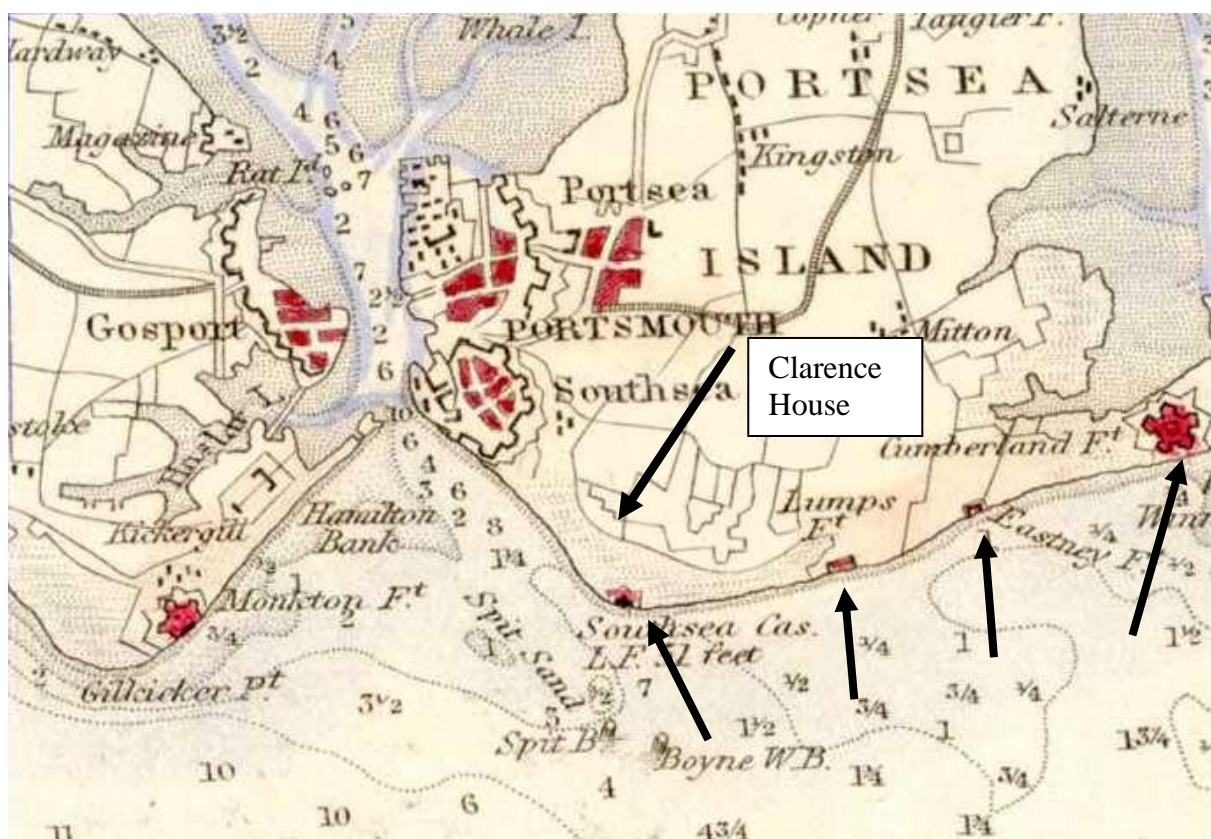
Birmingham Banking Company. It is no wonder, therefore, that the family were able to join the throng of people financially able and eager to take



advantage of the new railway and go on holiday, particularly to the seaside, a pastime thought to be very beneficial to their health. To this end, just before Frank's 17th birthday in June 1863, the family set off for Portsmouth, perhaps using Bradshaw's Guide for the Railways. Taking the Great Western Railway from Snow Hill Station at about 10.50am, they changed onto the London & South Western Railway at Basingstoke and reached Portsmouth at 6.00 pm

38. Bradshaw's Guide 1863

They were actually staying in an area just to the south of the town of Portsmouth, and which was in the throes of being developed as a holiday destination - roads still half made, houses half built, churches of all denomination going up all round. This was **SOUTHSEA** and here the Chavasses found lodgings at Clarence House facing the sea



39. Map of Southsea, c. 1860, showing site of Clarence House on Southsea Common, Southsea Castle, Lumps Fort, Eastney Fort and Cumberland Fort.

Portsmouth itself at that time was one of the many coastal towns that had been ordered to strengthen its fortifications, the threat of an invasion by France being a real possibility, so the new Forts were among the sights to be seen. Three of them, Lumps, Eastney and Cumberland lay to the east and were within a 2½ mile walk of their lodgings. All this, of course, the family took in their stride. At Lumps Fort, Frank watched the artillery men, who were practising with the guns, and was most impressed by their precision aiming. He said that they could hit a target about 1300 yards away, which, to the naked eye, looked little bigger than a thick walking stick.

Between Clarence House and the sea was a large green common. The view turned out to be quite interesting. Every evening, about 8.00 pm, the Volunteers turned up to carry out their drill on the green. Off shore, the Chavasses could sometimes see the Coast Guard practising and on one occasion they even watched the whole Channel fleet sail off to Yarmouth.

Beyond the green and near the cliffs sat Southsea Castle. What impressed Frank about this place was not its famous Lighthouse but the big gun which sat in the main courtyard. It had been rescued from the wreck of 'HMS Royal George' which had sunk in 1782. The story was that this ship was in Portsmouth Harbour, taking on supplies. They were doing maintenance work on it which involved the ship being 'heeled' over to check the timbers on the hull. To do this, the heavy guns on one side were moved to the centre of the ship. Unfortunately, they were brought over too far, altering the ship's centre of gravity. In trying to right the ship, care wasn't taken to secure the gun ports on a lower deck and the water flooded in. More than 900 lives were lost that day, including women and children who had come on board to visit fathers and husbands.



40. *The Gun at Southsea Castle*



41. *Sinking of HMS Royal George at Spithead 1782*

The most impressive ship they visited, of course, was 'HMS Victory', Nelson's flagship at the Battle of Trafalgar. In 1863, it was being used as a training ship, so Frank got to see the young boys having their tea on board. Another ship he went to see, the 'HMS Hector', was something of a novelty, being one of the first to be iron clad.

One day they decided to go to Porchester Castle, about 4 miles from Southsea, at the head of Portsmouth Harbour. They'd been told that this was where French prisoners were kept in the recent war. So, going by boat, it took them 2½ hours to get there under sail because the wind wasn't in their favour, but the journey back was worse, as they had to row nearly all the way.

Occasionally the family would split up, so when they decided to go to Ryde, about 4 miles off, on the Isle of Wight, Frank's parents went off first on the steamer. He went later on with the rest of them and said how much he liked it, commenting on its splendid pier and picturesque town and remarking on how the trees grew right down to the water's edge. What he didn't like about Ryde was the band of convicts that he spotted, awaiting transportation - no doubt on their way to Van Diemen's land - i.e. the island of Tasmania, Australia.



*42. Ryde, Isle of Wight , with its splendid pier
and trees growing down to the water's edge. 1854*

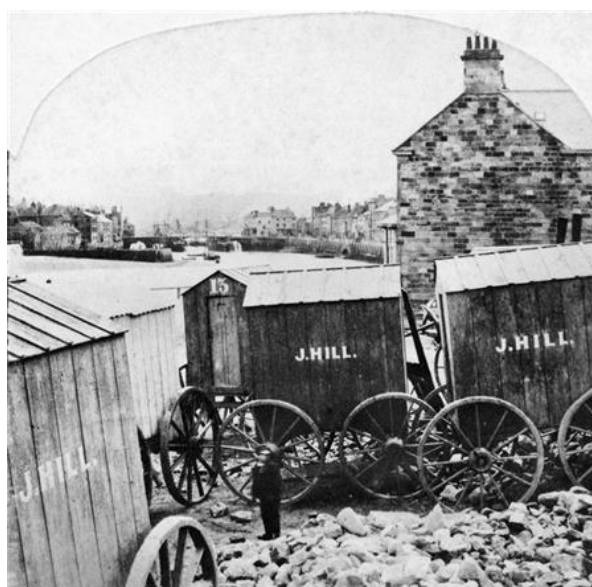
1864

In July 1864, when Frank was 18, he was deemed old enough to take himself on holiday to **WHITBY** where he stayed with his Aunt Charlotte and cousins, Sophy and Albert. Disaster struck almost immediately he left home. His holiday trunk was inadvertently put on the Bristol train and it was five days before he saw it again, during which time he was unable to change his clothes. He had to borrow a nightgown and a brush and comb - all he had of his own was a pair of slippers, which had been packed in his hat box. A quick letter to his parents did produce a parcel containing some fresh shirts, stockings, etc, but they only arrived on the same day that his trunk turned up!



43. *Who knows where these trunks will end up?*

This was a holiday obviously designed to 'do him some good'. The Victorians believed that sea bathing was excellent for your health, so this was top of the agenda. It did, of course, depend on the weather and availability of the bathing machines. One of his early dips, however, left him seriously stuck for cash, because he inadvertently put 10s. into the collector's plate instead of 6d. Luckily he had already paid his subs at the local Newsroom so at least he could keep up to date with his favourite papers even if he couldn't pay for anything else!



44. *Bathing Machines, Whitby*

Much of the rest of the time was spent rowing or walking. Frank didn't class himself as a good oarsman but he did attempt the trip up to Ruswarp on the

River Esk, a couple of miles inland from Whitby. Unfortunately, that time, the boat grounded because of a recent drought and they had to turn back. But he did get there eventually, on a long walking trip around the area.

Mulgrave Castle, further up the coast, was one of the furthest walks he did. This was a 20 mile round trip. He loved it there, remarking on the number of rabbits and the trout that he saw in the beck.

Another day, they went to 'Falling Foss', a pretty waterfall that took them on a 4 mile walk through the fields from Sleights Railway Station. Here, Frank and Albert stripped and went in for a bathe, using their handkerchiefs as towels. Presumably these would have been somewhat larger than they are nowadays!

The longest round walk they did was to the Robin Hood's Bay area. It took them about 2 hours to get there from Whitby (it was about 6½ mile away) and they stopped at the Inn and had a quart of ale and some bread and cheese. By now Frank's first blister was developing nicely! They then walked along the shore of the Bay and up a very steep & long path to the top of Raven Hill where they stopped beside a small church to look at the view, which he said was stunning. Someone in a nearby cottage gave them some water, which must have been very welcome as there probably weren't too many shops around. By the time they got home, they had walked 23 miles and this time Frank was really in trouble with his blisters!

This holiday took him away from home for 3 weeks.



45. Church at top of Raven Hill, Robin Hood's Bay, Whitby

1865

A year later, in July 1865, Frank was almost nineteen years old. This year's holiday was going to be for 4 weeks, perhaps because he was going to the **ISLE OF MAN**. Door to door, this was a 12 hour journey travelling by train to Liverpool and steamer across the Irish Sea to Ramsey where they found lodgings at 35 shillings a week. Frank went with his friend, Bee (later to become Mr T.H. Bee, an Assistant Master at the Grammar School in Sutton). They expected to be joined there by Bertie Squires, with whom Frank went to school in Walmley some years before, but Bertie was nowhere to be seen.

Their first walk was 15 miles, taking them to the top of Snaefell Mountain and back to Ramsey, most of it spent in the pouring rain.



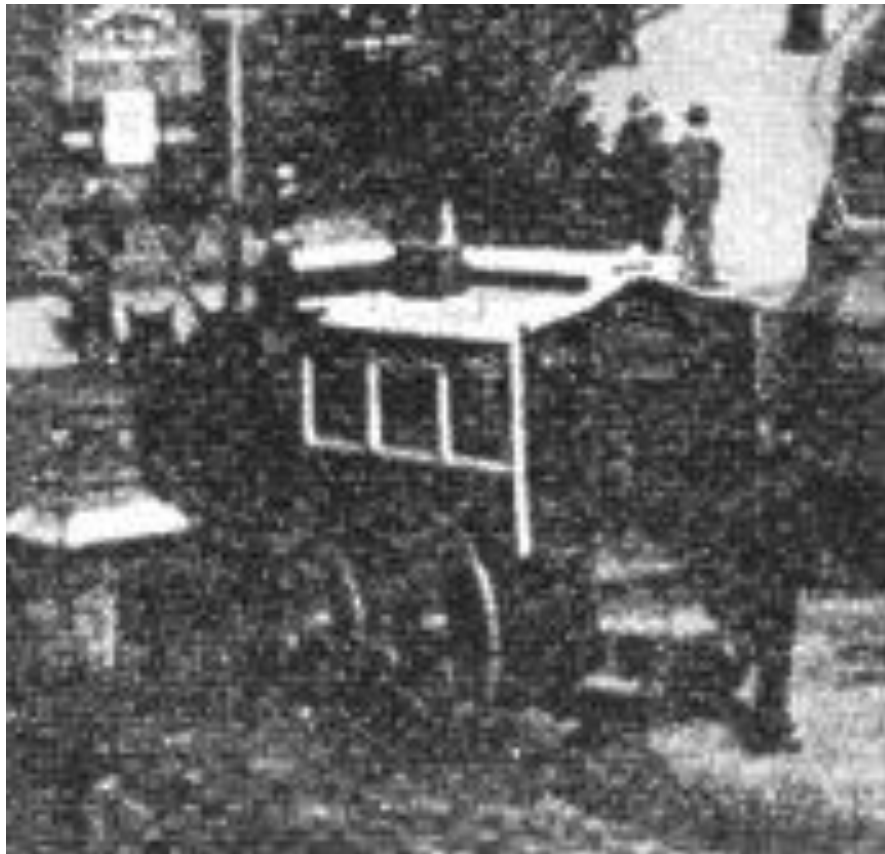
Undaunted, the next day, off they went again, this time southwards, passing through nearby Ballure, a pretty glen, on their way to Maughold (pronounced Mackold) Head, 3 miles away. This small village, lying at the foot of a hill, was somewhat insignificant, but the area around it did have some points of interest, not least the view from the top. There was Maughold's Well, which was supposed to have remarkable powers of healing, and two or three curious old stone crosses around the area, one of which had five raised balls on it. It was said that a woman, as she was knitting, cursed the wind & was forthwith turned into stone. The five balls represented her balls of thread.

46. Guriat's Cross, Maughold, IOM (note the five raised balls)

And the walks just carried on day after day - a 17 miles round trip to the Point of Ayr, the most northerly extremity of the Island, then 15 miles to Sulby Glen in the centre of the island, and another 18 mile round trip back to Snaefell again.

When the first Sunday came round, he sought out the local church. Not impressed by the sermon, afterwards he wrote in his diary, "Oh why are poor, perishing, hungering souls fed with such food" However, he cheered up when he found his friend Bertie Squires waiting outside the church. Bertie had been looking for them for some days. Luckily they found a room for him in their own lodgings.

Their next trip, to Peel on the opposite side of the Island, was too far to walk - about 18 miles - so they caught the coach. Frank said it looked exactly like a large Bathing Machine. It certainly wasn't the fastest thing around, taking them 3¾ hours to get there. Once more, they went through Sulby, then through Ballaugh and Kirk Michael. The coach stopped at a hotel, where they had dinner and then on to Peel Castle, where they saw the old Cathedral of St Germain's laying in ruins.



47. Horse omnibus, IOM, 1895
(The Coach to Peel, 1865?)

A lot of these trips would have cost money, but these young men didn't seem to have been too careful with it! Bathing from the beach, Bertie somehow lost £5.5s from his clothes. It left him seriously short of cash, so much so that he was worried about paying for his lodgings! Somehow, they managed to scrape together enough to pay the bill before continuing their holiday further south, in Douglas. By this time, they only had 4/- between them, which meant they had to walk there. Luckily, there was enough money to pay for their luggage to be sent on by coach and for them to buy a glass of beer (2d) on the way. Frank had already pocketed half a loaf of bread at breakfast, which had to be enough to sustain them during the 4 hours it took to walk the 15 miles.

Ramsey to Snaefell and back
(15 miles)
 Ramsey to Maughold and back
(6 miles)
 Ramsey to Point of Ayre and
back (17 miles)
 Ramsey to Sulby Glen and back
(15 miles)
 Ramsey to Douglas (15 miles)
 Douglas to Glen Maye and back
(22 miles)



48. 1880 Antique Map of The Isle of Man

How they paid for their lodgings at Douglas is not clear. Bertie had already sent a letter to his guardian for some cash but that hadn't arrived at that stage and Frank was even considering selling his watch. All this put a real damper on the rest of their holiday. By now, Bertie had had enough walking so Frank set off on his own for the last, and the longest, walk of the holiday.

He made his way to Glen Maye, on the other side of the island, about 11 miles away. Passing what he says was a sweet little church at Kirk Braddan he noticed a curious tombstone with the following inscription "Underneath this stone lieth the body of Patrick Thompson at present Vicar of this Parish, A.D.1640." This vicar had erected his tombstone before he died! On the way back, Frank stopped off at Tynwald Hill, a grassy monument which legend says was made from piles of stones bonded together with soil from all of the island's 17 ancient parishes, and various legal and other customs were carried on there on Tynwald Day each year.

By the time he got back to Douglas, Frank was really suffering with his feet, so it was just as well the holiday was at an end. Leaving Bertie to make his own way back home, he set off for Liverpool and then home to Wylde Green.



49a.. New Street Station approx. 1870,
(taken from *Illustrated Midland News*, 13th August 1870)



49b. New Street Station, approx 1870 (same view as before), N.B. barrow crossing in centre to allow luggage and parcels to be moved from one platform to another.

1866

In 1866, the whole family went to **TENBY** in Pembrokeshire. This was to be a trip on the Birmingham and Gloucester Railway, one of the oldest main line railways. This involved the expected mayhem at New Street Station, where one had to keep a careful eye on one's luggage.

The whole journey took them 13 hours ! Stopping off at Gloucester, they passed an hour away by looking at the Cathedral as they waited for the next train to Milford. They then caught the steamer across the Haven, a connecting omnibus to Pembroke railway station (which Frank was very scathing about, saying it was no bigger than three bathing machines) and then another long

wait for the train to Tenby. Their lodging overlooked the sea, probably close enough for the obligatory bathing to take place, the ladies making full use of the local bathing machines.



50. Tenby beach in the 19th century

This was not going to be one of Frank's strenuous walking holidays. With the ladies to consider, carriages were going to be used to reach many of the local attractions.

One of these, a pre-historic cave, unfortunately now no longer accessible, was called Hoyle's Mouth. This proved somewhat difficult for them to find, hidden in the woods of Penally. But it turned out to be quite an adventure. A previous visitor to the cave had left candles and matches so they were able to get far enough in to be able to carve their names in the furthest one. It appears that just a few years before, animal bones had been discovered in the caves dating back to the early stone age.

Another trip, which must have pleased the ladies, took them to Saundersfoot and Giltar Point, where they managed to collect hundreds of shells from the beach, and they also got round to seeing many of the sights - Manorbier Castle, Lamphey, St. Govan's Chapel, Gumfreston, Waterwynch and the ruins of Stephen Perrot's Scotsborough House.

They actually needed a brake and 4 horses to accommodate all of them on their most popular outing. This was to Stacks Rocks (Elegug Stacks) on the coast, 20 miles away. A stack was originally just part of the cliff face, but the sea, having worked its way into the weaknesses of the rock, separated it from the mainland. No doubt, an amazing sight to the Chavasses, who would never have seen anything like it before.



51. Elegug Stacks, Pembrokeshire

This was the last holiday he was to take with his family before embarking on his University course at Oxford.

HUNTING AND SHOOTING

Bearing in mind that Frank was only 16 years of age in 1862, he still owned a gun, but this wasn't so unusual for young lads of some social standing, who were expected to do a bit of hunting and shooting. It makes you wonder about his skill, though, because he only wrote about killing sparrows and even they seemed to escape him most of the time. His one moment of glory came on March 10, 1863. It was a National Holiday for the Prince of Wales Wedding to Princess Alexandra of Schleswig-Holstein. He and Charlie, his older brother, spent some time taking pot shots at sparrows and managed to kill 12 of them. One wonders what they did with the remains?



52. *Shooting in the Park, a stereoscopic view taken by William Grundy*

One day his gun needed attention, so he took it to a man named Jones in Sutton who charged him 2/6 - "a regular imposition" Frank wrote, "I could have got a new lock for 3/6!"

But, safety first! A poorly maintained gun can backfire! His friend, Kendrick, was playing with a gun when it burst in his hand and very nearly blew his thumb off. From then on, guns were never mentioned. Perhaps he decided they weren't the thing for him!

THEATRE, MUSIC, ACTING

In the Chavasse household, music was one of the staples of their home entertainment. Many a social evening was rounded off by some form of music and although Frank said he enjoyed it, he doesn't seem to have played an instrument or put himself forward for solo performances. He hated acting (like playing charades, for instance) and he really didn't like going to the theatre to watch anybody else doing it.

There was, however, one evening's entertainment that he did enjoy. On 6th September 1864, a prominent date during the Birmingham Triennial Musical Festival, the family had booked seats in the gallery of the Town Hall. They were first to hear a cantata, produced especially for the occasion, called the "Bride of Dunkerron" by Mr Henry Smart, and many world class vocalists also sang - such as Sims Reeves, Mademoiselle Adelina Patti, Térése Tietjens and Helen Lemmens-Sherrington - all top people of the day.



Térése Tietjens



Helen Lemmens-Sherrington



Adelina Patti

53. Three Famous Vocalists at Birmingham Triennial Musical Festival, 1864

PET ANIMALS

A large establishment such as Wylde Green House had plenty of space for any number of domestic animals. And the Chavasses seem to have had lots of them. Apart from the horses and ponies used for pulling their coaches, cabs and carts, there were the family pets - perhaps not many cats, but dogs seem to have abounded.

One would imagine that these were kept in kennels out in the yard, although perhaps the favourites were allowed in the house. They were certainly cherished. Frank mentions six of them, three in particular who accompanied

him on his long walks around the area. 'Dash', a friendly dog, liked going on the train and was good at finding rabbits. 'Tip', caused no trouble at all, and 'Monkey' who was a bit of a worry, used to chase the sheep around Bedford's farm and got sick. But these three loved to go to Newhall Mill where they could wallow in the mud while Frank picked up the bran for his guinea pigs.

When 'Duke', a new dog, arrived, he shattered the peace, ready for a fight. A scrap with 'Dash' ended up with both being wounded, and a broken dining room chair. 'Sambo', another dog, didn't get let off lightly either.

'Leo,' who came later, wasn't at all popular. He was a big, ugly dog, unmanageable, and Frank didn't mind when he went missing. Unfortunately, someone brought him back!

Regarding the guinea pigs, one wonders if the children were encouraged in this pastime to acquaint them with the facts of life because Frank certainly seemed to know how to go about breeding them. Rather sickeningly, he watched several of the new borns coming to an untimely end and it may be this, coupled with the job of cleaning them out, that ultimately decided him to look after rabbits instead. This was a mistake because a similar scenario followed and although these were rather sweet and cuddly, they too took a lot of maintenance and turned his stomach as well. This hobby did not last too long!



54. Guinea Pigs

SKATING

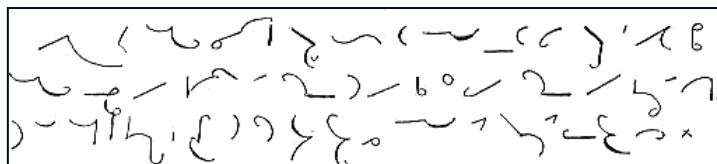
In January 1864, all the ponds froze over, including the old marl pit in the front garden of Wylde Green House. This was good for Frank who, at 17 was ready to have a trial run at skating again. His disability affected his balance but he persevered. As he got older, each winter he progressed until he was skating on the pools in the park, notably Powell's and Perkin's (which we know as Blackroot). Their winters seem to have been much colder, as this pastime was very popular. One wonders how safe those pools would be considered these days?



55. Victorian Skaters

SHORTHAND

This interest, for Frank, seems never to have got beyond his first lesson. He started to learn phonography, as it was called, in January 1863, but it only got one mention in his diary. No doubt, he had second thoughts once he saw what was involved! It is most likely that he embarked on a course of Pitmans' Shorthand, the phonetic system where symbols represent sounds.



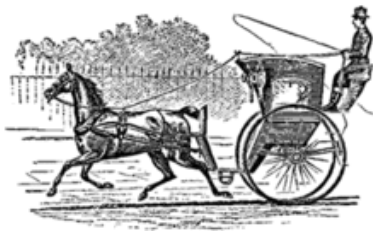
56. Some of Isaac Pitman's shorthand symbols.

TRAVELLING AROUND THE AREA

Day to day getting around the local area was generally a question of using two legs (your own) or four (using a horse). Of course, going further afield was made easier by the trains which had been running from Sutton Coldfield into Birmingham since 1862 and Frank was probably one of the first to make use of the service. Travelling to Lichfield was not so good as there was no railway line - although there was a weekly omnibus. One could, of course, always hire a cab.

Apart from that, you walked or used some other form of conveyance. The Chavasse family did have their own personal cab, and a closed carriage. The cab was used frequently when the ladies went to church or decided to pop into Sutton or visit friends. The closed carriage was brought out when there were more of them or they needed to arrive in a more sedate fashion, such as going to dinner parties, when the ladies' attire would need to be considered.

The other vital requirement, of course, was a horse or pony to pull the vehicles and here Frank frequently did the driving. They had several horses - Bob, Polly, Mr Jenkins, Old Bess. There was also 'Old Jack', who could be a bit petulant. One day the reins got caught under his tail. He kicked out in protest and finished by lying down in the road, grunting. It broke the shaft of the carriage, so they all had to get out and wait for the next available Erdington Cab to pick them up.



By Cab



By Dog Cart



By Closed Carriage



By Horse. This is Sutton Road, Erdington,

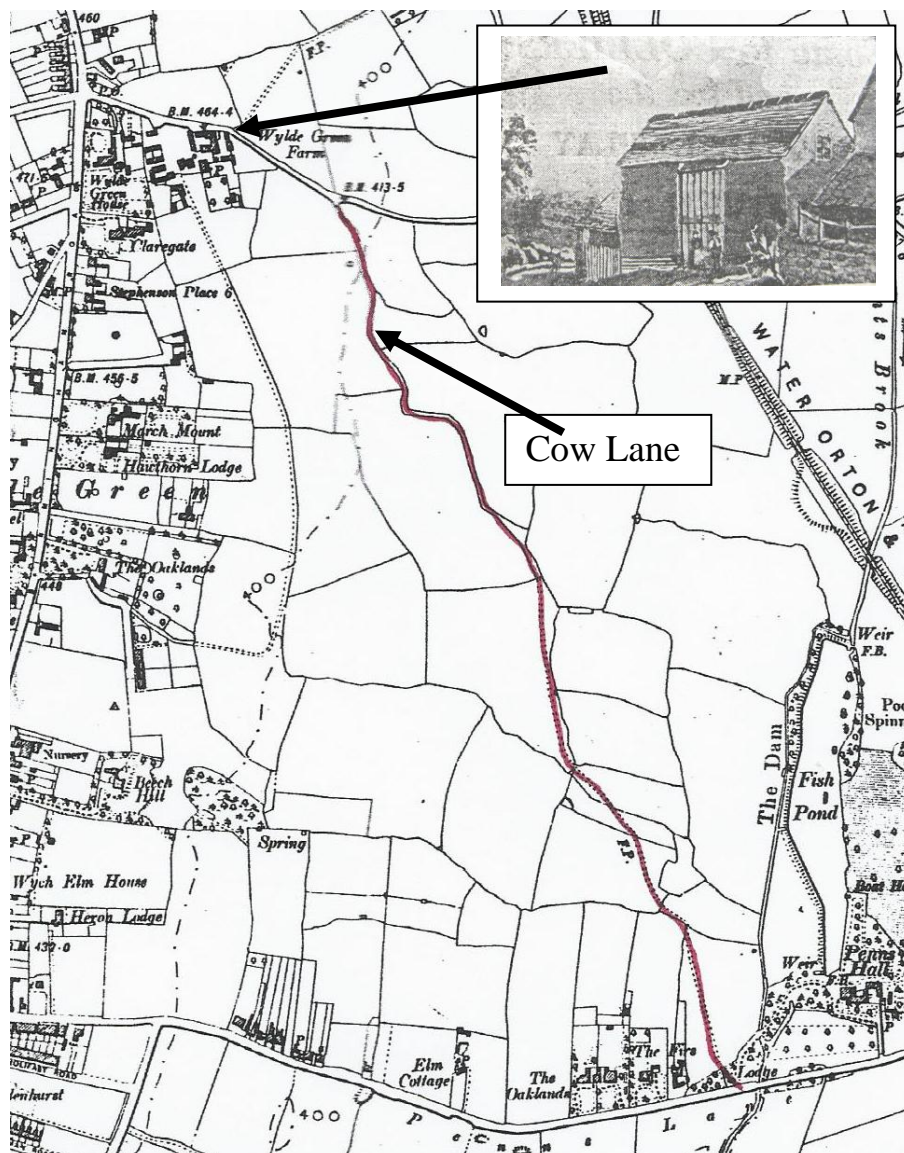
57. Some of the travelling methods used by Frank in the 1860s.

To be fair on 'Old Jack', it seems he was used for all sorts. Sometimes, he pulled the dog cart which they occasionally borrowed from Charlie, Frank's older half-brother who lived in a house at Mount Pleasant, just down the road towards Erdington.

All the family were good horsemen and they would all ride out together, perhaps to Coleshill, Curdworth, or even Yardley. Frank, obviously quite capable, often took the pony, which shied a lot.

But walking was the more usual mode of getting around and, considering his disability, Frank was a strong walker. Part of the early treatment for his spinal problem was to make the 1 mile trip into Sutton regularly, pick up his magazines, spend time in the Reading Room or visit his friends in the High Street, particularly Vincent Holbeche who lived there, and sometimes he'd do the journey twice in one day.

As his back improved, he took himself off all over the place. There were trips down Walmley Lane (now Wylde Green Road) and into Coles Lane (which was a lane then) and nice and cool he found it after the hot, dusty main roads. He walked to New Oscott College (1½ miles away) and Four Oaks (2 miles). On many Sundays, he would go to St John's Church at Walmley twice to attend the services there (that was 1½ miles away) but there was one walk that he obviously didn't like. This was the one to Penns, where he went to visit some boys that he knew. The best way was to go down the Walmley Lane, pass the old barn at Wylde Green Farm on the bend of the road and then turn first right into the ancient Cow Lane which led into the quiet, lonely fields across the valley - a trip of about 1 mile. No doubt, he didn't hang around on his way there!



58. Frank's walk across the fields to Penns, passing Wylde Green Farm Barn, down Cow Lane and across the fields (1903 OS Map)

Once he took a walk to Witton, to collect his younger brother, Tom, and bring him home from boarding school. This was 3 miles away, but he took the dogs for company and they all returned home on the train.

All these were short walks! The longer ones took him into Birmingham (about 5 miles) and, although he usually came back by train, once he walked home from Aston. Sometimes, his father would pick him up in his carriage on his way home from work.

There were walks of 6 miles to Rushall, near Walsall, where his Uncle Ludovic was Vicar and, to reduce that journey, Frank would take a shortcut through Sutton Park, but it still took him 2¼ hours to get there, so he usually stayed with his Uncle and came home a couple of days later.

The furthest he went was Middleton and Weeford, both a good ten mile round trip. These walks were not for the fainthearted!

and finally AN EXCITING DAY

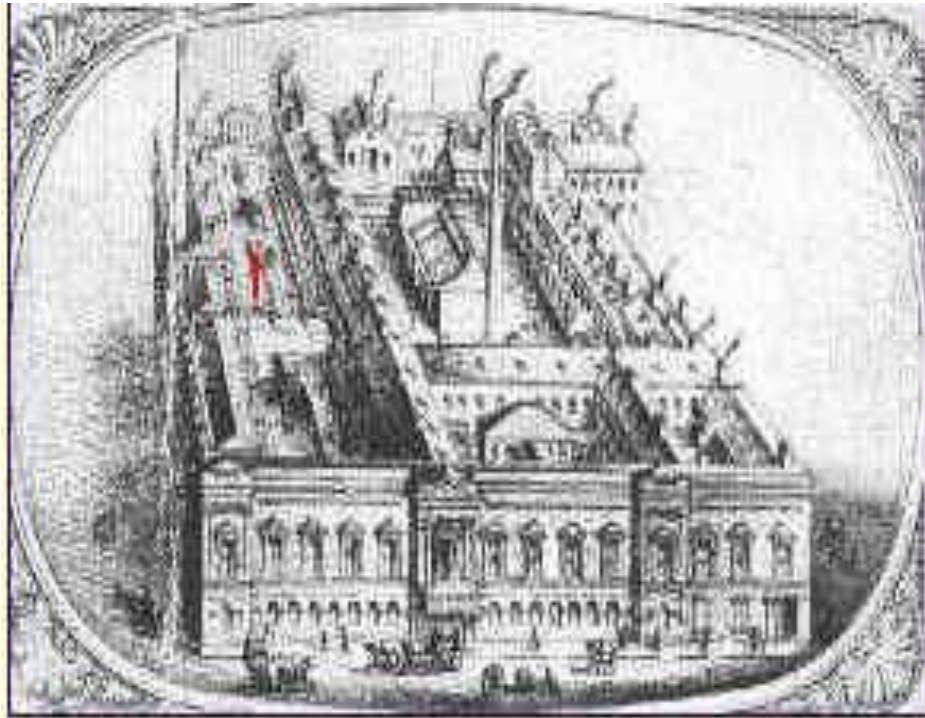
Some days stand out for all of us as ones we will never forget. For Frank, it was when he was 18.. He went with a family friend, James Grundy, for a day out in Birmingham. First of all they went for a look around Uncle Howard's bedstead warehouse in Oxford Street, Deritend, where Frank had had a bit of work experience. The next port of call was Pumphrey's, a photographers, for James to have what Frank called 'his medallion' taken - presumably one of the early photos. Afterwards they went for a look around Elkington's Electroplating Works in Newhall Street, part of which was later used as the Science Museum. Then they went back for lunch to Suffields' Hotel in Union passage.



59. A Medallion?

The afternoon was scheduled for visits around more manufactories - Fillotts & Stone's, who fortunately were open for viewing, and Aston & Coopers who weren't. Lastly, they rounded off the afternoon by going to 'Lissiters' restaurant for their afternoon tea. The chance to sit down was probably very welcome as the rest of the evening was to be spent standing up for 3 hours at

the Town Hall listening to one of the greatest orators of the day, John Bright, who gave one of his most famous political speeches, much to Frank's delight! He came away very impressed.



*60. Elkington's Electroplating Works in Newhall Street
(The figure 'I' indicates the position of the canal)*

* * * * *

And so, hearing about Frank's interests and exploits, would you class him as a typical example of an 1860s teenager? I would definitely say no. I cannot imagine the majority of children who then lived in Sutton Coldfield being given the opportunity or having the financial backing to indulge in many of Frank's pastimes.

How fascinating it would be if a diary could be discovered, written by one of those other children in Sutton Coldfield. It is only then that we would probably find out how most of us here today would have spent our 'teenage' years.

Thank you for listening!

SOURCES

THE DIARY OF FRANCIS JAMES CHAVASSE, Sutton Coldfield Library (SH78.1CHA)

Grateful thanks are due to St Peter's College, Oxford, for their kind permission to use this material and to the Chavasse Family, who own the copyright.

ILLUSTRATIONS

No.	Title of Illustration	Source
1.	<i>Francis James Chavasse, Aged 14 and 22</i>	Lancelot, J.B., <i>Francis James Chavasse, Bishop of Liverpool</i> , Basil Blackwell 1929
2.	<i>Wylde Green House, 1907</i>	Baxter, Marian, <i>The Old Photographs Series, Sutton Coldfield</i> , pub. Alan Sutton, 1994
3.	<i>The Family of Thomas and Miriam Chavasse 1868 (Frank wearing the Boater Hat)</i>	Lancelot, J.B., <i>Francis James Chavasse, Bishop of Liverpool</i> , Basil Blackwell 1929
4.	<i>Chesterfield Grammar School</i>	http://www.oldcestrefeddians.org.uk/images
5.	<i>Walmley Village, showing the building that was Mr Felton's School in the 1860s</i>	Sutton Coldfield Library
6.	<i>Plan of Birmingham 1851 showing the short distance from the Passenger Station at Curzon Street to Oxford Street</i>	Line, Paul Leslie, <i>"A History in Maps", Birmingham, Plan of Birmingham, 1851</i> , published by John Tallis, drawn and engraved by John Rapkin (Bottom right segment). pub by The History Press, 2010
7.	<i>Antique 'French' Bed and Victorian Half Tester Bed</i>	www.gopixpic.com www.oixshark.com/tester-bed
8.	<i>Francis James Chavasse's burial place, on the green. Liverpool Anglican Cathedral</i>	http://community.evertonfc.com/news/scale-down-the-cathedral/
9.	<i>The Light of the World, Holman Hunt's picture</i>	www.the.athenaeum.org/art/detail
10.	<i>A Victorian Mahogany Bagatelle Table by Thurston & Co. Mid-19th Century</i>	www.christie.com . Sale 9387, Lot 409 Century
11.	<i>Kent Street Baths, 1848, lithograph of the interior</i>	Birmingham and West Midlands Group of the Victorian Society, Edited by Phillada Ballard, <i>Birmingham's Victorian and Edwardian Architects</i> , , pub. Oblong, 2009 (page 58)
12.	<i>Walmley Brook, Wylde Green Road, (early 1900)</i>	Keith Jordan's collection
13.	<i>The Inspector of Nuisances, 1860s</i>	http://thekildas.com/the-inspector-of-nuisances
14.	<i>The pool or pit in front of Wylde Green House in 1864</i>	Sales Particulars 1790-1892 (page 46), Sutton Coldfield Library (QSH58.9)
15.	<i>Ordnance Survey Map of 1913</i>	OS Map 1913

- showing Wylde Green House
(the pool having disappeared)*
16. *Fishing with Trimmers* Salter, T.F., *The Angler's Guide*, printed by Haines and Turner, 1815
 17. *Fishermen(likely to be) in Sutton Park, approximately 1859*
(Stereoview, by William Grundy, photographer, who lived in Sutton Coldfield) <http://stereoscope.canalblog.com/archives/2014/01/21/29001799.html>
 18. *Fishermen (likely to be) on one of the lakes in Sutton Park, approximately 1859 (Part of stereoview, by William Grundy, photographer, who lived in Sutton Coldfield)* <http://stereoscope.canalblog.com/archives/2014/01/21/29001799.html>
 19. *Great Barr Hall Lake* Collection of Peter Allen, Secretary, Great Barr Hall Action Committee
 20. *Great Barr Hall, Boathouse* Collection of Peter Allen, Secretary, Great Barr Hall Action Committee
 21. *Rab and his Friends* www.archive.org/rabhisfriends/california
 - Mrs Lirripers Lodgings by Charles Dickens, 1863* www.wikipedia.org/wiki/All_the_Year_Round
 - The Hillyars and the Burtons by Henry Kingsley, Percy's Reliques, 1775* [www.apfa.esrc/The Hillyars and the Burtons](http://www.apfa.esrc/The_Hillyars_and_the_Burttons)
<http://en.wikipedia.org>
 - Four of the books that Frank read*
 22. *Boy's Own Magazine, 1860* www.rookebooks.com
 23. *Framley Parsonage, Chapter XXII serialised in The Cornhill Magazine, August 1860* *The Cornhill Magazine*, pub Smith Elder & Co., 1860
 - 24a. *Birmingham Reading/Newsroom* *An Historical View and Descriptive Sketch of Birmingham* published by Beilby, Knott & Beilby in 1830
 - 24b. *A similar building, built by Richman and Hutchison in 1830, on the opposite corner to the Newsroom* Author's photographs
 25. *Town Hall in Mill Street, c1869* Baxter, Marian, *Parade and Lower Parade, c.1869 in The Old Photographs Series, Sutton Coldfield*, pub by Alan Sutton Limited 1994
 26. *Opening Day of the Birmingham Central Lending Library* www.birmingham.gov.uk/ A Brief history of Birmingham's Central Library

27. *St John's Church, Walmley* Baxter, Marion and Field, John, *Then & Now, Sutton Coldfield*, pub. Tempus Publishing Limited, 2002
28. *The Sunday at Home, 1865*
A Family Magazine for Sabbath Reading Published by The Religious Tract Society, London
29. *Rev. Gilbert William Robinson*
Vicar of Walmley (1845-1884) ancestry.co.uk/ Robinson-Broughman family tree
30. *The Rectory Grounds, 1857* Valuation Map 1857
31. *Antique Pig leather bladder*
Football www.busaccagallery.com
32. *Wylde Green House, rear view*
showing the croquet lawn Baxter, Marian, *The Old Photographs Series, Sutton Coldfield*, pub Alan Sutton Limited, 1994
33. *"The Game of Croquet,"*
published in "Harper's Weekly"
September 1866 www.publicpleasuregarden.blogspot.co.uk/
34. *Squails* www.museumofplay.org
35. *Dancing (Not one of Frank's*
favourite pastimes) www.victoriana.com/Fashion/victorian-ball
36. *Gathering Ferns* www.darwincountry.org
37. *Fireworks Balloon 1882,*
perhaps a later model of the
one set off at the Grammar
School in 1863? www.serialmachinist
38. *Bradshaw's Guide 1863* www.transportdiversions.com
39. *Map of Southsea, ca 1860,*
showing site of Clarence House
on Southsea Common,
Southsea Castle, Lumps Fort,
Eastney Fort and Cumberland
Fort. [www.freepages.genealogy.rootsweb.ancestry.Hampshire Old Maps \(Portsmouth & Gosport. ca.1860\)](http://www.freepages.genealogy.rootsweb.ancestry.Hampshire%20Old%20Maps%20(Portsmouth%20&%20Gosport.%20ca.1860))
40. *The Gun at Southsea Castle* www.memorials.inportsmouth.co.uk/southsea/royal-george-gun
41. *Sinking of HMS Royal George*
at Spithead 1782 www.collections.rmg.co.uk/
42. *Ryde, Isle of Wight , with its*
splendid pier and trees
growing down to the water's
edge. 1854 [www.antiquemapsandprints/Ryde west of the pier](http://www.antiquemapsandprints/Ryde%20west%20of%20the%20pier)
43. *Who knows where these trunks*
will end up? www.ssplprints.com/concanen-alfred-the-railway-porter-1870
44. *Bathing Machines, Whitby* www.heritage-explorer
45. *Church at the top of Raven Hill,*
Robin Hood's Bay, Whitby Google Earth
46. *Guriat's Cross, Maughold, IOM*
(note the five raised balls) www.iomguide.com/crosses/maughold
47. *Horse omnibus, IOM, 1895*
(The coach to Peel, 1865?) www.isle-of-man.com/manxnotebook/horseomnibus

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- 49b. *New Street Station 1870 (same view, N.B. barrow crossing in centre to allow luggage and parcels to be moved from one platform to another).*
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51. *Elegug Stacks, Pembrokeshire Coast* www.fotolibra.com/elegug-stacks/
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Some of the travelling methods used by Frank
58. *Frank's walk across the fields to Penns, passing Wylde Green Farm Barn, down Cow Lane and across the fields* 1903 OS Map and Newscutting of Cow Lane Barn, taken from Meacham's Newscuttings, 21.1.61, Page 113, Sutton Coldfield Local Studies Library (QSH97SUT)
59. *A Medallion?* www.lnm.lt/en/exposition/medallion/images
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