



Black ink was used throughout, except for four lines on page 72, which were written in pencil. On one occasion the ink was spilt across the page. The pages are not numbered. William's spelling and inconsistencies have been retained. The little book had a lock and was quite definitely not meant for prying eyes. It was solely a record of the cash coming into William's pocket and going out again, quite rapidly, during his apprenticeship. For the first two years the entries are neat and fairly legible, but as time went by both William's writing and life-style became rather wild.

For a year after he arrived in London, William worked in the metropolis, probably at St George's Catholic Cathedral in Southwark (designed by AWN Pugin in 1840). But from 1846 he travelled extensively to Myers' various building sites, apparently paying his own travelling expenses, board and lodging. He recorded what his journey cost him, but seldom disclosed his mode of travel, though he occasionally noted that he travelled by 'coach', and when in London there are references to his 'buss' fare. In this age of great railway expansion he never once mentioned that he had travelled by train, though it is quite obvious that he did so from his references to Euston Square (Euston Station).

William Edwin Jackson had been born on 16 November 1829, at 15 Coney Street, York. He was the eldest son of Edward Jackson, (1786-1859), goldsmith. His mother, Elizabeth (1809-1890), née Ruddock, was 20 at the time of his birth. She came from a family of weavers and clothiers who had lived at Horbury near Wakefield for generations. Eventually, there were to be three more sons and a daughter. The youngest child, John (Sir John Jackson, the civil engineer), was born in 1851, twenty-two years after William.

On the morning of Thursday, 8 May 1845, the 15 year-old William, accompanied by his father, left York to travel to London by coach to start his apprenticeship. For some reason, William did not sign his indenture until 26 January 1846, when he did so in the presence of George Myers (to whom he was apprenticed), his cousins, David and Joseph Myers, aged 16 and 13, and his father Edward Jackson who had travelled from York for the occasion. The rules that had governed apprenticeships in the Middle Ages were no longer in force. By the nineteenth century, an apprenticeship agreement was an arrangement between the apprentice, or his guardian, and the master; in this case, William Jackson, and George Myers. The terms of William's apprenticeship are not known, but during the four and a half years that he spent with Myers he would have been taught to build, using both stone and brick, and also to carve and sculpt.

Where he worked and how he spent his leisure can usually be discovered by reading the entries in his 'cash book', but not everything is clear. It is obvious that he was sociable and a keen theatre goer. There was a multitude of small theatres and music halls on the south bank of the Thames, many of them such as the Bower Theatre in Stangate Street and Astley's in Westminster Bridge Road within a short distance of Ordnance Wharf. However, he never disclosed what plays he saw. William was rather a dandy and spent a considerable amount of money on his clothes, but to judge by the books and journals he read, he was a serious young man, determined to 'better himself'. William did not disclose the work he carried out on the various building sites nor the reason for his frequent visits to Woolwich, nearly always on a Sunday.

Between February 1847 and August 1848, whenever he was in London, William attended the Government School of Design in Somerset House. This was founded in 1837 with the object of improving the standard of industrial design. The School moved to Marlborough House in 1852, then to the Victoria and Albert Museum in 1857 and is now the Royal College of Art. Classes

were held in the morning and evening. Evening classes lasted from 6 o'clock - 9 o'clock. The school was closed on Saturdays and also during September, from December 15 - January 15, and on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. The fee was 1/- a week payable in advance. A letter of introduction was necessary<sup>2</sup>. Subjects taught included perspective, modelling, design and geometric drawing.

In addition, on one occasion William attended the London Mechanics' Institution, founded in 1823, the institution which is now Birkbeck College.

William's wages started at 5/- a week and increased annually up to 11/-. In addition, his mother sent him frequent postal orders and there was an arrangement whereby he was able to borrow from Mrs Myers, his aunt (Mrs Myers and Mrs Jackson were sisters), and from Richard Ruddock, George Myers' cashier, who was William's uncle. Even so, as time went on, his expenditure often exceeded his income and he borrowed from his cousin Joe Myers, fellow apprentices and others. At times he was reduced to pawning his clothes, but he always repaid his debts.

William was out of his time on 16 November 1849, his twentieth birthday, when he returned home to York.

Recently a chance purchase of the *Catholic Directory* for 1854 revealed an advertisement which reads:

Mediaeval Works, Memorials, Fonts  
Screens etc.  
William E Jackson  
Architectural Sculptor  
15 Coney Street, York.

Statues, Reredoses, Altar Fronts, Pulpits, Chimney Pieces in Wood, Stone, Marble or Alabaster.

George Myers was a Catholic, William was not, but he was a good businessman and knew where it paid to advertise.

At some later date William Jackson moved to Newcastle upon Tyne, where he set up in business as a building contractor and prospered. His account books for the years 1874-1883 are held in the Tyne & Wear Archives. They disclose that he carried out much work at the docks and quay side of Northumberland where he built warehouses, factories, reservoirs and bridges. There are references to a contract in Vienna in 1875/6 but as in the days when William was apprenticed to George Myers, no clue is given as to the nature of this work. From 1874-1876, William was employed at Cragside in connection with Lord Armstrong's hydro-electric works. He also carried out extensive works for Armstrong at Elswick, Newcastle upon Tyne<sup>3</sup>.

In the late 1860s, William's youngest brother John, was apprenticed to him. This brother was to be renowned for the docks, harbours and irrigation works he constructed worldwide<sup>4</sup>.

William never married, but some time after the death of his father in 1859, his widowed mother, Elizabeth Jackson and unmarried sister, Mary Ellen, came to live with him. He died, aged 52 on 16 July 1882 at his home, 8 Belgrave Terrace, Elswick Road, Newcastle upon Tyne, and was buried in Elswick Cemetery. His obituary in the *Newcastle Daily Journal* of 18 July 1882 stated that he had worked 'under instructions from the late Mr Pugin', and that he was one of the best known contractors for Public Works in the north of England. His offices were at 42 Mosley Street, Newcastle upon Tyne.

**Acknowledgements**

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*Correspondence:* Patricia Spencer-Silver, 26 Muncaster Road, London, SW11 6NT.

**References**

1. Patricia Spencer-Silver, *The Life and Work of George Myers*, Hull 1993.
2. Minutes of the School of Design Vol. 1 1836-1843.
3. Tyne & Wear Archives, William E Jackson cost book 1874-1883 TWAS ref 2263/2.
4. *Who Was Who*, 1916-1828.

*Note:* William's accounting was of course done in £.s.d. To have some idea of the value of his money in modern terms, it is necessary to multiply the sums concerned by 60.

Part 1 of the transcript, covering the years 1845-47 follows.  
Part 2 will be published in *Construction History*, Volume 14

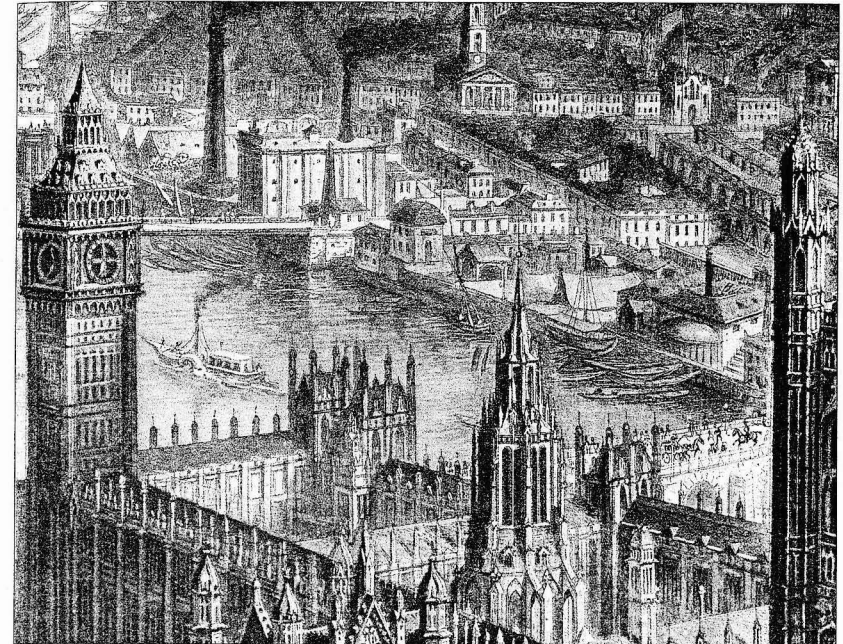


Fig. 3 Part of a panoramic view of London, 1857. Ordnance Wharf can be seen between the pinnacles of the newly built Houses of Parliament: see January 1846 (Courtesy of the Corporation of London, Guildhall Library)



Fig. 2 The Tower of London at about the time that it was visited by William: see December 1845 (Courtesy of the Corporation of London, Guildhall Library)

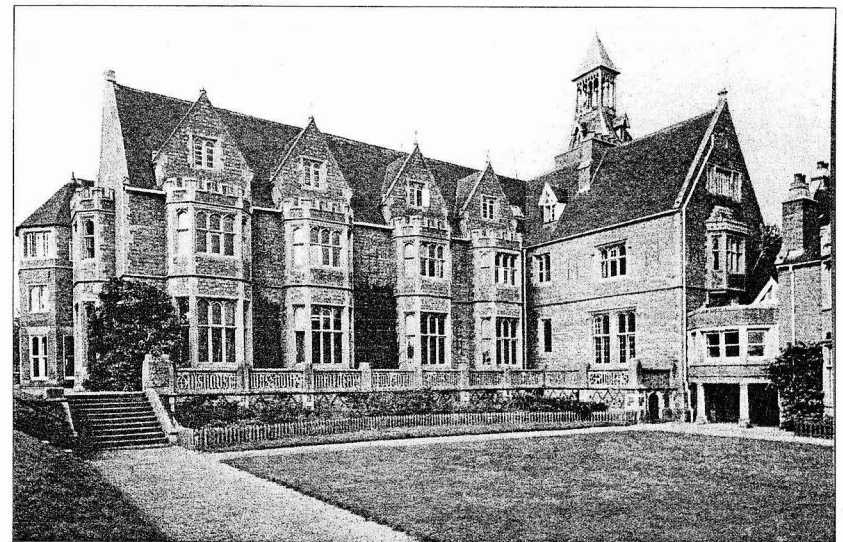


Fig. 4 Bilton Grange, near Rugby, renovated by George Myers, architect AWN Pugin, 1841–51: see July 1847



Fig. 5 Captain Washington Hibbert who tipped William 6s/8d when he finished his work at Bilton Grange. The Captain's wife was a cousin of the Earl of Shrewsbury: see September 1847

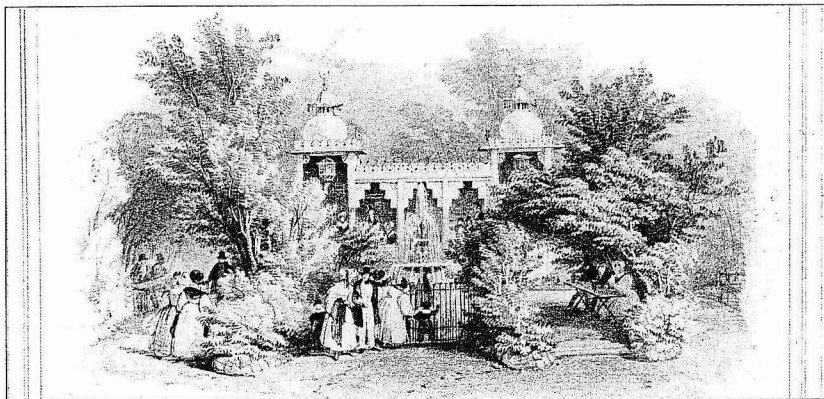


Fig. 6 The Bower Dukes Armes and Theatre. One of a number of playhouses and pleasure gardens close to Ordnance Wharf probably frequented by William: see September 1846 (Courtesy of the Corporation of London, Guildhall Library)

William E. Jackson's Cash Book  
 from going "Prentice" May 8/1845  
 To being out of his Time  
Nov<sup>r</sup> 16/1849

Total Rec<sup>d</sup>  
 from May 8/1845 to Nov 16/1849

P <sup>d</sup> do	£193/16/6
	<u>£193/6/11½</u>
Ball <sup>ce</sup> in Hand	<u>10/6</u>

Nov<sup>r</sup> 16/49



May 1845	£	s	d	June 1845	£	s	d
Balance	0	3	3	Balance	16	6	½
E.J.			6	Self 4, 2, 1/-	1	10	3
19. Self <sup>a</sup>			4	Mrs Myers on			
24. Mother Lodg	7	1		York a/c	8	6	
20. do Marine	1	0		7. Wages 5/-, Lodge 2/-	7	0	
24. Two Weeks Wages 5/-			10	3 Weeks Lodges [ ... ]	6	0	
28. Mother on Leaving	1	0	0	before [ ... ]			
London for York				14. Wages 7/-	7	0	
31. Wages 5/-	5	0		28. Wages 7/-	7	0	
31. Cash for Trowers			9	28. Overtime 6 hours	1	0	0
	<u>£2</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>11</u>		<u>£3</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>1</u>

May 1845	£	s	d	June 1845	£	s	d
12. Cash Book	1	3		Self ½, 2, 1½, 1, 6	1	0	
12. Westminster Abbey <sup>a</sup>			6	7. Board 5/1½, 3/-	8	0	½
13. Postage 1, 3			4	Washing 7			
Self 1, 3½, 6			10½	Postage 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 2			8
19. Board 4/1, Lodg(ing) 3/-	7	1		Tunne <sup>a</sup> 3			3
24. Board 7/-, 3/-	7	1		Fairlands <sup>a</sup> Drawing Book			6
Washing 1/-	1	0		Bridge <sup>a</sup> 1, Theatre 9	1	2	½
29. Papers 3	3			Envelopes 6			6
31. Board 7½, 3/7½	10	9		Paper 1, Theatre 9			10
31. Fustian <sup>a</sup> Trowers repairing			4	14. Meal 7/1, 3/-, W8	10	9	
Balance	16	6	½	14. Blows 6/-	6	9	4½
	<u>£2</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>11</u>	21. Meal 5/9½, Lodg 3/-, 7	9	2	½
				28. Meat 5/7½, 3/-, 7	9	2	½
				Chambers Journal <sup>a</sup> 2 No.			½
				Self ½			12
				Balance			11
					<u>£3</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>1½</u>

July 1845	£	s	d	August 1845	£	s	d
Balance	12	11		Balance	1	7	0½
5. Wages 7/-, Overtime 2/8	9	8		2. Wages 7/-, 2/2,	9	2	
Church, Self, 1/-, 1/-,	2	0		Wages 7/-, 1/8,	8	8	
20. Mrs Myers on Mother's a/c,	3	6		16. Wages 7/-, 2/-,	9	0	
12. Wages 7/-, Otime 1/8,	8	8		23. Wages 7/-, 2/-,	9	0	
Mrs Myers on Mother's a/c,	16	3		Cash by Trowers	2	3	½
19. Wages 7/-, Otime 1/8,	8	8		30. Wages 7/-, 2/2,	9	2	
12. Trowers 1/6	1	6		Post Order from Mother			0
26. Wages 7/-, 2/8,	9	8		at York	1	0	0
18. Mrs Myers on Mother's a/c,	3	0					
23. Post Order from Mother at			0				
Harrogate	2	0	0				
	<u>£4</u>	<u>15</u>	<u>10</u>		<u>£5</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>4</u>

July 1845	£	s	d	August 1845	£	s	d
Self 2½, 2,			4½	Balance	1	7	0½
Postage 1, 2, 1,			4	2. Wages 7/-, 2/2,	9	2	
Chambers Journals			3	Wages 7/-, 1/8,	8	8	
5. Meat 8/3½, 3/-, 7,	11	10	½	16. Wages 7/-, 2/-,	9	0	
2. Inkstand			8	23. Wages 7/-, 2/-,	9	0	
Self for Theatre 1/-, 1/1	2	1		Cash by Trowers	2	3	½
12. Meat 5/7, 3/-, 9,	9	4		30. Wages 7/-, 2/2,	9	2	
12. rep Fustian Trows	6	6		Post Order from Mother			0
16. New Boots	10	0		at York	1	0	0
19. Meat 6/8, 3/-, 9, 7 <sup>a</sup>	10	3					
24. Gloves 7½			7½				
24. Hair Cutting			3				
Theatre 6,			6				
26. Meat 6/11, 3/-, 7	10	6					
25. Self 7½, 2½, 1,			11				
30. Blows repairing			4				
	<u>£4</u>	<u>15</u>	<u>10</u>		<u>£5</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>4</u>

September 1845	£	s	d	October 1845	£	s	d
Balance	1	17	7	Balance	1	16	4½
6. Wages 7/-, 2/8	9	6		4. Wages 7/-, 1/6	8	6	
13. Wages 7/-, 2/-	9	0		11. Wages 7/-, 2/0	18	0	0
20. Wages 7/-, 2/6	9	6		18. Wages 7/-, 2/2	9	2	
27. Wages 7/-, 1/8	8	8		25. Wages 7/-, 2/6	1	0	0
18. Post order from York	1	0	0	11. Post order from York	1	0	0
	<u>£4</u>	<u>14</u>	<u>3</u>	16. Self 2/3			3
					<u>4</u>	<u>14</u>	<u>9½</u>

September 1845	£	s	d	October 1845	£	s	d
Self 1/8, 7½, 7, 2	3	½		Self 4½, 1½, 5, 3, 6, 3½	1	11	½
Postage 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1,	6			Post 1, 1, 1, 4			7
6. Meat 8/-, 3/-, 5	11	5		4. Meat 8/2, 2/3, 8	11	4	
13. Meat 7½, 2/6, 8	10	6	½	11. Meat 9/10, 2/d, 7	11	11	
20. Meat 9¼, 2/6, 7	12	5		18. Meat 7/10½, 2/6, 2	10	6	½
27. Meas 7/5½, 2/6, 7	10	4	½	25. Vic 11/6, 2/6, 6	14	0	
1 <sup>a</sup> paper 3			3	1 <sup>a</sup> Hair Cutting			3
6. Evvning Pkt [H...]			1½	4. Do Oil			4
Theatre 6, 9, 1/-, 6, 6, 1/-	4	3		4. Theatre 6, 6, 1/-	2	0	
8. 1 <sup>a</sup> No. Old England <sup>a</sup> 1 <sup>a</sup>	1	6		11. P <sup>a</sup> Store for Making Coat	12	6	
6. Hat Box			3	and Vest			6
12. Rep Fustian Trowers			6	7. Cork Soles			6
15. Do Blows			6	Self 6, 3, 10, 6, 6, 3½	2	1	10½
20. Blacking			6	18. Box 6/6, by Changing			6
28. Omnibus 6, Barter by			6	with Sam			6
Shoppee <sup>a</sup> 1/-	1	6					
Balance	1	16	4½	Balance			7
	<u>4</u>	<u>14</u>	<u>3</u>		<u>4</u>	<u>14</u>	<u>9½</u>

November 1845	£	s	d	December 1845	£	s	d
1 <sup>a</sup> Balance	19	7	0	Balance	1	13	6½
1 <sup>a</sup> Wages 7/-, 3/2	10	2		7. Wages 7/-, ¾, 21hrs	10	4	
8. Wages 7/-, 1/10	8	10		13. Wages 7/-, 3/-	10	0	
15. Wages 7/-, 2/8	9	8		20. Wages 7/-, 2/6	9	6	
22. Wages 7/-, 2/4	9	8		24. Wages 7/-, 10	7	10	
10 <sup>a</sup> Cash for Parcel to Wilson's <sup>a</sup>	2	0	0	24. Christmas Box	2	6	
29. Wages 7/-, 2/4	9	4		25. Self 2/3			3
29. Cash by Post Order from Mother	2	0	0				
	<u>5</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>3</u>		<u>3</u>	<u>15</u>	<u>11½</u>

November 1845	£	s	d	December 1845	£	s	d
Self 1, 9, 3, 1, 9, 2, 2, 5	2	8		Self	4	8	½
Post 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 2	7			Post 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 2			4
1 <sup>a</sup> Vic 9/10, 2/6, W 6	12	10		7. Meat 9/-, 2/6, 6	12	1	7
8. Meat 8/8, 2/6, 4	11	6		13. Meat 8/6, 2/6	11	0	
15. Meat 9/4, 2/6, 4	11	10	½	20. Meat 8/6, 2/6	11	0	
22. Meat 11/8, 2/6	14	2		27. Meat 7/5½, 2/6, 6	10	5	½
1 <sup>a</sup> Repairing Fustian trows			3	Theatre 2/7			2
Theatre 8, 9, 7	2	0		6. Rep Clothes			6
15. Boots rep.	3	0		Dispatch 6			6
Straps 3, 6, Pens 2			11	10. Pencils			5
29. Meat 7/8, 2/6, 4	10	6		24. Carriage of Parcel			3
Washing last week			6	Tower Ticket <sup>a</sup>			3
25. Stockings	1	6		[P...] [E...]			0
29. Pencils 3, Cap 1/-	1	3					
Balance 1/13/6½	1	13	6½	Balance			19
	<u>5</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>3</u>		<u>3</u>	<u>15</u>	<u>11½</u>

Cash etc Rec<sup>d</sup> from May 14<sup>th</sup> / 45 to Dec 31<sup>st</sup> 1845 -

	£	s	d
May	2	8	11
June	2	5	7
July	4	2	11
August	3	5	3½
September	2	16	8
October	2	18	5
November	4	7	8
December	2	2	5
	<u>24</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>11½</u>

Cash paid from May 14 / 1845 to Dec 31<sup>st</sup> 1845 -

	£	s	d
May	1	12	4½
June	2	9	2½
July	2	18	9½
August	3	4	0
September	2	17	11½
October	3	15	2½
November	3	13	8½
December	2	16	10½
Balance to Jan <sup>y</sup> 1846		<u>19</u>	<u>1½</u>
	<u>24</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>11½</u>

Jan <sup>y</sup> 1846	£	s	d	February 1846	£	s	d
Balance		19	1½	Balance	1	4	0½
3. Wages 7/-, 2/2		9	2	1. Wages 7/-, 1/6		8	6
10. Wages 7/-, 3/-		10	0	14. Wages 7/-, 1/4		8	4
17. Wages 7/-, 2/-		9	0	21. Wages 7/-, 1/8		8	8
24. Wages 7/-, 1/8		8	8	28. Wages 7/-, 1/8		8	8
31. Wages 7/-, 10 <sup>d</sup>		7	10	12. Cash per Post Order		1	0
1 <sup>st</sup> Cash by Post Order from York	1	0	0				
20. Cash from E.J. in Lambeth		7	6				
29. Cash per E.J. at Wharf <sup>d</sup>		3	0				
31 <sup>st</sup> Cash per E.J.		9	6				
		<u>5</u>	<u>3</u>			<u>3</u>	<u>18</u>
			9½				2½

Jan <sup>y</sup> 1846	£	s	d	February 1846	£	s	d
Self 1/8, 1/3, 1/6, 11 <sup>d</sup>		5	4	Post 1, 1			2
Post 1, 1, 1, 1, Dispatch 6		10	10	Self 1/3, 2, 2/2½		3	7½
3. Meat 5/9, 2/6, 6		8	10	7. Mrs Ely		11	0
10. Meat 10/-, 2/6,		12	6	14. Mrs Ely		11	0
17. Meat 10/-, 2/6		12	6	21. Mrs Ely		11	0
24. Meat 9/-, 2/6		11	6	28. Mrs Ely		10	0
31 <sup>st</sup> Board & Lodgings & Wash		11	0	13. Hair Cutting 3			3
2 <sup>nd</sup> Boots rep		3	9	10. Writing Book 6			6
History England			6	15. Dispatch 6			6
History America			3	14. Theatre 6, 9		1	3
Stationary 7, Theatre 1/-		1	7	Cap 3/-			3
11. 2 Nos. History England		1	0	23. New Sleeves to Coat		1	2
8 Weeks Washing omitted in previous Bills		4	2	Sunderies		1	7
19. L'Echo de Paris <sup>d</sup>		2	0	Balance	1	3	2
29. Ticket to Drury Lane		2	0				
Coal rep 1/-, Watch chain 1/-		2	0				
Balance	1	4	0½				
	<u>5</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>9½</u>			<u>3</u>	<u>18</u>
							2½

March 1846	£	s	d	April 1846	£	s	d
Balance	1	3	2	Balance	1	2	0
7. Wages 7/-, O.time 2/4		9	4	4. Wages 7/-, 3/-		10	0
14. Wages 7/-, 3/-		10	0	11. Wages 7/-, 3/-		11	3
21. Wages 7/-, 3/-		10	0	18. Wages 7/-, 1/-		8	0
28. Wages 7/-, 3/-		10	0	25. Wages 7/-, 3/6		10	6
23. Cash from Mother in London		10	0	18. Boots			6
26. Cash from Mother		10	0	18. Cash by Post Order from York		10	0
Cash by History England		1	3	Mrs Myers to Ball of York a/c			1
31. To cash from Mrs Myers for Goods etc from York		10	0				
		<u>4</u>	<u>14</u>			<u>3</u>	<u>17</u>
			3				4

March 1846	£	s	d	April 1846	£	s	d
Self 2, 7, 6, 4, 2, 6		2	3	Post 2			2
Post 1, 1, 5, 1			8	Self 3, 2, 1½, 1, 1, 2, 2, 1, 3		1	4½
7. Mrs Ely 11/-, 1/- - Left over		12	0	Stamps 4, 2			6
4. Braces 1/-		1	0	4. Mrs Ely		11	0
4. Gloves		1	0	Rep Boots			2
14. Mrs Ely		11	0	Beer 2, 1, 3, 2½, 4, 2, 1, 4, 2		1	9½
21. Mrs Ely		11	0	11. Mrs Ely		11	0
21. Rep Working Trousers		1	2	12. Druggist <sup>d</sup> for Dressing Thumb Book 2			2
25. Rep Watch		5	0	15. Ink 1, Wax 1, Paper 3		1	5
24. George <sup>d</sup>		3	0	16. Druggist 1/-			7
George 2½, 1/6, 6		4	0	16. Store rep. Coat			7
28. Mrs Ely		11	0	18. Mrs Ely		11	0
Sunderies		9	2	25. Mrs Ely 11/- - Nicholls 1/-		12	0
Balance	1	2	0	Balance	1	5	8
	<u>4</u>	<u>14</u>	<u>3</u>			<u>3</u>	<u>17</u>
							4



Cash etc. Recd from Jan<sup>y</sup> 1<sup>st</sup> 1846  
to Dec<sup>r</sup> 31<sup>st</sup> 1846

	£	s	d
Balance		19	1½
January	4	4	8
February	2	14	2
March	3	11	1
April	2	15	4
May	4	14	7
June	5	3	5
July	2	3	0
August	4	7	0
September	2	16	6
October	3	10	8
November	2	4	0
December	5	4	0
	<u>44</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>6½</u>

Cash paid from Jan<sup>y</sup> 1846 to Dec<sup>r</sup> 1846

January	3	19	9
February	2	15	0
March	3	12	3
April	2	11	8
May	4	17	7
June	4	9	11
July	2	10	½
August	4	1	1
Sep <sup>r</sup>	8	2	1
Oct	3	17	5
Nov	2	12	6
Dec	5	12	0
Balance on 31 <sup>st</sup> Dec 1846		4	4
	<u>44</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>6½</u>

Jan <sup>y</sup> 1847	£	s	d	Feb <sup>r</sup> 1847	£	s	d
Balance		4	4	Balance	1	3	9
2. Wages 8/-, 2/4	10	4		6. Wages 8/-, 2/8.		10	8
9. Wages 8/-, 3/8	11	8		13. Wages 8/-, 3/-.		11	0
15. Wages 8/-, 2/8	10	8		20. Wages 8/-, 2/-.		10	0
23. Wages 8/-, 2/8	10	8		27. Wages 8/-, 2/-.		10	0
30. Wages 8/-, 3/8	11	8					
9. Cash from Mother per. Ruddock	8	9					
18. Cash from Mother per. Ruddock	2	6					
	<u>3</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>7</u>		<u>3</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>5</u>

January 1847	£	s	d	Feb <sup>r</sup> 1846	£	s	d
Postage 1.			1	Postage 2.			2
Club 3. 3. 3. 3. 6.	1	6		Self 2. 2/3.	2	5	
Self 9. 8½. 1. 5. 8.	2	5½		Club 3. 3. 3.			9
2. Victuals 7/2. Wfashing 10½d	8	½		6. Victuals 8/9½ (?) 5.	9	3	
9. Victuals 7/1½. 7.	7	8½		13. Victuals 7/1. 9.	7	10	
16. Victuals 6/4½. 9.	7	3½		20. Victuals 8/-, 5.	8	5	
23. Victuals 9/-, 5.	9	5		27. Victuals 7/1½. 10.	7	10½	
30. Victuals 7/6½ 9½	8	4		3. Braces 1/-, Theatre 1/4	2	4	
9. Howets 1 --- 1½. 1½.	3	3		R.S. Rep <sup>r</sup> 7 <sup>th</sup> Clothes	2	6	
21. Hair Cutting			3	14. School of Design <sup>r</sup>			1
30. Pens 3. Books 3.			6	19. Brans Works <sup>r</sup>			1
26. No. 90 Art Union 1846	1	0		Bridge 5. 5.	10		6
Balance	1	3	9	Pencil & Paper 7½			7½
	<u>3</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>7</u>	Balance	19		5
					<u>3</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>5</u>

March 1847	£	s	d	April 1847	£	s	d
Balance		19	5	Balance		18	2
6. Wages 8/-, 1/8.	9	8		4. Wages 8/-, 2/1.		10	1
13. Wages 8/-, 2/-.	10	0		11. Wages 8/-, 4/2.		12	2
20. Wages 8/-, 4 hours at 4 <sup>th</sup> , 1/4	9	4		18. Wages 8/-, 2/11.		10	11
27. Wages 8/-, 2/6.	10	6		25. Wages 8/-, 3/4		11	4
20. To Cash for Clothes, Boots, Hat etc. from Mother	5	4	0				
	<u>8</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>11</u>		<u>3</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>8</u>

March 1847	£	s	d	April 1847	£	s	d
Postage 1. Self 4/-.	4	1		Self 1/6½.		1	6½
6. Victuals 5/8½ 10.	6	8½		Bridge 7½.			7½
13. Victuals 6/11. 8½.	9	7½		4. Vic 9/6. 7.		10	1
20. Victuals 6/10. 7½.	7	5		11. Vic 9/8½. 8.		10	4½
27. Victuals 7/5. 8½.	8	1½		18. Vic 6/11½. 8.		7	7½
Basket 10½.		10½		25. Vic 6/10½. 8½.		7	7
School of Design	2	0		Bridge 10½.		10½	
Theatre 6.		6		Pencil 3. Paper 1½.			4½
Pencils & Paper	1	1½		Supposed [ ... ] by Richard [Ruddock] from Art Union			11½
Bridge 8½.		8½		Rep Trowsers		2	0
Barter with Joe by Instruments	2	6		Balance		12	3½
Hair Cutting 3.		3			<u>3</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>8</u>
20. Hat 12/-, Boots 21/-.	1	13	0				
20. New Coat 45/-.	2	5	0				
Trowsers 22/6. Rep Vest 6.		23	0				
Balance		18	2		<u>8</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>11</u>



May 1847	£	s	d	June 1847	£	s	d
Balance	1	2	3½	Balance	19	10	1½
2. Wages 8/- 4/2.		12	2	6. Wages 8/- 2/11.		10	11
9. Wages 8/- 2/6.		10	6	13. Wages 8/- 1/8.		9	8
16. Wages 8/- 3/4		11	4	20. Wages 8/- 2/11.		10	11
23. Wages 8/- 4/7.		12	7	27. Wages 8/- 5/- 12 hours		13	0
30. Wages 8/- 2/6.		10	6	8. Cash from Mother in London to making Silk Vest		6	0
Cash from Ruddock for Derby Sweep 6. [...] 1/.		1	6	9. Cash to rep. Clothes do to Boots rep etc.		1	6
16. B <sup>r</sup> from Ruddock per Mother's account for blows from Mother 10/6.		3	6	10. Cash from Mother leaving London for York.		6	0
Store by Coat 2/6.		2	6	Cash going to Ewell <sup>t</sup>		1	0
	4	17	4½		4	2	6½

May 1847	£	s	d	June 1847	£	s	d
Self 6%			6%	6. Victuals 8/6. 8. 1/6.		10	0
Derby Sweep 2.		6		13. Victuals 7/5½. 9.		10	3
2. Vic 8/9. 7½.		9	4½	20. Victuals 8½. 1/-.		9	0½
9. Vic 8/5. 8.		9	1	27. Victuals 10/10. 9.		11	7
16. Vic 10/6. 8½.		11	2½	Drugs 7.		7½	
23. Vic 7/9. 1/8.		5	9	8. Paid Heam for Making Silk Vest		6	0
30. Vic 8½. 8½.		8	9	Newspaper 3. Pencils 3. 1½.		7½	
4. School of Design		2	0	1 <sup>st</sup> Cash to School of Design do Extra Ticket		2	0
Hair Cutt <sup>r</sup>		4		6. Paid Heam for repairs		6	
Bridge 2. 4. Paper 7.		1	1	6. Pd Day repair Boots etc		4	6
Sunday Times 3. 3.		6		Cap 2/- Hair Cutting 3.		6	
Bridge 1. Paper 8.		7		Bridge 2.		2	5
11. Blows		3	6	Bridge 4. Paper 2. India Rubber 1.		7	0
Store for Trowers & Vest		13	0	12. Store for Making Blows		7	0
Hampton Court <sup>r</sup>		4	5½				
Exhibition 2/- Self 1/.		3	0				
Theatre 1/-.		1	0				
Balance		19	0	Balance		17	11½
	4	17	4½		4	2	6½

July 1847	£	s	d	August 1847	£	s	d
Balance		17	11½	Balance		18	10
Rugby. Wages 8/- 3/- 3/4		14	4	6. Wages 8/- 3/- 4/2.		15	2
Wages 8/- 3/- 3/9.		14	9	13. Wages 8/- 3/- 3/9.		14	9
17. Wages 8/- 3/- 3/9.		14	9	20. Wages 8/- 3/- 4/4½.		15	4½
24. Wages 8/- 3/- 4/7.		15	7	27. Wages 8/- 3/- 7/11.		18	11
31. Wages 8/- 3/- 4/7.		15	7	19 hours at 5d.			
	4	12	11½		4	3	0½

July 1847	£	s	d	August 1847	£	s	d
Postage 3. 1. 1. 1. 6.			11 [7]	Postage 1. 1.		2	
Self 3. 3. 3.		9		Self 3. 3½. 3.		9½	
Victuals etc. 15/-.		15	0	6. Victuals 7/11½. 2/- 7.		10	6½
Victuals 14/-.		14	0	13. Victuals 9/5. 10.		10	3
17. Victuals 11/6. 8.		12	2	20. Victuals 7/8.		10	8½
24. Victuals 6/11½. 2/8.		9	7½	2/- 1/-.		11	0
Theatre 1/6.		1	6	27. Victuals		11	0
Sunderies Expences to Bilton Grange <sup>r</sup> etc		5	3½	Powder & Shot <sup>t</sup>		3½	
Pencils 3.		1	3	Gun reprs etc.		2	4½
Supper Expences		1	3	Paper 3.		3	
31. Vic 7/- 2/- 6/-.		9	6	Ledger		1	0
Sunderies		3	4½	Memorandum Book		8	
Balance		18	10	29. Gothic Ornaments <sup>s</sup>		3	0
	4	12	11½	Sunderies		1	11½
				Balance		10	9½
					4	3	0½

September 1847	£	s	d	October 1847	£	s	d
Balance	1	10	0½	Balance	1	18	3
5. Wages 8/- 3/- 4/7.		15	7	2. Wages 8/- 3/4		11	4
12. Wages 8/- 3/- 6/3.		17	3	9. Wages 8/- 3/4		11	4
19. Wages 8/- 3/4		11	4	16. Wages 8/- 2/1.		10	1
26. Wages 8/- 4/7.		12	7	23. Wages 8/- 2/1		10	1
12. Left Bilton Grange for London. Cash from Captain Hibbert <sup>t</sup>		6	8	30. Wages 8/- 2/1.		10	1
	4	13	5		4	11	4½

September 1847	£	s	d	October 1847	£	s	d
Self		1	3	Druggs			7
5. Victuals 7/10½. 2/8.		10	6½	Self for Vic 10/9.		10	9
12. Victuals 7/10½. 7.		10	5½	Victuals 8/1.4.		8	5
19. Victuals		8	5½	Victuals 8/9½. 1		9	9
26. Victuals 9/6. 1/5.		10	11	Victuals 7/- 6.		7	6
5. Honey 1/- Braces 8.		1	8	Theatre 6. 2/2½.		2	8½
6. Powder & Shot		10	4½	Gothic Ornaments		3	0
Expences on Leaving Bilton Grange		2	4½	Rep Trowers		2	2
12. Tea etc on arriving London		1	0½	School of Design		2	0
Rep of Coat		6		Ticket Admission		1	6
Hair Cutt 3. Self 2/10½. Oil 4.		3	5½	M. Tools <sup>h</sup>		1	6
Store rep. Trowers		1	3	Gothic Ornaments		4	9
Balance	1	18	3	Bridge 2½. 2½. Sunderies 4/-.		4	5
	4	13	5½	Fitzgerald's Collection		1	0
				Balance	1	7	8
					4	11	4½

November 1847	£	s	d	December 1847	£	s	d
Balance	1	7	8	Balance	2	14	7½
6. Wages 8/- 2/6.		10	6	5. Wages 9/- 3/-.		12	0
13. Wages 8/- 2/1.		10	1	11. Wages 9/- 2/6.		11	6
20. Wages 8/- 2/6.		10	6	18. Wages 9/- 2/-.		11	0
27. Wages 9/-.		9	0	24. Wages 9/- 3/-.		12	0
21. 10 hours overtime at 6d an hour		5	0	11. To Cash from Mother		6	6
Cash Paid Short Last Week		1	0	Cash for Scarf with [...] & [...]		9	9
27. Cash from Mother per Mrs Myers		2	5	G. Myers Xmas Box		2	6
	4	16	2		£5	10	10½

November 1847	£	s	d	December 1847	£	s	d
6. Victuals 9/-.		9	0	Self 2/4d. [?] to London 6.		2	10
13. Victuals 7/2½.		7	2½	5. Victuals 6/3½. 2/-.		8	3½
20. Victuals 5/7½. 1/4		6	11½	11. Victuals 9/3.		9	3
27. Victuals 9/10.		9	10	18. Victuals 6/6. 7.		7	1
School [of design] 2/-.		2	0	24. Victuals 4/4. 1/-.		5	4
Bridge 2½. 3½. 1. 1½. 1.			9½	Theatre 6. Bridge 6.		1	0
Hair Cutt. 3. Theatre 6.			9	Paid Heam for Coat		5	0
M. Tools 11. Pencil 2.		1	1	School 2/- Paper 6. Bus <sup>h</sup> 3. 3.		3	0
To Day rep. Wellington Boots <sup>h</sup>		3	6	M. Tools 1/- Pencil 1.		1	3
Plaster Cast			6	Carriage of Parcel to York		1	0
Balance	2	14	7½	Mdme. Tussaud <sup>h</sup> 1/8. Theatre 4/1.		5	7
	4	14	2	Exhibition Pof [?] 1/- Hair Cutt 3.		1	3
				Christmas Expences 6/3.		6	3
				Rep. Trowers 4.		4	4
				Sunderies 6/3½.		6	3½
				Balance	1	9	4½
					5	10	10½

Cash rec<sup>d</sup> from Jan. 1<sup>st</sup> 1847 to  
Dec. 31<sup>st</sup> 1847  
Balance from Dec. 1846

	£	s	d
Jan'y	3	6	3
Feb'y	2	1	8
March	7	3	6
April	2	4	6
May	3	15	1
June	3	3	6
July	3	15	0
August	3	4	2
September	3	3	5
October	2	3	1½
November	2	9	6
December	2	16	3
	<u>40</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>4 (?)</u>

Cash Paid from Jan. 1<sup>st</sup> 1847 to  
Dec 31<sup>st</sup> 1847

	£	s	d
January	2	6	10
February	2	6	0
March	7	4	8
April	2	0	4½
May	3	18	4
June	3	4	7½
July	3	14	1½
August	2	12	11¾
September	2	15	2¾
Oct.	2	3	8¾
Nov.	2	1	6½
December	4	2	6
Balance in hand on Dec. 31 <sup>st</sup> 1847	1	9	4½
	<u>40</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>4 (?)</u>

## References

(NOTE: These notes run sequentially for each year of the diary)

### 1845

#### May

1. William's father, Edward Jackson
2. The entry 'Self' appears fairly frequently until May 1848 and then once again in January 1849 as 'Self Sunderies'. One wonders if this was money William spent on himself but did not want to enter in his book, or could it have been money he had saved before he came to London and used when all other sources failed?
3. There was no official charge for sightseers wishing to visit the Abbey, but the verger expected a tip.
4. Fustian was a thick twilled cotton cloth with a short nap, usually dyed a dark colour suitable for working trousers. William wore trousers instead of the more old-fashioned breeches. Clothes played a large part in his calculations: he was always buying new ones or having the old ones repaired. When he was building, he wore his fustian trousers and a 'vest' i.e. a waistcoat, when he was sculpting he wore a 'blows', a cotton or woollen garment, usually belted. (Personal communication Christine Stevens, Archivist, Welsh Folk Museum, Cardiff).

#### June

5. The Thames Tunnel from Rotherhithe to Wapping built by Sir Marc Isambard Brunel (1769-1849) had opened in 1843. Tolls were charged.
6. Thomas Fairlands, 1804-1852, was a lithographer and portrait painter.
7. There are 32 entries under the heading 'bridge', varying from 1d to 10d. Westminster Bridge, the nearest to Ordnance Wharf, was not a toll bridge, nor was London Bridge, but other bridges built by public companies, charged tolls to recuperate their costs. Waterloo Bridge, opened in 1817 and less than half a mile downstream from Ordnance Wharf, charged 1d for foot passengers.  
Hungerford Foot Bridge, opened in 1842, charged each member of the Public ½d. This bridge went from Hungerford Market on the north bank of the Thames to Pedlar's Acre, the site of Ordnance Wharf and George Myers' yards and workshops, on the south bank. (See *Turnpikes & Toll Bars*, compiled by Mark Searle, 1930).
8. *Chambers' Journal* was launched by William Chambers (1800-1883), a pioneer of cheap literature for the education of the Working Classes.

#### August

9. Disappointingly these trousers were not made from the skins of Albino moles, but of cotton fustian with the surface shaved before dyeing.
10. There was no workers' insurance in the 1840s, so following an accident a collection was made to provide for the injured man and his family.

#### September

11. 1st No. *Old England* - The description on the title page describes this journal as 'A pictorial museum of regal, ecclesiastical, municipal, baronial and popular antiquities'. It was edited by Charles Knight, (1791-1873) who 'projected a cheap series of books to condense

information contained in voluminous works' (D.N.B).

- This could have been the C.J. Shoppee who was Clerk of the Works when George Myers was building Colney Hatch in 1849.

#### November

- Edward Wilson of 87 Newgate Street was a manufacturer of floor cloth (*Post Office Directory* 1847).

#### December

- At the Tower of London it would have cost William 6d to visit the Armoury and 6d to see the Crown Jewels. The other 3d was probably a tip for the Yeoman Warder, not legal, but difficult to avoid (Communicated by the Archivist at the Royal Armouries, The Tower of London).

#### 1846

##### January

- Ordinance Wharf, the site of George Myers' workshops and builder's yards. Myers was negotiating for this wharf in the Spring of 1845. It had belonged to a Mr Benjamin Spedding, a coal merchant who had fallen on hard times. Myers was granted the lease by the Trustees of the Pedlar's Acre Estate on condition that he made improvements and carried out repairs. Edward Jackson had come to London for the signing of William's indenture on January 26, so presumably he had been taken on a tour of inspection of the new wharf.
- L'Echo de Paris* was a political and literary journal published in Paris, in French.

##### March

- Myers was building the Catholic Cathedral of St George in Southwark, 1841-48. It is possible that this was a contribution towards the building fund. There are several entries under this heading. It seems a large amount out of an apprentice's wages, especially as William was not a Catholic. It was circled in purple and also the following entry.

##### April

- Druggist = Chemist

##### May

- Richard Martin Ruddock was Myers' 'cashier' (accountant). He was William's uncle, and brother to both Mrs Myers and Mrs Jackson.
- This could have been a beaver skin or hard felt hat of the kind worn by masons for protection before the days of the modern hard hat.
- Masons' benefit, possibly some sort of private insurance.
- The Art Union*, a prestigious subscription publication, later renamed *The Art Journal*. The title page described it as 'A monthly journal of the Fine Arts & the Arts Decorative and Ornamental' and it was beautifully illustrated.
- Clarence Boots - smart ankle boots, plain fronted with a soft leather gusset, sometimes with a lace or strap, resembling a modern Chelsea boot, named after the Duke of Clarence, later King William IV (ref. Central Museum & Art Gallery, Northampton).

##### June

- Ushaw College, near Durham, the Catholic Seminary for the Northern District, was

established on this site in 1808. The president of the College 1837-1863 Monsignor Charles Newsham, employed Pugin from 1840 until his death in 1852 to build a chapel and to enlarge and improve the College. Much of this work was done by Myers (See Patricia Spencer-Silver *Pugin's Builder, the Life and Work of George Myers*, 1993). The train to Durham went through York. William spent two nights with his family on his way north.

- Satin Vest - waistcoat.
- The Times* for Friday 5 June 1846, reported that the Eton College Fourth of June Regatta, the annual festival to celebrate the birth of George III, had taken place and that a large concourse of persons from Oxford, Cambridge and the Metropolis had gathered on Windsor Bridge, and the wharfs and fields on either side were crowded with spectators. The usual fireworks display took place from the eyot. The whole had passed off without the occurrence of a single accident. The ticket to the fireworks cost William 1/-d. Perhaps there was a works outing, and this was the cost of the transport.
- This is mystifying. William left London to travel to Durham on Saturday 6 June, he arrived there on Monday 8 June, having spent two nights in York.

##### July

- The History of the Worthies of England Endeavoured by Thomas Fuller D.D.* First published in 1662. William probably had a copy of the 1811 edition. Thomas Fuller was an eminent divine, but even more eminent as a biographer and historian: He wrote a book of 'general knowledge' which was a description of the counties of England, their most notable buildings, manufactures etc.

##### August

- St Andrew's Church, Wells Street, Marylebone, 1845-47. Architect S.W. Daukes. Myers was the contractor for this church, where many of the foremost designers of the day were involved in the decoration of the interior. In 1933 it was moved to Kingsbury, Brentford.
- The Apprentice* was the journal of the Mechanics' Institute published by Simpkin Mashall & Co. It was a weekly journal of 'art, science and literature', and advertised building contracts and situations vacant.

#### September 1846

- The first of many visits to Woolwich, nearly always on a Sunday. William's reason for going there has not been discovered.

#### October 1846

- Lloyd's Paper*, a weekly London newspaper, founded in 1842 by Edward Lloyd (1815-1890), who sold books and published cheap literature. The paper survived, under different names until 1931.
- From 1845-1847 Myers was building the Church of St Thomas & St Clement in Winchester, to the designs of E.W. Emslie.

#### November 1846

- In the early 1700s the skilled urban workers formed clubs or societies in an attempt to regulate wages and working conditions. The clubs were tolerated by the employers.

**December**

21. Joe was the Myers' second son. He was two years younger than William, so at this time he would have been about 14 years old. He was William's special friend and always seemed able to provide him with money by some means or other whenever he needed it.
22. J.E. Thorold Rogers in Vol. 7 pt. 1 p. 449 of his *History of Agriculture & Prices in England* (1902), states that in 1790 the best satin cost 8/- for ½ yd. So perhaps this was a yard of satin to make a very smart waistcoat.
23. Possibly flannel to make underclothes. It was December.
24. The London Mechanics' Institution was founded in 1823. There were lectures on science, literature, art and mathematics and a reference library. The Institution is now known as Birkbeck College after its first president, George Birkbeck MD, (1776-1841), a Scotsman and founder of many institutions in both Scotland and London, including University College, London in 1827.

**1847****January**

1. Joseph Charles Howett, architect, surveyor and valuer of 1 Walbrook.

**February**

2. See Introduction.
3. Probably Byron, John Ballard & Co. Timber Merchants of Canterbury Wharf, Belvedere Road was less than half a mile downstream from Ordnance Wharf.

**May**

4. In 1832 Edward Jesse, a little known architect, was appointed Itinerant Surveyor to the Hampton Court District. He undertook the re-Tudorisation of the Palace. Between 1838 and Jesse's retirement in 1851, expenditure on restoration work averaged £7,000 a year. During the restoration of the chapel, in mid 1847, AWN Pugin was consulted, but it is not known that Myers was involved in any way. It is interesting that William's visit to Hampton Court coincided with the time that Pugin was consulted. (See Simon Thurley, 'Hampton Court, Middlesex', *Country Life*, June 1, 1995, p 80).

**June**

5. Myers rebuilt the parish church of St Mary the Virgin at Ewell, 1847-48. The Architect was Henry Clutton.

**July**

6. From 1841-48 Myers was enlarging and modernizing Bilton Grange, near Rugby for Captain Washington-Hibbert. AWN Pugin was the architect.

**August**

7. William was still at Bilton Grange. One wonders whether he was shooting the rabbits in the kitchen garden or the rats living in the foundation that had been disturbed by the masons work.
8. *Gothic Ornaments* published in two volumes in 1848 and 1850 by J. Robbins of 3 Warwick Court, Holborn W.C. It was a series of illustrations, in black and white and colour, compiled by James K. Colling, architect (1816-1905). The introduction stated that 'the main feature would be to present such a number of examples of foliage and other ornamental details of

different styles ...' of English architecture, 'as clearly to elucidate the characteristic features peculiar to each period, and drawn sufficiently large in scale to be practically useful in facilitating the labours of the architect and artist'. William's three entries under this heading are dated 29 August, 12 September and October 1847. Each purchase cost him 3/-, so it is probable that the books were published in part in that year.

**September**

9. Whatever William shot, it must have pleased Captain Washington-Hibbert. 6/8d (one third of a £) was quite a good tip in 1847.

**October**

10. Modelling tools.

**November**

11. Wellington boots, named after Arthur, first Duke of Wellington, 1769-1852. The term was first used in 1821.

**December**

12. From about 1829 public horse-drawn 'omnibusses' were to be found on the streets of London. They were a French invention.
13. Marie Tussaud, (1760-1850), had modelled the heads of the French Royal Family before 1789, and then the victims of the Terror during the French Revolution. She came to England in 1800. Her first wax museum was in the Strand, she moved to Blackheath and finally settled in Baker Street in 1835 (D.N.B).