

Lynn Dewing, an Unknown Lakeland Traveller, and his Journals 1817 to 1847

Part II

M. J. CROSSLEY EVANS

Lynn Dewing, a Norfolk commercial traveller in patent stockings, retired from business in 1817 aged 44. In his retirement, he became one of the most tireless pedestrian travellers of England, keeping journals describing his tours. Dewing's travel journals for 1817 and 1819 are held in national collections and those parts dealing with his journeys through Cumberland, Westmorland and Furness have previously been published in *CW3* 2009.¹ In this article, those parts of his journal relating to his journeys through the Lakes in 1821, 1825, 1832, 1845, and 1847 appear in full. These journals are currently in possession of the author, while those covering his Lakeland tours in 1827, 1830, 1834, 1839 and 1842 are believed to be in other unknown private collections.

AS the winter of 1820/1 passed into spring, Lynn Dewing² left his family and friends in Norfolk and travelled to London on business. On 9 May 1821, Dewing travelled by coach from London to Weston Underwood, where he commenced what he called his 'Fifth Tour', by walking northwards from Nottinghamshire.³ Dewing entered Cumberland from Scotland on the homeward section of his 1821 Tour. Of Carlisle he remarked that the city was greatly improved since his first visit in 1817. He progressed to Skiddaw, which he climbed on 28 August, two years after his first visit. He then walked to Keswick, remaining in lodgings for three weeks. The village and its surroundings had captured his imagination upon his first visit in 1819. He attempted to see the celebrated 'beauty of Buttermere', whose tragic history had made her one of the curiosities of the Lakes, but failing to achieve his object, he walked on to Whitehaven, and from thence to Ambleside, Bowness and Kendal. Here he remarked upon the number of streets which had been built in the town since 1819.

His Ninth Tour of 1825 was made at the age of 52.⁴ Dewing travelled to Kendal by packet boat on the Lancaster Canal and stayed at the Union Inn. From here he journeyed *via* Staveley, Windermere and Keswick to Carlisle, arriving in Scotland on 30 May. He did not return to Carlisle until the end of September. He then walked along the Cumberland coast and wrote a short, but charming, description of a rabbit warren which he encountered on his journey between Maryport and Workington. Arriving at Hawkeshead he took the ferry across Windermere, commenting on the new houses for the 'quality' which were being erected close to the shore. The whereabouts of subsequent journals covering his peregrinations in the Lakes in 1827 and 1830 are unknown.

The Lakeland part of Dewing's 1832 tour began on 22 May.⁶ He travelled by coach from Preston to Milnthorpe in three stages, staying overnight at Milnthorpe before leaving for Bowness. Two days later he climbed Helvellyn and recorded his delight at the views from the summit. He took a short break in Keswick and left the Lakes

Digest of Dewing's travels in Cumberland and Westmorland during his Ninth Tour taken from his itinerary		
Date of journey 1825	Destination	Distance of journey Miles
May 21	Garstang	11
	Lancaster (Co.)	11
23	Tewitfield (Lancs)	9
	Holme	3
	Kendal (Union Inn b.b. [by boat])	10
25	Troutbridge Inn	10
	Ambleside	4
26	Wytheburn	8
	Keswick (Bowes b.b.)	8
27	Bassenthwaite	7
28	Ireby	5
	Red Dial Inn	7
	Thoresby	5
	Carlisle (Artichoke b.b.) [Not traced]	6
30	Springfield (Nr Gretna)	11
September 21	Glenwhelt	6
	Brampton (Co.)	9
22	Carlisle (again)	10
26	Kirkbride	12
	Red-flat (Mr G.'s)	4
27	Allonby	10
	Maryport	5
28	Workington	7
	Whitehaven	7
30	St. Bees h[ea]d & St. Bees	8
	Egremont	3
October 1	Gosforth	6
	Eskdale	8
	Ulpha	6
2	Coniston	9
	Hawkeshead	4
3	Boness	4
4	Kendal (again)	9
6	Milnthorpe	8
	Burton (again)	4

by means of a boat from Skinburness bound for Annan. When he returned ten weeks later, the scent of the approaching autumn would have been upon the morning air as he trod the road from Canobie toll bar to Carlisle on 24 August. His brief visit to

Penrith encompassed a tour of Lowther Castle. Six days later he took the coach from Penrith to Hexham, accomplishing the 40 miles *via* Alston Moor on the same day. The last eight days of this tour took place between 9 September and 17 September and was accomplished on foot. Once again Penrith was the base for his excursions. Whilst there he noted that most of the harvest had been gathered in and that in this part of the Lakes 'all grain comes under the reap hook'. The return journey took him *via* the Kendal road southwards, over Shap, and past Shap Wells, where countless fields of sheep impressed him both by their aspect and number.⁷

The gap in the run of Dewing's journals means that we have no account of his travels in the Lakes in 1834, 1839 and 1842. His next visit was an 18-day tour made in June and July 1845. By this time Dewing was 72 years of age. Having made an extended tour of Liverpool, he travelled to Lancaster where he booked a passage to Kendal on the *Waterwitch* and entered Westmorland by canal. He arrived on a Saturday and stayed the weekend before leaving for an overnight stay at Bowness, prior to walking on to Coniston. Notwithstanding his age, Dewing was able to ascend part of the Old Man on 26 June, from which he was fortunate to have excellent visibility, accomplishing 16 miles that day on foot. Thereafter the weather changed and the 13 miles from Eskdale was accomplished in 'a soaking day of rain'. Upon reaching Whitehaven he took a tub to Cockermouth, where he spent Sunday, 29 June, attending services at the Independent and Wesleyan chapels. Subsequently caught in a storm of wind and rain, Dewing was thoroughly drenched on the road between Allonby and Brown Rigg, and he was obliged to delay the last part of his journey, spending ten days confined to bed during an extended stay with the hospitable yeoman farmer, Mungo Glaister, who had provided him with shelter on his visits in 1825 and 1832. Dewing was sufficiently recovered by 10 July to resume his journey to Skinburness, but chose to go by cart rather than on foot. He made the hour's crossing to Annan later the same day.

Dewing's last journey to Cumberland and Westmorland was undertaken in his 75th year in July 1847. His mode of travel presented a stark contrast to that of his first visit 30 years before, and shows how much ease of access had resulted from the advent of the 'Railway Age'. On 12 July he made the 80-mile journey by rail from Liverpool to Kendal. Once in the Lakes he was still able to walk more than ten miles a day, but the Lancaster to Carlisle railway meant that on 16 July he was not only able to walk eleven miles to Shap, but also to take the railway to Penrith, where he stayed the night. His ultimate goal was Keswick, travelling there for a weekend by means of foot and gig and returning to Penrith by foot and carrier's van. On this occasion he explored some of the engineering feats which had been created in the construction of the rail link to Carlisle. It is much to be regretted that his visit did not encompass the line opened three months before between Oxenholme and Windermere.⁷ The last stage of his journey was to Kirkby Stephen where he stayed in lodgings. His landlady provided him with a spurious, but humorous, English translation of the Latin inscription to Lord Wharton in the parish church which he was unable to see for himself as the building was in the hands of 'restorers'.

The last of Dewing's journeys to the Lakes coincided with the construction of the railways. This opened up the Lakes for the first time to 'day trippers' from the

industrial north, and excursionists from across the country. Such visitors did not require Dewing's private means, his extended leisure nor his robust constitution in order to explore the beauties of a landscape made familiar to countless middle-class families through the writings of the 'Lake School of poets'. They, in their turn, were to leave behind them numerous accounts of summer excursions, which like Dewing's, were written to be read by friends and family.

Acknowledgements

I wish to thank Mrs Patricia Grinter for her technical help and advice which has proved invaluable and Mrs Nikki Press for her encouragement. I dedicate this work to my younger brother, Mark with deep respect and appreciation.

Manor Hall, Bristol, BS8 1BU.

Dewing's Journals for 1821, 1825, 1832, 1845, 1847

Lynn Dewing's Journal of his travels in Cumberland and Westmorland in August and September 1821

[5th Division]⁸

Now Cumberland

To Bolton Fell end 11m the first 3m to Panton Linn bridge in Dumfriesshire, here the Liddel banks present for about half a m scenery equal if not superior to any to be found near the Esk, viz. ½ a m S from the bridge on each side of this rapid stream; – on the Scotch side the Duke of Buccleugh has formed many beautiful walks in the plantation, having several seats to command this grand scenery, at a great height above the water; – along the opposite bank on the Cumberland side is a continuation of hanging woods nearly 3m in length, & wh. can be seen at one view from the walks just named. Thus far the beauties of nature & art combined; – but to see the grandeur of the former to the greatest advantage is to descend to the bed of the river, where astonishment must make up a part of your feelings, to see the prodigious ridges of limestone rocks stretching obliquely (2 of them) full a hundred yards across the river!! & many of them lying 12 to 15 feet above the water, causing numerous small cascades. The remainder of the way to Bolton Fell over a poor part of Cumberland.

To Brampton 7m the soil a yellowish marly sand, the views towards the W & SW very extensive, including Solway Firth. This a tolerable size town, on the road from C to N.⁹

[6th Division]

From Brampton to Great Corby 7m through a pleasant country & plenty of wood considering how light the soil is, a **considerably distance** from Brampton tis a yellowish red sand, up to the surface, & to the S & E of the town are many sand hills & some very high, & the country hereabouts is prettily diversified with them; & towards the S the background is very grand having a range of lofty Fells running nearly 20m from N to S. Some of them little less than 2000 feet in height.

To Carlisle 5m here crossed the Eden upon the E bank of which – Howard Esq.¹⁰ has a Mansion the grounds I was told are very beautiful, but I could not see them not being the day to show them. To Carlisle more wood & better land.

Carlisle ~

Arrived here 21st August 1821. This city is much improved since I first saw it in 1817. The walks & alterations about the Castle subsequent to that period, also the completion of the bridge, which is very handsome.

The cathedral appears an ancient pile, but rather small: I this time saw the interior, & it fully answered my expectation tho' inferior to several others I have seen. The walks on the N bank of the Eden towards the W are remarkably pleasant, & very high above the water. The principal manufacture here, (as at Brampton) is in Gingham; but I believe I mentioned that and some other particulars in a former Tour.

To Low Heskett 7m the last 4m very pleasant indeed looking towards the W – chiefly arable land with fine swelling hills, well clothed & the background about 15m distant bounded by lofty Skiddaw & his bulky brethren.

To Armathwaite 3m, this a very pleasant short stage, more particularly the last m which present a great variety of hills about the village, & hanging woods to a considerable height up those hills from the river Eden, which passes through this delightfully situated village. The high Fells towards Aldston Moor form a grand skreen to the E.

To High Heskett 3m, a short & beautiful stage, part of the distance across corn fields; passed Wadling Tarn, a small, & nearly circular Lake about 2m round it. The situation of this village commands fine views of Fells to the E & mountains to the W.

To Heskett Newmarket 12m during a great part of the road rich & picturesque landscapes are seen towards the S – & the last 2m beautiful indeed the approach to the town from a hill abt. ½ m distant has an uncommon fine effect, the houses being white, & placed on the side of an opposite hill highly cultivated; and well planted, altogether I hardly ever saw a town more charmingly situated.

To Caldbeck 1m the land much better quality than during the former stage, & the face of the country very fine, the last town only a hamlet to this, altho' this a village: tis not quite so pleasant in the vicinity as Heskett New Mkt but towards the S Carrock Fell a mountainous hill renders the features of the scenery very bold.

To Ireby 6m through a cold and rather cheerless kind of a country but the height of the hills towards the S & the fine picturesque outline they presented fully compensated for the absence of local beauty. The situation of Ireby very pleasant – I shd have said when at Caldbeck I went to Howk hole a deep basin formed by the force of a waterfall in the bed of the river Oak, or rather in summer Oak beck. The rocks & scenery about it are highly romantic. A few years since a quaker gentn. fell into the upper basin, but was taken out without much injury, the water being deep enough to break his fall.

To Bassenthwaite 5m the chief part of the land on each side of the road cold and poor, & the road rough. During all this stage the most romantic side of Skiddaw in front, rearing his lofty head high above his bulky kinsmen which show their numerous craggy points on the opposite side of the lake, more to the W, exhibiting quite highland kind of scenery. The last half mile descending a steep hill down to this village opens a landscape of uncommon beauty & richness presenting a track of highly cultivated land & much wood on the E side of Bassenthwaite lake, also to the W up Derwent vale towards Cockermouth.

Since I came here I once more climbed the height of Skiddaw, this time from the NW side, 4m from the Inn, & rising nearly all the way, the last 2 very steep, & over much heather, which is excellent sheep feed. As I attempted to describe the grandeur of the scenery 2 yrs since I shall say but little on the subject, knowing I can no more do justice to it now than I could then. But I believe I then forgot to mention that the Solway Firth, an arm of the sea, also the Scotch mountains in Dumfriesshire, which are fine features in this noble landscape, as seen from the King of English mountains. Reached his crown 20 mins before 12 o'clock on Tuesday August 28 – 1821 the day rather unfavourable being cloudy & stormy, & the wind blowing tremendously strong from the NE, almost full face. I never knew what force the wind has in such an elevated situation before, say abt 3000 feet above the lakes: I reeled about like a drunken man, & was obliged to exert every nerve to keep upon my feet at all, my breath was nearly gone several times & when within 100 yds of the summit I for a short time gave it up, fearing I should be blown down a prodigious deep ravine towards the Lake: – but I felt ashamed (altho' alone) to turn back, so I proceeded with great caution & succeeded; & a heap of stones laid upon the top to point out the highest part of his Majesty protected me from the fury of Don Boreas: – there I sat & enjoyed the sublimity of the prospect as much as I did when I first saw it.

To Keswick 7m during the first 4m the road runs parallel with Bassenthwaite Lake, & generally in view of it, but seldom nearer it than $\frac{1}{2}$ a m, the vale thus far from 2 to 3m wide, including the Lake. The steep sides of Skiddaw bounds it on the E and on the W several lofty hills of a mountainous height, whose lower slopes are finely wooded in many parts down to the water's edge, under these hills & near the water are gents seats and farm houses, all white-washed & not a few to enliven the scene, for it must be confess'd tis rather heavy here compared with the remaining 3m to Keswick where the vale opens with an uncommon degree of richness & beauty, & Crosthwaite Church on a fine gentle rise in the centre, & gents seats scattered about upon other swelling knowls commanding both this & Keswick Lake and also an astonishing variety of romantic beauty!! the mountains forming a kind of amphitheatre round Keswick & Crosthwaite of about 10 to 15m in circuit, in no part of which do there appear an opening of 100 yards, so numerous are they, ridge beyond ridge, & point above point in every variety of form: – in fact such an assemblage of grandeur & beauty nature here exhibits that it would be the height of presumption to think I could describe even the shadow of its shadow, – therefore I will say no more, but leave my friends to stretch their imagination as far as they can & I think they will then fall short. Besides I believe I attempted to say something of the neighbourhood of Keswick 2 years since.

The 2 Black Lead or wad mines as they [are] called here, are said to be the only ones in Europe, the ore when prepared is sold as high as 2 guis. p lb. – they belong to a company in London, & have since the reign of Henry 8th.¹¹

Left Keswick ~ Sept. 20th 1821

At Lodgings 3 wks.¹²

To Brackenthwaite 10m, the first m to Portinscale across the most level & richest part of Keswick vale, from which the magnitude of the mounntn. scenery appears to great advantage, & the variety & beauty are far surpassing any description I can possibly give – The following 2m the road is low & dirty & the prospects not so lively, indeed rather heavy, but grand; the next m winds up a long & steep hill; & shows Keswick & the numerous beauties in its train in a most enchanting manner!! & Skiddaw from this hill looks majestic indeed, because the deep gills or ravines in his western side are seen so distinctly ~ the succeeding 2m through a narrow vale, & not a tree to be seen, yet highly interesting on account of the mountain masses on each side, which are here green to their summits, & feed vast numbers of sheep; soon after leaving the Cockermouth road and during the last 4m had a charming view of a rich & extensive vale towards the last named town, & the sea at about 10m distant & lofty hills nr. Dumfries; – near this village the vale is narrower & the mountains more abrupt & rugged, but I should say that the valley became more beautiful, & perhaps not inferior to the celebrated vale of Keswick.

To Lamplugh 6m, the first m across the vale at the head of Crummock water – looking South the mountain scenery is uncommonly bold & romantic as much so as round Keswick, but not such a numerous assemblage, nor the Lake just named to be compared with Kes[wic]k. Lake for beauty & variety, but still the borders of it are thickly skirted with wood, & the mountains rising from it very precipitous, & several of them presenting in some points of view kinds of tents or cones; an alpine landscape on a smaller scale. The next m on the NE bank of Lowes water, a much less Lake than Crummock not more than $\frac{1}{3}$ rd of a m wide, & abt. a m in length, & bare of wood & the mountains less elevated.

Buttermere Lake I did not see this time. I believe I attempted to give some description of it 4 yrs since. Mary Halfield called the beauty of Buttermere has married a second husband, & now resides nr Caldbeck a farmer's wife,¹³ I went twice thro' the farm yard in hopes to see her: – but by the bye I was told she is no beauty, nor never was;¹⁴ – but she got the name by her mother calling her Mary, my beauty. But to return from this digression. ~ The remaining 4m over high boggy moors, & arable land between, but it appeared cold & bad, & the country not inviting, indeed though rather hilly it seemed very tame & flat, after being as it were in the highlands for near a month.

To Whitehaven 8m the greater part very similar to the last 4 but the land looked rather improved, the last m shows some very high land towards the sea & an extensive view of the sea in a NW direction. This a large & generally well built town,¹⁵ & cleaner than most sea ports, has 3 Churches, St. James's & Trinity Ch. are superior to most churches in the North of E[ngland].¹⁶ I went to both, heard no other voice but that of the

minister & the clerk, except during the singing, the responses are said in a whisper.¹⁷ In the evening I went to one of the Scotch chapels – heard a Mr Hogg, a fine preacher, and possesses great abilities in his strain of preaching.¹⁸

Scotch St. & Lowther St. are both a very great length, & the buildings mostly good, at the entrance of the latter Ld. Lowther has a noble mansion, he has vast property in this town & its vicinity, in the coal mines. There is a mine upon the beach, nr the town, which is worked half a mile beneath the bed of the sea. The shipping here are rather numerous, at least the colliers. The walk upon the pier is very pleasant, more particularly in a clear day, when the mountains in Galloway can be distinctly seen, there are several other shorter piers which form the harbour & give variety to the walks, but no fine sand beach to walk on as at Berwick & Scarborough, but the walks upon the cliffs are high above the sea, & extremely pleasant.

To Egremont round by St. Bees 7m the road to the last named town hilly & pleasant, & the land good, but yet little wood to be seen, in consequence of being so near the sea, which is not in view as the land rises towards it. St. Bees a neat little village, abt. ½ m from the beach; – the Ch large & a fine old structure, the tower low, & springing from the centre. The remaining 3m to Egremont the land not so good near the road, but the sea view towards the SW very extensive, & in front in the direction of the Cumberland Lakes the mountains appear much like the Dartmoor hills in Devon looking from some points. This a clean little Mkt. town, & the main street remarkably wide. The ruins of its ancient castle now very small.

To Gosforth 6m through a pretty good corn district, & the road excellent, passed through a very clean little village called Calder Bridge in this vicinity is a better show of wood than I've seen for several days; – here the Calder crosses the road in its way to the sea, at abt. 3m distant.

To Ravenglass 5m, the road not so good as in the former stage, but the scenery superior, particularly the last 2m, which shows some long ridges of hills of craggy rocks a few miles to the E, & from the road to them much fine pasture & arable land, exhibiting a great & pleasing contrast; on the right side of the road the sea is from 2 to 3m distant, but on account of high land between not seen, the roaring of it over a rocky beach is distinctly heard: – although the stones are large there are sand hills instead of cliffs for several m N & S of the arm of the sea leading to Ravenglass, into this spreading channel fall the Esk & several other streams: – the sand-hills just named are similar to those near Yarm[outh], Norfk only more pointed & separate, of course more picturesque. This is a very small Mkt. town.

To Broughton (In Lanca-[shi]re) 12m full 7 miles of it over a lofty fell, the most part of it wild & rocky, viz detached pieces of rock lying thickly upon the surface, I believe chiefly of the granite formation and whinstone. A driving mist from the sea SW prevented my seeing more than 200 yds before me during the 3m I was ascending the Fell or I must have had an extensive sea view as well as the vale between it & the sea – however the mist cleared away in descendg on the SE side, & the last m down this side of the Fell showed much romantic scenery, the hills being uncommonly rugged, and the vales possessing much beauty. The next 2m entirely left the Fell, & gently descended to the river Duddon, along the high side of a narrow & delightful vale, a most luxuriant wood on the right side during the 2m rising to a great height, & a rapid burn rolling over a rocky & deep channel on the other side of the road, the banks of which are thickly clothed wth wood of almost every descripn & I never saw foliage of a brighter green nor more luxuriant even in the first week of July (in any part of England) now the last week in Sepr. but I must observe this charming vale is screened from the heat of the sun to the SW by Black Coomb mountn. & protected on the NE side by other lofty hills. About midway in this sylvan scene – Esq.¹⁹ has a beautifully situated mansion called Duddon Grove. After crossing the Duddon river entered into Lancashire, the remaining m to Broughton commands fine views of part of the vale just named by turning to look back. This rather a small market town, the situation remarkably pleasant.

To Coniston 9m the first m or two the road runs parallel with a rugged mountain ridge on the left hand side, the next 4 or 5m the hills in sight are on the right side, they are not so romantic, but the vale exhibits many local spots of beauty, and the 2 last miles excel in both respects all the preceding, the road being elevated high above the Lake called Coniston water, the mountains at the head of which are lofty & imposing masses.

[7th Division]

From Coniston to Ambleside 7m a description of it attempted in a former tour, but I must just add that I never recollect passing over 7m exhibiting so much rich & picturesque scenery most happily intermixt with bold & rugged mountains. During this delightful stage I had a distinct view of 3 Lakes, and all the surrounding hills clad with the richest verdure I ever saw in any county, or at any season – now Sept. 28th for variety of woodland prospects Ambleside & its vicinity even surpass Keswick but for variety & grandeur of mountain views I think no part of England can compare with the latter place. Near Coniston in the gill leading up the side of a mountain to the copper mines are several very bold cascades the lower one of the large ones has cut itself a channel for several hundred yards, of a surprizing depth, I told 17²⁰ while a stone was descending. The first m rising the hill from the head of Coniston Lake present views of uncommon grandeur & beauty, besides the local charms the road itself affords, & the whole distance of the road most excellent being made of slate rock that binds very hard & gives a level surface. In this neighbourhood are several slate quarries of vast size, & I am told there is no quality of slate in the Kingdom superior. The beauties of Ambleside I attempted to describe in 1817.

To Bowness 6m the road along side the Lake the whole way, sometimes close to its edge, but more frequently 2 or 3 fields from it, most of them grass fields, on the other side of the road also grassland is most common, & numerous woods to an amazing height up a long range of hills which bound the Lake on the E side; but I believe I mentioned this stage in a former tour in 1817 therefore suffice to say that I never walked over 6m presenting such variety of such rich & picturesque scenery. Well may Winandermere²¹ be styled the Queen of the British Lakes.

Sept. 30th 1821

From Bowness to Kendal round by Staveley 11m the first m after leaving Winandermere Lake the view of the ranges of mountains towards the W & NW is uncommonly grand: – during the next 6 or 7 m the hills are far less elevated, & the face of the country not very pleasant, but in the last 3m to Kendal the most beautiful & picturesque broad vale (full or rising hills) opens on the left side of the road that I think I ever saw without the aid of water, the plantations in it are numerous, & tis bounded to the NE by a long range of hills of a mountainous description. The chief part of this lovely vale is grass land. The town of Kendal I mentioned in 1819, but I see there are several new streets added since.

To Rounthwaite 12m, the first m from Kendal through a rich vale, before describd, the next 4m hilly & woody – and very picturesque scenery, then 4m over fells with little wood to be seen, & the last 3m between lofty fells, their formation uncommonly imposing, their sides present a velvet carpet, & produce fine sheep feed even to their tops. I've been told that Westmorland produces the finest herbage of any county in the Kingdom, & I am inclined to think so too, I never saw so much rich pasture, & indeed that comprises the greatest part of the county. The sheep are generally of the Scotch breed, black legs & faces & horned, their legs much shorter than the Norfolk. The cow kine much like those of the other northern counties, size large, & shape excellent.

To Coldbeck 7m the road going high above Langdale shewing pastures of rich verdure on both sides of the river Lune wh. is winding through the dale & in sight 4 or 5 miles, & Langdale fells rising immediately from the S side of it to a great height during the whole distance. This river falls into the sea near Lancaster.

To Nateby 4m this stage and the former also show a vast number of small farm houses in the vale or dale, & gives much interest to the scenery: – the last m to Nateby the vale opens & presents to view between the mountains (for the fells abt. here may be deemed as such) many green & most picturesque hills, &c mostly crowned with clumps of fir & also the town & church of Kirkby Stephen & a fine wooded country round it.

Now York[shi]re

Account of Dewing's Travels through Cumberland and Westmorland 23 to 30 May and 21 September to 6 October 1825²²

[1st Division]

23 May 1825

To Kendal in Packet, on the Lancaster Canal 10m, p. mile one of the most beautiful inland water excursions I ever took in England. I must say I can use no language to express half its beauties!! – but something I must say as an apology for description. The canal winds through a charming vale, very prettily sprinkled with timber &c. and seldom more than half a m. from the river Ken, (*sic*) sometimes quite close and 60 or 70 feet above it, during these 10m not a lock to impede our progress – on each side a great diversity of scenery indeed! Occasionally the vale opens and then a vast collection of hills are presented to view, also several mountains that I think will rank in the second class:– and between the nearest hills rich banks of foliage and the scenery ever changing as the canal winds. Passed through a tunnel abt ¼ m under a hill, here the horses taken off, and the boat impelled along by men pulling ropes fixed to the top of the arch;²³ being Whitsuntide Monday we had lots of the fair passengers. Kendal noticed 4 years since.

[Departed from the Union Inn, Kendal, 25 May 1825]²⁴

To Troutbeck bridge²⁵ 10m through Staveley – about 2m from Kendal looking towards the E a broad and rich vale lies spread out, much below the road, chiefly of meadow land, in it are numerous small hills finely undulating and bounded at the distance of about 4m by an apparent semicircle of vast hills and those backed by lofty mountains; during the next 6m large masses of the slate rock formation appear, not much inferior in height but here the vale is narrower & the scenery rather heavy & land not so good.

Now for the two last miles descending towards the bridge, to delineate in any tolerable degree is far beyond my cut, it would require the pen of a Coxe or a Warner!²⁶ Here the Lake of Windermere burst upon the astonished sight in the most sublime manner possible seen sometimes through the openings & then over the most luxuriant hanging woods intersected by meadows of the liveliest green to the water's edge; showing many gents seats in delightful spots and on the opposite side of the Lake rise mountains of vast size & height, presenting summits of the grandest outline & forming an astonishg bold barrier to the N. & West, frowning over lofty green hills.

To Ambleside 4m along side the Lake, the scenery similar to what I've just been attempting to describe, only constantly varying from one degree of granduer & beauty to another, & this short stage I noticed in a former tour.

To Wytheburn 8m passed Rydale water & Grassmere the latter a beautiful little Lake, & the mountain scenery astonishingly grand thro' the whole stage; but I recollect attempting a description some few yrs. ago.

To Keswick 8m passed another Lake, called Thirle Mere, hemmed in by rugged mountains, at the head of which the valley expands & exhibits grand & lovely scenery combined; lofty detached hills rising from the middle of the plain with their giant heads crowned with groves of oak & fir: but this stage has also been noticed before; likewise the town & delightful vicinity of Keswick.²⁷

To Bassenthwaite 7m, abt. 3m on the E side of a Lake of the same name, the secondary mountains on the opposite side are clothed with hanging woods of great extent; but I noticed this stage also 4 years since.

To Mkt. Ireby 5m now leaving the mighty Skiddaw & all his giant race behind me, this stage very hilly & cold. I shall not dwell longer upon it as I reported it on a former excursion.

To Red Dial Inn²⁸ nr. Wigton 8m, country more level & land better, passed several coal pits:– had 2 or 3 fine views of Solway Firth, an estuary into which the Eden river falls after passing Carlisle.

To Thoresby 5m the land in this stage rather light & the corn looking much finer & also the grass; & on the left side towards the Eden plenty of wood, & more like the garden of Eden than the high cold country about

Ireby; tho' no trees during the last 15 miles near the road, two of my senses have been highly regaled; the hedges are almost entirely of quick,²⁹ and such a blossom I never saw in any year or any part.

To Carlisle 6m,³⁰ not quite so pleasant as the last stage within the last 2m towards the city, when a fine extended prospect opens in front, bounded by the hills in the N of Cumberland & Dumfriesshire. This city before noticed.

Now Scotland, Monday 30th May 1825 – 8o'clock 8m

To Springfield, thro **Gretna** 11m about 9m of it a new road, say 4 years since, & very excellent it is, the country quite a level, fine beds of peat to a great extent on the right side, which gives this large flat a fen-like appearance; but with this difference in its favor that 'tis surrounded by lofty hills or mountains, tho' at a great distance, at least those on the English side, amongst which Skiddaw rears his head the highest, and is seen very distinctly, altho' nearly 30 miles off.

[5th Division]

From Glenwhelt 6m [21 September 1825]

To Brampton 9m (p Co) 5 or 6m the road very hilly & going over bleak moors interspersed with much rock :– passed Naworth Castle, the seat of the Earl Carlisle,³¹ situation fine, & a great profusion of wood round it. During this stage had some remarkably beautiful & very distant views towards the NW into Dumfriesshire. Round this town the country is sweetly diversified; the sand hills are numerous, & some lofty, and entirely covered with verdure. This town noticed a few years since.

To Carlisle (again) 10m, the first 2 & last 2m through a fine country, indeed all a good corn district. Had many grand views of Skiddaw, rising his lofty summit high above all the other mountains except Saddleback, abt. 20m to the south.

To Kirkbride 12m, through a flat part of the county, & the land for the most part poor:– no local views very pleasing, but had some very distant ones towards the N in Dumfriesshire, & Skiddaw on the S side:– had also 2 or 3 views of the Solway Firth.

To Red-flat farm Mr M Glaister;³² 4m, a perfect level, the land much better than in preceding stage. Crossed the mouth of the river *Wampool, which is an arm of the Irish sea, (* say Waver, abt. ¼ m broad), on a horse behind an old farmer.

To Allonby 10m, this a pretty little bathing place, a sand band going from it towards the N 4 or 5m, and covered with thick short grass, close along side the beach, upon it the walking is fine indeed! like stepping over a rich carpet; and the distant views from it are very picturesque; on the N side looking over the mouth of the broad estuary called the Solway Firth are seen a long range of very high hills or wee mountains in Dumfries & Galloway, & towards the SE by S grand mountain ridges in the vicinity of Cockermouth & Keswick.

To Maryport 5m, the road following the sea beach, still having bold views of the long range of hills in Dumfries &c. which runs out towards the W 30 or 40m. The whole of this stage walked upon short & fine grass, and enjoyed the strong breezes blowing over the sea from the W. This a very neat sea port, & the streets regular, the number of the inhabitants about 5,000, a great many of them Quakers.³³ The Port is rather small, but there is depth of water at high tide for vessels of 5 or 600 tons burthen.

To Workington 7m, the road still within a few hundred yards of the sea, and not inclosed, therefore had the pleasure again of marching upon Nature's velvet carpet; 2 or 3 miles of the way over a warren that sloped down to the beach, saw thousands of rabbits feeding at noon, & so tame could approach very near them, because they are so much in the daily habit of seeing people passing. This town a long straggling one, and ill built; here are more shipping than at Maryport, and the harbour is extensive and good when in, but very narrow in the entrance.

To Whitehaven 7m through Harrington & Parton, the former of the two a neat little sea-port; the road

generally within half a m or a m of the sea, about midway passed several coal pits, the country very hilly, & those near to Whitehaven very picturesque this large sea-port noticed in a former tour; the population now about 17,000. The shipping & town between two projecting hills are well secured from the SW winds & the NE. A row of houses abt. $\frac{1}{2}$ a m from the town on a side hill are finely situated, & in front of them much garden ground.

To St. Bees round by the Lighthouse at St. Bees head 8m, about 7m of it on the cliffs, many of them 2 or 300 hundred feet above the sea, they are of the red sand-stone rock: had as fine a walk as could be without the aid of wood, the whole distance over grass fields in a foot-path, with a most extensive sea view towards the W, & on the E side 8 or 10m from me commenced the highlands of England, some of the mountain masses towards Keswick reared their heads very high. At St. Bees is a celebrated Seminary;³⁴ the village neat.

To Egremont 3m, noticed in a tour a few yrs since. To Gosforth 6m, the road hilly, and frequently extensive views of the sea & into 2 or 3 fertile vales; but this stage comprised in one to Ravenglass in a former tour, therefore need not describe it again: suffice to say I passed the mansion of – Stanley Esq. Sherriff for the county, called Ponsonby hall, near Calder bridge, where the scenery is very interesting .³⁵

To Eskdale – King of Prussia Inn 8m,³⁶ the first mile leaving Gosforth presented some very grand prospects of lofty mountains in Was[t]dale:– after passing Sandon bridge & ascended a very long hill had a fine sea view on my right side, overlooking the beautiful grounds of Irton hall in the vale where the river Irt winds thro', the seat of – Irton Esqr.³⁷

To Ulpha 6m, about 4m of it over a lofty Fell having mountains rising above it in every direction, the most elevated of them Sca Fell, 'tis said to be higher than Skiddow, and I believe 'tiz; this has been quite a highland stage, and indeed I think few parts of the highlands can exceed it for granduer of mountain scenery nor for romantic wildness.

To Coniston 9m, about 3m the road follows the Duddon river (in a narrow vale), which divides a part of Cumberland from the most northern part of Lancashire, the rocks & mountains at the upper end of this vale on the Cumberland side of the river are romantic, rugged, & majestic, in the highest degree, and at the same time the lower braes show much underwood, and the banks of the river thickly skirted with alder, ground ash &c. giving a fine releif to the bare rocks that tower up to an amazing height, many cottages & small farm houses are scattered over this vale, at the end of which began to ascend Wannell Fell full 2m, very steep, indeed one of the most laborious I ever climbed, & not very easy to descend on the E side which is nearly 3m, from the summit had a very beautiful & extensive view over the N end of Lancashire with many ridges of lofty hills, & nearly the whole length of Coniston Lake full 1500 feet beneath me, when nearly at the village & looking towards the N saw mountain scenery of the grandest description! & one mountain rearing his pointed head high above the rest, called the Old Man:– many slate quarries in this neighbourhood. I should observe that to all this magnificent display of wild & rugged mountain scenery is blended in the vicinity of the Lake the opposite kind of the most rich & luxuriant class, with a great abundance of wood & hillocks, covered with grass fields & sprinkled with gents seats, exhibiting the greatest contrast, & the most lovely landscape I almost ever saw.

To Hawkeshead 4m, another very stiff hill to ascend from the head of Coniston Lake abt. a mile in length, having many sweet views of the Lake & the richly wooded vale on each side of it. The last mile down to this town very fine.

To Boness 4m, about 3 to the Ferry across Windermere Lake, to which place walked nearly $1\frac{1}{2}$ m by the side of another small Lake called Estwhaite water, which is very prettily indented, & a great diversity of well wooded scenery on each side, & numerous grass fields forming fine knolls creating a vast variety of surface, bounded by high mountain ridges towards the N. After descending a short way from Sawley village³⁸ had a sudden & delightful view of 2 divisions of Windermere broken by a bold swelling hill crowned with wood. In crossing the water the mountains towards the N at the head of the Lake exhibited an uncommon degree of grandeur both in their formation & elevation. This sweet little village being in the neighbourhood of Ambleside I've before attempted to describe it. Lady Carpenter³⁹ is building a stylish house here, in a

beautiful spot, to command even 10 miles of the Lake:— and a gentn fm London is erecting another.

To Kendal (again) 9m, this stage described a few yrs. since, & the town & vicinity also.

To Milnthorpe 8m, thro' Haversham a neat little village, & situation very beautiful. During 5 or 6 miles from Kendal the scenery on the left or E side of the road remarkably rich, and highly picturesque, light & cheerful, even the vale presents a fine undulating surface & adorned with much timber, the Canal & river Ken or Kent goes thro' it, but on this road seldom seen, tho' the track of the river can be marked by the quantity of wood that beautifies it. The neighbourhood of Kendal consists of about 1/3rd arable & 2/3rd grazing & dairy land. In the last 2 or 3m the interest & beauty lies on the right hand, or W side, where an arm of the sea comes up, but between it & the road an abundance of wood, & much lovely scenery is displayed, particularly from Haversham to this town, where Col[onel]. Wilson's Mansion⁴⁰ & grounds must attract attention.

To Burton 4m, the first 3 chiefly arable land, & the enclosures small, and plenty of wood, & yet not very pleasant, but the last mile remarkably so, looking W & back towards the N the scenery rich & bold, being backed by lofty limestone hills.

To Bolton 6m walked before, the reverse way. Now Lancashire.

[From here, Lynn Dewng travelled to Bath via Lancaster, Liverpool, Parkgate, the Welsh borders, Hereford, Monmouth, Tintern and Chepstow].

Account of Dewing's Travels through Cumberland and Westmorland 22 May to 8 June, 24 August to 30 August, and 9 September to 15 September 1832

[1st Division]

May 22nd: To Preston 32m co[ach], the land sandy & poor, the country level & uninteresting, the timber being very small, the fences bad, & the farming very so so. This a large & increasing town, & mentd in former tour.

22nd: To Lankester 20m co[ach], the land generally better, & the face of the country more varied. This town before noticed.

22nd: To Milnthorpe 14m co[ach], the country in this stage beautifully diversified, numerous detached green hills in front, & those protected on either side by bold rocky hills of a mountainous descriptn: this village is near the Ulveston sands, & command fine sea views from the many hills that surround it, — had also several grand views of the sea fm the neighbd of Bolton 2 or 3m from Lankester, accompanied with sublime mountain-like scenery towards the N.

23rd: To Bowness 14m fo[ot], the first 2 or 3m highly picturesque, & at high water a fine view out to sea x the Ulveston sands, & bounded on the N side by lofty mountains; during the next 6 or 7m, thro' some rocky & boggy country, but interspersed with rich little bits. In the last 3 or 4m many surprizingly grand views of mountain scenery must attract the attention of the most indifferent spectator. The Lake of Windermere opens to the view in a most delightful manner in descending to the pretty village of Bowness.

23rd: To Hawkshead 5m fo[ot], xd the Lake at the Ferry nr Bowness, then ascended a long & steep hill from wh I enjoyed the same kind of bold romantic scenery as fm the vicinity of Bowness;— passed along the E side of a small Lake abt. 4 miles in length, called The prospects towards this sml town very beautiful!! but I've noticed this place in a former tour.

24th: To Ambleside 6m fo[ot].

24th: To Wytheburn 8m fo[ot], passing by Rydal Water & Grassmere; both these romantic & picturesque stages I attempted to describe in a former visit.

25th: To Keswick 8m fo[ot], the sublime features of mountain masses in this stage noticed in a former tour.

The Inn at Wythburn⁴¹ stands on the W side, & at the fo[ot]ot of Helvellin, this time the day being favourable I was induced to commence the ascent abt. 3m to the summit which I gained after 3 hours laborious climbing, with sitting down to rest 5 or 6 times, enjoying an increase of granduer the higher I rose, but from the summit I beheld with delight & astonishment the grandest assemblage of mountain scenery I had ever seen in England or Wales!!! Skiddaw appeared to tower above all to the N, & to the W Scar fell, each abt. 3200 feet high, this is allowed to be abt. 50 feet higher than Skiddaw. On the N side, & nearly on the top of Helvellin were 2 patches of snow 15 or 20 yards in length, & abt. 200 feet lower down 2 small Lakes, the water of one appeared very black, the other of a pea green, & the glens & basins on this side tremendously deep, & steep down to them. From this elevated spot I saw the whole length of Windermere & 3 or 4 other Lakes, also the sea near Ulveston, at abt. 25 miles distance. I was amply recompensed for my labour, I shall not soon forget the mental feast, altho' I've seen so much in this county & in Scotland of the grand & sublime in Nature.

This town, viz. Keswick & its delightful vicinity I've noticed in former tour.

29th: To Cockermouth 12m fo[ot], the first 3m thro' a great variety of scenery of the grandest mountain cast, in xing the vale of Keswick, & the river Derwent, thro' the pleasant village of Portinscale passing some fine plantations of fir &c in ascending a very long & steep hill at the 4th m reached the crown of it, & from that station had one of the boldest views of Skiddaw I ever saw, looking to the W side of it, where it presents several huge & deep chasms, & lifts his head & broad shoulders high above his giant brothers.

Three or 4m in the middle of this stage in a deep glen, very narrow between mountainous hills of vast height, most of them showing good sheep walks to their summits. In the last 3 or 4m left behind me the mountains & passed thro' the fertile vale of Lorton. This town named before.

30th: Lowes' Water road & back to C[ockermouth]. 8m fo[ot].

30th: To Bassenthwaite Inn⁴² – 6m fo[ot] thro' the pleasant vale of Embleton, & passed abt. 1½ m the NW end of Basse[nthwaite]. Lake, which is richly wooded, & looking down it much grand mountain scenery is presented to view.

31st: To Bolton gate thro' Ireby 6m fo[ot], a very hilly road, the country open, with fences, but very few trees, the corn looking very healthy.

31st: To Wigton 6m fo[ot], very similar to the last stage, but the land of a better quality & not so hilly.

June 1st: To Abbey Holm 6m fo[ot], noticed in a former tour.

1st: To Red Flat 2m fo[ot], Mr M Glaister's.⁴³

4th: To Kelsie⁴⁴ & b'k 7m fo[ot].

8th: To Skinburness 4m fo[ot], quite level & much poor land, this a little fishing village, & bathers resort here in the summer. Near the sea is a great extent of marsh-land, I saw great numbers of cattle upon it, chiefly beeves⁴⁵ & milch kine.

8th: To Annan 12m boat.

Now Scotland ...

[3rd Division]

24 August 1832

24th: To Longtown 6m fo[ot], at about the 2nd m. ent. England, & proceeded thro' a level & pleasant

country, the Esk rolling in a broad stream, & the rd generally near it, on the left or E side of it is the mansion, grounds, & woods of Sr. Js. Graham⁴⁶, the plantns &c cover a great extent of ground – on my r. arable land – let this suffice, as 15 yrs ago I named this stage & town.

24th: To Carlisle 9m fo[ot], through a level corn country:– this stage also noticed the first time I set foot in Scotland.

As soon as I entd. England nr. Canobie toll bar I saw Skiddaw in front, viz. full S; & at 30m distant, a magnificent object! wh:– faced me to this town, & seldom out of sight. Since I was in this town 4 yrs ago an elegant new Church⁴⁷ & news-room⁴⁸ has been erected.

26th: To Hesketh 8m fo[ot], the country extremely pleasant, & diversified with hill & dale, woods & corn-fields.

26th: To Penrith 10m ca[rt], similar to the last stage, at least in the locality of the rd. but the distant horizon to the SW adds much beauty to the landscape, bounded as it is by a long range of mountains & lofty hills of various elevations, say from 300 feet to 3000, as Saddleback & Skiddaw comes into the range. This town noticed in former tour.

28th: To Lowther Castle⁴⁹ & back to Penrith, 9m fo[ot], (the seat of the Earl of Lonsdale), walked about 4m on the Shap road, then in a neat private rd. 1m to the Castle, upon entering the Park at the high part of it, caught very extensive, rich, & diversified views, including a part of Saddleback:– the Park delightfully varied with an undulating surface, numerous single trees & many rich banks of foliage on the banks of the Lowther water.

The castle rather modern built, in the gothic style, & 'tis a very grand & imposing pile, with 20 or more circular towers round it, & stands upon a fine elevation:– the interior filled up in a splendid manner; the following are some of the rooms I saw that struck me most, viz. the small Drawing room, the new D[itt]o. the gilded ceiling splendid and elegant indeed!! only 2 portraits in it George 4th & Wm. Pitt, three quarter lengths – from it into the Saloon, a very grand room, & the cabinets &c tortoise-shell, inlaid with brass in beautiful figures; also I believe in the same room the golden shield of Achillis, with various raised figures round it:– 2 lions seizing a bull from a herd, one of the devices, very fine; from it to the dining, breakfast, & state-bed-room:– the entrance hall rather small, but this staircase & ceiling spacious and magnificent. The library I could not see, part of the family being in it. I noticed but few family or historical paintings:– a full length portrait of the Duke of Wellington in military costume, was one, wh. I cast a hasty glance over:– also the present Earl, his Countess, & 2 daughters were the chief, & the Earl's father when young, in a masquerade dress. Returned by another rout thro' the Park, & followed the Lowther water abt. 1½m to Eamont, or rather first to Brougham hall, a rural, romantic, rich, & beautiful walk from the Castle. Broom hall (as 'tis here called), is a plain ancient building⁵⁰, stands high & embosomed in woods, between the neat little villages of Eamont & Clifton.

30th: To Aldston Moor 20m co[ach] two or 3m from Penrith very pleasant, but after that to Mallerby abt. halfway thro' a wild part of Cumbd. over extensive moors & very few corn fields in sight; leaving Mallerby⁵¹ soon began to ascend Cross Fell, which taking the windings of the rd is 5m up, & as much down to Aldston, in ascending had a view of a vast track of corn land towards the W – but in descending dreary enough. This a mining town, & has been before noticed.

30th: To Hexham Northumbd. 20m co[ach].

(The Return Journey)

September 1832

9th: [From Glenwhelt] to Brampton 9m fo[ot], for this stage & town also mentioned abt. 6 yrs since.

10th: To Croglin 10m fo[ot], on leaving Brampton the hills are numerous & indeed for several miles round

the town tossed about in a very picturesque manner, mostly rounded tops, & many with fir plantations on their summits, the soil suits them being a heavy reddish sand; proceeding on from the 3rd m the hills are more bulky, & the small vales richly wooded. At the 4m reached the foot of Castle Carrock Fell, & passed 4m on the W side of it, a high banky ridge, the lower braes finely planted, and several gents seats high up its side. On my right high cultivated hills, arable & pasture, the look out very confined, passed thro' Cumrew and Niblican, the former a neat village, beautifully situated near the S end of the fell.

10th: To Kirkoswald 6m fo[ot], leaving the vale passed over a very high corn country, the prospect towards the SE very extensive, rich & diversified. This sml market town remarkably neat, & the country in the vicinity most lovely, particularly to Lazonby about one m, between the towns the Eden rolls a broad stream, thro an Eden-like vale, for rich & picturesque beauty combined I do not know its equal, the bridge is very handsome & lofty, & a fine object from many parts of the road:— the Kirk stands in a sweetly secluded spot, embossed in wood of the richest foliage, & in this fertile vale it appears as fresh as in the middle of June.

11th: To Penrith (again) 8m fo[ot], all the rich & varied scenery viewed from the bridge is bounded on the E side the river by Hartside Fell, a mountainous ridge of 7 or 8 miles in length & distant from the rd 6 or 7m; the E side of the river during many miles is finely ornamented by sloping hills & hanging woods (intermixed with corn fields) down to the water; a great extent of this interesting landscape is seen distinctly from a hill above Lazonby abt. 2m from Kirkoswald, at the same time including a very bold & distant horizon of mountains in Westmorland, at 15 to 20m S. The scenery on the E side of the Eden in this neighbourhood is very similar to the W side of the Ex, from Exeter to Cowley &c & altogether superior being bounded by Hartside Fell, before named:— between the 2nd & 3rd m the rd leaves this rich vale, & goes over a high & cold heather moor, very sandy, the sides of it under cultivation, & much of the upland lately planted with fir:— at abt. the 6th m upon the summit looking S & SW Saddleback & a numerous assemblage of inferior mountains, forming the most bold and romantic outline at from 10 to 15m distant suddenly burst upon my sight with great sublimity!! contrasted by a rich & extensive track of cultivated land sloping down towards the Carlisle rd finely wooded, presenting to the view by a slight move of the head thousands of corn & grass fields, the corn chiefly got in here, & all grain comes under the reap-hook, as in Scotland:— beyond this bold group that almost surround Ulswater Lake, Helvellyn rear his lofty head, more than 3000 feet in height. The views from the race course abt. a m from this town are extensive, and beautiful!

14th: To Clifton 3m fo[ot], thus far a few weeks since.

14th: To Askham 2m fo[ot], at Clifton entered thro' a lofty gateway into the suburbs of Ld. Lonsdale's Park, then thro' fine grazing ground, & entered the Park at the East Lodge, then abt. ½ m thro' a wood finely timbered, with great abundance of ash & oak, on leaving it came to a precipitous bank of the Lowther water, the opposite side presents a rich & lofty bank of foliage of various trees, overhanging the rapid stream for a considerable distance; passed by Lowther Church in the Park, not very handsome, but the situation rural & fine, the river rolling at depth beneath it, from it a most commanding view of the castle, before named.

14th: To Bampton 4m fo[ot], to Hilton xd the fields very pleasant, having the W slope of his Lordp grounds rising high on my left, thickly planted, — then high & cold Fells on my r. & on my l. a fertile vale, with the Lowther winding thro' it, & much cheerful & diversified scenery on the E side of it.

14th: To Shap 5m during the first 3m xd 2 rivers, & the beauty of the country changed to the W side, showing many corn & grass fields on the lower slopes of rugged and frowning mountains, or mountain masses, divided by deep glens, & Hawes Water Lake between them; perhaps none reach the height of 2000 feet, excepting Kidsey Pike, & one or two near it. In the last m or two a wild & open country, high moors &c on each side the road — this a very neat village.

15th: To Orton 6m fo[ot], to the Toll-bar on the Kendal r[oad] an open country, viz, no wood, the fields divided by stone fences, called dykes:— at the bar this road turn off to the SE, and goes over a dark heathery moor, with only a few patches of green pastures to enliven it; in front the horizon bounded by lofty, bulky, & heavy Fells, this hilly moor is of vast extent, to the l. and r as far as the eye could ken:— I saw only sheep upon, but the number great, chiefly horned with black legs and faces or nearly so, nothing of the Norfolk in their countenances. In a deep bottom abt. x cross⁵² the moor passed in sight of Shap Wells,⁵³ where there

is a large new Inn, built by the Earl of Lonsdale. Leaving the heather at about the 5th m crossed some fine grass and corn fields, down to the town, wh is a poor looking one.

15th: To Borrow Bridge 5m fo[ot], during 2 or 3m towards the mountn fells before named very cheerful, grass & corn fields & hillocks intermixed:– at the 3rd m the r[oa]d leading down to the glen show bold & romantic scenery, in front lofty green knowls, & on entering the glen on each side the r[oa]d more than 1000 feet high. At Lune bridge the rush of the r[ive]r confined between immense lime-stone rocks steeply sloping, is very grand!

15th: To Sedbergh 7m fo[ot], in the first m or 2 between the most picturesque mountains, with sheep walks to their summits, & thickly dotted over with them, some so high above the r[oa]d could not see them move, most of these mighty hills are free from heather or whin:– during abt 2m the banks of the Lune, or rather the E bank high above the river sloping steeply down from the r[oa]d to the water several hundred feet:– from the 2nd to the 5th m the mountains on the E side of the r[oa]d & river are in Y[ork]kshire, & assume very bold & beautiful outlines, with deep ravines between them. In the last 2 or 3m the mountns hills on the W side of the Lune are distant from the river leaving a broad, rich, woody, hilly & finely cultivated vale between the E & W barriers. I have found more hills to climb in this day's march of 18 miles than I ever recollect, tho' none more than ½ a m in length, many very steep. This town noticed in a former tour 10 or 12 yrs ago.

[17th: To Dent ...]

Account of Dewing's Travels through Cumberland and Westmorland 22 June to 10 July 1845

[2nd Division]

From Lancaster [June 1845]

22nd: To Kendal by the Waterwitch Canal-boat⁵⁴ 27m, this beautiful water trip named in former tour, the contrary way; after passing thro' 8 locks in ¾rs of a m, here the passengers abt 80 walking, & those who had taste had much to admire! after taking our seats again soon left Lancashire & entered Westmorland. This town named in visit many yrs ago, & I see but little alteration, except in 2 or 3 new churches.⁵⁵

Sunday 23rd: looked into the Catholic chapel: nearly new,⁵⁶ ceiling very ornamental, but not gaudy; the window at the Altar & its accompaniments most beautiful & elegant!! there are 4 finely sculptured figs. the Virgin Mary, & St John, St Peter & St Paul.⁵⁷ Above the E window on the outside in sculpture is St George & the Dragon. In the afternoon went to the old church, heard the Rector⁵⁸, an excellent reader & preacher:– the ch[urch] the widest I ever set foot in, with 4 rows of pillars to suport. the roof.

24th: To Bowness 9m fo[ot], this stage noticed in contrary way, and also this pretty little village on the E side of Winandermere lake; of which & the mountns to the NE it comds. beautiful & grand views.

25th: To the Ferry 1m fo[ot], having fine views of the lake & islands, & very picturesque & rich grass land between the r[oa]d & the water, passed several gents seats, charmingly situated: in xing the ferry the form of the lake is beautifully varied, by bold headlands, projecting into it, ornamented with plantations of fir & groves of oak &c. The prospects from the ferry-house on the W side are fine indeed.

25th: To Hawkshead 4m fo[ot], in the 1st m up a steep hill, in looking back over plantns &c had splendid views of the water, & a densely wooded park on the E side of it. (Now in the N part of Lancashire). At the 2nd m at Soree⁵⁹ commenced Estwhaite lake on my l, & in front lofty & rugged mountns this lake much less than Windermere, yet very interesting: passed several small mansions; in the last m to H the lake & the upland slopes beautiful!

25th: To Coniston 4m fo[ot], in the first half m fm the village the look-out r & l very beautiful, then a steep & long hill to ascend, rocky, dreary & poor on either side but in descending again had a fine view of Coniston water (as the lake is called) also of the Old man mountn on the W side – who has kept his night cap on the whole day altho' fine, his great height attracts the clouds. About half way down the hill entd. the pleasure

grounds of Js. Marshall Esqr.⁶⁰ more beautiful grounds I do not recollect, I can give no adequate idea of them! the carriage drives & footpaths superior [to] any I ever saw winding thro' more lovely avenues &c & adorned with a profusion of shrubs & flowers; Nature has also done much in varying its surface with deep ravines &c. The lake presents a fine object from the mansion & many other parts. In the last m to Coniston near the lake, this a straggling but cheerful looking village; just behind it the Old man rears high his bald pate.

26th: To Ulpha 9m fo[ot]. being a clear day was advised to ascend & x the fells on the W side of the Old man, on my r bold & romantic wee mountns, offset fm the Old man, much less elevated, yet more than 1000 feet above the lake: the 2nd hour brought me to the Old chap's shoulder, at the 3rd hour, viz. 12 I had left the Old fellow in my rear, & had pulled up nearly to the summit of one of his family, almost as high, & rugged & terrific! with deep ravines yawning up his sides. During 2 of the 3 hours saw neither tree nor house, & only one biped, the best for me, (a sheep) & who directed me, & made me see a faint track up still higher ground a mile onward: in descending on the W side had the pleasure of seeing some cottages in a deep valley, & bounded by numerous sharp-pointed rocky mountns; sheep feed better on this side, but the slopes are nearly covd with granite detached rocks, over hundreds of acres fm 1 to 10 feet high: saw several slate quarries.

26th: To Eskdale 7m fo[ot], the first m the rd ascends a very laborious hill to climb up to the moors & fells, cold & dreary during 2 or 3m, after that much to interest, on the N side a vast assemblage of lofty mountns of elegant formations, (if I may use the term) & ridge beyond ridge.

27th: To Gosforth 6m fo[ot], in the 1st m the rd hilly, & the mountns assume many fantastic outlines, in the 2nd m in ascending a steep hill had an amazing grand display of mountns to the NE, & of the vales or oak-clad bottoms leading to & between them. In descending a hill midway to Santon bridge, an open & extensive level open. towards the sea, with much corn land, more than I've seen these 40m past.

27th: To Calder bridge 3m fo[ot], two good Hotels here;⁶¹ adjoining are the beautiful grounds of Edwd. Stanley, M.P. the mansion I did not see – this has been a soaking day of rain.⁶²

27th: To Egremont 4m fo[ot], an old & dull town, not impd. since I was here many years ago.

28th: To Whitehaven 5m fo[ot], this stage hilly, cold, & not interesting; this sea-port town noticed many years since, subsequent to which a great improvement has been effected at the harbour, an addition of 990 feet, out to seaward to the N Pier, on it is a Light-house, & 2 on the S Piers.⁶³ From this spot is a fine view of mountn. ranges in the S of Scotland.

28th: To Cockermouth 14m in Tub,⁶⁴ this stage named in a former tour the reverse way, the r[oa]d a turnpike, and excellent, altho' a continuous up & down:– this town notd. in former tour.

Sunday 29th: this morning heard the Revd. Wilson at the Independent chapel, an excellent preacher & reader.⁶⁵ In the evng. the Revd. Welch⁶⁶ in the Wesleyan ch.,⁶⁷ a very talented young man, & one of the most flowery preachers I ever sat under.

30th: To Allonby 10m fo[ot]; this long stage not interesting, the country open & cold:– wheat & grass looking well, barley very backward. In the last 2 or 3m faced the sea & high above it. This a small & neat sea-bathing place, but not now much frequented:– Port Carlisle has much injured it.

July 1st: To Beck Foot 4m fo[ot], upon a fine smooth turf, like walking upon a carpet, close along the sea-shore, & generally abt 10 feet above it, the rd following from 50 to 60 yards fm. the water. On the land side nought worth seeing, the strong W winds will not suffer a tree to grow: – 2 or 3m of this stage was caught in a storm of wind & rain from the SW more violent than I think any I ever experienced, it blew great guns, coat & trowsers soaked through, umbrella of little use. (This stage brought on inflammation of the bladder, & caused me 3 weeks pain).⁶⁸

1st: To Brown Rigg 6m fo[ot], now left the Irish sea, & thro' a corn district quite level, the rd a bye one, but most excellent, very little wood, & too hazey to see either Skiddaw or Criffell mountains.

10th: To Skinburness 5m cart, thro' much poor land, but on the r toward Solway Firth (an arm of the sea) extensive salt-marshes.

10th: To Annan (Scotland) in passage boat 8m, a pleasant sail, the day fine, & wind & tide in our favor, xd in 1 hour.

Lynn Dewing's Journal recounting his last tour of Cumberland and Westmorland July 1847

July 12th: From Liverpool to Preston 39m RR.

12th: To Lancaster 21m RR, both these stages named in a former tour.

12th: To Kendal 20m RR this a new line opened since my last visit, and I know of no rail rd for the same distance going through a country so beautiful!! & the land far better than any I've seen since leaving Liverpool. The formation of the hills (which very lofty) are extremely picturesque & numerous, & the sea sometimes seen between them on the l. side. This town & vicinity before named. I know of no RR line more diversified than the 20m from Lancaster to Kendal.

15th: To Greyrigg 5m fo[ot], thro' rich vales, and the mountain scenery on the l. side very bold, and the outlines of them are beautifully formed.

15th: To Borrow Bridge 5m fo[ot], in this stage the land very inferior & hilly, x'd the Carlisle RR several times, passing over deep ravines or bottoms, where the embankments are awfully high. This a sml & poor-looking village.

16th: To Orton 5m fo[ot], similar to the last stage.

16th: To Shap 6m fo[ot], thro' a wild part of the county, 4m of it over Shap Fell, a high cold heathery moor, yet not a drop of water did I see, nor a house within 1/2 a m of the road. This village greatly improved since I first knew it 30 years ago, then only one small Inn, now 5 or 6 not small.⁶⁹

16th: To Penrith 11m, by RR⁷⁰, the land & face of the country much more interesting. This town noticed in former tour.

17th: To Penruddock 7m fo[ot].

17th: To Keswick 11m gig. These stages named in former Tour, the grand mountn scenery in the last 10 or 12m I think cannot be surpassed in England, nor in Wales, at any rate!! Keswick is now quite full of comp[an]y. Yesterday, being Sunday I attended at the new Church, a very elegant structure,⁷¹ and its situation indeed most commanding a view of the Lake, & ridge above ridge of the boldest & picturesque mountns so celebrated in the vicinity of Keswick, and far to the N & W.

19th: To Penrith again on fo(ot) 9m & van 9m.

In the ch yd here are 2 ancient grave stones, nearly circular, abt 10 feet high & 15 feet apart, say head & foot; said to be erected for a giant buried there, no inscription visible.⁷²

Near Shap Wells in the RRd to Carlisle, is the deepest cutting in the kingdom, and what is more astonishing thro' a solid rock 90 feet deep, during 200 feet.

July 24th: This day walkd to see the Aqueduct [*recte* viaduct] over the river Lowther, abt 2 1/2 m from Penrith; the piers that the arches spring from are more than 50 feet high, there are 6 arches several 60 feet spar (*sic*); the RRd xs it, and nothing else, the bed of the r[ive]r covd with large rocks, and the stream very rapid, the

valley full of fine timber. In my way to it passed Brougham Hall a strong-built castellated house, could see little of it being so closely & thickly hem[me]d in with wood.⁷³

July 26th: To Temple Sowerby 6m fo[ot].

26th: To Appleby, 7m fo[ot] both stages named in a former Tour.

This time at Appleby hit upon some new & beautiful walks near & on the meadows sloping down to the r[ive]r Eden x d it at a water mill over abt 50 large stepping-stones:— the red banks of the r[ive]r rise in some places nearly perpendicular to a great height, & densely covd with timber & underwood.

July 28th: To Brough 8m fo[ot].

28th: To Kirby Stephen 4m fo[ot], both notd before the views near K[irby] S[tephen] are remarkably picturesque, many fine wooded knolls & deep dells, nearly surrounded with lofty fells & mountns; much rich pasture land in these parts, & the corn crops very stout.

The Church here under repair, or rather enlarging it similar to that at Sculthorpe, which prevented my seeing a curious monument to Lord Wharton, it being carefully hid fm the public gaze: the inscription I got from my Landlady, she had committed it to memory therefore the punctuation I must omit.⁷⁴

Here I Lord Wharton doth lie
With Lucifer under my head
And Nelly my wife hard by
And Nancy as cold as lead
O how could I sleep without dread
Or who could my sad fate abide
With one Devil under my head
And one laying close on each side.

30th: To Brough [again] Gig 4m.

31st: To Old Spittal Inn. Now Yorkre....8m fo[ot].

To Bowes....5m fo[ot], both these stages of hilly & wild open country with hardly a tree to be seen during abt. 6m noticed many years ago.

Notes and references

- ¹ The parts of Dewing's travel journals for 1817 and 1819 which deal with his journeys through Cumberland, Westmorland, and Furness were recently published in *CW3*, ix, 187-216. The 1819 diary accession numbers at the National Museum Cardiff are 163680-86, with the 4th and 5th divisions being 163683 and 163684. The reference in *CW3*, ix, 203, is misleading because it gives only one accession number, 163682.
- ² Lynn Dewing was formerly a commercial traveller in patent elastic bandages, for the treatment of dropsy, oedema, and varicose veins.
- ³ Dewing left London on 9 May 1821 and returned to Walsingham in Norfolk on 28 November 1821. His account, in nine divisions, was revised by Dewing in January 1837, and April 1844.
- ⁴ This journey commenced from North Elmham in Norfolk in April 1825 and concluded in Bath on 8 December 1825.
- ⁵ Ms Lesley Aitcheson, in whose possession these manuscripts were held formerly, informed me that other 'Digests' survived for some of Dewing's earlier Tours. Dr John Kenyon informs me that the one for his 5th Tour is missing. One survives for his 7th Tour, which commenced at Bath on 1 May 1823, but this journey did not include the Lakes in Dewing's itinerary.
- ⁶ Dewing left North Creake in Norfolk on his 16th Tour on 17 April 1832, and returned to Stibbard, Norfolk, on 9 November 1832.
- ⁷ Dewing's 1832 tour coincided with one made by George Holt (1780-1861), the Liverpool banker, who

visited the Lakes with his wife and family between 19 June and 8 July. An account of this fuller and more personal diary was published recently. J. Davies, 'In Search of the Picturesque: George Holt in the English Lake District, 1832', *Transactions of the Historic Society of Lancashire and Cheshire*, 159, (2010), 83-97.

- ⁸ The railway line between Oxenholme and Windermere opened on 20 April 1847, *The Westmorland Gazette*, 23 April 1847, quoted by J.Scott (ed.), *A Lakeland Valley Through Time: A History of Staveley, Kentmere, and Ings* (Kendal, 1995), 52-3. Dewing stayed in Kendal between 12 and 15 July, 1847, and it is to be regretted that he did not travel on the newly opened line to revisit his old haunts.
- ⁹ 'Division' was the name which Dewing gave to his individual notebooks, often home made, into which he wrote his daily account of his travels.
- ¹⁰ His meaning here is unclear.
- ¹¹ W. Parson and W. White, *A History, Directory and Gazetteer of Cumberland and Westmorland with that part of the Lake District in Lancashire, forming the Lordship of Furness and Cartmel* (Leeds, 1829), 388, Henry Howard J.P., of Corby Castle
- ¹² Plumbago, wad or black lead, a grey feldspar used in casting cannon balls, cleaning ironwork and making pencils, sold for thirty shillings a pound. The main mine was at Seathwaite, 9 miles S.W. of Keswick. Parson and White, *A History*, 6-7; I. Tyler, *Seathwaite Wad and the Mines of the Borrowdale Valley* (Huddersfield, 1995). J. Robinson, in *A Guide to the Lakes of Cumberland and Westmoreland and Lancashire* (1819), 140-4, describes a journey to a wad mine. For an early history of the mines see: T. Denton, *A perambulation of Cumberland 1687-1688: including descriptions of Westmorland, the Isle of Man and Ireland*, A.J.L. Winchester and M. Wane (eds), The Surtees Society, (with the Cumberland and Westmorland Antiquarian and Archaeological Society (Woodbridge, 2003), 207, 119-20. Thomas Denton (1637-1698) of Warnell, an attorney, wrote his detailed account of the county for Sir John Lowther of Lowther.
- ¹³ Called 'the grand rendezvous of tourists while visiting the Northern Lakes'. In 1823 the first mail coach was run from Penrith to Whitehaven *via* Keswick. By 1826 coaches were running from Whitehaven to Kendal *via* Ambleside daily. Parson and White, *A History*, 327
- ¹⁴ W. Armistead, *Tales and Legends of the English Lake*, (1891), 197-221. Mary Robinson, the daughter of an innkeeper, married John Hatfield, a former linen draper's traveller, calling himself the Hon. Colonel Alexander Augustus Hope M.P. He bigamously married her at Lorton on 2 October 1802, and was executed for forgery at Carlisle on 3 September 1803. De Quincey is quoted in an undated clipping from *Cassell's Magazine*, preserved in the Kendal Local Studies Library, as saying of her: 'Her figure was in my eyes good... her face was fair and her features feminine, and unquestionably she was what all the world would have agreed to call "good looking" (but) beautiful in any emphatic sense she was not'. J. Robinson, *A Guide*, 167-173, for an account of Mary of Buttermere; also 'A Rambler', *A Fortnight's Ramble to the Lakes in Westmoreland, Lancashire and Cumberland*, (1792), 80, where she appears as 'Sally of Buttermere'; this was the account which brought her before the world; Anon, *A Descriptive Tour to the Lakes of Cumberland and Westmoreland in the Autumn of 1804*, (1806), 105-108
- ¹⁵ J. Robinson, *A Guide*, 172 says that she married as her second husband a young man from the neighbourhood of Carlisle; 'they occupy the inn that was kept by her father; and tourists will find at their house good refreshments, ready attention and moderate charges', (1819); Parson and White, *A History*, 69, claims that Mary Robinson (otherwise Halfield), married a Mr Harrison and settled in a distant part of Cumberland.
- ¹⁶ Parson and White, *A History*, 243 state Whitehaven was, 'laid out with taste and elegance'
- ¹⁷ Parson and White, *A History*, 245, 250. The churches were St. Nicholas (1693), St. James (1752) and Trinity (1715).
- ¹⁸ In 1829 at Trinity Church the minister was the Revd. Thomas Harrison A.M.; the sub curate, the Revd. Edward Irvin and the clerk, James Moore. At St. James the incumbent was the Revd. William Jackson B.D., and the clerk, Mr. Stephen Crooks.
- ¹⁹ Robert Hogg was minister of the Presbyterian chapel in High Street 'in connexion with the United Secession Church of Scotland', Parson and White, *A History*, 250. A native of Blackswell, Hamilton, (now Saffronhall), he was ordained on 27 June 1821, resigned in 1832, removed to Blyth Secession Church in 1833. He died still in office on 5 April 1866, aged 69, A. Dick, *Whitehaven United Reformed Church 1695-1995* (Whitehaven 1995, 2005), 29
- ²⁰ Parson and White, *A History*, 7, Duddon Grove, 2 miles N.W. of Broughton was the seat of Richard Towers Esq

- ²¹ ‘I counted to 17’
- ²² J. Dugdale, *New British Traveller: Westmorland*, (1819), 439 uses this spelling, as does Thomas Moule in his map of Westmorland (1847)
- ²³ Dewing began this journey from North Elmham in Norfolk in April 1825, and travelled by coach from here to London and from thence to Weston Underwood.
- ²⁴ Parson and White, *A History*, 646. On 18 June 1819 the canal was opened from Kendal to Tewitsfield. It cost £600,000. The tunnel at Hincaster was 378 yards long.
- ²⁵ *Ibid.*, 661, Union Tavern, Stricklandgate, John Walker, victualler
- ²⁶ Troutbeck Bridge Inn (see ‘Digest’), where he stopped en route to Ambleside, would have been The Sun, mentioned in P. J. Mannex, *History, Topography, and Directory of Westmorland and Lonsdale North of the Sands in Lancashire* (1849), 339. It formed part of the estate of the Rt. Revd. Richard Watson D.D., (1737-1816) of Calgarth Park, T. J. Brain, ‘Richard Watson: Westmorland “Statesman”?’ *CW2*, xciv, 184
- ²⁷ The Revd Richard Warner (1763-1857) was curate of All Saints’, Walcot, Bath, between 1795 and 1817, rector of Great Chalfield from 1809 until his death, and rector of Chelwood, Somerset from 1827 onwards. Dewing was referring to the fourth of Warner’s travel works, *A Tour Through the Northern Counties of England and the Borders of Scotland* (2 vols, Bath, 1802). William Coxe (1747-1828) enjoyed great popularity for accounts of his travels in such places as Switzerland, Poland and Russia. Through his descriptions of alpine scenery Coxe may have induced Dewing to draw comparisons between parts of the Lake District with the Alps.
- ²⁸ The Itinerary shows that he stayed at ‘Bowes’. This must refer to Joseph Bowe who kept the King’s Arms, which by 1847 was also a posting house, Parson and White, *A History*, 333; Mannex and Whelan, *A History*, 557
- ²⁹ Parson and White, *A History*, 355, a hamlet of Stoneraise, 1½ miles south-west of Wigton. The inn at which he stayed was either the New Inn, whose licensee was Joseph Hayton, or the unnamed inn kept by John Porter at Red Dial.
- ³⁰ Quick, or quickthorn, is a term usually used to describe whitethorn or hawthorn.
- ³¹ The Digest says that he stayed at the Artichoke. These premises have not been identified.
- ³² Parson and White, *A History*, 415. It was the baronial mansion of the Barony of Gilsland.
- ³³ Parson and White, *A History*, 343, Mungo Glaister, yeoman of Red Flat, in Brownrigg township, two miles north of Abbey Holme. Glaisters were also resident in East Waver and Low Holme Quarter, and in the vicinity of Skinburness.
- ³⁴ Parson and White, *A History*, 319, refers to ‘upwards of 4,000 inhabitants’ in 1829. There were five dissenting chapels: a Friends’, a Methodist, a Presbyterian, a Baptist and a Burgher’s meeting.
- ³⁵ Parson and White, *A History*, 236 the Grammar School was founded and endowed by Edmund Grindal, Archbishop of Canterbury in 1587. The Theological College at St Bees was founded in 1819 by Dr Law, the Bishop of Chester, and closed in December 1895. See Morris, Harrison & Co’s, *Directory & Gazetteer of Cumberland 1861* (reprinted Whitehaven, 2000), 288-9. For a fuller account, see T. Park, *St. Bees College: Pioneering Higher Education in 19th Century Cumbria* (1982, revised edition, St. Bees, 2008)
- ³⁶ Parson and White, *A History*, 8, 232-3, Edward Stanley Esquire, a kinsman of the Earls of Derby and the Stanleys of Hooton, Wirral. The house was situated 4 miles SSE of Egremont. It was rebuilt c.1780, and set in a large park. Some 100,000 trees were planted at this time.
- ³⁷ Parson and White, *A History*, 240, situated in Eller Crook, Isaac Wilson, victualler
- ³⁸ Parson and White, *A History*, 8, 215, seat of Samuel Irton Esquire, situated 3 miles NE of Ravenglass
- ³⁹ Sawrey, a hamlet of Claife township, which extends east from Hawkeshead in Furness, on the west side of Lake Windermere, 2½ miles NE of Hawkshead
- ⁴⁰ Parson and White, *A History*, 6, 679, The Honourable Mrs. Elizabeth Carpenter of Bowness-on-Windermere. Cumbria R.O., Kendal, WPR 61/24, Windermere Burials 1813-1854, 57 states that she was buried on 4 March 1842 aged 73
- ⁴¹ Parson and White, *A History*, 627 probably Dallam Tower, ½ mile south of Milnthorpe, the seat of George Wilson Esquire, J.P.
- ⁴² Probably the Horse’s Head, Wythburn, John Hawkrigg, victualler, Parson and White, *A History*, 335. There was another inn, the King’s Head at Thirlspot.
- ⁴³ Parson and White, *A History*, 302, either the Sun at Halls (also called Hawes) John Cowx, blacksmith, carpenter and victualler or the Castle, Kill Hill, Matthew Knubley, victualler
- ⁴⁴ Parson and White, *A History*, 343
- ⁴⁶ Beeves, plural of beef, used in this sense for oxen, *OED*

- ⁴⁷ Parson and White, *A History*, 8, Netherby Hall, seat of Sir James Graham, Bart., M.P., situated 1½ miles north north-east of Longtown
- ⁴⁸ Parson and White, *A History*, 138-9. This is probably St. Cuthbert's Chapel of Ease designed by Rickman and Hutchinson of Birmingham. The first stone was laid on 26 September 1828. St. Mary's Chapel of Ease, designed by the same architects, was opened shortly afterwards.
- ⁴⁹ Parson and White, *A History*, 147. There were two newsrooms, The Commercial News Room, Market Place, with 100 members subscribing 15 shillings *p.a.*, and the Subscription News Room, Castle Street, which had 120 members paying 25 shillings *p.a.* 'Strangers can be introduced into them, for a limited time, by subscribers'
- ⁵⁰ Parson and White, *A History*, 593-4. 5 miles south by east of Penrith
- ⁵¹ Brougham Hall, 'the Windsor of the North', the home of Henry Brougham M.P. (1778-1868), later Lord Chancellor and Lord Brougham and Vaux and his brother James Brougham M.P. The house was extensively re-modelled in the 1830s, Parson and White, *A History*, 583-85. Lord Brougham was a brilliant, but immoral, Whig politician who defended George IV's equally immoral wife at the time of the Bill of Pains and Penalties (1820). See: K. Bourne, *The Blackmailing of the Chancellor: Some intimate and hitherto unpublished letters from Harriette Wilson to her friend Henry Brougham, Lord Chancellor of England* (1975); *Harriette Wilson's Memoirs of Herself and Others* (1929), 279 and ff; N. Pevsner, *The Buildings of England; Cumberland and Westmorland* (1967), 235; J. Robinson, *A Guide*, 17-8.; J. Burgess, *The Nobility of North-West England* (Carlisle, 1989), 9, states that the house was sold in the early 1930s and demolished in 1934
- ⁵² Melmerby, 8½ miles NE of Penrith
- ⁵³ His meaning is not clear here.
- ⁵⁴ Parson and White, *A History*, 590
- ⁵⁵ See A. Wilson, 'Fast Packet Boats to Kendal', *CW3*, vi, 145-162. The fast packet boats which served from Preston to Lancaster between 1833 and 1842, and Lancaster to Kendal between 1833 and 1846, travelled at between seven and eight mph. Wilson states that contrary to Dewing's assertion, the *Waterwitch* ceased to function on the run in September 1842. The *Swallow*, acquired in 1835, also ceased at the same time.
- ⁵⁶ P. J. Mannex, *History, Topography, and Directory of Westmorland and Lonsdale North of the Sands in Lancashire* (1849), 290-291. These were St. Thomas Stricklandgate (1837), and St. George Stramongate Bridge (1839-41), N. Pevsner, *The Buildings of England; Cumberland and Westmorland*, 254-5
- ⁵⁷ The new church was opened in 1837, see D. Milburn, 'The Revd. Thomas Wilkinson of Kendal', *CW2*, lxvi, 432-48
- ⁵⁸ Dewing was confused. P. J. Mannex, *History, Topography*, 290-1 states that the statues in the chancel, carved by Thomas Duckett, were of Christ, the Virgin Mary, St. Mary Magdalen and St. George. The stained glass at the East end contained figures of Christ and Saints Peter and Paul. The priest, the Revd. Thomas Wilkinson, had served the parish for almost 60 years.
- ⁵⁹ Actually vicar; The Revd. Joseph Watkins Barnes M.A. (1805-1858), vicar between 1844 and 1858, presided with his curate, William Chaplin (1824-1904), curate from 1850-1856, over the major restoration of the parish church between 1850 and 1852. Chaplin was presented by Barnes to the perpetual curacy of St. James, Staveley in 1856. J. Hodgkinson, *The Greater Parish of Kendal 1553-2002, During the Patronage of Trinity College, Cambridge* (Kendal, 2002), 26-8, 70, 136-7. For Chaplin, J. Scott (ed.), *A Lakeland Village Through Time: A History of Staveley, Kentmere and Ings* (Kendal, 1995), 79-80
- ⁶⁰ Sawrey, see footnote 38
- ⁶¹ Mannex, *History*, 423, J. G. Marshall Esquire, M.P. for Leeds. Coniston Park was called 'a modern Gothic mansion on a fine elevation commanding a beautiful and extensive prospect'. James Garth Marshall (1802-1873) was one of the sons of John Marshall I (1765-1845), 'the King of the Leeds flax millers', who purchased Hallsteads, near Ullswater, in 1812. James purchased Monk Coniston Hall, a 'faintly' Gothic villa of c. 1800, in 1843 which, as it is situated at the northern extremity of the lake, was formerly known as Coniston Waterhead; J. Mordaunt Crook, *The Rise of the Nouveaux Riches: Style and Status in Victorian and Edwardian Architecture* (1999), 89-90
- ⁶² Mannex and Whelan, *History, Gazetteer and Directory of Cumberland*, (Beverley, 1847), 412-15. These are not listed, but may be the two mentioned in Great Beckermat, in the parish of St. Bridget, Beckermat; George Wooff, victualler of the Royal Oak, and William Jackson, victualler of the Golden Fleece, posting house
- ⁶³ Mannex and Whelan, *History, Gazetteer*, 358-60. Edward Stanley M.P. of Ponsonby Hall. J. Burgess,

- The Gentry and the Industrialists of North West England* (Carlisle, 1989), 83, states that the Stanleys sold Ponsonby Hall to the Home Office in the 1950s.
- ⁶⁴ Mannex and Whelan, *History, Gazetteer*, 374-5. The 'new' west pier was begun in 1824 and finished in 1839. It is said to have cost £100,000. The lighthouse had a revolving light and two reflectors. The 'new' north pier was finished in 1841
- ⁶⁵ C. T. Onions (ed.) *The Shorter Oxford English Dictionary* (3rd Edition, Revised with Addenda, Oxon, 1964), 'An open wooden vessel, wide in proportion to its height [...] with a flat bottom'; 'a slow, clumsy ship, esp. one which is too broad in proportion to its length; often joc. or contempt; also, a short, broad boat'
- ⁶⁶ Mannex and Whelan, *History, Gazetteer*, 524; the Revd. Robert Wilson, of the Independent Chapel, Main Street. Membership of the chapel stood at 29 in 1833, but under Wilson the chapel flourished, W. Lewis, *A History of the Congregational Church, Cockermouth* (Cockermouth, 1870), 134. Wilson was minister from 1843 until 1847, when he moved to Charlesworth, Derbyshire. By September 1850 the congregation was able to erect the present Gothic-style building in front of the old one at a cost of £2,200 that seated 500. In 1972 it became the United Reform Church. in Cockermouth. J. B. Bradbury, *A History of Cockermouth* (1981) 160-1; C. Stell, *Royal Commission on the Historical Monuments of England: An Inventory of Nonconformist Chapels and Meeting Houses in the North of England* (1994), 45-6
- ⁶⁷ Mr. 'Welch' is elusive. He does not appear in the authoritative *Hall's Circuits and Ministers: An Alphabetical List of the Circuits in Great Britain. ... 1765 to 1912* (revised edition by T. Galland Hartley (c. 1912), or in J. B. Sheldon (ed.), *Ministers and Probationers of the Methodist Church* (1968). He can be identified, however, with confidence as the Revd. Thomas H. Walsh, who was accepted 'on trial' in 1840; *The Minutes of the Methodist Conferences from the First Held in London ... IX* (1843), 152. At the 1841 Conference it was said that he had travelled for two years (302), and between 1841 and 1843 he was a minister for the Carlisle circuit. At the 1843 Conference (485) he was sent to Workington. *The Minutes of the Methodist Conferences...*, X (1848), 2, shows that he was admitted a minister 'in full connexion with Conference' at the Birmingham Conference on 31 July 1844. Walsh remained as a minister at Whitehaven between 1844 and 1845, (*Minutes*, X, 36). Cockermouth was served by the Workington circuit between 1840 and circuit reorganization in 1854, *Hall Circuits and Ministry*, 131, 597. Mr. Walsh renounced Methodism and joined the Established Church in 1848. Cumbria Record Office, (Whitehaven), St. Bees' Theological College Students' Entry Book 1846-1850, YDEC 2/1/2, p.119; College Calendars 1854-1859, YDEC 2/1/4. The Revd. T. H. Walsh was curate of St. Peter's, Oldham, in 1857/8, *The Clergy List for 1858*, 304. He was later beneficed in Derbyshire, *Crockford's Clerical Directory* (1860), 634; (1870), 734; (1880), 1040; (1886), 1230; *The Clergy List* (1882), 432; (1886) 493. He died intestate, at 2 Tonedale Villas, St. Mark's, Cheltenham, and his personal estate was worth £466.7.6; M. J. Crossley Evans, 'From Wesleyan Preacher to Anglican Parson: A Life of the Revd. Thomas Harris Walsh (1821-1886)', *The Journal of the Cumbria Branch of the Wesley Historical Society*, No 62, Autumn 2008, 18-25
- ⁶⁸ Mannex and Whelan, *History, Gazetteer*, 524, 'a good building in Market Street'. It was erected in 1841, ceased to be a place of worship in 1932, and was converted into the town hall in 1934, C. Stell, *RCHME: An Inventory*, 47; J. B. Bradbury, *History of Cockermouth*, 162-3, states that the church seated 850, and cost £1,800
- ⁶⁹ Brown Rigg was the home of Mungo Glaister, the yeoman farmer of Red Flat with whom he had stayed in 1825 and 1832. The nine days he stayed with Mr Glaister in 1845 indicates that he was convalescent there after his ordeal. For Glaister's will see the Cumbria Record Office (Carlisle), P1864/138, (1864)
- ⁷⁰ If Dewing was correct, Shap's great growth must have been between 1817 and 1829. In the latter year, Parson and White, *A History*, 600, list six licensed premises, the Bull's Head, the New Inn, the King's Arms, the Crown, the Greyhound and the Queen's Head. *Pigot and Co.'s National Commercial Directory: Cumberland, Lancashire & Westmoreland* (1828-9), 322 also lists six inns and public houses. Both the King's Arms and Greyhound were called posting houses. In 1849, Mannex, *History, Topography*, 237-41, says that Shap then had 'two good inns, the King's Arms and the Greyhound and several public houses' about 150 detached houses and 600 inhabitants. There were then seven licensed premises in Shap, the six mentioned in 1829, with the addition of the Duke's Head.
- ⁷¹ On the Lancaster and Carlisle Railway
- ⁷² Pevsner, *The Buildings of England; Cumberland and Westmorland*, 146, states that the church was built by the Leeds manufacturer, John Marshall, who bought the estate in 1832, and employed the architect, Anthony Salvin (1799-1881) to design St. John the Baptist between 1836 and 1838, J. Marsh and A. Bonney, *Dear Mr. Salvin: The story of the building of a 19th century Ulverston church* (Kendal, 1999), 3; 80

⁷³ Mannex, *History, Topography*, 291, states that the Giant's Grave consists of two large pillars of 11 and 10 feet high and one smaller pillar known as the Giant's Thumb. R. N. Bailey and R. J. Cramp, *Corpus of Anglo-Saxon Stone Sculpture, volume II, Cumberland, Westmorland, and Lancashire North of the Sands* (Oxford, 1988), 136-9

⁷⁴ Mannex, *History, Topography*, xiii; 214-5; 1¼ miles south-east of Penrith, the seat of the Rt. Hon. Henry Peter Brougham (1778-1868), Lord Brougham and Vaux, Lord Chancellor 1830; Pevsner, *The Buildings of England; Cumberland and Westmorland*, 235, says that the hall was built c. 1830-40

⁷⁵ Mannex, *History, Topography*, 153-6 gives the translation of the inscription from Latin thus:

‘I Thomas Wharton here do lie
 With my two wives beside me,
 Ellen the first, and Ann the next,
 In hymen's bands who tied me.
 O earth resume thy flesh and bones,
 Which back to thee are given,
 And thou, O God, receive our souls
 To live with thee in heaven’.

Lord Wharton died in 1568, and his chapel was then roofless. Mannex, *History, Topography*, 155, says that ‘the chancel was nearly all rebuilt a few years ago’. W. Whelan, *The History and Topography of the Counties of Cumberland and Westmorland* (Pontefract, 1860), 742-3, states that the chancel was rebuilt in 1847, half the cost was raised by subscription and half was given by the vicar. The Hartley chapel was restored in 1849 and the Wharton chapel in 1850. see L. Butler (ed.), *The Church Notes of Sir Stephen Glynne for Cumbria (1833-1872)*, C.W.A.A.S., Extra Series, XXXVI, (Kendal, 2011), 80-82.