

THE RATE BOOK OF THE PARISH OF CHEAM FROM 1730 TO 1753.

BY

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I HAVE recently had the opportunity of looking over the rate book of the Parish of Cheam for the years 1730 to 1753, which is in the possession of one of the inhabitants of Cheam. It seems that two rate books had been kept, one intended to be used for the half-year Lady-day to Michaelmas, and the other from Michaelmas to Lady-day, but actually the Overseers were very careless in their accounts. For several years both accounts appear in one book, but in 1731 and from 1743 to 1753 the details of the rates received do not appear at all, and presumably they were in the other book, but fortunately the minutes of the Vestry Meetings for these years are in this book, and they usually contain the balance sheet for the year, or similar details that show what the rates produced.

Cheam at that time was a very small place. There were 65 rateable properties on the rate list, of which 11 were for land, leaving 54 for houses. Allowing $5\frac{1}{2}$ persons to each house, this gives 300 inhabitants. Sutton, its nearest neighbour, was only about two-thirds the size of Cheam and had about 200 inhabitants. They were both off the main roads to London, Cheam's way to London being by the Epsom-London road, which was reached from Cheam by a track going past Cheam Park gates, and across Cheam Common, joining the main road near where the "Victoria" Inn now stands. The present Malden Road was not made till 1780. Sutton's way to London was via Mitcham. Cheam Road was not made till 1755, and the way from Cheam to Sutton was along Park Road and Love Lane, past the "Boney Hole" and along what is now Tate Road into West Street. Sutton

was a village with about forty houses all situated just north of St. Nicholas' Church, which was the most southerly building in the place on the edge of the Downs and fields. Brighton Road was not made till 1755, though there would be a track between Sutton and Banstead, probably much in the same position as the Brighton Road. There seems to have been little communication between Cheam and Sutton, as the registers show little intermarriage between the inhabitants of the two villages, and in 1639 and 1642, when plague was raging in Cheam, the registers show no increase in the deaths in Sutton, while in 1666 when plague was raging in Sutton, no deaths from plague were registered in Cheam. Sutton is only twice mentioned in this rate book.

The rate book shows that there were three large farms in Cheam, probably Cheam Court Farm (demolished in 1929 and the barns reconstructed to form St. Alban's Church), Church Farm (still standing behind St. Dunstan's Church and known as Cheam Farm House), and a farm at Lower Cheam which stood near the angle of Tate Road and Gander Green Lane. There were five smaller farms.

Of large properties West Cheam Manor stood in the centre of the village in the ground now occupied by the War Memorial. This was formerly the residence of Lord Lumley, and in 1730 belonged to the Rev. and Honble. Robert Lumley Lloyd, who was rector of St. Paul's, Covent Garden, and who died in that year. The Rev. Lumley Lloyd left the Manor to the patron of his living, the Duke of Bedford. After 1730 the Duke of Bedford paid the rates on the Manor, but there is no record of his ever having lived there, and most probably it was occupied by Mrs. Jane Pattinson, whose tombstone in the churchyard records that she was waiting woman to the Duchess of Bedford, that she attended the Duchess in her last illness, and that on the death of the Duchess the Duke gave her a pension of £500 a year, which was paid to her quarterly till she died twenty years afterwards. Mrs. Pattinson lived in Cheam, and was very generous to the Parish, some of the Church plate still existing was given by her.

The Rectory stood very much as it stands at present. Cheam School, recently pulled down, had been built in 1718, only a few years before the rate book begins, and was flourish-

ing under the headmastership of Dr. Sanxay (the original of Dr. Syntax). The old Tudor house "Whitehall" where the school was held before 1718, had again become a private residence, but it may be identified with the "Old School House" mentioned among the rateable properties. A somewhat mysterious building called "the Beanor" may have been a class room that was built in connection with Cheam School when it was at "Whitehall," which has, within the last few years, had an upper storey put to it and been made into a private residence now called "Necton" in the Malden Road. It is difficult to see what a "Beanor" was, but it has been suggested that it may have been a sort of Parish Room where "beanfeasts" were held.

The only property named in the list of assessments is "Little Grove," the position of which is not known, but it may have given the name to the present "Grove Road."

The "Poor Lands" (and possibly the "Almshouses") may have been the land and cottages that Samuel Pierson of "The White House" had left for the poor of the parish, which charity is still administered by the "Consolidated Cheam Charities."

In the list of the assessment of rates the properties are only mentioned under the names of the owners, with no clue as to where they were situated or what was the occupier's business, except in one case where there were two Thos. Rokes, one put down as a carpenter and the other as a labourer. However, in the various items of expenditure the trades of several of the ratepayers can be identified, such as the inn-keepers, the tailor, shoemaker, etc. The names are not put down in alphabetical order, or in order of value, though the larger properties are more towards the beginning of the list and the smaller ones later on, and in each year the order is nearly the same. It is possible that they may roughly be in geographical sequence, and working on these lines it is possible to identify some of the properties, and to get the plan of Cheam at that time. The names of the landlords of the three old inns, the "Red Lion," "Harrow" and "Plough" can be identified, and serve as a guide, but it cannot be proved which inn they kept, though it seems certain that Holley kept the "Red Lion." There is no mention of the brewery

which had stood in Cheam since the twelfth century, but it may be included in one of the farms. The "Red Lion" still stands as it originally did but has a new front. The "Harrow" has been rebuilt recently. It stands on the site of a thirteenth-century pottery kiln. The "Plough" has now disappeared, but it originally stood at the corner of Malden and Cheam roads, and was pulled down about 1900. Cheam Court Farm immediately adjoined the village and probably the brewery was attached to it. There was a large house at the corner of Ewell Road and Park Lane, the paving of the stable yard of which has recently been found in the garden of one of the houses in Parkside. On the south side of the High Street was a Tudor house with good chequer work of chalk and flints which has only recently been pulled down. On the north side of the High Street a Tudor house with chequer work walls is still standing. A shop next to it is a sixteenth-century house which has been refaced on the street side. This had been built on the site of a thirteenth-century pottery kiln. Park Lane on its south side was much the same as it is now, but the north side of the lane had a red-brick wall about 12 feet high, which was the garden wall of West Cheam Manor. On the 15th of May a fair is held in this lane, as it has been since the fair was instituted in 1259. This part of Park Lane was formerly known as "the Market Furlong." It is a most inappropriate place now for a fair, but it can only be done away with by Act of Parliament. To do away with this fair after it has been held annually for nearly 700 years would be a great pity, but as there is now so much recreation ground belonging to the Borough, it might be possible to find some other spot to hold it. There are no references to the fair in the Rate Book, which is surprising, as the inhabitants at that time seem to have objected to noise, for instance—

Oct. 23 1753—To a woman with 4 children verey noisey—1/-.

Evidently to help an undesirable vagrant to go on to another parish. Another time one of the Overseers went to Croydon to complain to the Constable about the noise.

At East Cheam or Lower Cheam was the East Cheam Manor House, more recently known as Lower Cheam House, which

has recently been pulled down. There was a farm there and several other houses, a few of which still remain.

The Parish Meetings were held twice a year in December and May and the accounts were balanced and signed by the Overseers. In several cases one or two of the Overseers signed with a mark, although they had property that was assessed at a high value. Two of the Overseers kept the accounts of the spending of the money. It would seem that they did not actually keep the books themselves but paid someone to do it, as the entry "paid for making the book" (1/-s. or 2/-s.) constantly appears. Most of the writing is far from good, and in some cases, possibly where the Overseers kept the books themselves, the writing is almost unreadable. On the other hand in a few cases the writing is excellent. The book was kept very painstakingly. Nearly every item on the debit side is prefaced with the word "paid for" (often "pade for") or "disbursed for" (generally "disburst for"). Women are described as "Goody," "Dame," or "Widow" (usually spelt "Widdo"). Only on a very few occasions is "Mrs." used.

Until 1746 the old church with its two aisles and tower was standing, but in that year most of the church was pulled down and rebuilt, and in this period of rebuilding the Overseers' meetings were held in the tower (which was not pulled down) or in the "Red Lion." In each half-year one of the first entries on the "disbursement" side of the ledger is the entry "paid Mr. Holley at the vestry meeting" various sums usually two to four shillings. These seem to refer to refreshments supplied to the Overseers at the meetings at the expense of the ratepayers. The rates were almost entirely spent on the relief of the poor except an annual charge (fixed by the Justices at Petty Sessions) for the High Constable, "for goals (*sic*) and Hospital and for moving vagrants," an occasional charge for "the repair of the Almshouse," and for "repair of the stocks." The only charges made for education is 2*d.* expended in buying a "primer" for one of the Franklin boys, and for about three years 2*d.* a week to Dame Blewett for teaching Tanner's boy, afterwards raised for 1 year to 3*d.* a week and for about 6 months to 4*d.* The only other expense for public works is in 1751 when money was paid

For building a Hutt for Dame Purver att the Field Gate—6/8*d.*

Probably Dame Purver's duty was to open and shut a gate on the track which is now the Cheam Road, or on the one from Cheam to the Ewell-London road.

The Overseers had to do a certain amount of travelling in connection with transferring paupers to their proper parishes. For instance—

1735. June 5—For going to London a bout Tho Sherwood—13/3
 Aug 4—Going to Epsom and London a bout Thos Sherwood—15/2½
 Aug 11—Going to Epsom for ye order—5/4
 25—Carrying Tho Sherwood with ye order—9/6
 Oct 2—Going to London a bot Tho Sherwood & a horse—13/-
 Paid to William Smithers & Allen Wells going to London about T. Sherwood—6/8

In this case the Overseers appear to have been successful in getting Thos. Sherwood transferred to another parish, but sometimes other parishes were able to get their paupers transferred to Cheam. For instance—

1732. Nov. 22—For a speecal warrant and sumans and other expenses at Epsom for Bringin in John Cole—14/6
 For the Corts fees at St Margritshill and our own Expences for Bringin in John Cole—
 £1-9-7½.

The Overseers frequently went to Epsom to get a warrant, and they also had often to go to Croydon to the Petty Sessions with regard to the recovery of rates that were in arrear, or for the prosecution of troublesome vagrants. Sometimes they had even to go to London to recover a rate. For instance—

1753. March 28—Ex Pences att Tending the Peetey Sessons and other Ex Pences—19/-
 Nov. —To the Justes Seeten for the moneys for the Deuke of Bedford's Rate—2/6
 To London then to geet the Rate att Blumsbery of Mr. Perkudy and expences—5/-
 Nov. 27—To London to the Justes att Midelsex to sine Mr. Miller's Bill, Justes Cocks Clark maken the Bill 2/6
 To Saint Ans Sahoo Parash for the money—5/-

The place where he got the money at last seems to have been Saint Anne's, Soho Parish.

One great object that the Overseers always had before them was to prevent vagrants settling in the parish and becoming a charge on the rates, so they were always trying to get them to move on to another parish. The item "gave to a poor man to go on" frequently occurs. The Overseers were also much afraid of any children of vagrants being born in the parish, as they would then be responsible for the child for the rest of its life, so many items show that a possible mother was moved on as quickly as possible.

Someone in the Parish was evidently appointed as local constable, for there are several items showing money having been paid to a local resident for "his work as constable."

Another expense to the parish was the constant occurrence of small-pox. Over and over again deaths are stated from this disease, or payments made for nursing people with it. It was probably brought by vagrants, of whom there were a great number. In October 1742 Jacob Broughton (who paid rates on a house rated at £5) was paid "ye small-pox Bill—£2-12-6." Possibly he was acting as a sort of health inspector. In 1741 on July 23rd is the item

Paid for two trusses of straw for a woman's child sick with the small-pox—1/-

and on August 1st.

Paid the Parson and Clark for burying the woman's child that had the small-pox—3/-

To Robert Bratton for coffin for the child—3/6

For a shroud—7d.

For Necessaries for the child while sick—5/2

The two trusses of straw might either be for the child's bed, or more probably for burning with an idea of disinfection.

There were several deaths the year before, and as more than usual was spent on beer for the bearers it is possible that the deaths were due to infectious diseases.

1740

May 26—The Minister and Clark for the Burying of Bridget—3/-
4 men carrying of her to the ground—2/-

Spent on the 4 men—6d.

June 11—To the Parson and Clark for buyring Bridget's child—3/-
To William Holley for beer for the burial Bridget's child—1/-

In 1742 there are 31 deaths mentioned in the Register instead of the usual average of 6 or 7.

On May 5, 1738, when Thos. Wells and Robert Broughton kept the accounts, the last item is

Paid my son a bill of £5-16-7.

This entry about "my son" does not appear again in the accounts till 1740, but from December 1740 to March 1741 the item "paid Son Tom for goods" appears over and over again. In two cases the word "Son" has been crossed out and "Smith" written. The names of the Overseers keeping the accounts at this time are not given, but the name "Smith" does not occur elsewhere in the Rate Book, so it is possible that "Tom" may have been the son of the scribe who kept the book. "Son Tom" seems to have kept a shop, as the items are all for goods supplied, meat, bread, malt and milk, beer and hops. One item is, however, not so clear—

March 7th 1741—A pint of wine for Son Tom—1/-

The books were taken to Croydon once a year to be audited and signed by two Justices of the Peace. The auditing of the books seems somewhat perfunctory, for there are many mistakes in the accounts that have passed the auditor, chiefly money received (for rates or otherwise) being put down among the disbursements. On one occasion however, in May 1750, the Justices refused to sign the accounts. The books were taken to Croydon by Thos. Hickson, one of the Overseers who could not write but who signed with a mark a declaration on oath that the accounts were correct. However, the Justices would not certify them, and they had all to be written out again, and brought back in the following October when they were duly certified. Looking at the accounts one feels that the Justices were fully justified in acting as they did, since they are very badly written and have many obvious mistakes in favour of the Overseers showing that they had spent more money than they really had done. In justice to Thos. Hickson this was probably done in ignorance, and not by intention.

The hospital appears to have been at Croydon, as shown by this item :

April 24, 1747—Paid for Cart and Horses to Croydon with a Poor man with a Broken Leg and other expenses—£0-19-6.

The weekly amounts allowed to the different families was not large :

Nov. 14, 1746—Agreed on by the Vestry to allow Old William eighteen pence per week, and the widow Broughton 6*d*

As a rule a widow appears to have received 1/6 a week and another 6*d*. for each child, and in several cases the widow's rent is paid. If the child is an orphan, 1/6 or 2/- is paid for their board, until they reach 12 years old.

Some of the families can be traced for several years. Ann Dancer first received 1/3 a week in January 1733 which was soon raised to 1/6. In 1734 Thos. Dancer was summoned before the Justices, and is not again mentioned, but Ann Dancer's family appear in the books up to 1753. Ann Dancer had several children as her pension rose from year to year up to 3/-. The entries for clothes show that the family consisted of two girls and a boy John. Ann Dancer died in 1739 and the three children were boarded at George Plowman's at 2/- a week each. One of the girls died of small-pox in 1742, and in 1743 the other went to London, probably to go into service, but there are items for her clothing up to 1747, which seems to show that her wages were paid to the Overseers. In November 1746 she came back to the parish and Thos. Crockford received 2/- a week for her board, till she died in April 1747. In 1748 the boy, John Dancer, went out to work at 3/- a week. His wages were paid to the parish, but he received a certain amount of clothing. The name of Dancer disappears from the book after 1749, when he probably came off the care of the parish, but after that up to 1753 the name of John Dancer appears as being paid for clothes for the poor, so it is likely that he became a tailor.

Another family whose history can be traced for several years is the Franklin family. Daniel Franklin was a ratepayer up to 1738, living in a house rated at £3 a year. He must have died about this time as Widow Franklin first appears in the accounts in June 1739, when she regularly received 3/- a week. She died of small-pox in 1742, leaving three boys,

Daniel, James and John. In July 1745 Daniel Franklin was apprenticed to some trade—

July 28, 1745—Paid at the Sineng of Danell Francklings indentors
—2-1
Sept 1 . . . Paid Mr Miller for macking the indentors—7/6

He was taken from the parish on May 18, 1746. As the registers show that he was baptized on Dec. 5, 1733, he would be 13 years old when the parish ceased to be responsible for him. The two other boys seem to have been boarded with Widow Jupp till 1747, when one of them disappears from the book, but the other one went to work in 1748 when he was about 10 years old at a wage of £2 a year. This wage is paid to the parish. He still lived with Widow Jupp, his board being paid from the rates, and he is supplied with clothing until 1750.

Another interesting story that can be traced is that of "the girl at Jupps." This entry constantly appears from 1742 to 1751. Up to 1742 George Jupp paid rates on a house of a rateable value of £2 per annum. He died in 1742 and his widow boarded children, one of whom is always known as the girl at Jupps. It is not till 1751, when Widow Jupp died that the entry is altered to Kate Brooks, who got 1/6 a week and her clothing. Kate Brooks was an illegitimate child, born in the parish and christened on March 1 1736. In March 1752, when Kate Brooks was 16 years old, appears the entry "For 4 journeys to London with Brooks to Dr. Ward £1-0-0." Probably she was taken up to see about a situation, which she got and was away for a time, though money is paid for her clothing. These expenses for clothing appear till the last entry in the book on May 4th, 1754, but as the balance sheet of the last year is not in this book it cannot be seen if her wages were paid to the parish. The items of clothing given to her are interesting. In 1750 3/- was paid for "Linnen." In 1751 she had a coat for 3/6, two pairs of shoes for 3/6 and 2/6, a gown for 6/6, and a pair of stockings for 9d. In 1752 she had a pair of stockings for 10d., a gown at 7/-. In 1753 she had a "pette cote," for 3/-, an apron for 2/1, a pair of stockings for 1/4 and the shoemaker was paid 8/10 for her shoes and mending. The

last entry in the book about her is that on March 25, 1754, she had new clothes to the value of 10/6.

Another name that constantly appears in the rate book from January 1738 to May 1754 is that of Edward (or Ned) Goldsmith, upon whom large sums were paid for clothing, amounting in the 16 years to over £50, out of all proportion to what was spent on the poor of the parish, and large amounts were paid at one time, for instance—

- Aug. 4, 1745—Paid for cloth for Edward Goldsmith Close and hats—£2-8-8
 Paid Georg King for making—11/-
 do for a pare of Stockengs & Gloves—3/4
 do for 12 Eles of Cloth and Chiterlings—15/6
 do paid Mr Miles for a pare of new shoes 4/8

which amounts in all to £4-3-2

- Nov. 9, 1742—Paid a Tayler's Bill for Edward Goldsmith—
 £3-6-4
 April 24, 1748—Paid for Close for Edwd Goldsmith—£6-10-6
 Sept. 4, 1750—Paid for a pr of Breches for Edwd Goldsmith—
 £1-1-0
 Mar. 31, 1751—Paid Mr Miles (the shoemaker) Bill for Edwd
 Goldsmith—£1-2-11
 Aug. 30, 1752—Paid for ½ a yard of Rushey Drab for Edwd
 Goldsmith—7d.
 Oct. 7 —For Rushey Drab & buttons and thread for Ed
 Goldsmith—6/3
 Dec. 11 —For mending a pr of Breeches and lining for Ed
 Goldsmith—3/3
 For 4½ yards of Rushey drab & buttons & thread
 6/6
 For 6 Ells of Dowlass Button and making i pr.
 Stockings—8/6
 12 Ells Dowlass & Button for Ed. Goldsmith—
 15/9
 Dec. 29, 1753—Ed Goldsmith had 2 pair of new shoes and
 Buckles—10/8

There were several families with the name of Goldsmith among the ratepayers—two of them, Thomas and Edward, paid rates on large properties, and besides these there was William who paid rates on a property of a rateable value of £13, and Henry who paid on a house rated at £2 a year. This Henry seems to have fallen on evil times, for in February 1752 he began to receive a dole of 2/6 a week, which later was raised to 3/- and then to 4/-.

It is possible that the Edward Goldsmith, upon whose clothes so much was spent, may have been the Parish Beadle, and that the clothes were his uniform. The shoes with buckles, the breeches and waistcoats that were provided for him, rather look like it. He may have been a relation of one of the other Goldsmiths that we know resided in the parish.

Many of the entries relate to money given to the "Random Poor," and many to entries about fuel, which chiefly consist of hundreds, half hundreds or quarter hundreds of "bavins" (often spelt "babens"), *i.e.* bundles of faggots which cost on an average 16/- a hundred. Occasionally a bushel of coal is given at a cost of 1/2 or 1/4 a bushel. A bushel of coal weighs 80 lb., which would make the cost about £1-17-4 a ton.

A very remarkable incident occurred in 1750. On March 22nd is the entry—

Paid then and before to Wm. Thomson and Thos. Wells for Monies expended by them in several Journies into Oxfordshire & Middlesex to search the Register and find out Witnesses to prove the Marriage of James King to a former Wife before his pretended Marriage to Ann Austin who was removed by an Order from Sutton to Cheam, & charges in bringing the Witnesses to the Qr. Sessions upon an appeal against the said Order—£19-8-5

Paid to Mr Acton the Attorney his Bill for carrying on the Prosecution of the said Appeal—£13-10-0

Ann Austin first appears in the book on June 14th, 1749, when Mrs. Badger is paid £2 for Ann Austin, and various other payments are made to Mrs. Badger on Ann Austin's account till March 9th 1750 when there was paid to her 16/6 being "the Remainder of the Money due to her for nursing Austin."

In the register of baptisms is the entry :

Thomas son of Ann Austin a bastard baptised June 18th 1749.

It would appear that Ann Austin had been sent to Cheam from Sutton in June 1749, as she claimed to be the wife of a certain James King. Cheam contested the order sending her there, and spent £32-18-5 in legal expenses, in addition to the £6-19-6 already spent in nursing her, making a total expenditure on her account of £39-17-11.

It does not appear who this James King was that Ann

Austin claimed as her husband. The Rev. James King was Rector of Cheam at that time, but it was not likely to have been he. There were other families of the name of King in the parish at that time—George King, a tailor, was a ratepayer, his house being valued at £5 a year. The parish seems to have won its case, as after March 9, 1750, Ann Austin's name does not appear again in the book. However, all these expenses had to be paid for, the legal expenses alone requiring a rate of 9*d.* in the £. Accordingly we find that the rates for 1749 are the highest recorded in the book, being 6*d.* in the £ (bringing in £27) for the first half of the year and 1/3 in the £ (bringing in £67) for the second half, making 1/9 in the £ (bringing in a total of £94) for the whole year.

The next highest rates were in 1739 when the two rates were 6*d.* and 1/- respectively, bringing in a total of £80, but this was accounted for by heavy expenses in repairs to the Almshouses.

There was only one rate in 1734, which was at 4*d.* in the £, and the next lowest rates were in 1733 when the first rate was 3*d.* in the £ and the second 2*d.*, making 5*d.* for the year. In 1735 they were 6*d.* In 1736 they rose to 7*d.*, in 1737 to 8*d.*, and 1738 to 10*d.* After the rise to 1/6 in 1739 they fell a little in 1741 to 1/- and rose again in 1742 to 1/3. In 1743 the first rate was 6*d.* in the £, but the balance sheet for that year and the amount of the second rate does not appear in the book, and all the accounts for 1744 are missing, so presumably they were in the second book. In 1745 the two rates amounted to 1/- in the £, in 1746 to 1/-, in 1747 to 11*d.*, in 1748 to 1/-, in 1749 to 1/9. In 1750 there was one rate at 9*d.*, but no record of a second rate. In 1751 it was 1/3, and in 1753 1/1. This is the last balance that appears in the book.

The actual rateable values of the properties are not given, but they can be obtained by reckoning the amounts from the amount of the rates collected. In 1734 the actual rateable value of the properties in the parish was £1,023, in 1742 it was £1,059, and in 1753 it was £1,036. The difference in the rateable value was probably from rates not being received, as the values of the properties remained the same, at any rate up to 1742, when two or three new ones were added.

There are two cases in which there are items for the whole

expenses of marriages having been paid out of the rates. The first is on May 24th 1752 :

Paid for the Marige of Eliz. Mitchell & a ring & other Exspenses—
£2-8-10.

Eliz. Mitchell's name first appears on April 17th, 1752, when she received 1/8, and after that she had a weekly allowance of 1/6 till May 17th, a week before she was married. The name of the man she was married to is not given. There was another marriage on August 24th, 1753.

The Hole expense of John ammon an Elizabeth Simkin marred
£5-3-6

The name of Eliz. Simkin first appears in January, 1742, eleven years before her marriage, when she was receiving 1/6 a week, and her rent which amounted to £1-14-6 for nine months. She then had a child which died of small-pox and was buried at the expense of the parish, and Thos. Walters is paid 1/6 for carrying Simkin to Sutton. Her name does not appear again till November, 1750, when she again receives an allowance of 1/6 a week and her rent until her marriage. Unfortunately in the Cheam marriage register the entries for 1752 and 1753 are all missing.

The rate-book shows how all the money collected by rating property was expended on the relief of the poor. This Poor Rate was instituted in the reign of Elizabeth for that purpose and was intended to be a tax on people's incomes. There was no method at that time for computing people's income, so it was assumed that everyone expended one-tenth of their income on their house. Therefore if you taxed the house it was the same thing as taxing the income.

Since the time of this rate-book, many things have been added to what the rates were to defray, things that were never even thought of in the time of Elizabeth, police, education, street-lighting, fire-protection, public works, etc., and the cost of all these is still made a charge on the value of the house lived in, although the income of everyone is now known.

APPENDIX

The following assessment of the Parish of Cheam in 1734, with the balance sheet for the year, shows expenditure and amount received from the rates and the declaration of its correctness by the Justices of the Peace.

An Assesmt made by the Inhabitants of the Parish of Cheam for the collecting of Money for the relief of the Poor att 4d in the Pound 1734.

* Rateable

Values		
60	His Grace the Duke of Bedford	1- 0- 0
14	Mr Wyatt	0- 4- 8
15	Mrs Cresset	0- 5- 0
25	Mrs Sanxey (The new school built 1715)	0- 8- 4
—	Mr Matthews	- - -
3	Mr Weller	0- 1- 0
5	Mr Stanton	0- 1- 8
5	Mr Dubois	0- 1- 8
160	Jno Bartholomew for the Parsonage	2-13- 4
3	Do for my Lady Petree's land	0- 1- 0
56	Do for His Grace the Duke of Bedford's	0-18- 8
10	Do for Mrs Parkests land	0- 3- 4
28	Erasmus Saunders	0- 9- 4
59-10-0	Jno. Heath for his farm	1- 1-10
19	Do for His Grace the Duke of Bedfords land	0- 6- 4
110	Jno: Tatnall	1-16- 8
28	Tho: Gouldsmith	0- 9- 4
55	Tho: Wells for his farm	0-18- 4
2	Do for the late Mrs Parsons land	0- 0- 8
5	Do for the late Widow Shakeshaft	0- 1- 8
12	Robt Broughton	0- 4- 0
1	Do for His Grace the Duke of Bedfords land	0- 0- 4
12	The Widow Cole for the Lady Petree land	0- 4- 0
12	Do for His Grace the Duke of Bedfords land	0- 4- 0
47	James Badger for his farm	0-15- 8
2	Do for Little Grove	0- 0- 8
10	Bartholomew Gouldsmith	0- 3- 4
—	Mrs Higgs	0- 0- 0
46	Edward Gouldsmith	0-15- 4
2	Do for Mr Bartletts Barne	0- 0- 8
10	Willm Smithers for Mrs Scarwins land	0- 3- 4
4	Do for Beaner	0- 1- 4
12	Do for the Schoolhouse	0- 4- 0

* These rateable values were added afterwards in 1841 by someone with initials C. J.

Rateable
Values

22	Allen Wells		0- 7- 4
† 8	Tho. Borer	(Inn Keeper)	0- 2- 8
† 12	William Holley	(Inn Keeper)	0- 4- 0
18	Tho. Lancashire		0- 6- 0
10	Tho. Walters		0- 3- 4
5	Nicholas Bartlett		0- 1- 8
5	Nicholas Bartlett for Mrs Bartlett		0- 1- 8
9	Sthephen Blundle		0- 3- 0
16	Jno. Bishop		0- 5- 4
2	Crispin Chambers		0- 0- 8
2	Richard Latham		0- 0- 8
2	Tho. Roke (Carpenter)		0- 0- 8
4	Abraham Phipps		0- 1- 4
12	Jonathan Head		0- 4- 0
2	Henry Gouldsmith		0- 0- 8
2	Tho. Baston		0- 0- 8
2	William Beams		0- 0- 8
13	William Heath		0- 4- 4
1	Do for Bucks barn		0- 0- 4
4	Richard Gouldsmith		0- 1- 4
3	Francis Purver		0- 1- 0
2	Mathew Roke		0- 0- 8
3	Joseph Heath		0- 1- 0
—	Tho. Roke (Labourer)		— — —
† 10	Tho Badger	(Inn Keeper)	0- 3- 4
9	The Lady Petree		0- 3- 0
1	Jno. Gouldsmith		0- 0- 4
2	Mark Skinner		0- 0- 8
—	Tho. Gouldsmith Junr.		— — —
2	George Jupp		0- 0- 8
4	Daniel Franklin		0- 1- 4
4	Jno. Tanner for Mrs Barnes		0- 1- 4
—			0- 7- 4
£—			— — —
1023	In all		17- 3- 2
[sic]	Received of the last Overseers		1- 8- 3
			£18-11- 5

April 7. 1735 These accepts then examined and signed by us at a Vestry held at the Parish Church at Cheam.

	Tho. Pickern, Curate.	
	T. Bartholomew	} Churchwardens.
T.W. The mark	of Tho Wells.	
	Erasmus Saunders.	
	John Tatnell.	
	Wm. Weller.	

† Occupation inferred from items in accounts.

*Note at the end of the "disbursements" from April 21st, 1734,
to April 7th, 1735.*

April 7th, 1735—These Acpts. then passed by us at the Vestry—
Thos. Pickern, Curate.

T.W. The mark	of Tho. Wells	}	Churchwardens.
			Erasmus Saunders.
			Wm. Weller.
			John Tatnall.

Disbursd.—	£21-10-5
Assessmts—	18-11-5
	2-19-0

Rem. due to the Overseers 2-19-0

Declaration by the Justices of the Peace.

May 3rd, 1735.

The Accts for the maintenance of the Poor of Cheame have been seen and allowed by us his Majties Justices of the Peace whose names are hereunder written and there appears to be due to the Accomptants on the said accts the sum of two pounds nineteen shillings. Given under our hands the day and year abovesaid.

Denis Onslow.
Herbt. Price.