

Windsor's Experiment in Poor-Relief 1621-1829.

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ANY examination of the history of local Poor Relief reveals an intermittent flow of gifts from parish officials which may well have served to pauperise some of the able-bodied recipients. There must have always been the feeling in the more munificent towns that if you were sharp enough you could always get something for nothing—even if it were only a loaf of bread. The municipalities of the 16th century were well aware of this and turned to the provision of work as an additional form of poor relief. Work, as a Windsor benefactor put it, would restrain the “lazy and vicious” from “their ill habits” and, better still, would involve a more economic use of man power and help the growth of trade and the rise in the standard of living.

Many municipalities therefore began experiments especially during Elizabeth's reign. The royal borough of New Windsor was one of the active towns¹; in 1591 the Hall book records “that all the Brethren of the hall and all other Inhabitants shall be assessed according to their ability by the subsidie after the rate of 12d in the pound towards levying of a stock to set the poor on worke.”² Rather typically, governmental action followed on municipal, and in 39 Eliz. cap. 3, all overseers throughout the country were empowered, with the consent of the justices, “to raise weekly or otherwise by taxation of every inhabitant, and every occupier of lands in the said parish, in such competent sum and sums of money as they shall think fit, a convenient stock of flax, hemp, wool, thread, iron, and other necessary ware and stuff to set the poor on work.”

Unfortunately it is just at this point that a gap occurs in Windsor's records, and when we hear next of poor relief private charity has stepped in to supplant municipal taxation. Andrew Windsor of Bentley, in the County of Southampton, made a will dated 15th of May, 1621. “The words in his said will, concerning his Legacy given for the good of the poore of new windsor, aforesaid, was as followeth :³ “Item, I give and bequeath unto the Deane and maior of New Windsor, in the County of Berks, or by what other names they are incorporated called or knowne ; And to their Successors, and Assignes for ever ; The sume of Two hundred pounds, of Lawfull mony of England, which I will shall

¹ A useful description of parallel municipal action—at Wisbech—may be read in Dr E. M. Hampson's *Treatment of Poverty in Cambridgeshire*, 31-8. The schemes did not however last long after 1660.

² Tighe and Davis, *Annals of Windsor*. I, 657, quoting Ashm. MSS 1126.

³ The description is taken from the Chamberlain's Account Book, 1636-1725.

be Laid out, In the buying of Land, or shall be preserved and remaine as a Stock, for Ever. And shalbe convertid and imployed In the making of Cloth ; wherby the poore their maie, and shalbe for ever and continuallie sett on worke ; To wch end and purpos and for none otherend or purpose I have hereby demised the same 200 £1."

At first, after the death of Andrew Windsor the gift remained unpaid, but it was eventually secured, and a yearly rent charge of £14 in lieu of it was charged upon Windsor Mill. The Mill was later conveyed to Queen Anne, so in 1725 the corporation granted a rent charge of £14 per annum out of the "Butchers Shambles" in the market place¹.

When the annual payment of £14 first became available a separate account was started to administer the bequest. This was not put under the charge of the Corporation Chamberlain (*i.e.* Treasurer), nor under the Chamberlain for the poor (who administered other charities, and gave regular doles to 50 or 60 widows and "goodwyves" every year). Instead a third treasurer was appointed to administer the bequest; usually he was a member of the corporation, once an ex-mayor. His separate accounts appear in the general Account book from 1640 until they are merged in the Accounts of the Chamberlain for the poor in 1657 and the separate accountant yields up his duties to the Chamberlain for the poor. In 1664 the Chamberlain for the poor was given a separate account book which ends in 1764, although work was continued till 1829. Thus we have a more or less continuous administration of the stock for 189 years: this is in sum a considerable undertaking. It has never been seriously investigated;² the separate account book has not been used by local historians; and the success of the stock it reveals can therefore not have been considered by the Webbs who say: "from the latter part of the 17th Century onwards . . . probably no parish provided any stock of hemp, flax. . ."³

Andrew Windsor's bequest attracted at least two similar though smaller gifts. The first was that of Mathias Jenis, "gent. by Will gave £20 towards a stock for setting of poor people of Windsor on work, or to purchase some parcel of land for their relief."⁴ The second was a further £20 from Benjamin Chert for the "relief of poor there, in setting them to work or in purchasing some land for their yearly relief."⁴

The amalgamation of the Andrew Windsor stock with the Chamberlain for the poor's accounts meant that the rents due to the Chamberlain for the poor—about £20 per annum—were

¹ Tighe and Davis, *op. cit.*, II, 274-5.

² Though Miss Leonard remarks: "To some extent the donor's (Andrew Windsor's) intentions were fulfilled up to the (19th) century."—in *English Poor Relief*, 222.

³ Webb, *English Poor Law*, I, 170.

⁴ 32nd Charity Commissioners' Report, Pt. I, quoting "old MMS".

largely diverted from the customary doles¹ to the increase of the stock of flax and hemp. This made the total income of the stock about £35 *p.a.* or more, and although certain sums had to go to the repair of the Almshouse and to sudden calls for doles, most of it went to the provision of work. This of course gave a greater latitude for loss, and there was at first financial loss in this philanthropic work. The poor and the aged hardly spun as quickly or as satisfactorily as the professionals, and early treasurers of the fund are moved to record the loss sustained on each manufactured article.

The poor worked in their own homes or in the almshouses, until, in 1731, the Hon. Mr. Justice Reeve and Arabella his wife erected on the site of the old pest-house a Workhouse "According to the last Will and Testament of Richard Topham Esqr.² who gave for that Purpose the Sum of £500 wch sd Workhouse cost about the sum of £1075-16-8. The overplus being paid by the sd Mr. Justice Reeve."³ Mr. Topham had been very precise about his purpose in making his bequest. In his will he leaves the £500 for "procuring a convenient workhouse for employing in useful labour, the poor of the parish, and, if any of the said sum should be remaining, after the said workhouse should be provided, his Will was that it should be applied to the raising of a stock towards employing the said poor; and he earnestly recommended it to the Mayor churchwardens and overseers, frequently to inspect the said workhouse and carefully examine the accounts thereof that industry among the honest and industrious poor might be encouraged, and the lazy and vicious restrained from their ill habits and become useful to the country."²

In the plan appended to the description of the Workhouse in the Account Book there appear a Workroom, an "Eating Room," a pantry, a "Wett Larder," a Kitchen, a Master's Room, stores-room, brewhouse and washhouse. In 1850 this building was still standing; and is described as "an extensive building surrounded by a courtyard, situate in Sheet St., with a large garden at the back, containing altogether about half an acre."⁴ The building was used not only for "manufactories"—*i.e.* spinning, but also for "other trades"⁵, but, "for a great many years previous to the

¹ These were payments made probably quarterly and only provided at the most a total of 11/- in the year for each widow; at the least, but 1/-.

² See the Charity Commissioners' Report, *op. cit.*

³ In the Chamberlain for the Poor Account Book—a list of Charities made in 1732.

⁴ Tighe and Davis, *op. cit.*, II, 518-9.

⁵ Mr. Lipson (*English Economic History*, III, 478) has shown how the first quarter of the 18th Century was the first great age of workhouse building. An act of 1723 had empowered Churchwardens and overseers to purchase houses for workhouses, and by 1732 there were 50 in London, and 60 in the provinces. "The workhouse was one of the fruits of the long war with France which extended England's colonial empire abroad while at home the price was paid in the increase of destitution as a result of the decay of trade and consequent unemployment."

Poor Law Amendment Act (1835) the buildings were used as a poor house for the town of Windsor, and the repairs paid for out of the poor rates.

Following immediately on the building of the workhouse the provision of work increased greatly, trebled, and the middle of the 18th century saw the employment of the poor at its height—in spite of a marked trend away from state and municipal action elsewhere in the country. The accounts cease however in 1764 and the only further information about the provision of work appears in the 32nd Charity Commissioners' Report where it is stated that at the time of writing "The corporation pay annually the sum of £14 from their funds (this is the Andrew Windsor bequest), and carry it to an account for the supply of sheeting. Up to the year 1829 this money was employed, with other charities, in providing spinning for the employment of the poor. From change of circumstances this disposal of the money had become unprofitable, and it was difficult to obtain people to work at spinning. On 5 March, 1829, it was ordered that the system of paying for spinning be totally discontinued for the future, and that the money bequeathed by Andrew Windsor for that purpose be applied to the purchase of sheeting, to be given away annually by the corporation. Since that period 28 sheets at 10/- a sheet, have been given away annually on St. Thomas' day, each member of the corporation recommending one person."

The "change of circumstances" is unspecified. In the previous century Chief Justice Hale had supplied four reasons for the failure of employment schemes: (a) Lack of contributions; (b) Jealousy of tradesmen; (c) Timorousness of parish officers; (d) Smallness of the parish unit. (*cf.* "Discourse touching Provision for the Poor")¹. The second factor may have been operative here—but this is not likely for frequently the tradesmen seem to have helped operate the scheme. It is more likely that the vast development of Poor Law Relief, up to 1834, without a "workhouse test," had made the poor reluctant to work when they could draw relief without work. Thus in 1828-9 the Windsor Overseers disbursed £3580-10-9½ in poor relief². Why then should poor people spin? Another way of putting this would be to suggest that the provision of work had always to be on a small scale, and was quite incapable of coping with the vast needs of that period of destitution which arose when the Industrial Revolution coincided with costly foreign war. So, perhaps after all Chief Justice Hale's indictment of unenterprising parish officers was not wholly inapplicable even in the 19th century.

Yet within its limits the Stock had been successful. It had had a long life; there is no record of opposition to it; it must

¹ Quoted by E. Lipson, *op. cit.*, 470 ff.

² Tighe and Davis, *op. cit.*, II, 631.

have considerably eased the declining years of several hundred good men and women. Above all it had provided honourable and dignified work superior to the oakum-picking of 18th century schemes and to the haphazard doles of churchwardens and overseers. The Stock was essentially the product of a Mercantilist age and naturally failed to survive in the age of *laissez faire*. Now the wheel has turned full circle and the 20th century can well sympathise with an earlier attempt to produce some measure of "social security."

Some idea of the rise and fall of this "useful employment" in Windsor is provided by the following extracts from the two chamberlain's books. First, there is a year's account from the separate administration of the early period; then, a 17th century "combined" account; thirdly, an example of the scheme at its height; lastly, a summary of amounts expended, giving a bird's eye view of the whole project.

(I)

*The accompte of George Starkey gent late maior of the Towne, and Burrough of New Windsor within the Countie of Berks, Uppon the receipt of xiiii £ payd him by Thomas Chapman Chandler, then Chamberlain theire to sett the poore of windsor on worke; by virtue of the Last will and Testament of Andrew Windsor Esqre bearinge Deate the xv day of maye 1621 Anno 19 nuper Jacobi Ri' Angli' etc. . . .*¹

The aforesaid accountant disbursed as followith;	
In primis payd unto John Boyce; Richard Boyce; Mistress Daye; and others for five hundred pownds of hemepe; and for one hundred, and six pownds of Tow ² , sent from London, to Windsor, with water and Land carege.	16.15.04
payd unto Twentie six poore women for spinenge the aforesaid hemepe and Tow	12.03.04
payd Unto Roger Ingell and ffrawncis Phelps for weavinge of the yearne, soe spunn, as aforesaid.	05.05.08
Somatotalis of the paiments	33.14.04

Of which the aforesaid disburstmentes—the aforesaid Mr. George Starkey, then maior, Recevid as followith:
In primis of Mr. Thomas Chapman, being then Chamberlain, disburst out of the rentes, belonging to the maior bailefes and Burgesses, for the consideracion of the 200 £ in ther hands for the Buyenge of Land, or for setting the poore awork ackording to the will of Andrew windsor esqr, the some then of 14.00.00

¹ There follows here a statement of the terms of the will of Andrew Windsor.

² Tow is coarse and broken flax or hemp.

In the inplyemnt of the said fourtene pownds hee made of 500 lb of hempe hee bought 333 ells¹ of cloth wch cloth hee sowld for Twentie pounds Ten shillings and seven pence I say 20.10.07
Item hee meade of 106 lb of Tow wch he Likewise bought 78 els of cloth, wch hee Likewise sould for 03.05.05

Somatotalis of the mony and cloth is 37.16.00²

By which ackownte ther remaned of the Stock imployed by him, in his handes foure poundes one shillinge and foure pence. wch was paid by Mr.* George Starkey unto Mr. Charles Burgis then maior the 22 of Decemr. 1646 I say 04.01.04

In the presenc of Matthew Day, Anthony Watts, Richard Church, William Milles and William Stevenson.

(2)

Anno Dni' 1682 & 1683.

The accmpt of Silas Seabrow Chamberlain for the Poore.

	£ s. d.
Receipts.	
Of Mr. Randall Chamberlain for a year's rent ³	14.00.00
Of Mr. Boulton for a year's rent ⁴	08.00.00
of William Francis of Colebrooke for a year's rent ⁵	05.00.00
of Mr. Grove for a years rent ⁶	04.00.00
of Christopher Holder for a years rent ⁷	04.00.00
of Joseph Cole for a years rent ⁸	03.10.00

¹ The ell is 45 inches.

² Thus there was a loss of £9.18.4 on the 411 ells of cloth.

³ From Andrew Windsor's bequest.

⁴ For lands at Warfield called Butter Stakes left by Thomas Brotherton in 1510 for the use and support of the four Almshouses in Sheet Street.

⁵ For Munday's Close "lying between Woodbridge Lane and Moat Park" (now part of the private park belonging to the Crown) bequeathed by Richard Gallis in 1666 "for the aid behoof and relief of the Seven Alms-houses."

⁶ For 5½ acres called "East Mead" at Ruscombe, left by the will of Thomas Jenkinson in 1569 "that the Rents and profits thereof should be for Ever distributed amongst the Poor Inhabitants by the Mayor and three of the Eldest Aldermen and by the Minister of the same for the time being."

⁷ For a house in Peascod Street left by William Day that "the Issues and Profits" should be distributed "among the Poor Inhabitants by the Mayor and three of the Eldest Aldermen."

⁸ For 5½ acres in Mead Hay, Langley, the gift of Mrs. Margaret Osbourne in 1653, "to make a stock of cor and coals for ever for the poor." (This and previous references from the Chamberlain for the Poor's Account Book—List of Benefactions).

of Mr. Topham for a piece of Cloath ¹ 60 Ells	04.02.00
of Thomas Tester & others for a piece of Cloath 60 Ells	04.02.00
Of Mrs. Yandall fro a piece of Cloath 60 Ells	04.00.00
For weaveing 8 pieces 60 Ells each	10.00.00
For weaveing one piece 50 Ells	01.00.10
For weaveing 18 Ells of Hempen Cloath	00.06.00
For weaveing one piece 60 Ells of Narrow cloath	00.17.06
For weaveing 9 Ells of hempen cloath	00.03.00
Paid Robert Gates for mending Goody Dukes's window	00.01.00
For mending her flower (<i>sic</i> — ? floor)	00.00.06
Paid Arthur Mitchener for mending the Almshouses	00.08.00
Paid for Bread Mrs. Osbourne's guift ²	01.10.00
To the Wido. Blunt Wido. Bonnyface Wido. Burden each 6d per week 51 weekes ³	05.02.00
Paid Widow Burnham from 5th of January to the 24th of March which is 11 weeks, at 6d per weeke	00.05.06
Paid to the Widow Marks from January the 5th to June 29th 25 weeks at 6d per weeke	00.12.06
Paid Goody Dukes 40 weeks at 3d per weeke	00.10.00
Paid Margaret Starkey 20 weeks at 3d per weeke	00.05.00
Given to Severall poore people	00.05.11
Paid for entring this account	00.01.00
	<hr/>
Total	82.07.07
Rent due to the poore	
From Mr. Christopher Horsnail 2 yeares rent ⁴	00.04.00
And from Mr. John Topham ⁵	04.00.00

¹ There were two main types of cloth: broad at 16d, 17d or 18d per ell, and narrow at 10d per ell. There were also the (broad) coarse cloth at 15d, the 2 yards wide, at 7d, the "Huggerback" at 12d per yard.

² This was given out of the Mead Hay Rent from Mrs. Margaret Osbourne's bequest (*v. supra*). It was called the "Spinners bread," presumably since it was given to the poor who spun. It is known that inhabitants of the Almshouses had a prior claim to these gifts of bread, so it seems that the spinning too was undertaken by the poor living in the almshouses. Distribution of the Spinners bread was made by the Chamberlain on New Year's Day each year.

³ Gifts to the poor were sometimes more elaborate than in this year. The first claim for doles was from those accustomed to spin, but too ill to do so. Thus in 1674 "Pd to the Widdow Dollin being Ould and Could not Spin £1.3.0." Sometimes, as in 1689, money was given as well to those who were spinning. No money could be distributed by the Chamberlain without the consent of the Mayor, Aldermen, Bailiffs and Burgesses. This was decided after Mr. Thomas Ruck, Chamberlain, had given away £3.10.0 in small sums to 73 different persons without any authorisation. . . In the later period gifts tended to be more frequently of the cloth spun by the poor themselves. No attempt was made by the Chamberlain for the poor to meet all cases of distress since the Churchwardens, Overseers and the Mayor were all engaged in distributing charity and poor relief.

⁴ For 2 acres of arable in the common fields at Ferris Hill, Warfield. This is also part of the Bretherton bequest.

⁵ For other lands at Warfield, part of the Bretherton bequest.

of Mrs. Galland for 7 Ells of Cloath	00.09.04
of William Lyford for 20 Ells of Cloath	01.08.00
of Mrs. Grove for 10 Ells of Cloath	00.14.00
of Mrs. Pile for 18 Ells of Cloath	01.05.00
of Mrs. Lytton for 11 Ells of Cloath	00.15.00
of Davis in Eaton for 18 Ells of Hempen Cloath	01.01.00
of Mrs. Cary for 58 Ells at 15d per Ell	03.12.06
of Mr. Fassett, Mr. Welch & Mrs. Harrison for a piece of Cloath 59 Ells at 15d per Ell	03.18.00
For a piece of Cloath to myself 50 Ells at 17d per Ell	03.10.00
For another piece 20 Ells at 17d per Ell	01.08.08
For a piece of Hempen Cloath 9 Ells	00.09.09
For a piece 52 Ells at 15d per Ell	03.05.00
For a piece of Coarse 60 Ells at 14d per Ell	03.10.00
For 12 Ells of Narrow cloath	00.12.00
For 3 lb of Hemp	00.01.06
For 85 lb of Yarn at several prices	05.13.00
Sume	82.07.07

Anno Dni' 1682 & 1683

Disbursements.

For 65 dozen of Flax ¹ at 10d	32.10.00
For spinning 65 dozen at 8d ²	26.00.00
For 3 dozen and 6 lb of hemp at 6d	01.01.00
For Spinning 3 dozen & 3 lb of hemp	00.19.06

¹ Many people had spun and woven flax in the 16th Century, but in the 17th, merchants began to import the finished products, and home manufacture declined. In 1677 the inventor of a spinning machine for the linen trade put forth "Proposals for building in every county a working almshouse or hospital as the last expedient to perfect the trade and Manufactory of Linnen Cloth." However Ireland was much better suited to the manufacture of linen, and the trade never flourished in England." (Cunningham, *Growth of English Industry and Commerce*; *Modern Times*, 237n, 369-370.)

Burleigh had attempted to encourage the growth of hemp in this country, but as in the case of flax, home production and manufacture declined in the 17th century. Imports of hemp in the 18th century came from the American colonies; in 1704 a bounty of £6 per ton on hemp was given on its production—without success. It is interesting to notice how a local project thus tried—with or without design—to help two weak and struggling industries.

² The Flax was bought from various local dealers—from as many as five in 1666. It was then given to the poor who spun it into yarn and were paid for their work. The yarn was either sold (in considerable quantities after 1710), or given to local weavers who made it into cloth. The cloth was then bought from the weavers and sold openly to drapers, well-to-do private individuals, or to borough officials. The whole scheme was administered normally by the Chamberlain for the poor. Sometimes however it was put into the hands of the weaver or draper most concerned, and no accounts were kept by the corporation (See the summary of accounts below). In other years some individual was paid two guineas for managing the stock. (See the 1750-1 accounts.)

(3)

The Account of John Williams Chamberlain of the Poor for the year 1751.

Received

1751

29 Sep. of Mr Clarke one years Rent due at Michm.	1750	00.02.00
of Mr Hatch Chamberlain Do.	1750	14.00.00
of Mr Besouth Do.	1750	04.04.00
of Mr Hart Do.	1750	12.00.00
of Mr Phips Do.	1750	06.00.00
of Mr Jarman Do.	1750	04.00.00
of Mr Millard Do.	1750	04.00.00
of Mr Salter for Cloath & yarn sold viz. :		
1 pc. of Sheeting 50 Ells sold to Mr Parret		03.15.00
1 pc. of Sheeting Do. Cut to Mr Woodgate etc		03.15.00
1 pc. of Sheeting Do. to Lady Killmurry		03.15.00
1 pc. of Sheeting Do. to Mr Winch		03.15.00
1 pc. of Sheeting Do. to Mr Reading		03.15.00
2 ps. of Sheeting Do. to Dr Hayes		07.10.00
1 pc. of Sheeting Do. to Mr Cramwell		03.15.00
1 pc. of Sheeting Do. to Mr Lyon		03.15.00
18 ps. of Sheeting Do. to Mr Salter to Close		
	the Acct. 75/	67.10.00
44 doz. 2 lb. of yarn sold to sundry Persons	14/	30.18.04
11 doz. 4 lb of yarn sold to Mr Calter to Close		
	the Acct. 14/-	07.18.08
		<u>184.08.00</u>

yarn wove in the 27 ps. sheeting 111 doz. 3½
yarn sold 55 doz. 6

166 doz. 9½ in all.

Paid

for Bread given to the poor Mrs Osbourns Gift		01.10.00
allowd Mr Millards Taxis		00.13.07
allowd Mr Besouths Taxis		00.10.06
allowd Mr Jarmans Taxis		00.11.04
Mr Salter for 166 doz 9½ lb of Flax	at 10/	83.07.11
for 166 doz. 9½ lb of yarn Spinning	at 8/	66.14.04
for 27 ps. Sheeting weaving to 50 Ells each	21/	28.07.00
paid Nichs. Green for Managing the Stock one year		02.02.00
Cash given away to the poor		00.11.04
		<u>184.08.00</u>

This Account was Examin'd Adjusted & allowed by¹

¹ Apparently by no one ! Usually the accounts were audited by the Mayor, Aldermen, Bailiffs, etc.

(4)

Summary of Accounts, 1664-1764.

Year.	Quantity of Flax bought.	Payment for Spinning.	Payment for Weaving.	Notes on Sales.
1664 ¹	116 doz 3 lb	46.10.00	24.17.00	42 purchasers of lengths of 10, 20, 30, 50 ells at 15 or 16d. per ell.
1665	132 „	52.16.00	20.17.07 (1355 ells)	13 sales; 20 lots to Chamberlain.
1666	129 „	48.01.04	21.12.16	2 sales of 352 ells each; 6 smaller sales.
1667	137 „ 5 lb	54.19.04	30.06.06	25 sales. 760 ells to Chamberlain.
	3 „ hemp	00.18.00		2 to strangers.
1668	75 „ 3 lb	30.02.00	16.16.02	9 sales inclg. 30 lb of yarn.
1669	No account.	Work put in the hands of John Rutt.		
1670	103 „ 1 lb	41.04.08	21.04.11	10 sales—2 to Beaconsfield.
1671	109 „ ½ lb	43.16.00	20.00.00	6 sales; 240 ells to London.
1672	97 „	38.08.00	16.04.04	12 sales.
1673	No account.	John Cork employs the poor.		
1674	105 „ ½ lb	42.04.00	20.00.00	11 s. London; Burnham; Maidenhead.
1675	176 „	35.04.00	37.07.06	8 s. 103 lb yarn sold.
1676	No account.	John Cork employs the poor.		
1677	94 „	37.04.00	19.07.06	13 s. 2 Colnbrook; Reading; London.
1678	102 „ 8 lb	41.00.04	21.07.11	12 s. 2 London.
1679	79 „	28.08.00	14.12.06	4 s.
1680	77 „	33.04.00	18.09.05	10 s.
1681	89 „	35.12.00	19.15.00	9 s. including "Mr Plummers maids; Nurse York."
	5 „ hemp	01.06.00	00.13.04	
1682	65 „	26.00.00	11.18.04	12 s.
	3 „ 6 lb hemp	00.19.06	00.09.00	
1683	56 „	21.12.00	11.10.00	10 s.
	5 „ hemp	01.10.00	00.12.00	
1684	63 „	25.04.00	14.00.00	9 s. 2 Amersham; Beaconsfield; Weybridge; Egham.
1685	67 „	26.16.00	15.15.00	13 s. "the Queens Coachman"
1686	70 „	28.00.00	15.12.00	8 s.
1687	76 „	26.03.06	14.05.00	6 s.
1688	60 „	24.00.00	12.10.00	7 s. including William Rutt of Amersham & Nathan Dale of Beaconsfield.
1689	75 „	30.00.00	17.00.00	14 s.
1690	56 „	22.08.00	13.00.00	7 s.
1691	40 „ 2 lb		12.06.04	7 s.; "My Lady May."
1692	44 „ 6 lb	36.17.11	27.16.00	12 s. Several pieces sent to London
				44 doz 10 lb Flax sold from Townhall.
1693	66 „	22.08.00	17.04.10	9 s.
1694	60 „	24.00.00	14.11.10	7 s. 2 pieces sent to London.
1695	50 „	20.02.00	09.01.04	5 s., including sheeting.
1696-9	180 „	72.00.00	32.05.00	100 ells "sould by Mr Chapman."
1700	80 „ 1 lb	32.00.08	09.01.06	47 doz 7½ lb yarn sold.

¹ The year of Account ran from Dec. 25, 1664 to Dec. 25, 1665, and so on.

Year.	Quantity of Flax bought.	Payment for Spinning.	Payment for Weaving.	Notes on Sale.
1701	62 "	24.16.00	10.05.08	
1702			03.15.00	
1703	65 , 7 lb	26.00.00	12.09.07	
1704-5	69 "	16.00.00	08.12.02	6 purchasers.
1706-7	142 " 10½ lb	57.03.00	20.05.06	10 s. including "my ladye gare."
1707	87 " 11½ lb	35.03.08	12.12.01	11 s. "My Lord Fitcharding."
1710	52 " 6½ lb	21.00.04	02.02.00	2 s. of cloth; also yarn—29.06.03.
Received for				
			Cloth.	Yarn.
1711	62 " 10 lb	31.02.06	05.17.08	20.14.06 27.08.00½
1712	70 " 8½ lb	28.05.08	08.01.00	27.15.00 26.17.11½
1713	118 " 1 lb	47.10.00	03.03.00	07.12.00 71.07.06
1714	84 " 1 lb	33.12.08	03.08.06	03.15.02 96.18.02
1715	125 " 8 lb	50.05.04	09.10.02	28.17.06 46.18.11
1716	133 " 4 lb	53.06.08	09.18.00	31.02.06 70.17.08
1717	113 " 4½ lb	45.07.00	09.03.02	30.07.00 56.05.07
1718	143 " "	57.05.08	05.11.04	17.03.00 86.14.07
1719	151 " 1½ lb	60.09.00	14.11.04	55.05.00 62.00.06
1720	123 " 9 lb	61.17.06	14.03.00	57.15.00 45.10.06
1721	98 " 2½ lb	39.05.08	14.09.03	47.15.00 29.02.04
1722	89 " 2 lb	35.13.04	13.04.10	23.16.00 41.18.00
1723	103 " 4 lb	41.06.08	17.09.07	15.15.00 53.12.07
1724	138 " 9 lb	55.10.00	20.01.00	66.10.00 41.12.03
1725	93 " 11 lb	37.11.08	15.11.08	48.02.00 21.18.06
1726-7	73 " "	29.04.00	11.11.04	29.17.06 17.13.00
1728-9	99 " 0½ lb	39.12.04	14.07.03	31.00.06 29.14.04
1730	73 " 10 lb	29.10.08	14.09.08	33.00.00 16.18.06
	3 " 4 lb	short flax—cost £1 for spinning.		
1731	55 " 10 lb	22.02.08	11.11.00	57.03.09½ nil.
1732	34 " 7 lb	13.16.08	06.18.01	04.15.06 05.06.11
1733	65 " 4 lb	26.02.08	11.09.08	22.19.00 16.10.01
1734	92 " 8 lb	37.01.04	08.12.03	16.15.00 41.09.05
1735	91 " 1½ lb	36.09.00	10.13.02	26.05.00 35.16.01
1736	82 " 6½ lb	33.00.04	09.13.00	33.15.00 33.00.05½
1737	74 " 5 lb	29.15.04	07.19.06	30.03.09 31.12.04
1738	87 " 10½ lb	35.03.00	13.01.00	41.05.00 26.10.10
1739	80 " ½ lb	32.04.00	12.00.06	37.10.00 23.11.11
	5 " 10 lb	02.18.04		05.05.00
	(fine flax)			The Bp. of St Asaph bought cloth.
1740	120 " 2 lb	48.01.04	19.19.00	63.15.00 32.02.03
1741	118 " 5 lb	47.07.04	17.17.00	50.05.00 34.03.00
1742	109 " 8½ lb	43.17.08	13.15.00	38.03.00 40.16.08
				Ld. Sidney bought.
1743	110 " 8½ lb	44.05.08	19.16.06	45.00.00 38.05.11
1744	139 " 1½ lb	55.13.00	24.02.00	86.05.00 29.19.08
1746	143 " 3½ lb	57.06.04	25.16.01	75.00.00 37.17.09
1747	137 " 10½ lb	55.03.00	25.04.00	82.10.00 33.01.09½
1748	154 " 9 lb	61.18.00	27.13.00	60.00.00 38.04.09
1749	146 " 7½ lb	58.13.00	26.05.00	93.15.00 30.18.04
1750	166 " 9½ lb	66.14.04	28.07.00	101.05.00 38.17.00
1751	135 " 10½ lb	54.07.00	26.05.00	93.15.00 23.05.06
1752	133 " 7½	53.09.00	18.18.00	64.10.00 40.10.03
1753	163 " 4	65.06.08	27.06.00	97.10.00 38.03.00
1754	143 " 10½	57.11.00	19.19.00	71.05.00 33.03.03

from 1746-53
all sales are
thro' Mr.
Salter.

WINDSOR'S EXPERIMENT IN POOR-RELIEF 1621-1829

Year.	Quantity of Flax bought.	Payment for Spinning.	Payment for Weaving.	Received for	
				Cloth.	Yarn.
1755	101 „ 0	40.08.00	21.00.00	75.00.00	14.14.00
1756	85 „ 0	34.00.00	19.17.00	60 00.00	15.12.08
1757	70 „ 0	28.00.00	14.14.00	51.10.00	09.16.00
1758	58 „ 0	23.04.00	10.05.03	36.13.06	12.19.00
1759	166 „ 3	66.10.00	28.07.00	101.00.00	37.13.01
1760	64 „ 0	25.12.00	10.10.00	37.10.00	11.04.00
1761	96 „ 0	38.08.00	17.17.00	50.00.00	20.06.00
1762	74 „ 11½	29.19.08	17.17.00	63.15.00	03.17.07
1763	63 „ 3	25.06.02	13.13.00	48.15.00	07.03.09½

The last account runs to December 25th, 1764, and after then no accounts are preserved.