

## The Diary of Edward Bagshaw, Vicar of Castleton, 1723-1769.

BY J. CHARLES COX.

**T**HE Bagshaws, of Derbyshire, are a family of great antiquity. From the times of Stephen we constantly meet with their name as landowners of importance. From an early period they had estates at Abney, in the parish of Hope, and at the Ridge, in Chapel-en-le-Frith. Subsequently we find them at Wormhill, Litton, and Hucklow, in Tideswell parish, at Ford, in Chapel-en-le-Frith, and at the Oaks, in the parish of Norton.

The family has produced several members of repute, the best known being William Bagshaw, of Ford, eldest son of William Bagshaw, of Wormhill, Hucklow, Litton, and Abney, who was a celebrated Nonconformist minister. He was born at Litton, in 1628, and died at Chapel-en-le-Frith, in 1702. His energy, both as a preacher and a writer, procured for him the name of "The Apostle of the Peak." His next brother, John, resided at Great Hucklow; he was High Sheriff of the county in 1696, and died in 1704. His younger brother, Adam, inherited the Wormhill estates, and was ancestor of the Bagshaws of that place. Edward Bagshaw, Vicar of Castleton, was one of the Northamptonshire Bagshaws, a branch of the Derbyshire family. We find him speaking of the Bagshaws, of Wormhill, and of the Oaks, Norton, as cousins.

From the Episcopal Registers at Lichfield, we find that Edward Bagshaw, A.M., was instituted to the Vicarage of Castleton, on

August 9th, 1723, on the presentation of the Bishop of Chester. This, and the date of his death, etc., as recorded on an inscription in the church at Castleton, would have been all that we should have known of this vicar, had it not been for the existence of a folio ledger, which Edward Bagshaw used, partly as an account book, and partly as a diary, from the year 1715 to 1750. Noticing this book when visiting the valuable library of Mr. Bateman, of Middleton-by-Youlgreave, the owner was so kind as to allow us the loan of the volume, upon which the present paper is based.

The entries are often very fragmentary, and a large number of pages had been unfortunately torn out before it came into the late Mr. Bateman's hands, but enough remains to make it, in our opinion, worth studying. We can gain from it a considerable insight into the life of a country parson of the last century, in so retired and bleak a valley as that of Castleton; a varied experience of the cost of the necessaries of life as compared with those that now prevail; and an interesting, nay, almost a pathetic, picture of a clergyman, of family and fortune, in greatly reduced circumstances, manfully fighting his way through half a century of quiet work for God, struggling to bring up his family in decency and comfort, and meeting with many a kindly action from his humble parishioners and neighbours, as well as considerable assistance from those in a position to give it.

The first page of the ledger is dated 1715, that is to say, eight years before he became Vicar of Castleton, and when he was twenty-five years of age. From it we find that young Edward Bagshaw was a clergyman of considerable private fortune, considering the relative value of money in those days.

“An account of w<sup>t</sup> Stock Mr. Nicholls has in his hands of  
mine in London this August 20; 1715:  
Eight hundred pounds in y<sup>e</sup> Southsea  
Three hundred pounds in y<sup>e</sup> classes  
Two hundred pounds in y<sup>e</sup> ten pounds Lotteryes  
Remaining now in his hands ..... £178 os. 4d.  
The whole sum in all amounts to ..... £1478 0 4

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An account of my concerns in y<sup>e</sup> North in Mr. James Dales hands August 20; 1715:

	£	s.	d.
My estate at Fishburn (Co. Durham) let to Martin Dun for	30	0	0
My estate at Moresley let to William Hall for .....	11	10	0
There is in Mr. Middleton's hands .....	200	0	0
In George White's hands.....	550	0	0
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The yearly income of my Land comes to ....	41	10	0
The yearly interest of my money w <sup>ch</sup> lies there comes to	37	0	0
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In all .....	£79	0	0

I have an Annuity for ninety-nine years of £50 per annum, No. 1144, Cecill Warburton, Esq., Contributor.

I have an Annuity of £30 per annum for ninety-nine years, No. 740, S<sup>r</sup> Joseph Jekyll K<sup>nt</sup> Contributor."

It would thus appear that Mr. Bagshaw had a private income, of about £230 a year, but which would at times be considerably exceeded, owing to the interest paid, and the South Sea Stock. In August, 1716, we find him increasing his stock in the South Sea Company by £1,000. There is no further entry until 1720, and in that year he seems to have been persuaded to sell both his estates and his annuities in order to make further investments in that fatal bubble.

"January: A.D. 17<sup>19</sup>/<sub>20</sub>: I sold my 2 estates in the North, Fishbourn and Mooresly—My estate at Fisburn in y<sup>e</sup> Conty of Durham for .....

My estate at Moorsley at y <sup>e</sup> Price of .....	£955
	£345
In all .....	£1300

May 12<sup>th</sup> 1720: I sold an Annuity of fifty pounds a year at 29 years purchase at .....

May 13 <sup>th</sup> : I sold another annuity of thirty pounds a year at 29 years purchase at .....	£1450
	£870
	£2330

May 19: I lent Mr. Mulcaster of St. James, Gent. three thousand pounds for half a year, for which he has advanced me half a year's interest, seventy-five pounds. I have his Bond for y<sup>e</sup> payment of it on y<sup>e</sup> 28 of November; and three thousand pound Southsea Stock as security."

Mr. Mulcaster seems to have been the evil genius of this young clergyman. He was prompt to advance him interest on his money before it was due, and in the next year occurs the following entry:—

“September 14 : 1721 : Mr. Mulcaster has bought me five tickets in the State lottery. The numbers are as follow :—

10 Mo24 B.  
 10 Mo26 Came up a £20 prize.  
 10 Mo27 B.  
 10 Mo28 B.  
 10 Mo29 B.

They cost ten pounds five shillings each, in all £51 5 0.”

So this little bit of gambling cost Edward Bagshaw £31 5s. od. The next records his further advances to Mulcaster.

“February 28 : 172½ I lent Mr. Mulcaster five hundred pounds at five per cent interest, he has deposited six army debentures in Mr. Midford’s hands as security.”

For a short time, but only for a very short time, did Mr. Bagshaw receive interest from Mulcaster for the capital he had so foolishly advanced him. From April to October, 1722, he received £125 ; but in April, 1723, is this significant entry—

“Received of Mr. Midford the sum of fifteen pounds in part of half years interest due to me from Mr. Mulcaster on three thousand pounds, from the 28 of August 1722 to the 28 of February 172½.”

From that time downwards there was no further interest from Mr. Mulcaster, or anyone else, and it is clear that Mr. Bagshaw lost, not only the interest, but the whole of his private fortune.

The South Sea Bubble, in which Edward Bagshaw had directly invested much of his money, and indirectly the remainder, by lending it to Mulcaster on the security of that stock, was established, to do exclusive trade in the south seas, in 1710. It was at first unwisely, but soon afterwards most dishonestly, managed. It exploded in 1720, carrying complete ruin into thousands of families. In 1721, the directors’ estates, to the value of over £2,000,000, were seized by special Act of Parliament, but this was a mere nothing to the losses incurred. The most astounding artifices were used to inflate the shares, which from being

originally £100, were actually dealt in for a day or two at £1,000. Rumours, as to further monopolies secured from Spain, etc., etc., exercised the most startling changes in the value of the stock, leaping, on one occasion, within a few hours, from £820 to £860, and then down to £600. Aislabie, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, and several prominent Members of Parliament, were found to have been bribed to secure Government support, and were expelled the House, and even royalty itself was tarnished with more than a suspicion of complicity with these wholesale plunderers. Every class of society, from Dukes to petty tradesmen, and from Bishops down to parish beadles were carried away by this delusion of a short road to fortune. We know of no other excuse to give for Edward Bagshaw's squandering of his capital, than this general foolishness of the times; and the same excuse must be made for his participation in the State Lotteries, which were, from 1693 to 1826, a regular source of income to the government.

In August, 1723, as has been already stated, Mr. Bagshaw was instituted to the vicarage of Castleton. The rectory of Castleton, and the advowson of the vicarage, used to be in the hands of the Abbey of Vale Royal, co. Chester. After the dissolution of the monasteries, the impropriate tithes and the vicarage were transferred by Henry VIII. to the Bishopric of Chester. By recent legislation the advowson has been transferred to the Bishop of Lichfield, and the rectorial rights are in the hands of the Ecclesiastical Commissioners. The Parliamentary Survey of livings, taken in 1650, valued the vicarage at £40. But its value greatly fluctuated according to the success or otherwise of the lead mining within the limits of the parish. The tithes of lead were not only very variable from the fluctuating success of the mines, but they also differed in almost every parish in the county. They differed in Wirksworth, Eyam, Matlock, Bonsall, and Castleton, each parish being regulated both in the amount of tithe and the person to whom it was due, according to old established custom. The tithing of lead in Derbyshire led to innumerable costly law-suits, and repeated, but futile, efforts were made in the 16th, 17th, and

18th centuries to reduce the matter to one general practice. At Eyam the rector's tithes of lead were upwards of £1,500 per annum for several years early in the last century, but upon a rector succeeding, who had bought the next presentation, they suddenly dropped to some two or three hundred, and he tried, but in vain, to back out of the bargain. One cannot help being pleased at this trafficker in Spiritualities being thus paid out, but he revenged himself on the parish by never residing. At Wirksworth the vicar is entitled to every tenth dish of ore, and within recent times the income therefrom is said to have varied from £1,000 one year to £100 the next. At Castleton, the tithe was not estimated on terms nearly so favourable to the church. The accustomed tithe was only every twentieth dish of ore, but only every sixtieth really for the vicar, as the vicarage was endowed with merely one third of the lead tithes, the remainder going to the Bishop of Chester, or whoever farmed the rectory under him.

During the first six months that Edward Bagshaw held this vicarage, he received £36 5s. 8d., as his share of the tithes on lead, all proceeding from the Odin mine, the only one then at work. Nine Dish of Ore made one load, and we find that the average price for a load of lead ore was then about 25s. In 1725, his total receipts from the same mine were £37 10s. 2d.; in 1726, £39 14s. 6d.; but in 1729 it dropped to £12 15s. 2½d. In 1731, his receipts from the Odin mine had dropped to £8 19s. 8d.; but mining had commenced in other parts of the parish, viz., at Pindall Bottom, at Nab, at New Rake, and on the land of one Ellis Dakyn. This ore varied in value; that from Pindall Bottom fetching 3s. 6d. per dish; that at Nab, 3s. 1d.; and that at New Rake, only 2s. 8d. But the total receipts for that year, notwithstanding these several new workings, only reached £14 12s. od. From 1733 to 1740 there was apparently no lead mining whatever. In 1741, "the tyth Oar taken up at Durtloe, Pindall, and other mines in the Liberty of Castleton," for the vicar, amounted to £20 16s. 8d. There is a gap in the journal until 1747, when the vicar received £29 16s. 6d., and in 1750, £35 7s. 6½d. These rapid fluctuations must have con-

siderably added to the difficulties of housekeeping on a very small income.

The endowments of the vicarage of Castleton also included, contrary to the general custom, one-third of the tithes on grain, usually called the great tithes, and appropriated *in toto* to the rectory. The amount of grain grown in a wild district like Castleton would always be very small; still every year the vicar got a trifling sum as his tithe of oats, and usually also some barley. Tithes were at that time always collected in kind. We find that not only was there a "Tythe Barne" mentioned several times in these pages, where the grain for the Bishop of Chester would be stored, but also a "Vicarage Barne," where Mr. Bagshaw's third share was carried.

We give the following entry as a specimen of several relative to oats:—

"November 19<sup>th</sup>: 1741: I made a Kiln full of Oats, viz. Seven Quarter at y<sup>e</sup> Mill, which was four load, six Pecks and a half of Meal. I sold two Load of Meal:  
 One Load to Ellis Hall of Gooshill for 16s.  
 One Load to Benjamin Ashton for 16s.  
 P<sup>d</sup> Mr. Needham twelve Pecks of Meal w<sup>ch</sup> I borrowed of him.  
 P<sup>d</sup> Duster, Miller and Millwoman three Pecks.  
 P<sup>d</sup> John Martin my Thresher eight Pecks.  
 Given Dorothy Slade one Peck.  
 Meal Sieves Ten Pecks.  
 Dust twelve Pecks.  
 The whole Thrashing was ninety six Thrave of Straw:  
 My 3<sup>d</sup> Part is Thirty two Thrave.  
 My 3<sup>d</sup> Part of Light (white) Oats is four Strike."

From other similar entries, we find that the wages of a thresher was then 8d. per day.

The following extracts pertain to tithes on other country produce:—

- 1742 "The whole wool to be divided was 13 stone 7 pound. My 3<sup>d</sup> part was 4 stone 7 pound.  
 October 12<sup>th</sup> My Clark went into Edall to gather Tyth Geese, but brought none, they having fayled this year.  
 October 13<sup>th</sup> my Clark brought me one Tyth Goose from Thomas Hall, of Tricket Bridge.  
 Nov. 11<sup>th</sup> received for Tyth Calves out of Edall 9s.

1743 June 11<sup>th</sup> my clark went into Edall to Tyth Lambs, and brought me for my 3<sup>d</sup> part four : w<sup>ch</sup> I sold to Abraham Dakyn.

June 22<sup>d</sup> I had a swarm of Bees for Tyth from Mr. Needham."

There was also a small amount of glebe land attached to the vicarage, but it only realised between 1737 and 1741 £3 9s. od. per annum. Under the last year occurs the entry—"Five years Easter Dues, 12s. 6d."

It may be well to here give consecutively, though taken from different parts of the book, some of the prices of articles of general consumption, and other current expenses:—

1742	" P J <sup>n</sup> Hall for 3 Letters from London .....	1	4
	P <sup>d</sup> the carrier for bringing them .....		2
	P <sup>d</sup> Enoch Vernon's man for three load of Coal .....	2	6
	P <sup>d</sup> John Hall for a Letter that came from Peggy by way of Sheffield .....		2
	P <sup>d</sup> for a Hindquarter of Veal .....	2	0
	P <sup>d</sup> my Sister to lay out at Hope Fair.....	2	6
	P <sup>d</sup> for two pound of Fish.....		8
	P <sup>d</sup> for 3 pound of Butter (5 <sup>d</sup> lb) .....	1	3
	P <sup>d</sup> Joshua Knowles for shoes making and mending to this Day, and for shaving to Lady day last past .....	3	10 0
	P <sup>d</sup> for 12 pound of Beef (3 <sup>d</sup> lb).....	3	0
	P <sup>d</sup> for Cranberries at 2 <sup>d</sup> per quart .....		6
	P <sup>d</sup> for a pound of Sugar .....		6
	P <sup>d</sup> for four sheets of Paper .....		2
	P <sup>d</sup> J <sup>n</sup> Hall for 3 Pecks of Potatoes .....	1	0
1743	A cheese 8 <sup>lb</sup> 2 <sup>oz</sup> at 2½ per lb .....	1	8
	P <sup>d</sup> for a Codshead from Sheffield.....	1	6
	P <sup>d</sup> for y <sup>e</sup> carriage of it .....		2
	P <sup>d</sup> for a pound of Hops .....		10
	Hindquarter of Mutton at 3½ per lb .....	2	4
	P <sup>d</sup> Nat: Greaves for seven pound and a half of Sugar to make Currant Wine .....	2	6
1747	P <sup>d</sup> for a letter from Hal (Manchester) .....		8
	P <sup>d</sup> Sam Slater for 2 pecks of Cowslips .....	1	0
1748	P <sup>d</sup> John Hatfield for half a dozen pounds of Belvidore Raisons .....	2	6
	A quarter of a pound of Bohea.....	2	0
	P <sup>d</sup> Ralph Low for four pounds of black cherries .....		6
	P <sup>d</sup> Daniel Roysce for a new Almanack .....		4
	P <sup>d</sup> for eight chickens .....	2	0
1749	P <sup>d</sup> Jos: Bridoak for whitening 8 pond of yarn .....	1	4
	P <sup>d</sup> for a peck and 3 quarters of Peas.....		7
	P <sup>d</sup> for a pond of Candles.....		6
	P <sup>d</sup> for an ounce of Tobacco .....		1
	P <sup>d</sup> Jno Whittin for weaving 21 yards of plain Linnen....		8
	A forequarter of Lamb .....	1	6
	A shoulder of Mutton .....	1	3
	A peice of Beef of 4 lbs and a half .....		9



Barter, in preference to the exchange of money, was evidently then very usually resorted to in country places. The following are instances :—

1742 “Ellis Hall brought me from George Bridoup of Thornhill Car 13 Pecks of Malt in exchange for 16 Pecks of Barley w<sup>ch</sup> I sent him.”

“Received of Ellis Hall 2 Load of Coals for which he is to have the Dust and Meal Sieves (refuse of Oat grinding).”

The entries, however, which possess the most interest are those that partake of the Journal or Diary character. We give a selection of these in chronological order :—

1742. “*March 26.* I went to Chappell in the Frith, and there had a commission to enquire into y<sup>e</sup> value of an estate in y<sup>t</sup> parish, purchased by Mr. Needham of one Mr. Mosely, of Selby in Yorkshire. He is to pay for it £470. I sent a Letter to Mr. Montague, Secretary to y<sup>e</sup> Governors of Tiddeswall post, and an answer to y<sup>e</sup> Queryes duly attested by y<sup>e</sup> Commissioners. The Commissioners names were these—Rev. Mr. Markland, Vicar of Tiddeswall, Rev. Mr. Hatfield, Vicar of Hathersage, Rev. Mr. Wormald, Vicar of Hope.\* We dined at J<sup>n</sup> Halls, a Publick House in Chappell.”

*May 20.* “This day Peggy set out for Dr. Poching at Burton near Loughborough in Leicestershire. G : my Daughter when she went away £1. Ellis Hall of Gooshill went along with her : Borrowed of Mr. Needham † twenty shillings.”

*May 23<sup>rd</sup>.* “Ellis Hall of Gooshill returned from Burton to Castleton, where he left my daughter on ye 21<sup>st</sup> instant safe and in good health. D : G. ‡  
“I preached at Eyam for Mr. Seward, § Rector, and staid there ye whole day. Mr. Wormald supplying my place at Castleton in the afternoon.”

*August 11<sup>th</sup>.* “I received from Mrs. Crosland half a pound of Green and half a pound of Bohea.”

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\* Edward Markland was Vicar of Tideswell from 1735 to 1776—Charles Hadfield was Vicar of Hathersage from 1739 to 1788—Thomas Wormald was vicar of Hope from 1732 to 1764. See *Churches of Derbyshire*, vol. iv. pp. 505-7.

† From other entries we find that his friend Mr. Needham was of Chapel-le-Frith. He frequently had loans from him, usually of 2s. 6d.

‡ “D: G.,” that is, the abbreviated form of the pious sentiment, “Deo Gratias,”—Thanks be to God—is of frequent occurrence throughout the diary.

§ Thomas Seward was rector of Eyam from 1739 to 1790. He was an author and a man of some literary repute in his day, but was perhaps better known as the father of Anne Seward, the poet and biographer of Dr. Darwin. She was born at Eyam on Christmas Eve of the year (1742) in which Mr. Bagshaw took the duty as here recorded.

- Sept. 13th.* "I received from Mrs. Crosland two ounces of Green Tea."
- Sept. 18th.* "Mr. Waterhouse sent me a letter w<sup>th</sup> a present of a wig to myself and a handsome suit of clothes for my eldest son."
- Oct. 22nd.* "This day being the Court-leet I dined at Isaac Hall's with Mr. William Bagshaw's Steward."
- Oct. 7th.* "Mr. Wormald sent my wife a present of a pot of butter."
- Oct. 12th.* "Mr. Bradley came to Castleton to teach writing and casting accounts."
- Oct. 27th.* "It began to snow and hail in a violent manner. The Club met at Benj: Ashton's."
- Nov. 3rd.* "My daughter came to Church to return God thanks for her recovery from a dangerous fit of sickness, w<sup>ch</sup> she began to have at Burton in Leicestershire about six weeks agoe."
- Nov. 4th.* "Mr. Wormald and his Wife and Father drank Tea with us."  
"I sent my Watch to Manchester to have a new Regulator put to it."
- Nov. 7th.* "I and my Wife and 2 daughters drank Tea at John Halls."
- Nov. 13th.* "I went to Hope and dined with Mr. Waterhouse and Mr. Wormald at John Greaves at the Cross Daggers: Mr. Waterhouse kept a Copyhold Court."
- Nov. 15th.* "We brewed a load of Malt."
- Nov. 19th.* "I and Mr. Bradley went to Hope to see Mr. Wormald and brought a Hare along w<sup>th</sup> us w<sup>ch</sup> he made me a present of."
- Nov. 18th.* Mr. Needham brought me an ounce of Jesuits Bark\* from Sheffield for Peggy to take.
- Nov. 25th.* "I baptized a child at Hope Church for Mr. Wormald and dined w<sup>th</sup> Mrs. Wormald."
- Dec. 12th.* "I sent a Letter by Mr. Waterhouse to Serjeant Skinner lately made an English Judge who was my old school-fellow and Student of Xt. Church in Oxford."
- Dec. 23rd.* "I received a Letter from Mr. Serjeant Skinner in answer to mine."
- Dec. 11th.* "Mr. Waterhouse made me a present of ten shillings."
- Dec. 29th.* P<sup>d</sup> for an Electuary from Sheffield . . . . . I
1743. *Jan. 6th.* "Mr. Needham sent a Turkey for a present."
- Jan. 8th.* "The children went to Michael Halls merry-night."
- Jan. 13th.* "Molly Hall made us a present of a pound of Butter and some milk."
- Jan. 14th.* "This day Mr. Richard Bagshaw, of Wormhill, sent me a noble present of Beef Chine and Hog-puddings."

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\* Jesuit's Bark was the bark of the chinchona tree. Its use as an antidote to fever was discovered by a Jesuit in Peru about 1550. It was sold at one time for its weight in silver. It was first introduced into England by Sir Hans Sloane in 1700. Quinine is the modern preparation of this bark.

- Feb. 1st.* "Molly Hall brought us from Mr. Richard Bagshaw, of Wormhill, y<sup>e</sup> night before a fine peice of Brawn. Mr. Bagshaws Family came to Castleton."
- Feb. 12th.* "Gave Ellis Needham 2<sup>d</sup> when he brought me a Present of Spare Rib, Chine, and Hog-puddings from his Uncle."
- March 13th.* "I read a Brief in y<sup>e</sup> Church."
- March 24.* "I received half-a-pound of Chocolate from Mr. Wormald by way of Sheffield."
- April 5th.* "Rec<sup>d</sup> of Nat: Greaves, for washing the Surplice, 10s."
- April 12th.* "Mrs. Bagshaw (of Wormhill) and her eldest daughter drank Tea with us."
- May 15th.* "I read a Brief for Cheam Church in the Co. of Surrey."
- May 29.* "After evening Prayer I and Neddy went down to Hope and drank Tea with Mr. Wormald."
- May 30th.* "Being Edall Wakes I went to Crowdenlee Booth and dined with Mr. Fox, of the Yate, and drank Tea with Thomas Creswell, of the same booth: Neddy and Isaac Hall went along with me."
- June 3rd.* "Mr. Waterhouse gave me a Guinea, out of w<sup>ch</sup> he desired me to give Hal five shillings. Mr. Wormald gave me half a Crown to give Hal."
- June 4th.* "This day Hal set out for Manchester, in the John Mills, to learn to write of one Mr. Saxton, Writing Master: He is to account and learn y<sup>e</sup> art of Book-keeping. My very good friend, Mr. Waterhouse, Attorney at Law, of Sheffield, was so kind as to send him thither at his own expence, and pay for his teaching and board. Lord, let me never forget thy great Goodness towards me, in raising such a generous benefactor w<sup>h</sup> my fortunes were low."
- June 27th.* "My family dined at Mr. Wormalds, at Hope, it being their Wakes. The Vicar of Hathersage dined there, and some other company."
- June 29th.* "Mr<sup>s</sup> Holt went from us to Heafield, by whom I sent a Letter to Lady Betty Warren, at Stockport, in Cheshire."
- June 30th.* "I went to Tiddeswall and dined w<sup>th</sup> Mr. Markland, it being yr wakes; Little Neddy and James Booth went with me."
- July 11th.* "I sent 2 Letters, one to my Cosin Rudings, at Westcotes, in Leicestershire, and one to my Cosin Bagshaw, Chaplain to Bromley College in Kent."
- July 12th.* "I received from Mr. Waterhouse, of Sheffield, a Basket of Garden Stuff for a present; paid the Carrier 3s. for bringing it."
- July 13th.* "I and Polly went to Tiddeswell, and dined at Mr. Marklands. I there drew a note on my Cosin, the Rev. Mr. Thomas Bagshaw, of Bromley, in Kent, for a Legacy of twenty pounds left me by my Cosin Acton, who died in April last. He left me a broad peice of gold, and a Locket of my Fathers and Sisters Hair; I writ a Letter to my Cosin Bagshaw."

- July 29th.* "I and my eldest Daughter went to Tiddeswell, and dined with Mr. Markland. I received a Legacy of Twenty pounds, w<sup>ch</sup> was left me by my Cosin Acton, lately deceased. The money was returned by Mr. Lawrence Crosland, of Tiddeswell: She left me, likewise, a Broadpeice w<sup>ch</sup> was given her by my father when he entred on y<sup>e</sup> 77th year of his age. It was sold for two and twenty shillings and twopence: I drank Tea in y<sup>e</sup> afternoon w<sup>h</sup> Joseph Hatfield, Woolen draper, of whom I bought a new Coat."
- August 1st.* "I went into Peak Forest and dined w<sup>th</sup> Mr. Rose,\* it being ye Wakes. Ned went along with me. My daughter and sister went there the day before."
- September 7th.* "A new Fair was opened at Tiddeswall, w<sup>ch</sup> proved a very good one."
- August 14th.* "This day y<sup>e</sup> Rev. Mr. Prescott, my old acquaintance at Xt. Church Colledge, in Oxford, came from Buxton to dine with me. He is Prebendary of Chester, and Rector of Waverton, about four miles from Chester: by whom I sent a Letter to my Cosin Lancaster, at Chester."
- August 18th.* "I set out from Castleton for Manchester."
- August 19th.* "I set out from Manchester to Chester, and took my son along with me. I got safe to my Cosin Lancasters, in Pepper Street."
- August 25th.* "I set out from Chester and got to Manchester."
- August 26th.* "My son and I set out from Manchester and got to Castleton y<sup>t</sup> night: D: G:?"
- August 31st.* "My son and I dined at Oaks."†
- September 14th.* "I went to Oaks, near Norton, in Derbyshire, and took my eldest son along with me."
- Sept. 25th.* "I preached at Norton Church, morning and afternoon."
- Sept. 27th.* "I and my son returned to Castleton. D: G:?"
- Oct. 6th.* "This day Hal set out for Manchester to go to M<sup>r</sup> Saxton's y<sup>e</sup> writing-marter. Given Hal when he went away 4s. 6d."
- Oct. 8th.* "P<sup>d</sup> John Lommas for his horse, which I hired for my son to go to Manchester, who got safe thither the 6<sup>th</sup> inst., 2s."  
"I received a very kind letter from the Rev. Mr. Haddon, Rector of Warrington, in Lancashire, in answer to one I sent him, when I solicited him for a place in his family for one of my daughters."
- Oct. 18th.* "My wife made nine Gallons of Elder Wine."
- This last entry is immediately succeeded by the following

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\* Jonathan Rose held the Peculiar of Peak Forest Chapel from 1728 to about the middle of the century. See *Churches of Derbyshire*, vol. ii., pp 280-1.

† The Oaks, in Norton parish, came into the Bagshaw family in 1715, by the marriage of one of the younger Bagshaws, of Hucklow, with the heiress of Henry Gill.

curious account of a Manchester procession in honour of the victory at Dettingen. It was probably sent home to his father by the young Hal Bagshaw, and thought of sufficient importance to be copied into his diary :—

“An account of the Grand Procession of Manchester Guild which was performed in commemoration of His Majesty’s singular services to this nation in y<sup>e</sup> late glorious battle of Dettingen : October 11 : 1743 :

First—The Champion of England on Horseback in Armour—

Adam and Eve clothed with Ivy Leaves on Horseback eating an apple :

Children of Westminster and of the King’s Choir of Westminster all in their proper Habits as usual at Coronations :

The King in his Royal Robes of Gold—wearing the Collar of y<sup>e</sup> Order of y<sup>e</sup> Garter and on his head a rich Crown. His Train to be born up by his Pages :

Next followeth their Royal Highnesses the Prince and Princess of Wales with y<sup>e</sup> Trains supported, then y<sup>e</sup> Ladies of Honour all coronated :

Five different parties of 12 Pipe-men each disposed of in their proper order or places :

Likewise a large number of Dancers with Drums Trumpets, etc :

After which proceed the Merry Andrew men in large hats 2 yards high, several men in armour on Horseback, Trumpeters and Kettle-drummers, several Companies of Pipe-men :

Twenty four Grenadiers with his Majesties Standard in y<sup>e</sup> center :

Several sorts of musick near 30 hands, such as the Hautboy, Trumpets, Violins, Base Viols, French Horns etc etc playing warlike Tunes :

An officer leading a company of Pikemen between a black man and woman playing with castanets.

A Garland of artificial flowers vastly beautiful supported by the Ladies of Honour all coronated :

Company of Dancers :

A Garland six yards high carried by six men fixed on a stage and covered with carpit and Palisadoed round ; before the Garland is seated a Boy and a Girl representing his Majesty King George and Queen of Hungary, the Queen hath a tottering Crown on her Head, his Majesty having his sword drawn and pointing to it as supporting it, which is exceeding pretty ; as was also everything else relating to the Guild set of with y<sup>e</sup> greatest variety.”

After a few more unimportant entries, there is an unfortunate hiatus in the book, twenty-two pages having been torn out. The diary recommences in April, 1747.

1747. *Dec. 20<sup>th</sup>* "Mr. Bagshaw (Wormhill) made me a present of a fine light coloured Wig."
1748. *June 3<sup>d</sup>* "I sent Hal half a dozen shirts and stocks to London by the Sheffield Carrier."
- June 8<sup>th</sup>* "I gave the Rev<sup>d</sup> Mr. Markland a note empowering him to sell the plate w<sup>ch</sup> I put into his hands in consideration of fourteen pounds w<sup>ch</sup> I borrowed of him."
- July 8<sup>th</sup>* "My dear wife had like to have been killed by a stone accidentally falling as she was at the Brook with a kit for water, but through God's good Providence she received no hurt."
- June 20<sup>th</sup>* "This day Mr. Wormald and Ned set out for Yorkshire to his sisters. Ned is to go to Clifton to learn to write and cast accounts of one Mr. George Ramsden. Mr. Tho. Waterhouse is so kind as to send him thither."
- Oct. 26<sup>th</sup>* "I set to J<sup>n</sup> Eyre Junior a room in the Vicarage House at 6<sup>d</sup> a week. He is to teach children to dance 3 tymes a week, we began on y<sup>e</sup> 24<sup>th</sup>."
- Nov. 18<sup>th</sup>*. "I preached at Wormhill Chappell morning and afternoon. I went to Wormhill Hall the day before."
- Nov. 20<sup>th</sup>*. "I returned from Wormhill to Castleton safe and well: D: G: Mr. Richard Bagshaw, at my leaving him, made me a kind present of a handsome black Coat, and a pair of black Breeches."
- "G: Mr. Bagshaw's servants when I came away, 3s.
1749. "*August 7<sup>th</sup>*. Miss Bagshaw made my Wife a visit in y<sup>e</sup> afternoon, and brought a handsome peice of Irish cloth from her Father for to make Ned some Shirts."
- August 14<sup>th</sup>*. "This day Ned set out from Hope with M<sup>rs</sup> Wormald and her younger son for Yorkshire. Mr. John Wormald y<sup>e</sup> eldest son of my very good friend Mr. Wormald was so kind as to recommend him to be book-keeper to Messieurs Eamerson and Fountain Mercers in Leeds."
- Nov. 28<sup>th</sup>*. "My wife sent Hal 3 pr of Stockings by y<sup>e</sup> Sheffield Carrier."
- Nov. 6<sup>th</sup>*. "Given Mr. Waterhouse man 1s. when he brought his Masters Galloway for me to go to Sheffield, but I was hindred from going by a great snow falling y<sup>e</sup> night before."
- Dec. 23<sup>rd</sup>*. "Given to the Church Singers, 1s."
- Dec. 29<sup>th</sup>*. "My daughter Polly came from Manchester to see us. She was brought by Daniel Royse. She had a very pleasant journey considering the time of the year. D: G: "
1750. *Jan. 9<sup>th</sup>*. "I received from Hal at London, a parcel of Holland to be made into a dozen shirts for him :

	£	s.	d.
23 y <sup>ds</sup> . of Holland at 3s. 7d	3	14	7
17 y <sup>ds</sup> . Irish at 22d	2	1	2
	£5	15	9

*Jan. 19th.* "Sent a Box to Hal with a dozen shirts in it to go by y<sup>e</sup> Baker to Sheffield. My wife sent Hals master 4 Tongues and 4 Pots of Potted Beef as a small present. Pd y Baker for carrying y<sup>e</sup> Box to Sheffield 3d."

*Jan. 20th.* "I received a Parcel from Ned, at Leeds, with a letter in it, it was a blue China Cotton Gown for his Mamma."

The pages of this book end with a few early entries of the year 1750, and though the Revd. Edward Bagshaw continued his services as Vicar of Castleton for nearly twenty years longer, we know nothing further of his life, except what can be learnt from the inscription still extant to his memory within the church of Castleton :—

"The Reverend Edward Bagshaw, A.M., the worthy vicar of this place 46 years, died 12th April, 1769, aged 79. A man whose chief delight was in the service of his Master ; a sound scholar, a tender and affectionate husband, a kind and indulgent parent, a lover of peace and quietness, who is gone to that place where he now enjoys the due reward of all his labours. Near him lies Margaret, his wife, and several of his children."

The expression of this epitaph, "sound scholar," reminds us that in his Journal are numerous entries (especially on the fly leaves) of books lent from his private library to parishioners and other friends. Amongst them are specified :—Grotii Opera, Reading's Life of Christ (2 vols), Nelson on the Sacrament, Parson's Christian Directory, Ainsworth on y<sup>e</sup> Pentateuch, Wilkins' Natural Religion, The Whole Duty of Man, British Magazine, and Scott's Christian Life (5 vols).

The extremity of poverty, which caused him in 1748 to sell his plate at Manchester for £20 15s. 6d. to discharge a pressing debt, also compelled Edward Bagshaw to part with some of his library ; and we are therefore able to appreciate all the more the generosity with which he placed the remainder at the service of others.

The perusal of these disjointed extracts, pertaining to the accounts and the daily life of the family of Edward Bagshaw, will probably suggest to not a few minds the similarity of the position of the fortuneless Vicar of Castleton and the Vicar of Wakefield immortalised by Oliver Goldsmith. Some striking parallels between the Vicar of real life and the Vicar of fiction might be

drawn. In skilful hands this diary would afford abundant material for a pastoral tale. The Vicar, of family and fortune, deluded by an unworthy London friend into foolish investments until all his patrimony has vanished—his struggles with poverty—his readiness to join in a meal with any of his neighbours—his contracting to be shaved by the village cobbler—the little presents of tea, milk, butter, and hogs' puddings from his parishioners and neighbours—the kindly benefactor who puts his lads into business—the half-crowns he is not too proud to borrow—the eldest son settling down in a draper's shop in the city—the lad's shirts sent home from London to be made—the return of the shirts, with a present to the lad's master, of four tongues and four pots of butter—the daughters sent out as governesses or companions—their illness—the public thanksgiving in the Church—the Vicar's pious thankfulness for his wife's life being preserved when fetching water from the brook—his indulgence in three-halfpence worth of snuff and two-penny worth of tobacco when the lead tithes suddenly increased his income—his enjoyment of the wakes and the children's "merrynights"—his patronising the talents of the village caster of accounts—his letting a room in the vicarage as a dancing academy—his humble thankfulness for small gifts from his wealthy relatives—these and a score more of familiar incidents, but all telling a certain tale of pathetic struggle, coupled with Christian courage and cheerfulness, make Edward Bagshaw a very real and a very charming character.

*Requiescat in pace.*

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N.B.—Since the above was in type, we find that Edward Bagshaw was only son of Henry Bagshaw, D.D., Prebend of Southwell, Rector of St. Botolph, Bishopsgate, and of Houghton-le-Spring, and also Prebend of Durham. He died Dec. 30, 1709, aged 77. Henry Bagshaw was second son of Edward Bagshaw, of Morton Putney, co. Northants, M.P. for Southwark. Edward Bagshaw, M.P., was son of one of the Bagshaws of Abney, co. Derby. He died in 1662.