

John Hayton, a bookbinder of taste and skill

In the nineteenth century newspapers and books were still just for the rich, although Settle had a 'subscription library' if you could afford it. **John Hayton** was on the crest of a booming trade. John was born in 1810 in Kendal, the eldest of three sons of **Preston Thomas Scales Hayton**, a currier (tanner) and his wife **Elizabeth Garrett**. Tragically, John's mother died when he was five, at the birth of brother **Thomas Hayton** who also died. Preston died when John was eight but somehow he and brother **Anthony Hayton** were cared for. Anthony stayed in Kendal and worked as a hairdresser in Stricklandgate until he died in 1849, aged 38.

There must have been money available for an education and an apprenticeship. In 1833, aged 23, John started working for Settle's premier bookbinder and printer of the day, **John Wildman**. He continued to work for that business for 41 years, even when it was taken over by **John Battersby**. In 1845 John married the young **Ann Armistead Duckett** born in 1821. Ann was the daughter of **Charles Duckett** who ran the beer house at what is now the King William on High Street. John and Ann lived in Chapel Square, just opposite Ann's parents. Ann had six children in quite rapid succession and died in 1859, aged 37, at the birth of her seventh, little **Isabella Hayton**, who also died shortly after. Two year old daughter **Jane Hayton** died in 1852 and was the first in the grave plot. Eldest son **Thomas Hayton**, a gardener died in 1872, aged 26. This left three other sons, **Edward**, **William** and **Henry** and a daughter, **Annie**.

THE LATE MR. JOHN HAYTON—Most of our Settle readers will be familiar with the name of **John Hayton**, who has been a resident in the town for nearly half a century. The deceased served his time at Kendal, and entered the service of the late **Mr. John Wildman** as bookbinder when he commenced business in the year 1833, and remained in the same establishment a faithful servant up to four years ago, when he was seized with a lingering and painful illness, from which he was mercifully released on Monday last. Hayton was a man of great ingenuity, and besides being a most excellent workman at his own trade he could turn his hand to a variety of jobs that required taste and skill in their manipulation. He was a man of good education and family.

John and the remaining children stayed in the same house until his death after a long illness in 1878, aged 68. His obituary describes a good man of great ingenuity, and besides being a most excellent workman at his own trade, he could turn his hand to a variety of jobs that required taste and skill in their manipulation'[1].

In memory of Ann Armistead Hayton wife of John Hayton, died March 4th 1859, aged 37 years. Also to the above John Hayton died May 27th 1878 aged 68 years. Jane Hayton, daughter of the above, died July 17th 1852 aged 2 years and 4 months. Isabella Hayton daughter of the above died June 5th 1859 aged 14 weeks. Thomas Hayton, son of the above, died Feb 13th 1872 aged 26 years. Henry Hayton son of the above died May 27th 1897 aged 40 years, B8



Only surviving daughter, **Annie Hayton**, may have damaged her reputation when she gave birth to a son, **Tom Hayton**, in November 1872. Little Tom died aged 11 months and was added to the family plot. Annie became a boarding house keeper in 'The Square', a few doors down from the current Post Office in Settle. Her lodgers tended to be medics and included **Oliver Scattergood**, the son-in-law of **John Lister** as well as **Dr James Walker Edgar** and **Dr Balfour Hyslop**. When Annie retired to Chapel Street brother **William Hayton** took over the premises. **William Hayton** became a plumber [ph1] and for a short while went into business with **George Robert Weymes** [LSA]. William took on an apprentice, **Edward Percy**, who later took over his business.



William's wife was **Louisa Clarke**, the daughter of **Thomas and Thirza**

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* **HAYTON & WEYMES**, *
Registered Plumbers,
(By the Worshipful Plumbers' Co., London)
 DUKE STREET, SETTLE.
 AUTHORIZED WATER FITTERS to the Settle
 Sanitary Authority,
 Sanitary Plumbers, Gas and Hot Water Fitters,
 Glaziers and Painters.
 Gas Fittings Fixed, Cleaned and Repaired,
ON THE SHORTEST NOTICE.
 A choice selection of Globes and Consumers.
 Amateur Greenhouses and Frames complete.
 Estimates Free. Workshops—off Chapel Street.

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Clarke, the immensely successful grocers. During the 1890s, Louisa ran a Temperance Hotel at the Commercial Inn opposite the Golden Lion (formerly the Joiner's Arms) while William continued his plumbing business [LSA] but they moved to Triangle Cottage by 1911 and then to Undercliffe, opposite the current Post Office.



They had three children. John (Jack) and Tom were regular performers for the Settle Amateur Operatic Society [ph2]. John (Jack) was performing with Thirza Maria Clarke, daughter of Louisa's brother **William Firth Clarke**. Tom and John both played for Settle Cricket Club. A poem was written about the team in 1905, the year they won the Ribblesdale League including the verses:

*Tom Hayton is a warrior bold, his batting isn't sure,
But if he does top in a bit he soon shifts on the score;
If in the field a ball comes near he soon is on its track,
Some people have been known to say his hands are like a sack.*

*Jack Hayton, J. M. Morphet, and H. Bolt make up this side,
The three of them good players, and each of them has tried
When batting bowling, fielding, to keep the prestige up
And help to win the Championship, the Medals, and the Cup.*



William and Louisa's daughter **Dorothy Clark Hayton** died in 1927 when she was 37 and is buried with her Clark grandparents in *Old grave 003*, just by the church gate. The inscription includes:

Dorothy Clark Hayton died June 7th 1927 aged 37 years.

After Dorothy's death William, Louisa and son Jack, a civil engineer, moved to Hertfordshire. Their son Tom stayed locally, working as a gardener in Long Preston, living with wife **Ellen Preston** from Wigan.

Youngest son **Henry Hayton** had been apprenticed to tailor **John Snell**, on the corner opposite the Folly and then worked as a tailor in Barrow-in-Furness. Henry's eyesight failed so that he couldn't work and he returned to Settle where his siblings William and Annie were living. Tragically, Henry ended his



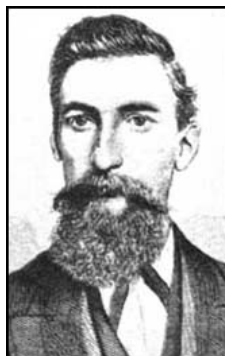
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own life in 1897 in an outhouse of the Royal Oak. This was the fifth suicide in the area over the past year. The newspaper report (of poor quality) read:

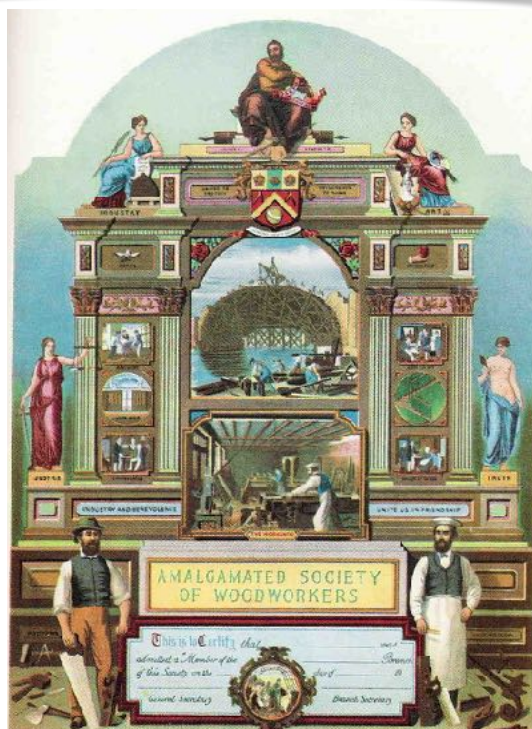
'The deceased was found hanging from a beam in an outhouse adjoining the Royal Oak Hotel on the previous evening. William Hayton, plumber said the deceased was his brother. He said that prior to coming to Settle he had been staying at Liverpool and had been out of work for 15 weeks. His eyesight had failed, so that he could not follow his trade, and he had come to the place where he was bred and hoped to end his days here. He seemed very depressed. . . The jury returned a verdict of 'suicide by hanging whilst in an unsound state of mind'. This is the fifth suicide which has been committed in this district within a comparatively short period of time.'

Henry is buried alone in unmarked *Old grave CX48*, although his life was commemorated on the family stone.

In better news, John and Ann's eldest surviving son **Edward Hayton** was apprenticed to joiner **William Howarth** in Church Street, Settle. Once qualified Edward found himself in Ormskirk, Lancashire which transpired to be quite eventful. In 1876 Edward took **Henry Wilding** to court for 'besetting' him, (persistently attacking) to compel him to leave his employment. Edward retaliated by putting 'his fist in the complainant's face'[2]. The Amalgamated Society of Carpenters and Joiners were taking their members out on strike but Edward was a 'non-union man'. This was in the very early days of trade union activity. The Amalgamated Society of Carpenters and Joiners was successfully established to stop employers trying to introduce a 'Document' which was a promise not to take part in trade union activity. Well, that backfired! It was one of the largest and most important trade unions of the Victorian era. It had 20,000 members in 1880 (not including Edward). Its general secretary, **Robert Applegarth** [ph3] is regarded by some as the most influential union leader of the entire Victorian era. His work helped to establish a legal basis for the unions. They had a rather attractive membership certificate [ph4]. The action culminated in a year-long strike in 1877-8.



Mr. Brighthouse (Ormskirk) defended. The evidence showed that Wilding, who is a plasterer, went to a new house where the complainant, a joiner, worked, and used insulting language to him in consequence of his being a non-union man, and there having been a strike among the joiners. Defendant also put his fist in complainant's face.



In this particular altercation it was Edward that was fined £5 for assault. Oops.

In 1878 Edward married the very respectable **Priscilla Gorse Brown**, a vet's daughter. Their first son was born a year later. At the time of the 1881 census Edward and Priscilla were working at Birkenhead Workhouse School, Edward as a 'Labour Master' and Priscilla as an 'Industrial Trainer'. It's not clear where their son was. In

ference to a man and his wife without children. The result, however, was that out of 66 married couples, **Hayton** and his wife were unanimously selected by the Select Vestry as persons possessing in the highest degree special qualifications required for the office. They were accordingly appointed, the understanding being that their child, an infant of three years old, should be permitted to reside with them, as the porter's apartment form what is substantially a separate house; and as no rations are or will be issued for the child, the Select Vestry fail to see any good ground for objection to the arrangement:

1882 they were appointed as 'Porter and Porteress' of Brownlowhill Workhouse with the onerous job of deciding who could or could not be admitted to the workhouse every day. The workhouse would have preferred a childless couple for the role but, despite their son, Edward and Priscilla were the unanimous choice out of 66 couples 'as persons possessing in the highest degree special qualifications required for the office.' It was agreed that as porters they would live in a separate house and so they were allowed to have their son living with them, despite several mutterings in the local press requiring the employers to justify their actions [3].

It was a dangerous job! In 1882 a drunk and disorderly woman, Mary Coleman, tried to enter the workhouse. Edward attempted to turn her away but she 'struck him violently with a crutch'. Police were called and she had to be secured to a stretcher for removal. As part of the hearing Edward stated that Mary had been in and out of the workhouse 23 times in the past six weeks. She also had 47 previous convictions. The judge, Mr Raffles sent her to prison for two months, as if that would help. Mary 'made use of most disgusting language' and 'endeavoured to use her crutch'[3].

This was a busy workhouse, the largest in Liverpool [ph3]. During the previous week there were 2,800 'inmates' with 887 receiving medical 'treatment'. There had been 35 deaths in the workhouse during the week. In addition, 449 vagrants visited the workhouse and the likes of Mary Coleman no doubt boosted those numbers.

SHIPPING TRAMPS FROM THE WORKHOUSE.

BOARD OF TRADE PROSECUTION.
At the City Police Court, this morning, before Mr. Raffles, Gustavus Hoey and Patrick Biogan were summoned for illegally shipping.

In 1889 Edward gave evidence at a trial in which two men were accused of illegally shipping tramps from the workhouse, obtaining very cheap labour for Atlantic sailings. Both the defendants had sailed to Montreal by the time of the hearing but were found guilty in their absence and fined £5 each, as if that would be a deterrent [4]. The Brownlowhill workhouse closed in 1928 and the nine acre site was acquired by the Catholic Church as the site for the new cathedral [ph3].

Priscilla and Edward had another three children and perhaps they decided the workhouse was not the best place to bring them up. At the time of the 1891 census Edward was the 'public house manager' of The Strand Hotel on Strand Street in Bootle, right at the heart of

THREATENING MR. RAFFLES.

At the Dale-street Police-court on Tuesday, before Mr. Raffles, a woman named Mary Coleman was charged with being drunk and disorderly in the Brownlow-hill Workhouse last night, and with assaulting a porter named Edward Hayton. It appeared that last night the prisoner sought to obtain admission at the workhouse, and the porter seeing that she was in drink refused her, whereupon she rushed past him and met the governor, who ordered the porter to put her out: Hayton endeavoured to do so when the prisoner struck him violently with a crutch which she had in her possession. Police-constable 518 was called,

her possession. Police-constable 518 was called, but, before he could remove the woman to the bridewell, he had to secure her to a stretcher. The prisoner had been 47 times previously convicted, and twice discharged; she had also been 23 times in and out of the workhouse during the last six weeks. Mr. Raffles ordered her to be imprisoned for two months, and the prisoner, on hearing the sentence, made use of most disgusting language, and said she would cut the d— face of his worship. She also endeavoured to use her crutch, but was prevented by one of the bridewell keepers.



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the port of Liverpool. Oddly, and sadly, it was called the 'Rubber Duck' at the time of closure [ph5]. In later censuses Edward worked as a joiner and then a dock labourer.



This account has been compiled by Sarah Lister as part of the Settle Graveyard Project which has recorded gravestone inscriptions, updated church records and researched the lives of those buried. It has been written in good faith with no offence intended. If I have inadvertently included errors or breached any copyright I apologise and would welcome corrections.

The life stories of people with italicised names have been researched as part of the graveyard project and can be found on [dalescommunityarchives.org.uk/settle graveyard project](http://dalescommunityarchives.org.uk/settle-graveyard-project). The 'Old Settle' family tree on Ancestry.co.uk includes the families buried in the graveyard. The project is ongoing and welcomes queries and information on settleresearch@gmail.com. Latest news and events are on the Facebook page 'Settle Graveyard Project'.

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LSA - Lambert's Settle Almanac, SC – Settle Chronicle both with the kind permission of the North Craven Buildings Preservation Trust

ph1 – photo with the kind permission of Sandra Cowin, a descendant, ph2 – with kind permission of SAOS, ph3 – credited to Wikimedia, ph4 – credited to unionancestors.co.uk, ph5 – credited to [Liverpool:now and then Facebook page](https://www.facebook.com/liverpoolnowandthen). ph5 – photo (and poem) with thanks to Settle Cricket Club, Peter Metcalfe and Andrew Davidson.