

## Henry Puttenham, travelling paper maker

Henry Puttenham was one of numerous working class men who travelled around the country to try and find work. Henry, born in 1768, came from Aylesford, Kent. In 1794 he married **Mary Bailey** and they had four children: **Richard**, **Louisa**, the wonderfully named **Theopolis**, who died an infant, and **Napoleon** (an interesting choice at that stage in history).

In the early 1800s most of the family moved to the thriving metropolis of Liverpool where Henry and son Napoleon made a living as paper makers. Napoleon died, aged 33, in 1838 in Liverpool - disease was rampant in this crowded city and life expectancy was lower than in London. Settle's *James Butterfield* also died in Liverpool in the 1840s.

Son Richard worked as a paper maker back in Maidstone, Kent, where he was chair of the poor law guardians who were having problems providing support for the poor of the town [1].

In the late 1830s, with Henry approaching his 70s, he moved to Langcliffe to work in the paper mill with wife Mary and daughter Louisa. They lived at the 'Paper Mill Houses' in Langcliffe.

In 1838, daughter Louisa became the second wife of **Alexander Gliddon**. Alexander had moved up to Langcliffe from Somerset, probably looking for a fresh start after a six month spell in Ilchester Gaol for 'assault and want of sureties to keep the peace' with a fine of one shilling. Alexander's first wife, **Ellen Bradley**, had died giving birth to their son John who was brought up by maternal grandparents in Langcliffe.

Louisa gave birth to daughter **Mary Ann Gliddon**. In March 1840, dad Henry died in January 1840, aged 72 and was buried in the unmarked grave DX16. A year later, little Mary Ann died and was buried on 28th May with her grandfather.

Incredibly, within the space of the next week, by the date of the 1841 census on 6th June, Alexander, Louisa and mum Mary Puttenham were living in Liverpool. Mary was working as a schoolmistress, and Alexander was a papermaker. Louisa died, aged 49, in 1846 and Alexander then moved to London with son John. Mary continued to work as a matron in Liverpool until she died in 1858, aged 77.

### Mr. Richard Puttenham in the Chair.

*It was Resolved Unanimously,*

1st. That this meeting view with the utmost regret, the determination of the Poor Law Commissioners, to withhold from the wives and families of the members of friendly societies parochial assistance, except in a very few cases, and upon a very limited scale during the time of sickness of such members, and cannot but consider it as a measure highly prejudicial to all friendly societies, and calculated to promote the speedy suppression of such societies, and to impede that spirit of emulation by which they have been actuated, and which it is incumbent on the different gradations of society to cultivate.

*Assault and for  
Want of Sureties to keep the Peace*



*This account has been compiled as part of the Settle Graveyard Project which has recorded gravestone inscriptions, updated church records and researched the lives of those buried. Life stories can be found on [dalescommunityarchives.org.uk](http://dalescommunityarchives.org.uk), 'settle graveyard project'. The 'Old Settle' family tree on [ancestry.co.uk](http://ancestry.co.uk) includes the families buried in the graveyard. The project is ongoing and welcomes queries and information on [settleresearch@gmail.com](mailto:settleresearch@gmail.com). Latest news and events are on the Facebook page 'Settle Graveyard Project'.*

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