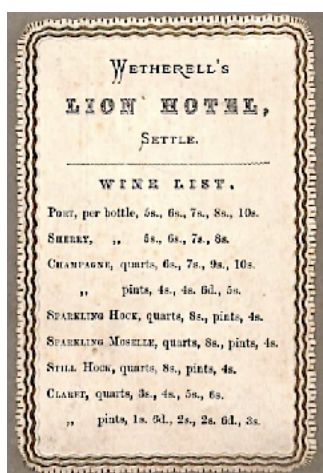


Thomas and Mary Wetherell, innkeepers at the Golden Lion

Thomas was born in 1801 in Osmotherly, North Yorks Moors. He married **Mary Appleton** who dutifully gave him at least seven daughters and one son. Thomas began his working life as a grocer in Osmotherly but in the 1850s, for some reason, brought the family to Hawes to become innkeeper at the White Hart [ph1]. The family moved from Hawes to Settle between 1861 and Thomas' death in 1865.



Thomas took over the Golden Lion from **Isabella Hartley** at the Golden Lion [ph4] – she had run it for decades with her husband Robert when he was alive – he died in 1830. Robert and Isabella's eldest son was **John Johnson Hartley**.



In memory of Thomas Wetherell of Settle who died Oct 1st 1865 aged 64 years, B15



It was quite acceptable for widows to run inns, and that's what Mary did - she seemed to be a popular landlady [1]. She also grew great beans [2]. Mary retired and lived near her daughters in Todmorden and Bradford living until the age of 84.

...rship of Mr G Robinson. When we say that the refreshments are in the hands of Mrs Wetherell, of the Lion Hotel, we are sure it would be quite unnecessary to say a word more about that department of the entertainment.

break up took place. The supper, which was provided by Mrs. Wetherell, did her very great credit, and was duly appreciated by the visitors after the programme had been gone through. Altogether the ball was considered the most pleasant and successful one held at Settle for some years.

Several of their children several stayed in the hospitality trade but were not great fans of marriage. What if you found yourself in an unhappy marriage? There were not many options. Laws in 1857 allowed divorce but it was really expensive and only heard at a court in London – so not for average working class Yorkshire folk. (It was also biased - men just had to prove their spouse had been involved in a 'criminal conversation' whereas women had to prove a criminal conversation and also physical cruelty, bigamy or incest.)

AMATEURS—CLASS 4—VEGETABLES.
Peas: 1, Mrs. Wetherell; 2, Thomas Stewart. Beans: 1, Mrs. Wetherell; 2, Thomas Stewart. Ditto (kindney): 1, Mrs. Wetherell; 2, C. Sedgwick. Carrots: 1, Thos.

In 1858 Thomas and Mary's daughter **Ann Elizabeth** married **Matthew Willan**, a draper in Hawes. Ann had a honeymoon baby, **James Wetherell Willan**. Matthew's finances were taken into

THE WHITE HART HOTEL, TODMORDEN.—We understand that this leading hotel of our town has been let to Mrs. Willan, recently of the Golden Lion Hotel, Settle, and that she will shortly enter into possession. Considerable changes and improvements are being made to the hotel, internally and externally, to adapt it to the requirements of commercial gentlemen and the public.

ALLEGED SALE OF UNDER-PROOF WHISKY.—**DEFEAT OF THE POLICE.**—A summons was taken out against Mrs. Willan, landlady of the White Hart Hotel, Todmorden, for a breach of the act relating to the sale of adulterated articles of food.—

administration in 1860 and that seems to have been a deal breaker for Ann Elizabeth who moved back in with her parents, taking James with her and spent the rest of her life separated from her husband. This was a brave decision as women usually depended on their husbands for income, but Ann was an incredibly strong woman. Matthew stayed in Hawes, living with his mum, an 'unemployed draper'.

Then Ann took the bull by the horns and ran several large hotels herself. Her first licence was at the White Hart Hotel in Todmorden [ph2], 'the leading hotel of Todmorden' [3], (now a Wetherspoons) Whilst at the White Hart Inn Ann had to deal with the usual drunks and fisticuffs. In 1883 she was taken to court by a pedantic police 'analyst' who spent his life visiting inns to find any discrepancies in the strength of their drinks [4]. Ann's manager, Mr Fielden, had served the gentleman. The White Hart was again referred to as 'the principal hotel in the town.' The case was dismissed with the judge casting doubt on the methods used and the analyst's approach. Ann's son James, a solicitor later married Martha Fielden – a relation to the bar manager?



Cottingham: That was the first complaint he had against Mrs. Willan, and that was the first sample he had taken and the first time objection which had been taken to her commodities. She keeps the principal hotel in the town, and had done so for many years. The quantity was 6½ below what was

In 1884 Ann moved to the George Hotel in Cullingworth, Bradford, not far from Haworth. In 1886 she was again taken to court over a brawl - a customer, Malachi Ford, had gone into debt so the manager Mr Bolt took his coat away until he paid his dues [3]. A fight broke out. The case was dismissed with the manager being told to return the coat and the customer to pay his debts. Ann described herself as a widow, which was far more socially acceptable than 'separated'.

**EXTRAORDINARY ACTION FOR ASSAULT.
BRADFORD COMMERCIAL TRAVELLER AND HIS DRINKS.**

The plaintiff in this action, heard before Judge Gates, Q.C., at the Bradford County Court on Wednesday week, was Malachi Henry Ford, commercial traveller, St. Jude's Place, Bradford, and the defendants were Ann Elizabeth Willan, widow, landlady of the George Hotel, Bradford (formerly of the White Hart Hotel, Todmorden), and James Holt, manager in her employ. The plaintiff claimed

From the George Hotel she moved to Liverpool to run the enormous Stork Hotel on Queen's Square right in the middle of town with sisters Charlotte and Sarah [ph3].

At the time of the 1891 census Ann and her sisters had wealthy visitors including several merchants and physicians. To look after them she had 21 servants: barmaids, chambermaids, barmaids, kitchenmaids, porters, bootmen etc. This was a massive business.



Queen's Square became the centre of Liverpool's gay culture in the 1960s, being opposite the theatres. In 1976 the Stork Hotel was destroyed as part of city centre renovations to make way for the new bus terminus. Progress!

Ann retired to Whitby with sisters Eliza and spinster Sarah Rebecca. Ann died, aged 90! in 1927. Sister Eliza had married a calico salesman, William Dewhirst, who died, aged 40, in Todmorden. Eliza ran a boarding house in Liverpool before retiring to Whitby. Sister Charlotte Esther, who

Settle Graveyard Project

had helped Ann run the Stork went on to run her own hotel in the Market Place in Selby.

Thomas and Mary's daughter **Hannah** married **Joseph Turner**, the son of *John Turner*, the latter in the Market Place [1]. Joseph preferred inns to hatting, running the Crown Hotel, Church Street, Keighley.

Giggleswick.—Recently, at the Parish Church, by the Rev. T. Mc.Intyre, Mr. Joseph Turner, chemist and druggist, Settle, to Miss Hannah Wetherell, third daughter of the late Mr. Thomas Wetherell, of the Red Lion Hotel, Settle.

Some people's lives never quite work out as Thomas and Mary's only surviving son **Thomas Wilkinson Wetherell** discovered. He joined the West Riding Police Force in 1867, aged 23, but resigned after four years. Soon after he married **Sarah Marshall** and they lived in Gainsborough with two sons. Thomas worked as a bankers clerk. Their younger son, Thomas Wilkinson Wetherell died in 1882 aged just six. Thomas was only 45 when he died and his probate documentation says he left just £1 to Sarah. This can only mean one thing - Thomas had opened a chemist's business in Leeds but was declared bankrupt in 1886 just three years before he died. Poor old Thomas.

WETHERELL { Thomas
Wilkinson.
Personal Estate £1.



Settle Graveyard Project

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, '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'.

The life stories of people with italicised names have been researched as part of the graveyard project.

Newspaper cuttings with the kind permission of the British Newspaper Archives: 1 – Lancaster Gazette, 2 – Lancaster Guardian, 3 – Todmorden Advertiser, 4 – Todmorden and District News

ph1 – credited to the White Hart Hotel, Hawes, ph2 – credited to the White Hart Hotel, Todmorden, ph3 – credited to the Liverpool Echo. ph4 – with the kind permission of John Reid from dalescommunityarchives.org.uk