

## **St Alkelda's Church clock**

In 2007 work was completed on the restoration of the clock face on St Alkelda's church in Giggleswick, funded in part by a grant from North Craven Heritage Trust (see NCHT Journal 2007). It seems appropriate to bring attention to, and record, an item found in the 'Red Book', property of Giggleswick Church (courtesy of David Fox), being a collection of papers concerning the church made by Thomas Brayshaw a century ago, as follows.

### **Giggleswick Church**

The new Clock, with the St. Mary's Chimes given to the Vicar and Churchwardens on the occasion of the restoration of the church by Masters & Scholars of Giggleswick School, Past & Present

23rd July 1892

Sunday 24th July

The Special School Services

Revd T. H. May

The offertory in the Morning and the Collection in the Evening will be given to the Clock Fund.

### **Large Turret Clock for Giggleswick Church**

The clock is to be placed in the clock chamber of the Church tower, which will be duly prepared by the Restoration Committee, and will have a large external dial, with black and gold figures, on the East wall of the Tower. It will have one set of gun metal motion wheels cut on the engine, copper hands balanced within, universal joints of hard brass, bevel wheels and connections, also an index dial inside for setting the outside hands.

The clock will have a horizontal cast iron bed frame planned; all the bearings of gun metal screwed into the frame, best wire cords and block pullies brushed with brass and pivoted in: the weights will be cast in slips for easier adjustment.

The main wheels will be suitable for the dial and the size of the large bell: the clock will be fitted with Lord Grimthorpe's gravity escapement, compensation pendulum, and maintaining power, and everything necessary for a large and strong first-rate clock.

The hours will be struck on the large or tenor bell and the St. Mary of Cambridge Quarters, or Chimes, will be struck on four bells.

Besides the clock a good wood case will be obtained.

### **Lord Grimthorpe**

*(Information from the internet).*

As an amateur horologist he became well known. In 1850 he published his Treatise on Clocks Watches and Bells, a book that ran to eight editions. Turret clocks were his speciality and he was involved with the Great Clock at the Palace of Westminster. With the making of the clock in a mess, he took over the task and designed the clock and organized its making. He designed a new gravity escapement that became the standard for all turret clocks. He also popularised the use of the flat bed construction.

Apart from the great clock he also designed the bell called 'Big Ben'.