

For the story of **Edward Hartley** - see Greenwood

For the story of **Henry and John Hartley** - see Ratcliffe

John Johnson Hartley, entrepreneurial ironmonger

John Johnson Hartley 1811 was the eldest of nine children born to **Isabella Ruebottom** and **Robert Hartley**. He was born in London, but baptised in Kirkby Lonsdale. The family had moved to Settle by 1817 to run the Golden Lion Inn. Robert died in 1829 but Isabella ran the Inn for nearly 40 more years.

In 1839, John married **Mary Harger**, the daughter of *Joseph Harger*, the innkeeper of the Royal Oak in Settle. Mary had created a beautiful sampler when she was just seven with text from a poem by a Quaker poet 'Meditations' by Mary Mollineux [ph3]. John and Mary didn't have children.

John worked in the Market Place as an ironmonger and tinsmith, although he seemed to have fingers in many pies including property, selling guns, and letting property, and an agent for selling agricultural machinery [SC]. In 1841 and 1842 John was a churchwarden, nominated by the pewholders at Holy Ascension Church, so was obviously held in high regard..

A CARD.
JOHN HARTLEY,
Land Agent, Surveyor, Valuer, &c.,
SETTLE.

TO SPORTSMEN AND OTHERS.
ON SALE,
A newly invented
PATENT THREE BARREL GUN,
Containing Fowling piece and Rifle; admirably adapted for
Rook and Sea Fowl shooting, in addition to the usual appliances
of a Double Barrel Gun; on view.—Apply to
J. J. HARTLEY,
Ironmonger, Settle.

HARTLEY v. COWBURN.
The case was not defended. Mr. Martin and
Mr. Overend were for plaintiff. Plaintiff, Mr.
John Johnson Hartley, is an ironmonger at
Settle, and defendant is a solicitor at the same
place. This action was for a promissory note,
value £425, with interest, dated 9th December,
1847. The signature of defendant was proved by
Mr. Seed, clerk with Mr. Pearson, Kirkby Lons-
dale, and the jury brought in a verdict for £425,
with £51 interest.

In 1850 John had to take the respected solicitor *John Cowburn* to court to get him to honour a rather substantial promissory note to the value of £425 plus interest [1]. Perhaps Mr Cowburn was not quite as respected afterwards! In 1854, John let his business to Mr **Robert Jones** – perhaps it was more lucrative than doing the work himself [SC].

In 1857, John bought property on the Market Place and Castle Hill from Thomas Hardacre. Thomas had recently gone bankrupt so John may have got a bargain [SC]. He ran his business in some of them, [ph2] next door to Sylvester Cork's wig shop and hairdresser. John's shop is now a cycle shop. John rented other rooms back to Thomas Hardacre. He also let some of the rooms at the bottom of Castle Hill to the Board of Guardians [SC].

MAY 1st, 1854.
J. J. HARTLEY,
Begs to inform his customers and the public that he has let his workshop and the business connected with it to Mr. Robert Jones, who will in future carry on the business on his own account. J. J. H. respectfully invites his customers and the public to favour Mr. Jones with their business, feeling assured from Mr. Jones' practical knowledge and personal superintendence of the business, that all orders entrusted to his care will meet with the fullest attention and be executed promptly and on the very best terms.

GUARDIANS' ROOM.—At a Special Meeting of the Guardians, held in the Board Room, on Tuesday, the 10th ult. The Guardians agreed to take Rooms of Mr. J. J. Hartley, for their Board Meetings, a plan of which was laid before them. The site of the proposed Rooms are in Back Lane, opposite Mr. Foster's Office, at present being two Cottages, which are to be altered for that purpose. We understand the Board had been served with Notice to quit those they now occupy. We hope that in the new Rooms a Waiting Room will be provided for the applicants for relief.

Settle Graveyard Project



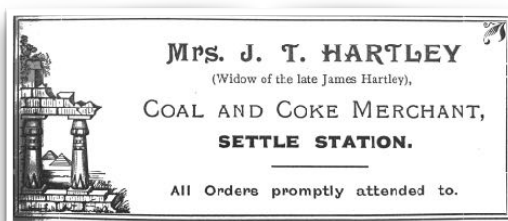
The Board of Guardians made alterations and moved into the properties during the following year. However the first floor Committee Room was criticised for the lack of accessibility problems for the old and infirm, the very people it was intending to provide for.

In 1860, John used his entrepreneurial spirit to divert the waste from his water closet down a street water drain which emptied out onto gravel [2]. Unsurprisingly the drain blocked up. Not John's smartest move. Incredibly, he got away with a fine of 1 shilling which may reflect his good reputation in the town, or the lack of regard to hygiene in the 1860s.

John and Mary are buried with John's unmarried brother William and a nephew Robert, the son of John Johnson's brother Thomas Hartley who worked as a draper in London. Thomas had at least 13 children including another son called Robert.

B5 Sacred to the memory of John Johnson Hartley who died May 27th 1864 aged 53, and Mary, wife of the above who died October 27th 1864 aged 50 years. Also William Hartley brother of the above who died February 24th 1858 aged 38 years. Also Robert Hartley nephew of the above who died August 17th 1852 aged 4 years.

John's brother Joseph Hartley had the very first wedding at Holy Ascension church in 1849. He married Susannah Hardacre from Long Preston. Joseph made a fortune as a cotton manufacturer in Lancashire. John's brother James Hartley and his wife/widow Jane Tower Foxcroft were successful coal merchants. They lived in Langcliffe but traded from Settle Station [LSA].



HIGHLY VALUABLE PREMISES TO LET,
WITH IMMEDIATE POSSESSION.

1. THE SHOP AND HOUSE
Lately occupied by Mr. Thomas Hardacre, Draper. These eligible premises, a first-rate Shop and House, are situated in the Market Place, in Settle, and have been occupied as a Drapery establishment, combined with a Lucrative Undertaking Trade, established nearly a century, and offer an opportunity to an enterprising individual seldom to be met with.

2. THE HOUSE AND SHOP
Lately occupied by the undersigned as a Dwelling House and Ironmongery Store. May be converted into an extensive and commodious dwelling house with every convenience for the comfort of a respectable family. Adjoining No. 1.

3. & 4. Two very roomy and convenient COTTAGES,
Situate opposite Rock House, commanding a view worthy a mansion of some pretensions.

For terms apply to the purchaser,
J. J. HARTLEY,
Ironmonger, Settle.

GUARDIANS.—The Guardians have removed to their new room situate in Back Lane, opposite the entrance to Rock House. The Board room is situated on the ground floor to the right hand of the entrance, and is well lighted from back and front; to the left is a waiting room seated round for Paupers, this is a great convenience for the poor who frequently during the winter had to stand in the lobby or cluster round the outer door whilst their cases were called upon. Opposite the outer entrance is a stair case which conducts to a very well lighted and ventilated Committee room, the size of and over the Board room, and which it appeared to us might have been the better Board room if the ascent of stairs was not too inconvenient for aged and infirm applicants; next to the Guardians' rooms is a very nice cottage dwelling, with pantry, scullery, three bedrooms, and water closet, which last by the bye would seem to be a want in the premises occupied by the Guardians. The whole of the buildings have, if we may use the term, been translated in a very tasteful style out of the two old cottages which for the last two centuries formed the left side of the bottom of back lane.

Stansfield, Esq., being in the chair. The complaint was made by Mr Anthony Bently, the surveyor of the highways of Settle, against Mr John Johnson Hartley, of Settle, ironmonger, under the 72nd section of the highway act, for suffering filth and other offensive matter to run upon the highway. Mr Henry Robinson appeared in support of the information, and called several witnesses who proved that the defendant had lately turned the sewer from his water closets into a drain which had been several years ago constructed by the surveyor of the highways for the purpose of carrying off the surplus water from the streets, and that the consequence of such sewage being turned into the drain was that it became choked up. It appeared also from the evidence that the drain was constructed to pass water simply, because it terminated at its lower end in a sand or gravel bed. Mr Hartley Baldwin.



Settle Graveyard Project

James [on right ph1], was one of the 'Three Fishers' with **William Capstick** and **Matthias Nowell**. **William Clark** and **Thomas Altham** wrote a satirical poem about them which caused a bit of a stir amongst locals. James died in 1902, aged 83, and is buried at Langcliffe.



...JR...

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. 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.

Life stories 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'.

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

A – An appreciation of Settle, Settle and District Civil Society, 1973

B – Thomas Brayshaw - Local fragments

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

Newspaper cutting with the kind permission of the British Newspaper Archives: 1 – Lancaster Gazette, 2 – Kendal Mercury, 3 – Westmorland Gazette, 5 – Bradford Observer

ph1 – photo with kind permission of the North Craven Buildings Preservation Trust, ph2 – kindly provided by John Reid, ph3 – with thanks to descendants Allan Gould and Paul Wiltshire, ph4 – credited to the Back in Settle Facebook site, ph5 – credited to Midlandhotel.org, ph6 – credited to descendants of the family via Ancestry.co.uk, username [th_brown66](#)