

1828—Continued.

Great flood in Stockport, the river Mersey rising nearly twenty feet above its ordinary level—July 12.

Samuel Oldknow died at Marple—September 13. He introduced the first steam engine into Stockport for turning his winding machines for muslin manufacture in Higher Hillgate Mill (built in 1785), now belonging to Messrs. Christy & Co.

Great Strike of Cotton Operatives—October 10. (Operations were not entirely resumed until September 1829.)

1829.

First and Head Office of the Manchester and Liverpool District Bank (succeeding the Stockport and Cheshire Bank, opened December 27, 1824), opened in Underbank Hall—December 2. For six months this was the only office of the Company, and in this fact may be found the origin of the statement that it was usual at one period to address letters: "Manchester, near Stockport." The Head Office was moved to Manchester when the premises were completed there and the office in Stockport was continued as a branch. In an old Minute Book there is an entry that "a branch be opened at Liverpool."

1830.

Foundation Stone of Grammar School laid—September 8.

First Locomotive Railway between Liverpool and Manchester opened—September 15. Mr. Huskinson, M.P., killed.

1831.

A new factory, Weir Mill, belonging to Mr. Thomas Fernley, destroyed by fire, damage £18,000—July 19.

The Stocks—used for punishment of petty offences—at the end of Within's Row, Great Portwood Street, were removed.

1832.

Stockport Grammar School erected in Greek Street and Wellington Road South, by the Goldsmiths Company, of London (superseding the first School situate in Chestergate, the foundation of which, by Sir Edmund Shaa, dates back to 1487), opened—April 30, 1832. The present Grammar School situate off Buxton Road, Davenport, was opened on January 29, 1916. Upon the site of the old Grammar School (which is to be taken down) in Greek Street and Wellington Road South a memorial is to be erected to the memory of the Stockport soldiers who fell in the Great War of 1914-1918.

Portwood Hall (a half timbered house, known for several centuries as the residence of the Duckinfield family), and estate sold to the Howard family. The Hall was later divided into several separate dwellings, which are now surrounded by the Vernon and Palmer Mills.

By the Reform Act of this year, Stockport was created a Parliamentary Borough, returning two members, first election being on December 14. The candidates were Major Marsland and Mr. J. H. Lloyd, Conservatives, and Messrs. Henry Marsland and E. D. Davenport, Liberals. The election lasted two days and 995 persons voted, returning Major Marsland and J. H. Lloyd.