

**1838.**

Borough Cemetery opened—April 9; first interment April 13. Church of England burial ground consecrated January 29, 1857, and Roman Catholic burial ground consecrated June 30, 1859.

Explosion at Lane's Mill, Newbridge Lane, three persons killed—August 26.

Stockport Gasworks purchased by the Corporation for £21,493—September 24.

St. Peter's Church (consecrated May 31, 1768) enlarged by the erection of north and south galleries.

**1839.**

Manchester and Stockport Railway opened from Bank Top to Heaton Norris—June 4. It was not until the completion of the viaduct (referred to later) that trains ran to Edgeley; they formerly only ran to Heaton Norris.

2,000 Chartists took possession of pews in St. Mary's Parish Church—July 21.

Seventeen Chartists arrested for assaulting the Magistrates and other officials in the Millgate—August 1.

**1840.**

Stockport Choral Society established—February 10.

Completion of Stockport viaduct, having been built in 21 months at a cost of £70,000. It is 1786 feet long and 111 feet above the level of the river and is 6 feet higher than Menai Bridge. The piers are 10 feet thick, those on the river 11 feet thick, and 400,000 cubic feet of stone, and 11,000,000 bricks were used in the structure—December 21, 1840. The foundation stone of the viaduct was laid—March 10, 1839.

Exhibition of a costly collection of gems in art, science and literature at the Stockport Mechanics' Institution, then located in a building in Park Street, which was originally the Stockport Theatre—April 13. "A more delicious feast of wonders," says the "Advertiser," "was never presented to the astonished gaze of the people of Stockport."

Mr. Ralph Pendlebury knighted for his conduct in suppressing the Chartist affairs in Stockport during the time of his mayoralty in 1838-9—July 1.

Heaton Mersey Congregational Church opened—August 26 (enlarged 1855 and 1864).

Stores in Cale Green founded by the Secretary to the Weavers' Society.

**1841.**

Great Distress in Stockport, as nearly all the mills were closed.

6,000 weavers turned out to oppose a reduction in wages. Much intimidation followed.

William Radcliffe, the owner of a large spinning and weaving mill and the inventor of the power loom, died in Stockport—May 20.

Stockport Union Workhouse, Shaw Heath opened—December 25. The workhouse prior to this was the building (erected in 1812) in Daw Bank, later occupied by the London and North-Western Railway Company.