

NOWT FRESH!

Tax avoidance, all-night parties, dangerous dogs, and unhappy farmers
It's all happened before!

"On January 25th 1890, Richard Seed, Bushturner, Chipping, and Edward Seed, Corn Miller, Chipping, were summoned by PC Wilson for allowing their dogs to be at large without muzzles at Chipping. They were fined 1s and costs."

The Clitheroe Times. 21st February 1890.

2nd August 1729. "This morning, Richard, son of Robert Dunderdale, came and told that the window peeper was in the parish, and we having ten windows, must make one up or pay 6s a year."

From "Extracts from the Diary of Rev Peter Walkden", the minister at Hesketh Lane Chapel, who lived at Daub Hall, Chipping which he farmed with the help of his family.

The "window peeper" was a government official appointed to count and report upon the number of windows in the houses and charge the tax to the occupiers. Window tax was imposed in 1696. In 1825 houses with less than 8 windows were exempt. The tax was abolished in 1851, but in Scotland it had been abolished much earlier in 1707.

"On Wednesday evening (11th May 1892) a large number of farmers and others resident in Chipping and neighbourhood assembled in the Old School at Chipping for the purpose of hearing a lecture on "What the Farmers Ought to Know," by Mr E.B.Loynd, of Great Harwood, and under the auspices of the Conservative Association of the Darwen Division. Mr R.Smith, J.P., C.C., of Longridge, presided, and he was supported by a number of gentlemen. Those present had assembled, as they thought, to receive some practical hints in connection with farming, but were much surprised and disappointed, and in fact, many, though Tories, were disgusted with the diatribe against Mr Gladstone to which they were privileged to listen. The attack on Mr Gladstone, and a few remarks on the excellence of the work performed by the present Government occupied the main portion of the lecture, at the close of which Mr John Thomas, of Whitewell, asked several pertinent questions.

He said the Tory Government had been in power now for six years, and he would like to know what they had done for the farmers. He appealed to those present to substantiate his statement that the last six years had been amongst the worst they, as farmers, had ever known, and as nobody contradicted it, the statement was presumably approved. --- The Lecturer evaded the questions by saying that he had not the time to deal with them then. --- Votes of thanks concluded the meeting."

Preston Guardian. 14th May 1892.

"On Friday, 26th February 1892, a ball was held in the Dancing Academy at Dunsop Bridge, near Chipping, under the superintendence of Mr William Gudgeon, who courteously acted as MC. The music was supplied by Mr Thomas Gudgeon, and a splendidly arranged programme was gone through. Songs were rendered at various times in the programme by Mr Jas.W.Parker, of Chipping, and Messrs Bleazard and Rimington of Thorneyholme. The refreshment room was under the superintendence of Mrs William Gudgeon and Mrs Seed. Some Scotch melodies were given on the violin by Mr Tett of Wyresdale. The proceedings terminated at 6am."

Preston Guardian. 5th March 1892.