March 8. 1905

I was glad to receive yr letter this morning as I was thinking of writing to ask when you proposed to move to Orton. If you will write again when yr plans are more settled I would endeavour to meet you at Orton to meet you as soon as you have gone into residence assange to go to Orton ~~to meet you~~ go myself then beforehand ~~It wd no doubt be more Convenient for you not to go there before for the purpose of being inducted~~ ~~be inducted before~~ Induction is a very short ceremony & requires only the Churchwarden & one or two witnesses. I or Hearing again from you I wd write to Mr George Morris to arrange abt it

When I last heard from him he spoke of the pleasure they had had in seeing you.

Rev H R Bragg
Wigston Magna Leicester

March 14 1905

I will endeavour to do what the Inspectors with in the way of examining. The questions will not be wanted for some time & I shall have the opportunity of ascertaining from you at yr next visit what books our pupil teachers are in the habit of studying.

~~I~~ About sending the trap for him to Desford Station.

& Congratulations on his daughter's recovery.

Rev S Wathen Wigg
Saddington Rectory. Market Harborough

In Memorandum dated March 10 1905

Duncan Blackburn

Glebe Farm (known as the Halifax Farm) & the Hook Farm adjoining containing 240 acres 1 rood 23 poles or thereabouts, now in the occupation of the Ibstock Colliery Company

– 12 months previous notice to quit –

The Rent shall be Two hundred and three pounds Seventeen Shillings & Sixpence for the Halifax Farm & £12 " 2 " 6 for the Hook per annum payable quarterly on the usual quarter days except that after a notice to quit has been given the last 2 quarters rent shall become due & payable in advance

The Landlord shall allow £16 per annum for the first 2 years for Basic Slag, bills to be produced.

[I suggest instead "The Rent shall be One hundred and eighty eight pounds two shillings & sixpence for the Halifax Farm & twenty seven pounds seventeen shillings & Sixpence for the Hook & the other eighteen acres"

	188 " 2 " 6	instead of	203 " 17 " 6
	27 " 17 " 6		12 " 2 " 6
	£216 " 0 " 0		£216 " 0 " 0

The gates fences ditches house & premises are being put into a good state of repair by the Landlord & he shall be entitled to receive any monies received for dilapidations from the outgoing tenants.

The Tenant shall during the hunting season take down all wire fences upon the Farm or shall permit the Landlord or his Servants or Agent to take down the same.

The Tenant shall reside upon the premises & shall not underlet or part with possession of any part of the farm or premises without the previous Consent in writing of the Landlord.

Halifax Farm	214 " 1 " 28
The Hook.	7 " 0 " 0
Hegg's Land	21 " 2 " 26 which includes 3 acres of Spinnies.
	243 " 0 " 14

See Supra Jan 16 1905

they will go to Scotland this year & Mr Scott would not hear of yr only making use of their Carriage & sleeping yourselves at N.V Rectory or elsewhere.

Bosworth Park would be the best centre for yr visits to ~~the Rest~~ the Incumbents or Curates of Mt Bosworth Barlestone Shenton Sutton Cadeby Carlton Nailstone & N.V but you might, I think, perhaps, find it more convenient for the more distant (Atherstone) parts of the Deanery to pass the 3rd night at Sheepy where Mr & Mrs Southwell would give you & Lady Mary a most hearty welcome to their house, & the Misses Love & other ladies would be glad to place their Carriages at yr disposal for visiting the other 4 Parishes Sibson Orton Twycross & Norton

This little sketch is all that I think you will require till the time of yr visit draws much nearer

The Hon & Right Rev.
The Lord Bishop. ——.

/

Apr 14 1906

I am glad to see in the newspapers that you have quite recovered. I am afraid that I must trouble you get again

I have been nothing of Mr Blackburn who promised to repay me on the 25th ult £17. 18s. 6 the remainder of the sum which I advanced on his behalf in payment of Mr Edmund Carlton's award & charges on the 22 July 1905.

I think that I ought to let you know about this

Mr H. German

/

Apr 20 1906 From letter to Jim Preston

My attention has been quite taken up with the Montagu Charity about which there has been great agitation & 2 great Parish Meetings with me in the Chair. The men have been stirred up this year to complain about the discontinuance of the doles. The Charity Commissioners wrote & urged us in 1890 to give up distributing the income of the Charity in small sums (generally 2/6 or 3/0) which said they confers no real benefit on the

recipients & has indeed a tendency to engender poverty rather than to relieve it. Knowing that the Halfcrowns "the poors money" were generally spent in the publice house & never reached the home, the Trustees in 1896 determined to adopt part of the Commissioners advice & for 9 years – ever since that date – instead of giving away in doles from £14 to £17 we have distributed only about £5 to Widows to the aged & to the sick & have put by the remainder with a view to its being employed to repair the Trust property wherever a sufficient sum has been accumulated or (if the Trustees should prefer it) in order that it may be laid out with the sanction of the Commissioners in some other way which wd be generally useful to the Parish

The sum saved each year now amount to £180 & the men start want to get hold of it & would like to spend it. The Trustees have hitherto been firm in supporting me but of course I get all the blame & at the meetings am left to do all the speaking. I am afraid there are now signs that in order to escape the unpopularity some of them wd like to give in —

Apr 20

I wish to say how sorry I am that you have made up yr mind to resign yr office as Trust Charity Trustee. I am sorry that the Charity shd lose yr services & as you are aware. I shall greatly miss yr help in collecting the rents.

Will you kindly let me know when it was that you gave me notice that you wished to resign? I have no recollection of your having done so & am much surprised at it

You were present yourself at the Council meeting (Feb 27) when you were reelected & did not then object to continue to serve.

At the Parish meeting (March 27) you made a speech as Trustee & afterwards remarked to me that if you had known of the large number of persons who had been in default with their rent you wd have been inclined to say more than you did.

At the meeting of Trustees on Thursday March 29 which I opened by announcing the reelection by the Parish Council of the 4 Trustees whose term of office had expired, you again raised no objection to serve & shewed yourself as active as usual in the work of a Trustee. You told us of Mr James Hill's offer to take Wm Bevans piece on condition that he was excused the rent for 2 years & you also recommended the clearing of Tom Preston's allotment & undertook, as I understood, to see to its being done.

I do not remember that we heard of your intention to resign at the later meeting of Trustees on Thursday Apr 5. This meeting was almost entirely taken up with the reading of extracts from the Blue book: I feel sure that if you did speak of resigning at this meeting no other Trustee seems to have made any reference to what you had said

Under these circumstances I think it wd have been more convenient if you had given me a formal notice of your resignation in writing before the Council meeting on the 18th inst

Mr Walter Orton.

Apr 27 from letter to Jim Preston

I returned last night from London where my time was a good deal taken up with interviews at the Charity Commissioners Office. The doles will never come back but they do not approve of my saving up the money year after year in order to restore the Trust Property or build a reading room or purchase a recreation ground. So none of these things shall we ever acquire but instead of putting it by we must spend the income of the Charity (or most of it) in something which will benefit the present generation.

I propose contributing to the Leicester Infirmary & the Mt Bosworth District Nursing Association & perhaps setting up a Boot & Shoe Club & a Clothing Club. Surely it wd have been better to sacrifice 2/6 per annum if in time they cd have managed to get any one of the things I proposed? Eh?

[The practice of the Commissioners while doing away with doles is to benefit the poor in some other way & - I defended our action by saying 12 Jan 1898 that Trustees are not under any obligation to spend the whole income of the Charity in any particular year — & if they put aside some portion of the income for the purpose of benefiting more substantially hereafter the very same class of persons as those who wd now receive the doles it seems to us that in so acting they are but discharging their undoubted duty as Trustees.]

May 2. 1906

I am sorry to say that I cd not get the meeting last night to consent to pay over the balance to the Official Trustees. This was proposed by one of them who came to see me before the meeting & I seconded it but cd not get any one else to vote for it. They frankly acknowledged they were afraid of the miners & one of the Trustees has resigned. It wd not take much to make others follow his example. I feel rather sore myself after my interview at the office last week & when I think of that last letter.

The Commissioners ought to support the Trustees more decidedly when they are carrying out their own views & not listen to all the complaints against them

If the Commissioners wish the Trustees to carry on the work which they have themselves suggested, they ought to support them more decidedly & not listen to every Complaint that is made against them

W. T. Warry Esq
32 St George Road
S.W

May 3 1906

The Trustees of the Montagne Allotments Charity have it under consideration whether they cd get their rents collected & if your time is not already fully occupied, wd be glad to hear what your terms wd be. The rents are chiefly for allotments.

Mr Quincey.
Mt Bosworth Nuneaton

May 3.

I have written to the Board of Edn for a Form & shall be obliged if you will say that you approve of the Monitress Frances Judith Gillions being recognised as S.T. It seems from Mr Titley's letter that we ought to name to the Edn Committee the Salary which be Managers think she ought to receive. She was 18 on March 26 & has been at work in this School since Apr 2 1902.

You were good enough to say that you wd endeavour to see the Director about poor Mary Adams. She has somehow been very unfairly treated.

She was 21 years of age Nov 12 1905 & her Salary has been raised 'as from the 1st Apr 1906' only to £22 "10 "0. She was recognised as Art 68 in H M Inspector's Report of July 1903.

I am told that she cd get £30 without difficulty if she cd leave us & advertise

Hoping that you will excuse me troubling you

F. B. Lott Esq
H M Inspector of Schools
Victoria Road. Leicester.

I am sorry to hear of the cause which kept you away from the Conference & trust that you are now improved in health

I sent up yr name with Mr Cope's after the meeting to Canon Moore & as the Conference was not a large one I think it will be best to acquiesce for the present in the reelection of the old Representatives.

It will be time enough to make a change at our next meeting, Should you then desire to make way for a younger man.

Mr Wm Thorpe
Manor House, Nailstone, Nuneaton.

May 30 1906 I wish to tell you that
I have not heard from Mr Blackburn since I received yr letter of the ~~21st~~ 24th April ~~saying that he promised to pay in ten days~~.
You will remember that I wrote to you on the 12th Apr ~~to tell you~~ not having received from him the instalment £17 18. 6 part of the sum which I had advanced & which he had promised to repay on the 25th March ~~he had owed me~~ & to complain of his ~~not having paid the balance of £17 18. 6 which~~

The other tenants on June 19th (the Tuesday before the longest day) will bring me the rents for the last Half year. In the case of Mr B. I have no choice now but to ask you to be so good as to ask for the rent as well as for so much of the advance as is still owing to me

Mr H German
Rotherwood Ashby de

June 15 1906

We have received a notice that the Charity Commission will hold in July a public enquiry into the administration of the Montagu Charity I have also had a letter from Mr Herbert Morris one of the Assistant Commissioners who is coming here to hold the enquiry asking particulars about the place & the journey & in answering it yesterday I said that I thought it would be convenient on account of old George Wrack's death which took place on Whitsunday if he could arrange to come early in July. We should no doubt be glad to have his advice about the cottages. George Wrack left our cottage & £50 to the husband of one of his nieces & I think it would not be difficult to come to some agreement with him but I should be glad to consult Mr Morris about it & also hear what he thinks about the rebuilding of the cottages.

The opposition are supposed to be in active communication with Sir Charles Mclaren & a notice has been put out (before I think the public enquiry was heard of) "A meeting will be held in Mr W Towers home field on Saturday 16th at 7 p m to discuss the Montagu Charity." Towers was (& probably still is) one of Sir C Mclaren's agents & I hear that he has sent up for a copy of James Montagu's will, So I hope that Mr Morris will be found to be well posted up in the whole matter.

They are much impressed with the idea of what Sir Charles can do!

June 16. 1906

I have to thank you for your letter of the 15th inst & shall be glad to ~~arrange~~ assist in any arrangements you may desire.

Thursday July 5th would be most convenient at 6.30 p.m the enquiry to be held at the 'Newbold Verdon Parochial School' (This is our only elementary school, a non provided Church of England School.)

I will see after the distribution of the Posters & if you will kindly say how often you wish the advertisements to be inserted I will ~~kindly~~ undertake their insertion in the newspapers (1) The Leicester ~~Advertiser~~ (Unionist, weekly) & (2) the Leicester daily Mercury (Radical) I have an engagement ~~with the~~ Bishop on Monday & Tuesday & if the advertisements reach me on Tuesday (C/o A.P. Moore Esq Minster Precincts Peterborough) I will ~~leave them~~ for insertion in my return through Leicester

You can have a good fly from Desford which would come here again & take you back either for the 9.11 or 9.45 train to Leicester.

Some refreshment might be provided for you at our chief inn & if you would let Mrs Gardner (Old Swan Inn Newbold Verdon Leicester) know what you would require, she would be glad to ~~provide it~~ get it ready.

H. P. Morris Esq
Charity Commission
Ryder St. S.W

June 25. 1906

I beg to thank you for your letter of the 22nd inst & to say that I will endeavour to carry out your wishes as soon as possible.

I am sending off a parcel by this same post containing the Town Book & a paper which I have drawn up about the Trustees. I am sorry to say that the Trustees have no other book except this Town Book & as I mentioned in my long letter of the 12th Jan 1898 (at the end) we have never seen or heard of any other.

I am afraid some difficulty has ~~been raised~~ arisen about old George Coates's bill which must prevent anything being done at present about the Cottages & gardens.

~~Are not we~~ we should be glad to know more definitely the nature of the Complaints which have been made ~~to the Commissioners~~ brought against us Are not Trustees entitled to be told the names of their accusers & to see the letters that have been sent to them the Commissioners before they are called upon to be present at a public Enquiry?

H. P. Morris Esq
Charity Commission
St James's London. S.W.

July 2 1906

On receiving your letter this morning I did not know how to answer it as I had not seen Mrs J Preston & did not know what the feelings of Harry's mother were towards you

So I went to Tom Preston's house after breakfast & saw Harry's mother & can now tell you that if you can manage to come, she will give you a hearty welcome. Jim's wife is very anxious to see you & no doubt would be glad to have a talk with you to Meet the Cantell fa

I have never heard from Harry since all those letters passed between us in November & when he was here last he never once called at the Rectory

I met him 1 in the road outside the Rectory gates on the day before he returned to Bradford but did not see him at any other time. He does not know that I always said all that I could in his favour as I ~~shall~~ have always helped him all his life in his troubles

Mrs H. Preston
127a Killinghall Road Bradford

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2 July 1906

If you have quite finished with the Town Book I think it might be convenient for me to have it within reach before you come here on Thursday. It is not important if the book is wanted at all, but I shd like to see how far the Commissioners' concession to persons to continue to receive the payments made to them could have had effect (27 Nov 1890) I suspect that the Condition during the last 5 years would probably have excluded the poorest of the recipients as about that time the Trustees made a change in the selection

The rough sketch which you listened to so patiently on Thursday morning was intended as a sort of reply to what I suppose the Complainants are likely to say

H. P. Morris Esq

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3 July 1906

Could you be so good as kindly to ascertain & let me know at your leisure whether Sir Charles has any of the Montagne Charity Papers

The Charity Commission has given notice that they will hold a public enquiry here next Thursday & Mr Morris who is coming to hold the enquiry is anxious to hear about the Papers. In a letter which I have received from him this morning he says "I think it would also be well if you could ascertain whether any of the Charity Deeds are still in the possession of the Hartopp family. If so they might now be handed back to the Trustees".

Hoping that you will excuse me for troubling you

I am —

Alick W. Hartopp Esq.
Bradley Estate Office.
Maiden Bradley. Bath.

July 7 1906

I still cannot speak quite positively but I think I can give you some idea of what is likely to happen at the Bishop's visit

The Bishop will come to this Deanery for 3 days about 18th August He has taken a house at Woodhouse Eaves during the time he is ~~going~~ visiting in Leicestershire & he has also engaged a motor to convey him & Lady Mary from one Parish to another. So I think it is almost certain that he will not require either the Carriages or hospitality which he asked me to arrange to obtain for him. If he does not speak definitely about his plans & the reason perhaps is because he is not clear as to the position of Woodhouse Eaves & has not yet mastered the distances from it to the numerous places he wants to visit. If the uncertainty is inconvenient for your own arrangements it wd I think be best to write & give him an invitation. This would elicit an answer ~~wrote him~~. In my letter to him of Apr 7th I said — "Lady Agnes & —

Norton
Rev W. G. Southwell.