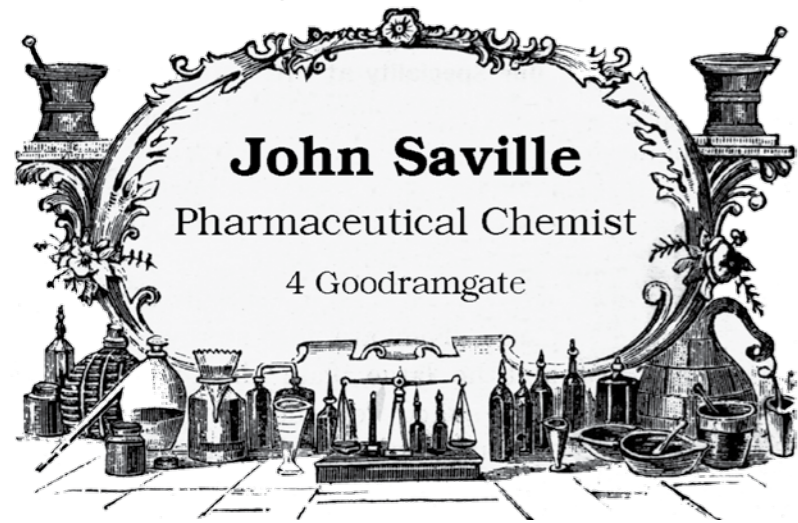


**A LONG LIFE AND A VERY USEFUL LIFE**



The Pharmaceutical Chemist, **John Saville**, was born in Sheffield. At 16 he became the apprentice of John Spurr, druggist and chemist at 8 Goodramgate, York. He left to gain more experience and start a family, but returned to take over Spurr's elegant premises at 4 Goodramgate sometime after his former master's death.

His location, near the slums, meant that 'Mr Saville' treated poor people who could not afford doctors. He became a prominent figure in York, a member of the Board of Guardians and a supporter of the Blind School and County Hospital. He was a founder member of the York Photographic Society and active in the Yorkshire Philosophical Society.

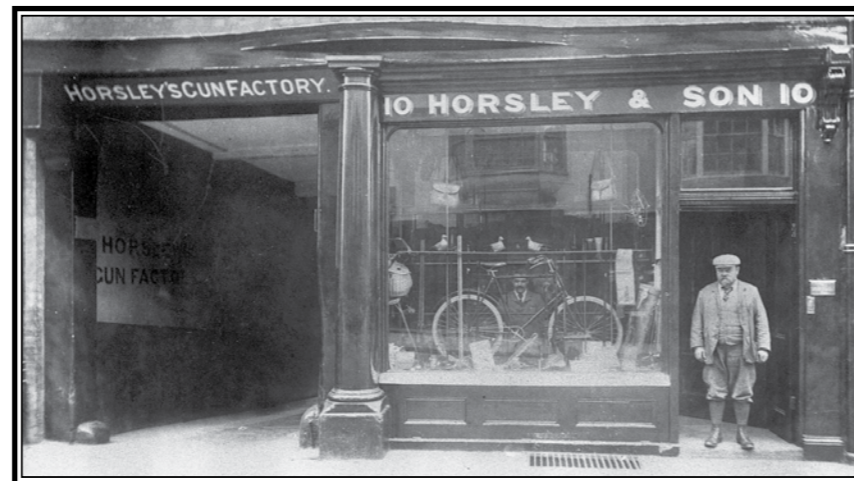
From the late 1880s John was assisted by his sons, Edwin and Walter, both qualified pharmaceutical chemists.



**MEETING ALL OF A GENTLEMAN'S NEEDS**

Amongst the Victorian gentleman's needs would be guns and tobacco. The Thomas Horsley gun making business was in 10 Coney Street from about 1856. Interested gentlemen could see the progress of their orders in the workshop behind the shop. Horsley's were keen on new inventions and were one of the first to produce breech loading guns. In February 1862, the first British snap action patent was granted to them.

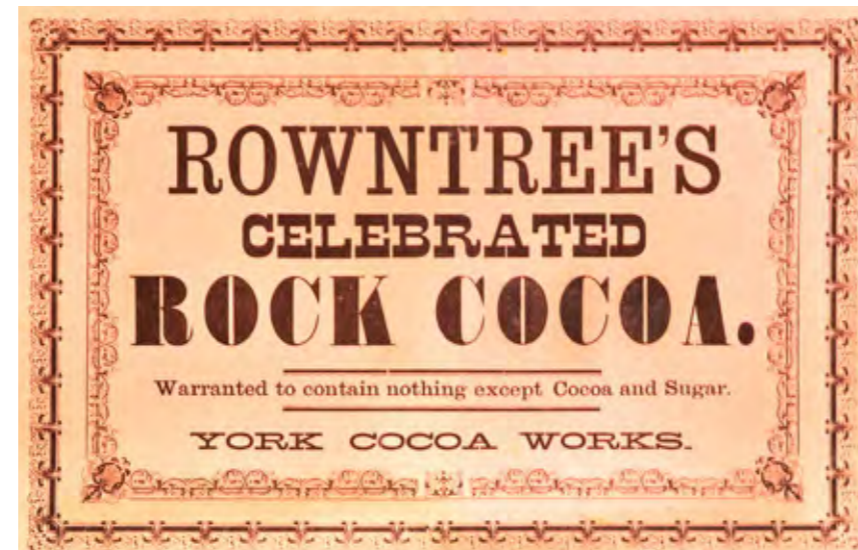
By the end of the 1880s the firm was also selling outdoor sporting equipment and running a shooting range.



**RALPH EDEN**  
Wholesale and Retail Tobacconist,  
**YORK.**

A Choice Selection of Pipes, Pouches and  
Smokers' Requisites always on hand.

BRITISH, HAVANA AND MEXICAN CIGARS.



**THE KIRKGATE TRADERS' REVIEW**

**A DESCRIPTIVE GUIDE TO THE LEADING LOCAL KIRKGATE RETAIL HOUSES**

**LITTLE DUST PAN - THE SELF-MADE MAN'S EMPORIUM**



**John Parkes** a midlands man had ironmongery in his blood and business sense in his head. He moved to York with wife, Mary Emily and by 1881 he was running a Furniture Dealership at 13 Fossgate 'the noted cheap bedstead home'. In 1885, Parkes extended into the boot and

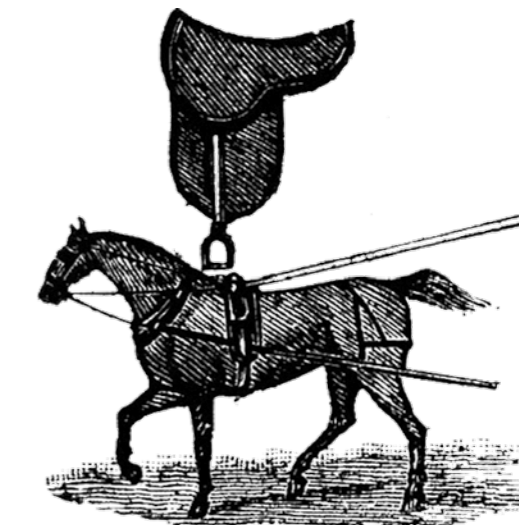
shoe shop next door and opened the Little Dust Pan. The shop's location meant it had a range of customers from both the city centre and the nearby slums.

He advertised widely and even put posters on horse drawn cabs. He sold ironmongery, glass and china, furnishings, hardware and bedding. He also advertised brush making, mattress making, iron and tin plate working, a tool warehouse and locksmith services. He hired out items such as china services for tea parties.

Mary and John had seven children, who all survived into their teens. The eldest son, John, trained as an ironmonger and worked with his father.



**HORSES - THE POPULAR TRANSPORT OF THE DAY**



There were more horses than people on the streets! This meant a great demand for saddles and harnesses. They were essential to transport in the city and for many, were a necessity. For the well off, they were luxury items. **Matthew Cooper's** good reputation brought him an impressive list of patrons. Amongst them were Prince Albert

Victor (King George's brother) and Prince Francis of Teck (Queen Mary's brother). He made saddles for a 'large number of the nobility and principal families' of this country and abroad, including the Maharajah of Baroda, India.

He made a saddle which won a first prize medal at the Great Exhibition in London. You can see this in the shop window.

Matthew lived to be 89. His son, James Cooper, carried on the business, trading until his retirement in 1911.





**FINE INSTRUMENTS, UNUSUAL RELATIONSHIPS AND AN ACCUSATION OF POISONING**

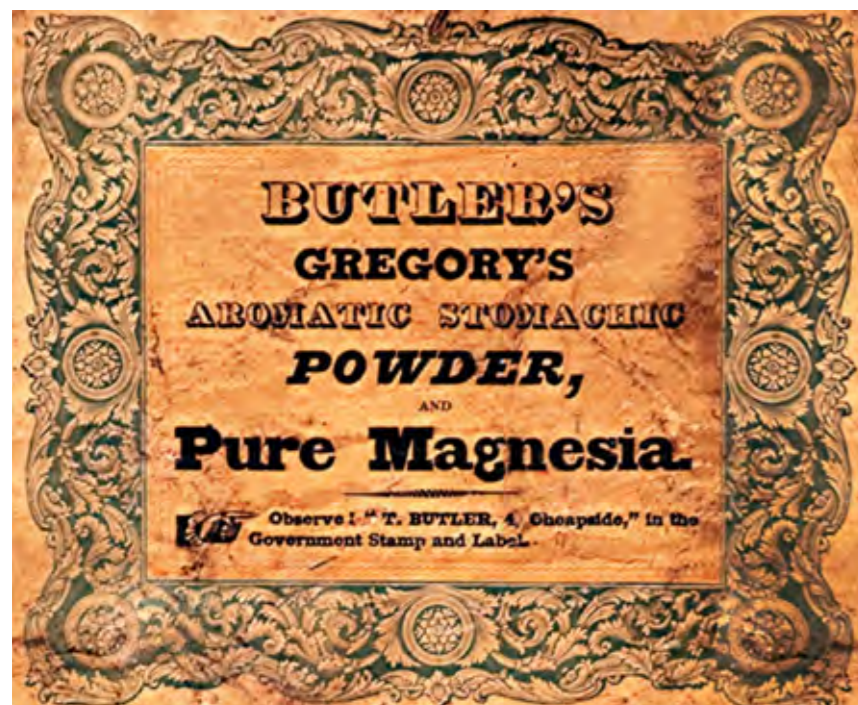


**T**homas Cooke taught himself mathematics and navigation because he wanted to be an explorer. He learnt to make telescopes whilst a schoolmaster, and started Cooke's Scientific Instruments. The business was a huge success and sold telescopes throughout the country. In 1860, Thomas met Prince Albert to discuss a telescope for the royal family.

Thomas and his wife, Hannah, had 7 children. Their 3 sons: Edwin, Charles Frederick and Thomas worked in the business. In 1862, the Cooke family fell ill on two occasions and colourless arsenic was found in food at the family home. Edwin's wife, Maria, was brought to trial for attempted poisoning, on the evidence of Alice Clancy, a maid whom she had dismissed for stealing. Maria was found not guilty, to cheers from the gallery, but left the Cooke home for London, claiming afterwards to be a widow.

In 1861, the company employed 40 people, but was threatened by a large order which they struggled to complete. It was still unfinished when Thomas senior died in 1868. The business overstretched itself again with a vast order from the Indian Government and was sold to James Wigglesworth. In 1881 Cooke's gave up their shop at 5 1/2 Coney St to concentrate on manufacturing. They made the original of the clock which is still outside St Martin-le Grand on Coney St.

High-class Surveying Instruments.  
**T. COOKE & SONS, Ltd.**



**TAXIDERMY A DYING VICTORIAN TRADE**



**E**dward Allen was born in Australia. His father Frederick's family emigrated during the Gold Rush. They arrived penniless, after family member Reverend John lost their money gambling. They made a fortune from gold only to see him lose it again. Frederick moved his young family to New Zealand to escape the creditors but was killed, aged 30, in the saw mill where he worked. Left alone, his mother saved for the passage back to England, taking her children to live with her sister in York. She and her baby daughter died soon after their arrival. Nine year old Edward lived with his aunty and her husband, Joseph Ripley, a Taxidermist.

Edward's upbringing was rough: Joseph was a drunk and Edward was forced to work in the shop after school. When Joseph died his aunt pressured a reluctant Edward to take over the business, now on the verge of collapse. Edward had wanted to return to Australia and be a soldier, but he excelled in taxidermy. The business closed when Edward died, reflecting the changing tastes of the time.

ESTABLISHED 1845.  
**EDWARD ALLEN,**  
Successor to the late J. RIPLEY, and 10 years his Principal Assistant.

Bird, Fish and Animal Preserver

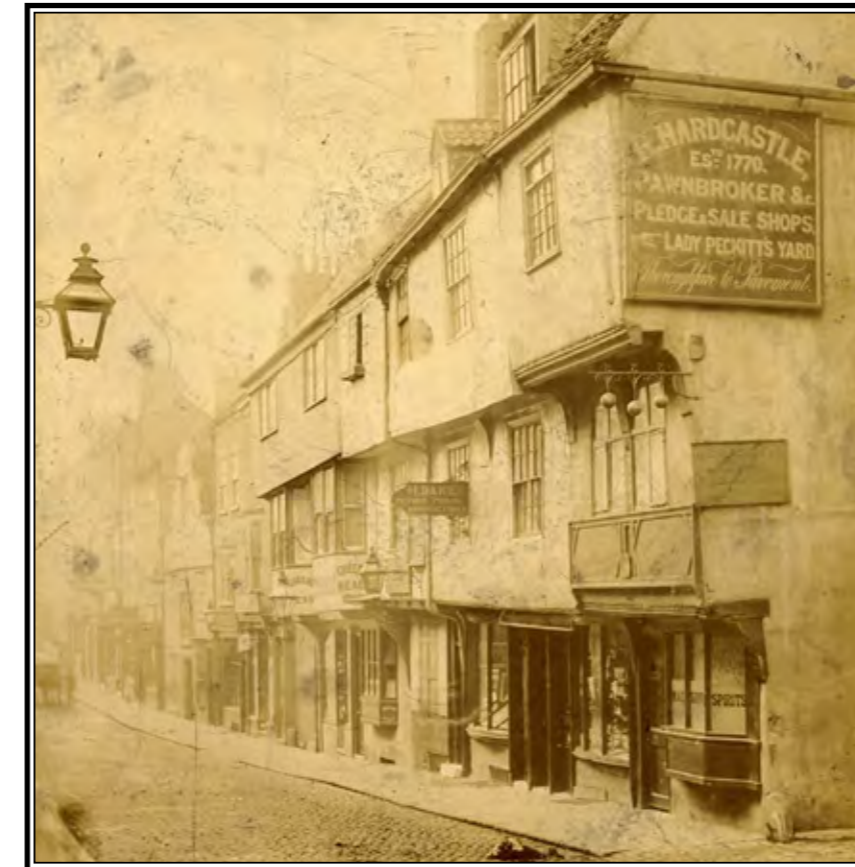
No. 6, FEASEGATE, YORK  
(NEXT DOOR TO MARK RELPH, GAME DEALER).

British & foreign animals & heads mounted on an improved system.  
Fancy Hand and Stand Screens.  
Ladies' Plumes made to Order. Collections Arranged.  
A Large Stock of Stags' and other Heads for Sale.

**SOME OLD, SOME NEW & SOME RELINQUISHED TREASURES**

**T**here had been pawnbrokers in Lady Peckitt's Yard for a long time. By 1851 John Wood ran it and had 2 apprentices. One was 14 year old **Henry Hardcastle**, whose family's Rag and Bone trade was also run there. Henry married John's daughter Eliza, and after John died, took over the flourishing business. The business grew by expanding and buying other shops in the city, including Rachael Epworth's shop.

Henry is known to have spent some time living in a hotel in Brighton with Eliza in 1890. He also spent a short time in Bootham Lunatic Asylum so appears to have suffered some mental health problems and later on required a rest cure. He died in 1907, leaving businesses in Petergate, Stonegate and Lady Peckitt's Yard.



**ANDERSON & SONS,**  
Also ROBINSON & SONS,  
-YORK-

Agents for Burberry's Weatherproofs.  
Jaeger and Cellular Clothing.  
Aquascutum Overcoats.  
Henry Heath's Hats.

HIGH-CLASS TAILORS, PRACTICAL SHIRTMAKERS,  
HATTERS & HOSIERS, MILITARY & HUNT OUTFITTERS

ANDERSON, Tel. 147. PRICE LISTS ON APPLICATION. ROBINSON, Tel. 469.

15 & 33, CONEY STREET, YORK.

**HAVING A DRINK FOR MEDICINAL PURPOSES?**



**F**or the Victorians, alcohol was part of everyday life and pubs were popular meeting places. Alcohol was prescribed by doctors to restore good health, and scarcity of clean drinking water meant that there was no cheap alternative to beer. The Temperance movement began in the 1820s, initially focusing on attitudes to drinking spirits, especially gin. Beer, drunk in moderation, and alcohol taken as medicine was acceptable. Temperance spread throughout England and the York Temperance Society was formed in 1830.

The first Temperance Coffee House opened in in 1841. Later, **Francis Baron** ran the Ebor and The York Temperance Club and Cocoa Rooms at 19 High Ousegate and 9 Feasegate. Francis, who was also a confectioner, had a humble rural background, and had worked as a servant. He lived on the premises with his wife and 2 daughters.

**THE EBOR & TEMPERANCE CLUB  
COCOA HOUSES,  
19, HIGH OUSEGATE & 9, FEASEGATE  
YORK.**



**JOSEPH TERRY & SONS**  
WHOLESALE & EXPORT  
**CONFECTIONERS,**  
(ESTABLISHED 1767,)  
MANUFACTURERS OF  
**CANDIED PEELS, LOZENGES,  
JUJUBES AND COMFITS,  
OF ALL KINDS.**

**The Works, Clementhorpe, York.**



**KEEPING ONE'S SELF SMART AND TIDY ON A BUDGET**



Plummer's millinery sold a wide range of fine lady's headwear. The business was run by sisters Emma and Alexandra Annie Plummer. Their father and brothers traded in cloth. Millinery was considered a respectable business for women of

all ages, and could be started with little capital. There were many millinery shops in Victorian York, although many only traded for short periods.

**LEAK & THORP, CONEY STREET, YORK.**  
General Drapers and House Furnishers, &c.

BRUSSELS, AXMINSTER, TAPESTRY AND OTHER CARPETS. CARPET SQUARES IN VARIOUS SIZES. LINOLEUM, CORK CARPETS, MATTINGS, MATS OF EVERY DESCRIPTION. PLAIN DYED FELTS.

**BRASS AND IRON BEDSTEADS,** SPRING, WOVE WIRE, CURLED HAIR, AND WOOL MATTRESSES.

CURTAINS, CRETONNES, BLIND MATERIALS  
Table Linens, Sheetings, Quilts, Blankets, &c., &c.

**DRESS MATERIALS** OF EVERY DESCRIPTION:  
Ladies' Mantles, Jackets, Waterproofs. English and French Millinery.  
Ladies' & Children's Underclothing, Corsets, Ribbons, Laces, Gloves, Hosiery, Umbrellas, &c.

GENT'S SHIRTS, TIES, COLLARS, AND UNDERWEAR.  
**(SCOTCH AND WEST OF ENGLAND TWEEDS,)**  
Hats, Caps, Macintoshes, &c. Portmanteau and Gladstone Bags.

Tailoring by First-class Workmen.

James Kidd, the boot maker, was born in rural North Yorkshire. As a young man he moved to a village on the outskirts of York. He married in 1865 and lived with his in-laws who were agricultural labourers. The couple had 5 children, although 2 girls died young. In the 1870s the family moved to York and James set up as a boot maker. He stayed in business for over 30 years, with his sons as apprentices and later boot makers in their own right. The business was on Wellington St, close to the family home.

Boot makers like J Kidd, working on the streets where people lived, were as important as the corner grocer, somewhere to go for a quick cheap repair of an expensive, essential item.

**AN UNDERTAKER'S BUSINESS BORN OF GRIM NECESSITY**

James Rymer was a joiner and carpenter from the North Riding. He was 26 and had recently married 22 year old Martha Spencer when he started his joinery business in York. The couple had ten children.

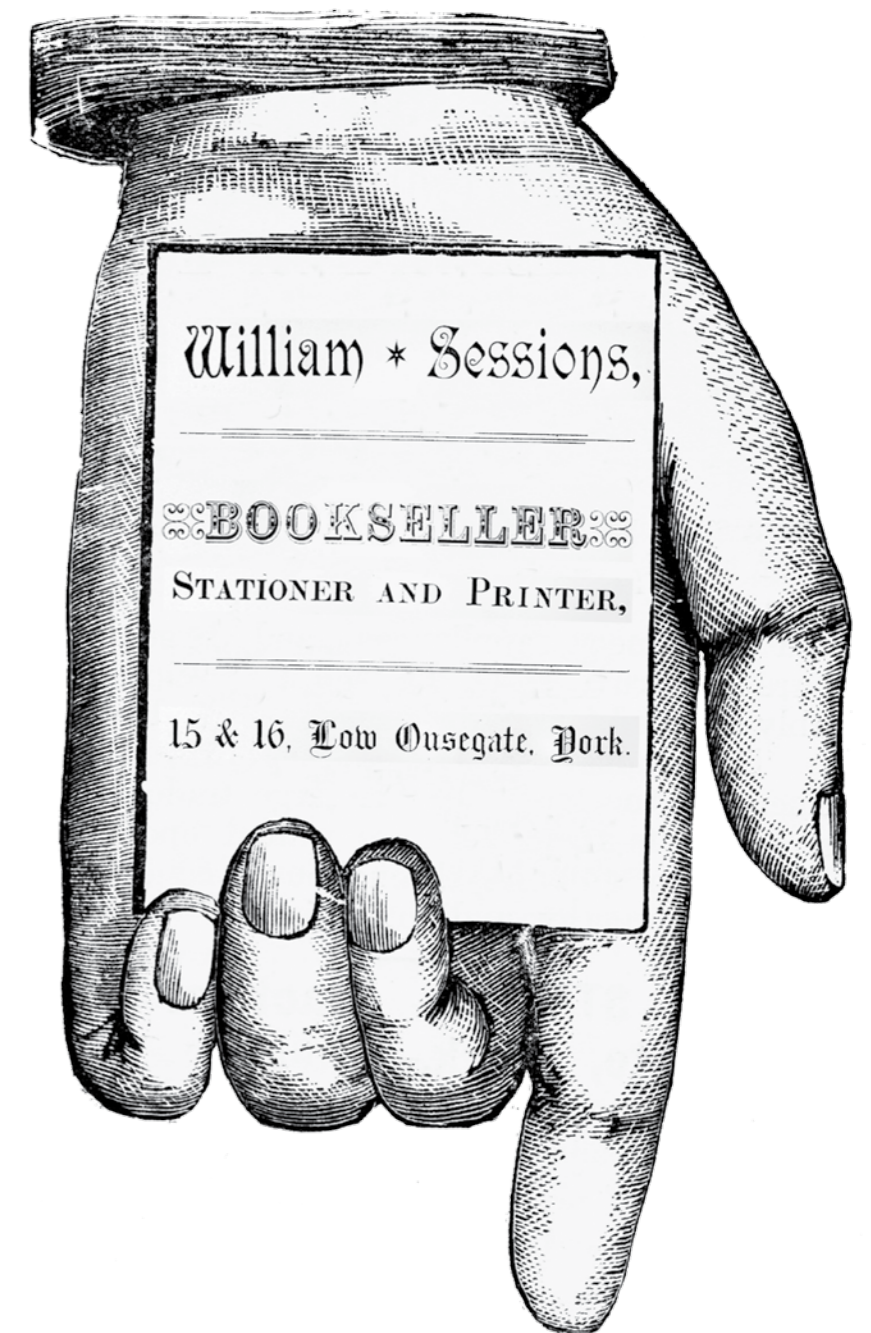
Over ten years, five of the Rymer children died before the age of 13. A turning point in the lives and business of the Rymer family was the death of Margaret on 1st August 1854. The family were not well off and so James decided that he would make her coffin himself and arrange the funeral in York Cemetery, where she was buried, like her brother, William, in a public grave.

After Margaret's burial, others asked James to make coffins and so the undertaking business started. As was common at the time, the joinery-carpentry and undertaking businesses were run together. By 1861 James is listed as a master joiner employing three men. Family records show that by the time he died aged 85 James had arranged in excess of 700 funerals.

**THE POWER OF PAPER & INK**

Towards the end of the 1800s, printed information grew in popularity. More people could read than ever before; the growth of the railways spread trade and communication, and popular culture around reading and music flourished. Tourism was also growing and Sessions Bookshop in York sold 1d maps of the city, and a 'companion to the City of York' priced at 1 shilling and described as 'the Best Guide Book to the city'.

Henry Banks, the music seller, was born on Christmas Day 1812, the son of another Coney St bookseller and stationer. He married Miss Theresa Golightly and had two musical sons. He became a concert organiser in the city and came into contact with all the great performers of the day. His son, Louis Henry Banks, ran the music shop from 1881 after Henry's death.



**A FAMILY THAT MOVED FROM ONE BUSINESS TO ANOTHER**

Victorian Toy & Fancy Goods Dealers like Kendrick's stocked a huge range of novelty and luxury goods; from china, jewellery, cosmetics, stationery, musical instruments and tobacco to nursery items. Ranges of toys included tin soldiers, rag dolls, dolls houses, marbles, hoops, wooden hobby horses, wooden puzzles, spinning tops, skipping ropes, diabolos and Noah's arks. By the end of the century these types of shops were often called 'Bazaars'.

Many owners of these shops had diversified into this business from other trades. William Kendrick had been a paper hanger and was also a whitesmith, working in polished tin and galvanised iron. He probably supplied the shop with his own goods. In 1871 the business was in Micklegate and the family lived above. After William died his wife Harriet took charge and then Arthur William, their son, took over the business.



**COSMOPOLITAN CITY**

Nineteenth century Stonegate was a cosmopolitan centre with German and Italian businesses up and down the street. There was a vibrant German business community. Clockmaker, Philip Schwerer, traded in Petergate from at least 1837. **Matthew Wehrly** was from Baden and started his career as a watch repairer. He ran a shop with his business partner, Bernard Tritschler. His Housekeeper, Mary Kleiser, was related to a clock making family and they too were from Baden.



**BRITTON'S - GROCERS TO THE DISCERNING CUSTOMER**

**George Britton** was born into a long and prosperous line of York grocers. A Freeman since 1824, George's father, John Britton, was already an established grocer at the time of his birth, employing five apprentices and trading at 12 Church Street. In 1866, John died and George and his elder brother inherited the family fortune. George established himself in Gillygate, Petergate and Micklegate.

Aged 35 George married Alice Holmes and the following year the first of their nine children was born. The family lived in a prestigious four storey town house.

George advertised regularly using distinctive styles and seldom ran the same advert twice. He pushed different ranges of his stock. Sometimes his finely blended teas 'rich and rare', at other times his extensive stock of useful provisions: soap, starch, blue, black lead, furniture cream, brass paste and plate powder - all essential ingredients for a good spring clean.

TELEPHONE NO. 58.

**GEORGE BRITTON'S**

**TEAS**

ARE RICH AND RARE

The "REAL FRAGRANT CUP" .....	2/- per lb.
The "BLEND OF THE DAY" .....	1/10 per lb.
The "GREAT INDO CEYLON BLEND" .....	1/6 per lb.
The "ECONOMICAL TEA" .....	1/4 per lb.

OUR Famous Teas have reached a higher altitude of popularity, and enjoy a larger measure of success than most other Teas in the Market. And why? Simply because we have unrivalled facilities for buying and blending Teas.

4-lbs. and upwards sent free to any address, per Parcel Post.

NOTE! TO BE OBTAINED ONLY AT

**GEORGE BRITTON'S,**  
CLIFTON HOUSE, BOOTHAM.

And at 56, PETERGATE (corner of Church Street)  
And 96, MICKLEGATE (Corner of Railway Street)  
**YORK.**

**AMBLER'S - PURVEYORS OF FOOD TO ORDINARY FOLK**

**Thomas Ambler** was born on 16 August 1850. His father was a butcher, and a Freeman of the City. Thomas took up an apprenticeship with Rowntree's grocers of 26-28 Pavement, in around 1861, aged just 11. He spent 19 years with Rowntree's, during which time he completed a 7 year apprenticeship and attained the Freedom of the City.

He married Anna Elizabeth Smith in 1874, but it took him a further 6 years to accrue the necessary funds to set up his own business. In 1881 Thomas was listed in the Trade Directory as a grocer and provision dealer at 1, New York Street, Nunnery Lane. This property remained one of his business premises for the remainder of his working life. The family, which now had 5 children, lived above the shop throughout the early years.

His main customer base was working class district and, as such, not able to afford the high end goods stocked by some of the more prestigious city centre grocers.



**W. F. GREENWOOD,**

**Cabinet Maker, Upholsterer,**  
DEALER IN  
Ancient Furniture, Decorative Works of Art,  
OLD CHINA, BRONZES & CURIOSITIES,  
**24, STONEGATE, YORK,**

**W. ALLISON,**  
CUTLER AND OPTICIAN,  
14, CHURCH ST., YORK.

Table Knives & Forks, Pen, Pocket and Sportsman's Knives, Razors, Scissors, Gregory's Celebrated Butchers' Knives, Steels, Saws, &c.

Electro-Plated Spoons, Forks, &c. of guaranteed quality. Bright Steel Goods in endless variety.

Cutlery Ground and Repairs promptly attended to. Knives, Forks, and Spoons lent out on hire.

FROM 1/- PER PAIR.

If you want a pair of Spectacles, Eye Glasses or Preservers, go to W. ALLISON'S Noted Establishment, where, through the proper adaptation to the different defects of Vision the smallest print is visible.

Telescopes, Opera and Field Glasses, Barometers, Microscopes, Pedometers, Thermometers and Hydrometers, Mathematical Instruments, Rules, Levels and Tape Measures.  
An excellent assortment of Ladies' Bags, Purses, &c. Electric Bells, Speaking Tubes, &c., fixed.