

better facilities render labourers morally less dependent? Were better facilities alone enough to raise a man and his family to the level where they would avoid pauperism? In the case of Appleby, the difficulty in establishing the inhabitants of particular houses from enumerators' returns makes for difficulties which only closer attention can remove. But there remains the problem of Rowland Winn's own attitude to the rebuilding, and to the labouring people in general. That he was no liberal emerges from his broad approval of the Poor Law of the period; nor was generous provision for the village school motivated by altruism. He recommended the Agricultural Children's Bill – which required that children under 8 make a certain number of attendances before they could be employed on the land – because he believed that the farmers would be able to do their utmost 'in seeing that the children were regularly sent to school' in the winter, so that they might 'be able to assist in spring, summer and harvest work'.³⁵ Yet he condemned on another occasion 'the system of men and women standing in the street to be hired' for its being degrading – 'they are judged of, like horses, by their points, and character is seldom, if ever, taken into consideration'.³⁶ The worst effect of hiring was, he believed, to turn the labourers into a 'kind of vagrant population, who lose all home ties and ... never remain more than one year in the same place', to the detriment of their own moral sensibilities and their children's education. He wished urgently to see hiring reformed, and a more rigorous system put in its place.

Herein lies one key to understanding the rebuilding of Appleby. The Winns had good economic reasons for housing development elsewhere, to serve the new ironworks, and possibly they were moved in Appleby by an element of competition with other improving landlords, even by a desire to demonstrate conspicuous consumption of wealth; yet there is enough to suggest better motivation in both father and son. Charles Winn provided facilities at Frodingham of a wholly non-utilitarian sort – a library and a temperance hall, for example³⁷ – and Rowland Winn indulged in the expensive near-fantasy Appleby rebuilding, aware that his cottages were better than other model houses locally and highly advantageous to their inhabitants, entirely without seeking public acclaim. The family's Tory ethos did not extend to philanthropic liberalism for its own sake – possibly a degree of misplaced *laissez-faire* explains the overcrowding prior to the typhoid epidemic – yet Rowland Winn's evidence to the Royal Commission indicates a considered and

enlightened intention to improve labourers' outlook by encouraging longer-term settlement in one place. The traditional system of hiring, he believed, was

a decided discouragement to landowners in building (as I contend they ought to do) sufficient houses to contain the population necessary for the ordinary work of each parish, as if hired servants can be got from large villages or small towns fewer cottages are necessary.

The more settled the population, the more amenable it became to the effects of education, and to the authority of the clergy. It was to this end that he wanted to see hiring reformed, with contracts clearly made by both parties. To allow such a change to work, cottage building was essential, in order that 'men who had nothing just to complain of would remain on indefinitely'.³⁸

Although the extent to which Appleby continued to rely upon casual labour from adjacent parishes remains uncertain, it seems that Rowland Winn's rebuilding went some way towards achieving on his own estate one of those improvements of which rural society at large proved incapable, or loathe to attempt – the ending of hiring fairs – by encouraging the labourers to stay in their places.

Nick Lyons

The Plans of Certain Appleby Cottages

It had been understood locally, on the basis of a bundle of plans in the Appleby Estate offices examined by Rex Russell about 1975, that the model cottages of the 1870s were based upon designs published by the Salopian Society. Some records of this, the Salopian Society for Improving the Condition of the Industrial Classes, are held in the Shropshire Record Office, and they show it functioned between 1848 (the date of the Charter of Incorporation) and 1883 (when the Minute Book of the Promoters' and Directors' Committee ceased); but everything in this collection is administrative, and no plans are included. The Salopian Society has otherwise been elusive – although perhaps this article, when published, will bring something else to light. The Appleby plans, as copied by Rex Russell, include three originating from the Society direct, all 'Designed by Dr Styrap of Shrewsbury' and lithographed by Waterloo & Sons, London. One is for practical but unpretentious 'Model Cottages with Three Bedrooms, Second Class, adapted for Mechanics', the second similar, but 'Third Class, Adapted for Labourers'. Although designed to be semi-detached, these could both readily have been adapted for continuous terraces, and although