

COMMERCE OF THE PORT OF WHITEHAVEN.

The annual account of the receipts and disbursements of the trustees of the town and harbour has just been published, and we congratulate our townsmen on the flattering prospect it presents of the steadily advancing prosperity of the port, a prosperity which is not liable to the doubt occasioned by sudden fluctuations, or alloyed by apprehensions of its uncertainty. We publish a copy of the document for the information and reference of our readers, and on comparing it with the account of last year it will be found that on all the important items of trade, viz., the coasting and foreign tonnage, the lamp dues, and inward and outward tonnage, there has been an increase, while in the subordinate columns, there has been a proportionate advance. This progressive improvement cannot but be gratifying to every real friend to the town, though there are to be found some captious and grumbling inhabitants, ready enough to find fault even with this state of things, and not now to learn that in many parts of England property of every description has suffered greatly from a variety of causes, for a number of years; that commerce has withered, and the local immunities have decreased, that various sources of profit have diminished or become entirely dry, owing to the ruinous commerce of the vicinity, but in Whitehaven we have the pleasing retrospect, and gratifying encouragement of a regular and progressive increase, so that from year to year, for some time past, the funds have gone on accumulating, until they have reached the present amount, which may be taken as a sure guarantee for the future.

No reasonable man will dispute that this is more to be relied upon than any sudden flushes or extraordinary starts, arising out of some peculiar circumstances which may vanish as rapidly as they arose; and so long as our commerce goes on in its present train increasing, we can afford to laugh at those croakers who in the absence of every real occasion to find fault, must imagine some future misery. One of those prognosticators of future perplexity conjures up difficulties in the way of obtaining a loan on the security of the harbour, though the funds, as will be seen, are regularly increasing. Why, if there were one investment of capital more in view, than another, it would surely be that in which there was a steady prosperity, and a certainty of a regular interest; and in which, besides, there is the sure prospect, when the works now proceeding are completed, of a surplus revenue of at least four thousand pounds annually, the whole of which will be applied towards the liquidation of the debt. So far, however, from there being any difficulty in the way of obtaining money on security of the harbour, we know of different individuals who are anxious at this moment to invest capital with the trustees for the purpose of prosecuting the important work they have in hand. The Lancashire ought to bear in mind that all the money in Whitehaven is not centred in the pockets of his prompter on this occasion, otherwise we might indeed have cause to regret the unhappy state of the place, for we all know how much the town has to expect in cases of emergency from that quarter, even though a protecting hand may have been stretched towards it in the hour of need.

That an attempt should be made to lessen the satisfaction of the inhabitants at the cheering view of the continued prosperity of the port, by the croaking of a malicious faction, is not at all surprising; but the reflection that their bile emanates from disappointed ambition will take from their snarling all its venom, and their efforts to sow dissension or retard the progress of the important works now in the course of construction will consequently fall harmless to the ground.

A General Abstract of Receipts and Payments for the Port of Whitehaven, for One Year, ending the 25th Day of March, 1834.

Dr.	£	s	d.	Cr.	Old Harbour.	New Harbour.	Total.						
Coasting Tonnage	2615	9	0	For Wages, as per weekly Bills	659	8	4	4734	17	11½	5394	6	¾
Foreign Do.	434	17	0	Repairs of Boats and Stone Flats	69	8	10	69	8	10	69	8	10
Lamp Do.	364	1	2	New Boat and Oars	14	12	0	14	12	0	14	12	0
Inward Tonnage	921	4	7½	Timber to Sunders	2140	17	4½	2140	17	4½	2140	17	4½
Outward Do.	810	4	11½	Painting, Plumber Work, &c.	148	11	2½	148	11	2½	148	11	2½
Ballast Tonnage per Hoppers	1165	19	6	Iron to Sunders	175	6	8	175	6	8	175	6	8
Ballast Tonnage per Hoppers	20	10	0	Yard and House Rents	42	14	0	42	14	0	42	14	0
Xmas Subscriptions	15	19	0	Puzzalano	195	8	0	195	8	0	195	8	0
Sundry House Rents	26	3	0	Rock and Yard Rent	51	0	0	51	0	0	51	0	0
Profit of Harbour Boat	53	10	3½	Roman Cement, Tallow, &c.	73	14	10	73	14	10	73	14	10
Ballast Penalties	30	0	0	Attendance to Light House, Oil, &c.	185	1	4	185	1	4	185	1	4
Storage of Gunpowder	14	12	7	Cooper and Block-making	42	17	10	42	17	10	42	17	10
Use of Hopper Tubes	1	8	0	Aberthaw Lime-stone	507	3	6	507	3	6	507	3	6
Do. of Quay Hawser	1	8	0	Ropes	31	10	0	31	10	0	31	10	0
Sale of Old Wood	8	6	0	Ironmongery, &c.	80	14	10	80	14	10	80	14	10
Do. of Old Copper	5	6	6	Bond Stamp, extra Watching, &c.	22	1	7	22	1	7	22	1	7
Sundry advances from Treasurer	7155	11	2½	Interest on Money borrowed	20	16	7	20	16	7	20	16	7
Less balance of file	SS9	4	2½	Salaries to Officers	500	19	9	500	19	9	500	19	9
different Qrs. pd	6366	7	0	Proportion of Lighting & Watching to Mr. Heywood, Town's Officer	173	0	0	173	0	0	173	0	0
back to Collector	6366	7	0	Sir John Rennie, on account	40	14	0½	40	14	0½	40	14	0½
				Iron Castings, Pricks, &c.	70	15	8	70	15	8	70	15	8
				Build. new Office, Smith work, &c.	57	18	5½	57	18	5½	57	18	5½
				Sundry Cartage, Fire Engine, cleaning Mortars, Doctor's Bills, &c.	805	16	11½	805	16	11½	805	16	11½
				Repairs of Hoppers	1	8	3	1	8	3	1	8	3
				Lime, Coals, and contgt. Expenses	21	0	0	21	0	0	21	0	0
				New Harbour Boat	64	12	6	64	12	6	64	12	6
Total	£18500	2	6½		£2679	0	5½	10121	1	9½	12800	2	6½

Receipts and Disbursements for Lighting, Watching, Paving, and Cleansing, the Town of Whitehaven, for One Year, ending the 25th Day of March, 1834.

Dr.	£	s	d.	Cr.	£	s	d.
1833. March 25th.—To balance in Mr. Heywood's hands	272	18	9½	By expence of Watching	165	9	1
1834. March 25th.—To Cash collected from Rates	1009	0	4	Lighting	310	12	16½
Do. for Sundries	0	12	6	Paving and Macadamizing Streets	487	0	11
Do. for Manure	45	6	3	Cleaning and Watching Do.	183	14	11
				Salaries to Officers	194	5	0
				Race Book, Printing, and sundries	19	0	2½
				Balance to next Year's Account	68	15	0
	£1839	17	10½		£1529	17	10½

RICHARD WHITESIDE, Clerk to the Trustees.

