

ALC/NM/3.1

NORTHAMPTON MERCURY

1830 Detailed analysis of agriculture during
1829.

Breakdown of crops and receipts.

FEB. Letter from the Duke of Buckingham and
6th. Chandos

1830 concerning the poor.

Col 1

FEB. Reply by the overseer of the poor to the
20th. Duke's letter

1830

Col 1

MAR. More letters to the Duke.
6th.

1830 General meeting called in Bucks.

Col 1,2 Buckinghamshire Meeting on Distress
& 3

MAR. General letters and articles on the Poor.
6th.

1830

MAR. Petition put in by the Marquess of Chandos
27th to relieve the state of the poor.

1830

Col 3 There is general consternation in both
houses

APR. Plan for self-supporting charitable and
17th. parochial

1830 Dispensaries.

Col 2

MAY 1st. The last hours of Nelson

1830

Col 3

JULY Death of King George IV
1st.

1830

ALC/NM/3.2

OCT. 30th. A detailed and well argued account of a
Public meeting held for the repeal of taxation

Col 2

NOV. 20th. General report lacking details.
1830 Mentions that threshing machines are
broken by unemployed men in High Wycombe
and Marlow.

Col 2

Machine breaking

NOV. 20th.

1830

A notice is given in Parliament dated Nov 10th
1830 of the parishes the London to Birmingham
railway will pass through. Takes up about
half a column.

London and Birmingham railway -
notice is hereby given

DEC. 14th.

1830

A small mention of the new police
going to High Wycombe on account of the
riots.

Col 4

DEC. 4th. Many burnings and incidents of
destruction of machinery are reported.
None actually in the area of Milton
Keynes but there are some in Stony

1830

Col 1, 2 & 3 State of the country

Col 3 Statement of law governing punishments for
offences such as rick burning and breaking
machinery, very severe.

DEC. 25th. It is thought that a large number of the
Rick burnings were perpetuated by lone
individuals.

Col 4

1830 There is here a detailed description of such a
person. Mode of setting fire to hay stacks.

Method adopted by the incendiaries in firing wheat stacks

Persons committed for agricultural disturbances are listed with their crimes but no details of where they are from.

ALC/NM/3.3

DEC. 25th. 1830 Col 4

THE TRUE MEANING OF SWING

Mr. Editor,

As the signature 'Swing' to the many threatening letters, received by persons, appears to be of an ambiguous nature, may I be allowed to offer you my idea of its signification. In the hay season, the mowers generally cut the grass in parties of from 3 & 4 to 7 or 8 men, who have a head man or leader. Occasionally, they stop to sharpen the scythe. When this is done, and the men ready to go on, the leader calls out 'swing' and the whole party proceeds with cutting down the grass. The definition of the word 'swing' may, therefore, be considered as 'one and all' or one and all have agreed to cut you down.

W.R.

Handwritten text reads as follows:

March 20th 1830

The Marquis of Chandos presented a petition from the Magistrate, gentry, clergy and farmers of Newport and a second? in Bucks, complaining of agricultural Distress. The Noble Lord expressed his approbation of what had been done by the Government but thought that no substantial relief could be afforded to the agricultural interest without the removal of the malt tax.