

THE MONUMENTS

The monuments surrounding Wentworth Park were referred to by the Sheffield poet Ebenezer Elliott (1781-1849), known as the Corn Law Rhymer, in his poem *The Ranter*:

Up, sluggards, up!
Up, climb the oak-crown'd summit. Hoover Stand,
And Keppel's Pillar, gaze on Wentworth's Halls,
And misty lakes, that brighten and expand,
And distant hills, that watch the western strand.

Rambling clubs were set up all over the North of England in the first years of the 20th century, though the Ramblers' Association was not set up until 1935. In fact, people had been rambling long before anyone thought to form a club. The *Sheffield Independent* for Saturday 17 August 1844 recommended a route which the writer found full of interest, and it is evident from the title that there were many such routes to be traversed:

WALKS IN THE NEIGHBOURHOOD OF SHEFFIELD.

SECOND SERIES — No. 10. WENTWORTH.

The village, park, and house of Wentworth, are found about ten miles north-north-east of the town; and almost every furlong of the distance offers some temptation to the topographer, the antiquarian, or mere natural lounger, to pause, admire, or cogitate...

[Our author progressed from Sheffield to a 'little village of the unremarked, but most distinctive name, Brightside'. He found 'pretty meadows as ever dews refreshed', then reached Kimberworth].

As we approach this ancient seat of the most ancient branch of British manufactures, we are startled and arrested by the present beauties of our position. It is a fine natural terrace, beneath which is seen a country spangled with gold and emerald; a hundred homesteads and twenty villages lie before us, dotted brightly and distinctly on the enduring map; while on the left, and northward, the congregated houses of Rotherham, and its various appended works, half enshrouded in the smoke and blaze of busy and inventive industry, give an assurance of the vicinity of population and wealth. We are, in truth, on and about the very neighbour-hood of the oldest *minerial* works of Britain. Roman *indicia* lie on every side: heaps of scoria; and cinder hills, receptacles for an old refuse, rebaptised....Leaving Kimberworth by the ordinary road, we are struck with the numberless tumuli which either side presents. These are the refuse workings of old coal-pits, and many of the

heaps are of such an age, that they already present a distinct deposit of mould upon their surfaces, and promise, in no distant century, to become part and parcel of the neighbouring earth...

Ascending the hill, we presently become sensible of the "right honourable" neighbourhood on which we are about to enter. On the highest ground is presented a simple, but noble Doric column. It stands on a plain pedestal about nine paces square, and is of un-ornamented masonry, of just height for its symmetry, surmounted by a plain cornice. It was begun by the second Marquis of Rockingham, and was finished by the succeeding Earl Fitzwilliam, in commemoration of the naval glory of England. It bears no inscription, but it is known to the country round about as Keppel's Pillar, and was in fact under certain circumstances connected with the administration of the day, raised in especial honour of that admiral. At the base of this column, we enter the park of Wentworth;¹ our purpose is, however, merely to save an arc in the road, and in a few furlongs, **we emerge from the turf and trees to the village of Scholes.**

Whatever dreams of lordly domains the "tall bully" column² might have conjured up, are here most miserably dissipated. Houses — not cottages — and these of most Irish aspect,³ salute the traveller, and bid him remember how closely tacked to the silken skirts of aristocracy is the freize and worsted of helot⁴ labour and poverty. The entrance to Scholes is positively displeasing: if the tastes and habits of the miners dwelling therein, demand and require no better accommodation, being the free tenants of an earl, and breathing the air common to his princely palace, occasion might be taken to give them the liking and use of better habitations. [my emphasis].

The northern end of this straggling village presents a more pleasing appearance — the rustic graces again assert a divided dominion; and little eaves covered with the wild woodbine, intermingled with the hues of scented peas, meet the sight at many a turn in the road, and fill us once more with the fragrance of good humour.

Fairly entering upon the village of Wentworth, the vicinage of a right knightly seat is at once apparent. An air of solidity, and of what we English are so fond to term, respectability, pervades the roads, the gardens, the houses, and all the "whereabouts." It is a sort of quiet presbyterian air. which

¹ Note that, if this is right, the Park was much more extensive even than it is now (2018).

² For the origin of this phrase see next newspaper extract.

³ In the mid 19th century, and for a long time afterwards, it was insulting to compare anything, or anybody, in Britain, with the Irish version: an unfortunate demonstration of the implicit assumption that British is best.

⁴ The helots were the slaves kept by the ancient Spartans, whose society was essentially a military dictatorship, though it was much admired by Plato, in his *Republic* (required study still, at Oxford, in the 1960s).

seems to whisper, though with a pride audible enough — This is the honoured domain of the Rockinghams — here presides the chastened spirit of Fitzwilliam— and here the household deities of virtue, moderation, and prudence, are installed in old baronial state.

Settled now at Mrs. Tynes, the chief hostess of the place,⁵ let us call upon our memory....[there then follows a flattering history, of the Earls of Strafford, Marquises of Rockingham and Earls Fitzwilliam]....

Standing in the midst of parks and gardens of great extent, skirted with native woods and young plantations, it is undoubtedly a magnificent residence. The noble front, extending about six hundred feet, satisfies the eye, and the gazer is silently contented to admit, that no petty limitation of extent was set down by either designer or architect. Every section of its presented line is in quiet harmony with the whole; and the portico and hall of entrance have been pronounced by competent observers, to be eminently beautiful.

The interior of the mansion is replete with those heirlooms of art which a tasteful, prosperous family might be expected to possess. In the hall, are some original sculptures, and many copies from the best of the antique; paintings, manuscripts, books, and some of the *rarissimi* of the first age of printing; all these things will be shewn the stranger, who has the wit to introduce himself to Mistress Carruthers, the housekeeper.

Keeping on the free side of the portals, the ornamental erections which the park presents attract notice. The Doric column we have already encountered. On an elevated plane, eastward of the house, is a building no less commanding in aspect. It rises near the hamlet of Hoover, and is called Hoover Stand. It is a lofty edifice, raised by the first Marquis of Rockingham, to commemorate the peace of 1748.

The most remarkable object, after the mansion itself, which the domain affords, is the Mausoleum. This touching memorial is found exactly opposite the house of the living, at a distance of something more than a mile. It presents a square Doric basement, above which, within open arches, is seen a sarcophagus; and overall, a cupola, supported by twelve columns, informing us, "This monument was erected by William Earl Fitzwilliam, in 1788, to the memory of Charles, Marquis of Rockingham." Without is a statue of the Marquis, by Knollekens; and in niches, are the busts of eight friends, with whom the Marquis acted in his political life. Their names are worth the record— Edmund Burke, Lord John Cavendish, Frederick Montagu, Charles James Fox, Duke of Portland, Sir George Saville, Admiral Keppell, and John Lee. To these are attached verses by Montagu, dull enough and a prose panegyric by Burke, part of which is worth transcribing, if but to shew what the most eloquent man, could say of one of the best....

⁵ I presume this is a reference to either the Rockingham Arms or the George and Dragon (see Pubs, below)

Remarkably, this account attracted some adverse criticism the following week, in the *Sheffield Independent* for 24 August 1844. Whilst stating that the original article had given him great pleasure, the writer of this letter to the editor took our rambler to task on many points of history and topography:

In the first place, I think your correspondent is wrong in the statement, that Keppel's Column, (vulgarly called Scholes Coppice⁶, because it stands in the wood of that name) was completed by the late Earl Fitzwilliam. I believe it was altogether the production of the Marquis of Rockingham, having special reference to the triumph of the Whigs in the acquittal of Admiral Keppel, (his intimate friend,) who was charged with cowardice by Rear Admiral Sir Hugh Palliser, under feelings of revenge and the promptings of party spirit, being, at the same time, himself accused by Keppel of disobedience of orders. Keppel was honourably acquitted, received the thanks of both Houses of Parliament for his services, and was raised to a peerage; while Palliser, having been tried, found guilty, and reprimanded, resigned his seat in Parliament and his offices, under the pressure of deserved public contempt. There is an inscription; but it is simply the year of our Lord in which the column was erected.⁷

The writer was of course right about this; but what seems to have annoyed him once was the combination of poverty and slavery which the original tourist had supposedly found in the village of Scholes - summarised by the use of the word 'helotry':

I would beg to remark, too, that in one and the same paragraph, the colliers of Scholes are described by your correspondent as helot labourers and free tenants of an Earl. This is obviously inconsistent — they cannot be both slaves and free men.

Finally, our correspondent was anxious to correct our rambler's identification of Keppel's Column or Pillar with a supposedly poetic 'tall bully':

Allow me to observe here, that the expression, 'tall bully,' taken from Gay's "Trivia," is not applicable to this erection. We cannot, with truth, say of this, as of the monument on Fish Street hill —

"Here *Keppel's* column, pointing to the skies,

⁶ When I first practised law in Sheffield in 1975, my secretary called it 'Scholes Coppy' and said she had climbed the column as a girl, after paying a penny (or maybe it was sixpence?)

⁷ Is this still there?

Like a *tall bully*, lifts its head and lies."

For there is no other inscription on it than the date, (which is over the doorway,) and there is no reason to doubt its accuracy.

The point being made here is that the poem *Trivia* had been written by John Gay - famous as the author of the *Beggar's Opera*; and Gay had died in 1732, having written the poem in 1716, whereas the date on Keppel's Column was 1779;⁸ but there is a further point to be made here. If Gay's reference was not to Keppel's column at all, what was it a reference to? The answer would appear to be the more famous Monument to the Great Fire of London, which is in Fish Street Hill, in the City. This column had first been erected before John Gay was born, but the inscription on it had been changed several times, and the alterations explain why the column could be said to lie, at the date Gay wrote the poem.

The Monument was begun in 1671, after the Great Fire of London in 1666, and the inscriptions on it were at first inoffensive; but this changed in 1681, when the City authorities insisted on adding the words

The City of London was burnt and consumed with fire by the treachery and malice of the Papists in September in the year of Our Lord 1666.

These words, which were highly offensive to Roman Catholics (and untrue) were removed during the reign of James II, but restored in 1689 during the reign of William and Mary, and only finally removed in 1830, following Catholic Emancipation. So, they were still visible in 1716 when Gay wrote the poem.

But we have not yet cracked the case. If the above is all there is to it, why did John Gay refer Keppel's Column at all? The answer is, he didn't. An examination of the poem *Trivia (or Walking the Streets of London)* reveals no such phrase: Gay simply refers to a (human) bully, not even to a tall bully, let alone to Keppel. And this means that the writer has in fact got the derivation wrong. It was in fact a different poet, Alexander Pope (1688-1744) who referred to the Fire Monument in Fish Street, in the City of London, as follows:

Where **London's column** pointing at the skies,
Like a tall bully, lifts the head, and lies. [my emphasis]

⁸ When I took a photograph of the Column on New Year's Eve, 2018, it looked to me as if the date over the doorway on the ground floor was 1778, not 1779; but the noticeboard put up by the Rotherham Council tells us that the column was built between 1773 and 1781 by John Carr of York; and also it was originally intended that it be 15 metres higher than it actually is!. It also has a drawing of the column with a curious external spiral staircase. The column is closed; but there is still glass in all the windows, so it may be watertight.

So the entire controversy is based on a provincial misunderstanding, or perhaps double misunderstanding. There is no connection at all, in the real world, between Keppel's Column and the Monument in London.

In the 20th century, local newspapers frequently published details of suggested routes for the weekend, including one around Wentworth village and Park, taking in Keppel's Column, publicised in the *Sheffield Daily Telegraph* for Saturday 26 June 1915; and another in the *Star Green'un* for Saturday 13 August 1949, which took in the Needle's Eye.

The narrator of the first ramble was given some highly misleading information about Keppel's Column. He was told that 'there was a doubt about whether the Column was built the Ancient Britons or the Romans', although his informant then went on to suggest - also wrongly - that it was begun in 1782 by the Marquis of Rockingham, who was then Prime Minister. In fact, however, it had been begun in 1779. Be that as it may, the party did not ascend the Column, though it was then possible to do so.

By contrast, the child who wrote to 'Captain Trim' of the *Sheffield Weekly Telegraph* published on Saturday 28 May 1904 told the readers that he, his father and brother and two playmates had taken a walk up Wentworth Park during the Whit holidays that year and had 'ascended the column and had a look round'. (This has not been possible for at least forty years - it is unsafe).

THE NEEDLE'S EYE

This is the earliest monument, built around 1716. The Wentworth Village website tells us it is:

A pyramid, about 45 feet high of ashlar blocks of local coal measure sandstone surmounted by an ornamental urn and pierced by a tall Gothic ogee arch. It straddles a now defunct private roadway which ran from Wentworth Woodhouse northwards to the Lion Lodges near Brampton Bierlow. It can be seen from Coaley Lane and reached via a signposted footpath leaving Coaley Lane almost opposite Street Lane. Legend has it that Earl Fitzwilliam built the structure as a result of a wager that he could drive his horse and carriage through the eye of a needle. The position on the coach road supports this story, although the size of the archway is probably only sufficient to accommodate a small gun carriage.

However, I have seen a photograph showing a much larger carriage emerging from the Eye.

Other than that there is not much to say. The only references to the Eye in the BNA refer to the Fitzwilliam Hounds passing by as they chased a fox.

HOOBER STAND

The basic facts about Hooper Stand are soon stated. As the inscription tells us, it was built in the late 1740s to celebrate the defeat of the Jacobite Rebellion known as the '45 and the peace of Aix-la-Chapelle, which put an end to the War of the Austrian Succession. It is a Whig monument, marking the loyalty of the 1st Marquis of Rockingham to his Protestant sovereign, George II. It is described in an article published in the *Sheffield Independent* for Wednesday 27 January 1937 which also praises its elevated position in a rather curious way:

Years ago Barnsley children used to be brought there "to hev t'oopin' cough blown aht o' their systems." The 'flu germ has never been known to settle there. People who live at Hooper Stand have not had it—yet!

Hooper Stand... crowns one of the loftiest ridges of the uplands above Wentworth. From the top of the Stand is visible on a clear day a wonderful expanse of country, with the towers of York Minster miles distant to the East. The caretaker says he once saw the sea.

Today, Hooper Stand is a well-known landmark; but it is less well-known that, at one time, there was a cave or grotto there, with some strange effigies in it. These were observed by a group of visitors belonging to the Barnsley Working Men's Liberal Association in the summer of 1870:⁹

Immediately at the foot of the tower we observe an entrance to what one of our party informs us an artificial cave dug out of the rock, and we make up our minds that on returning to *terra firma* this shall next claim our attention. The descent accomplished in safety, we signify our wish to our cicerone¹⁰, who at once accompanies us to the subterranean chamber or grotto, which contains, among other curiosities, two dilapidated stone effigies: one of Richard III—hunchbacked and hideous—and the other of Prince Eugene.

During the First World War, the caretaker was attacked and shot by a soldier who was billeted with him. The arrest was reported by the *Sheffield Daily Telegraph* for 9 June 1915:

**YORKSHIRE.
OLD MAN SHOT.
ROTHERHAM.**

⁹ See *Barnsley Chronicle*, Saturday 9 July 1870.

¹⁰ An old term for a guide.

ATTEMPTED MURDER CHARGE.

The alleged attack on an old man by soldier was investigated yesterday, when Thomas Archibald Evans (25), private in the 12th York and Lancaster Regiment, was brought before Mr. R. Dyson and Mr. E. Rose, at the Rotherham West Riding Court, charged with having attempted to murder Arthur Crossley, an old man engaged as caretaker at Hoover Stand, near Rotherham, shooting him with a revolver on Sunday last. There was a further charge of stealing a lady's gold watch, gold chain, revolver, and electric flash lamp, the total value of £10, the property of Crossley.

The proceedings were purely formal, the prosecutor being unable to appear. The accused was arrested in Endcliffe Woods, Sheffield, on Monday night by two fellow-members his regiment, and handed over to the Sheffield Police. He was received into the custody of the Rotherham West Riding Police yesterday morning. He appeared in the dock in civilian clothing.

Supt. Haynes explained that the prisoner was a member the Sheffield Battalion, and from the 11th to the 19th May he and another soldier were billeted with Crossley, who was a caretaker at Hoover Stand. While there Crossley lent them a revolver and a flash lamp, and when they went away they handed back the articles, along with some cartridges. On the 25 May the prisoner returned and told Crossley he had come to stay a week. He remained that night, and the next day Mr. Crossley said if he was going to stay he would have to fetch some bread. The prisoner went away at seven to fetch the bread, and did not return.

Mr. Crossley did not see the prisoner again until Sunday morning, June 6, at 8.30 o'clock. Prisoner went to his door, knocked, and Mr Crossley went to see who it was and asked what he was doing there. Prisoner replied 'I have called to see how you are getting on'. Crossley said 'I don't think you have because were unkind when you were here before'. A conversation then took place with regard to the missing things, and they both went out of the house and down the yard. As Crossley was opening the gate, his back at the time being towards the prisoner, the latter fired at him with the revolver. One shot took effect. Crossley tried to close with him, and was shot in the forearm and in the shoulder. Prisoner emptied the revolver and ran away. Information was given to the police, and the prisoner was arrested by two members of his company, who recognised him, at Sheffield. Superintendent Haynes concluded, asking for a remand for week to see how the prosecutor progressed.

Police-constable Thomas Henry Coldwell stationed at Concrete, stated that at 9.45 clock that morning he received the prisoner into custody. After cautioning him witness charged him with attempting to murder Arthur Crossley at Hoover Stand, Brampton, on June 6, shooting him with a revolver. He answered 'I do not remember.' Witness further charged him with stealing

the articles, the subject of the second charge. He made no reply. The prisoner was remanded until Tuesday.

The trial of the accused took place just over a month later, as reported once again in the *Sheffield Daily Telegraph*, on 17 July 1915:

SHOOTING AFFRAY NEAR ROTHERHAM.

There were some remarkable features in a case heard in which Archibald Thomas Evans, aged twenty-five years, was charged with shooting Arthur Crossley with attempt to murder him, at Brampton Bierlow, near Wentworth Woodhouse, on June 6th. According to the evidence for the prosecution, which was conducted Mr. Coddington, Mr. Crossley, who is an elderly man, is caretaker of the monument at Brampton Bierlow called Hoover Stand, and the prisoner, who at the time was a private in the army, and stationed Sheffield, was told off to guard the place. For this purpose he was billeted with Mr. Crossley. After staying there some time he went away, but returned some days later and stayed for two days, telling Mr. Crossley he was on special military duty. A few days later he again returned, and then Mr. Crossley accused him of stealing a gold chain, a revolver, and an electric flash lamp during his visit on May 26th. The prisoner denied this, but as they were walking across the fields the prisoner produced Mr. Crossley's revolver and fired six shots. One bullet struck him at the back of the neck and lodged in his cheek, and he was also hit by another bullet. The prisoner afterwards ran away.

The prisoner's version of the affair was that when he left Mr. Crossley's house on the first occasion he left behind some of his private property. He went back for it, leaving his greatcoat in one of the rooms. When he got back home he found the articles in his great coat, but did not know whether they had been put there for a joke. It was to find out something about the affair that he returned to Mr. Crossley's.

After Mr. Crossley had accused him, he (prisoner) asked him to accompany him up the tower. He, however, attempted to lock him in the tower, and then produced the revolver in order to frighten Mr. Crossley. The latter attacked him, and the weapon went off in the struggle. The jury found him guilty of shooting with intent to do grievous bodily harm. The Judge, in passing sentence of three years' penal servitude, said he was afraid the prisoner was a thoroughly bad character. He had been two years in a Borstal institution, and had been found a situation, but had broken loose.

Next, a complete change of mood. The hill next to Hoover Stand was the venue for two hill climbing events in 1920, the first being reported by the *Sheffield*

Daily Telegraph for Monday 3 May 1920 and the second by the *Sheffield Independent* for Tuesday 14 September 1920. I will reproduce only the first:

MOTOR-CYCLING. WATH AND WOMBWELL CLUBS.

Motorists and others gathered in great numbers on Hoover Hill, near the famous Hoover Stand, Wentworth, on Saturday, to witness a hill-climbing competition promoted jointly by the Wath and Wombwell Motor-Cycling clubs. There was a capital entry, and the various events were very keenly contested. The winners were as follows:

Singles, not exceeding 275cc. - 1, H. Massey, Wombwell; 2, W. Gant, Goldthorpe.

Singles and twins solo, 350cc. - 1, H. Hinchliffe, Wombwell; 2, A. Crossley,¹¹ Wath.

Singles and twins solo, 500cc. - 1, J. E. Bellis, Wombwell; 2, B. Pierrepont, Wombwell.

Singles and twins solo, 650cc. - 1, C. Diggles, Wombwell; 2, H. Thomas, Wombwell.

Singles and twins solo, 750cc. - C. Diggles; 2, H. Thomas.

Singles and twins solo, 100cc. - 1, M. Carter, Barnsley; 2, A. Massey.

Sidecars, 650cc. - 1, A. J. Hayward, Wombwell; 2, A. Taylor, Wombwell.

Special for the fastest time of the day—C. Diggles.

Mr. C. Cernes, of Wombwell, was the judge.

Twenty years later, the Stand attracted the attention of the Police once again, but for a very different reason - as was reported in the *Sheffield Independent* for Tuesday 12 January 1937:

SPECIAL POLICE SQUAD TO END CAR COURTING NEAR ROTHERHAM

A special watch on courting couples in cars is the latest job of the Rotherham Division of the West Riding Constabulary.

This winter the quiet roads near Hoover Stand, between Rotherham and Wentworth have attracted so many “car-couples” that residents in the district have complained to the police about the conduct of some of the visitors.

As a result a special squad has been established.

¹¹ One wonders if this was Arthur Crossley, the caretaker who appeared in the previous extract!

The practice is to drive to Hoover Hill, a public highway so infrequently used that it is partly overgrown with grass, switch off all the lights, and park there.

The blindness of love and the grass on the highway apparently combine to delude the driver into the belief that he is not on the highway.

As many as six cars at a time have been seen there. In one instance, the *Daily Independent* was informed yesterday by a magistrate that three couples were found in one car.

There have already been several prosecutions of drivers who have parked their cars without lights on the highway in this district, but the practice is as prevalent ever.

The Second World War lasted from 1939 to 1945 - six long years, during which many parts of Britain had to endure German bombing; but not all the explosives which were dropped 'went off'. The *Yorkshire Post and Leeds Intelligencer* for Tuesday 19 January 1954 reported a remarkable find, and the method of disposal, which involved using an old quarry near Hoover Stand:

SHELLS EXPLODED IN QUARRY RETRIEVED FROM CANAL

From our Mexborough correspondent. Men of the Royal Army Ordnance Corps, from York, yesterday exploded nearly 200 anti-aircraft cannon shells (20 m.m.) which had been found in the South Yorkshire Navigation Canal at Wath-on-Deane and Swinton, during the past two weeks. The shells were exploded electrically in the disused Hoover Quarry, near Wath, and close to the famous landmark, Hoover Stand. Residents of the area had been warned by Wath police and all precautions were taken. Three cases had been found, two at Swinton and one at Wath. They had been in the canal since the war ended. Those at Swinton were found boys looking for scrap iron in the drained canal bed.

KEPPEL'S COLUMN

Around 150 years ago, Keppel's Column was the scene of an affray such as is only too common when young men from different communities encounter each other and have had too much to drink. It was reported in the *Sheffield Daily Telegraph* for Saturday 22 July 1865:

At Rotherham on Monday, seven men and lads, named respectively Wm. Cooke, Jacob Cooke, Joseph Mirsin(?), Joseph Walsh, Henry Vernon, Wm. Vernon, and Ezra Hargreaves, all of Scholes, were charged with

assaulting William Bark, a silver brusher, employed at Messrs. Ratcliffe's, Sheffield.—Mr. Whitfield was for the prosecution, and Mr. Hirst for the defence.— Mr. Whitfield, in opening the case, stated that on Sunday, the 25th Jure, the complainant was in Scholes Wood along with his wife and several other women and men.

As they were going along a public footpath over which a tree was laid, they came up to a number of the defendants who were sitting on the tree. The defendants refused to get out of the way to let the complainant and his party pass, and used very aggravating and indecent language. With some difficulty the complainant eventually got past, and afterwards met with the remainder the defendants, who commenced using most insulting and indecent language. They also knocked several of the complainant's party down, gave the complainant a black eye, and took away his scarf and ill-used the females, taking away from them two sets of beads. The whole of the defendants were engaged in the affray, and several of them kicked the complainant and his party several times.

The complainant and his wife were called, as were also William Bagshaw, John Brown, and Henry Draper, and in cross-examination by Mr. Hirst they stated that they left Sheffield between ten and eleven o'clock in the morning, and the assault took place about four in the afternoon. They admitted that they had called at two public-houses, but denied that they were intoxicated. They identified the whole of the defendants, and gave evidence as to the details of the assault.

Draper said he was so much injured that he had to go into the Sheffield Infirmary for week.

On behalf of the defendants Mr. Hirst remarked on the discrepancies in the evidence, and said he should prove that the complainant and his party were very drunk and themselves commenced the row, having also had to be turned away from Keppel's Column on account of a disturbance they made there. They had also assaulted several people coming from chapel. He then called a witness who said "the Sheffielders were intoxicated," all of them, both women and men.

Mrs. Collier, wife of the keeper of Keppel's Column, stated that the plaintiffs struck the first blow, Mrs. Draper being one of the assailants.

After a very lengthy hearing the Bench said they considered that the defendants were guilty of a very grievous and disgusting assault, and the case had been made very much worse by an attempt to bolster it with wilful and deliberate perjury. The way in which the women had been treated was most disgraceful.

William Cooke and Ezra Hargreaves were committed to the House of Correction for six weeks without the alternative of a fine, and the rest of the defendants were each fined £5, on default to be each committed to the House of Correction for one month.

THE ROCKINGHAM MAUSOLEUM

The Rockingham Mausoleum is more correctly termed a Monument, since the Marquis in question is not buried here, nor ever was; but the former term has been in use so long, this seems a somewhat pedantic point to take. The *Sheffield Weekly Telegraph* for 6 October 1906 published the following letter about it, which uses the first of these terms:

Dear Captain Trim,

Last Saturday week the members of the Kind Hearted Brigade went for a picnic at the Mausoleum, Wentworth. We set off about three o'clock, and arrived there about four o'clock. The Mausoleum stands in a quiet place in small wood. It was erected in memory of the Marquis of Rockingham. It is round in shape, and has railings all round. Inside are four large pillars, and in the centre is a large and beautiful monument of Charles, Marquis Rockingham. It is white marble, and is neatly done that you can even see the stitches in his cloak, and carved on his garter "Honi soit qui mal y pense." Round the bottom of the monument is stated why it was erected. It was for kindness that he had shown during his lifetime, and the motto was 'Remember, Resemble, and Persevere.' When we saw those words it made us think of the rules of the K.H.B. Then when we had seen all we went to the lodge to have tea under the trees and while having tea saw two little squirrels jumping about from one branch to another. When we had had a few games we set off home. Dear Captain, will you please try and find room in the Children's Corner for this letter? — I remain your sincere soldier, JESSIE DYSON.

Thank you so much for your interesting little letter Jessie, which was doubly a pleasure because it was so neatly and clearly written. You seem to have had a most enjoyable time.