

SOURCE A: EXTRACT FROM HENRY'S PRIVATE LETTER

Cotherstone Academy

Aug. 7. 1822

Dear Father

Our Master has arrived at Cotherstone but I was sorry to learn he had no Letter for me nor any thing else which made me very unhappy, If you recollect I promised that I would write you a sly Letter which I assure you I have not forgot and now an opportunity has come at last & I hope my dear Father you will not let Mr. Smith know any thing about it for he would flog me if he knew it and I hope my dear Father you will write me a Letter as soon as you receive this but pray dont mention any thing about this in yours only put a X. at the bottom, or write to my good Friend Mr. Halmer who is very kind to me and he will give it to me when I go to Church for he lives opposite and I assure you my dear Father they are the kindest Friends I have in Yorkshire and I know he will not show it to Mr. Smith for the Letters I write you are all examined before they leave the School and I am obliged to write what Mr. Smith tells us and the letters you send me are all examined by Mr. Smith before I see them, so I hope my dear Father you will mention nothing of this when you write – It is now two years come October since I left you at Islington, but I hope my dear Father you will let me come home at Xmas that we may once more meet again alive if God permit me to live as long. Our bread is nearly black it is made of the worst Barley Meal, and our Beds are stuffed with chaff and I assure you we are used more like Bears than Christians and believe me my dear Father I would rather be obliged to work all my life time than remain here another year

Edwin is quite well but very unhappy.

Extract from Henry's Private Letter

Dear Father

Cotterstone Academy

Aug. 7. 1822

Our Master was arrived at Cotterstone but I was sorry to learn he had no letter for me, nor any thing else which made me very unhappy, If you recollect I promised that I would write you a long letter which I assure you I have not forgot and now an opportunity has come at last & I hope my dear Father you will not let Mr. Smith know any thing about it for he would flog me if he knew it and I hope my dear Father you will write me a letter as soon as you receive this but may not mention any thing about this in yours only put a X. at the bottom, I write to my good friend Mr. Halmer who is very kind to me and he will give it to me when I go to Church for he lives opposite and I assure you my dear Father they are the kindest friends I have in Yorkshire and I know he will not show it to Mr. Smith for the letter, I write you are all examined before they leave the school and I am obliged to write what Mr. Smith tells us and the letters you send me are all examined by Mr. Smith before I see them, so I hope my dear Father you will mention nothing of this when you write — It is now two years come October since I left you at Ilkington, but I hope my dear Father you will let me come home at times that we may once more meet again alive if God permit me to live as long. Our bread is nearly black it is made of the worst Barley meal, and our Beds are stuffed with chaff and I assure you we are used more like Bears than Christians and believe me my dear Father I would rather be obliged to work all my life time than remain here another year.

Edwin is quite well but very unhappy

SOURCE B 1

THE COURT CASE: JONES VERSUS SHAW

The trial, *Jones versus Shaw*, took place at the Court of Common Pleas, London, on October 30th, 1823, and by an irony of fate the case came before Judge Park, the grandson of a yeoman farmer of Low Row, in the adjoining parish of Grinton, Swaledale, not far from Bowes. We have unearthed a report of the trial, and as the evidence is so incriminating and of unusual interest we give a portion as it appeared in a local journal.

William Jones, one of the boys who had been at defendant's school, was a witness, and he gave such a description of his treatment, as, for the honour of human nature, we must hope is exaggerated. He said, the first week they treated him well, and gave him toast for breakfast; then they turned him among the other boys, and gave him hasty pudding. There were nearly 300 boys in the school. They had meat three times a week, and on the other days potatoes and bread and cheese. The boys were frequently 4 or 5 days without jacket or trousers, while they were mending. The boys washed in a long trough, similar to what the horses drink from; they had only two towels, and the great boys used to take advantage of the little boys, and use the towels first. They had no supper, and had warm water, milk, and dry bread for tea. They had hay and straw beds, and one sheet and one quilt to each bed, in which 4 or 5 boys slept; there were about 30 beds in one room, and a large tub in the middle. There were only 3 or 4 boys in some of the beds. They had quills furnished them to flea the beds every other morning, and caught a good beating if they did not fill them with fleas.

They had the skimmings of the pot every Sunday afternoon; it often had maggots; the usher offered a penny for every maggot, and the boys found more than a quart full, but he did not give them the money. They had soap every Saturday, but that was always used by the great boys, and the little ones had no soap but what they bought.

'On one occasion in October, I felt a weakness in my eyes, and could not write my copy; Mr. Shaw said he would beat me; on the next day I could not see at all, and I told Mr. Shaw, who sent me and 3 others to the wash-house. I staid in the wash-house about a month; the number of boys when I left it was 18. I was then put into a room; there were 9 boys totally blind'.

The Jury found a verdict for the plaintiff, £300 damages.

B2: GLOSSARY FOR THE COURT CASE: JONES VERSUS SHAW

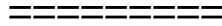
copy	the words he had to copy into his school book
defendant	the person accused of a crime
hasty pudding	food made from old crusts of bread
frequently	often
furnished	given
great	big
incriminating	proves someone is guilty
irony of fate	a strange co-incidence
maggots	soft, legless larva, like a white worm, found in decaying matter
plaintiff	the person prosecuting – accusing the defendant
quart	about 1.25 litres
quills	pens made of long goose feathers
quilt	similar to a duvet
skimmings	the often fatty liquid that floats on top of soups and stews
trough	a long narrow bath-shaped container, usually made of stone or tin and filled with water for animals to drink
wash-house	the laundry, where all the school washing was done
yeoman	a man owning and farming his own small farm

B3: COURT ACCOUNT TABLE FOR THE COURT CASE: JONES VERSUS SHAW

WHAT is it about?	
WHO is involved?	
WHEN did it take place?	
WHERE did it take place?	
WHAT was the result of all this treatment for William Jones?	

Source C1

EDUCATION.



At Mr. GALLAND'S

CLASSICAL, MATHEMATICAL, AND COMMERCIAL

ACADEMY,

STARTFORTH,

Near Barnard-Castle, Yorkshire,

YOUNG GENTLEMEN are properly and expeditiously qualified for the learned Professions, Colleges, or whatever Situations in Life they are designed, genteelly boarded, clothed, and supplied with all Necessaries, at

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No Vacations are kept, nor Extras charged for any of the above Branches of Science.

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Further Particulars may be had, and the Character of the above Seminary known, by applying to Mr. Lardner, 342, Oxford-street ; Alexander Mc Millan, 5, Britannia-street, Islington ; James Lett, Esq. *Stock Broker*, 2 Shorter's-court, Throgmorton-street ; Mr. Hoare, 27, Charter-house-lane ; Mr. Whitfield, Crown Tavern, Bow-lane, Cheapside ; Mr. Richard Harris, at Sir James Hesdale's and Co. *Bankers* Lombard-street ; Mr. Scale, 33, Old Compton-street, Soho ; or Mr. Blake, *Broker and Appraiser*, Kingsland.

Mantz, Printer, 159, Brick Lane, Spitalfields.

C2: ADVERTISEMENT FOR MR GALLAND'S ACADEMY

WHO is the advertisement aimed at?	
WHERE is the school?	
WHERE are the people who will answer enquiries about the school?	
HOW old are the children the school takes as pupils?	
HOW much does it cost to go there?	
WHICH subjects do you have to pay extra for?	
HOW is the curriculum different from ours?	
WRITE down the main <u>three</u> things that strike you as unusual about this school.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. 2. 3.

SOURCE D1: LETTER FROM HENRY'S FATHER, WILLIAM HERITAGE, TO MR HALMER

Public Office, Worship Street, 21st August 1822.

Sir,

Having lately received a Letter from my Son Henry, who is at Mr. Smith's School close by you, complaining of the Treatment he receives, I am induced to write to you, confidentially, to request you will do me the favor to endeavour to see both of them, privately, (at your own House) if possible and ascertain whether you think it would be adviseable for me to send for them home, as I will certainly be guided by what you say, Boys will sometimes complain without cause, and therefore I hope you will excuse the liberty I take in troubling you, Henry speaks very highly of your kind attention, as you will see by an Extract from his Letter on the other side –

I do not approve of the System of Education, for they do not appear to have improved, when they left home, they could both spell, and in Henry's Letter I see several words wrong spelt– I also do not like the injunction laid upon them of not being allowed to write to me without the Master's seeing the contents of their Letters, This is a very great objection to their continuing –

If you should not be able to get a private interview with them in the course of a fortnight I shall be obliged by your writing to me to say so and I will immediately give notice to Mr. Smith that I intend to have them home at Christmas. I should prefer your seeing Edwin if you can and hear what he says, as I can rely more on the truth of his story, than Henry's for I believe Henry's principal object is to get home. We have all a great desire to see them, but particularly to see Edwin, who is a meek Boy and not so able to endure ill treatment as Henry – Edwin is a great favorite with us all, and so he was with his late dear Mother who is now no more –

You will no doubt see my object in thus troubling you and I hope you will excuse the liberty I take, but as I know you have been very kind to the Boys, I shall esteem it an additional favor by your attention to this, and an Answer at your earliest convenience

I remain Sir, very respectfully
Your obliged hble Serv^t.

W^m Heritage

D2: COMPARISON FRAME

Why should Henry and Edwin leave Cotherstone Academy?	
Henry's reasons	His father's reasons

SOURCE E:
HENRY'S LETTER TO MR HALMER, AFTER ARRIVING HOME
[PAGE 1]

No. 11, Mount Row, City Road, London

My Dear Friend,

Agreeable to our promise we have the pleasure of writing a few lines informing you of our journey and safe arrival at home on Wednesday last about one o'clock.

On leaving Cotherstone Mr Smith rode in his chaise with a lady and Edwin sitting between them. I and another boy were ordered to run behind the chaise to Bowes (about 4 miles) which we did and were greatly exhausted. Previous to leaving the school I had concealed a piece of the black bread to bring home with me. I put it into my jacket pocket from which I had occasion to take out my pocket handkerchief at an inn about 30 miles on the road and accidentally drew out the bread which was instantly snatched up by a man at the inn who on hearing I was a scholar from Mr Smith's school refused to return it saying that he knew Mr Smith and would keep it and show it to him. This person was one of the school spies as I had been questioned before by others whom I have no doubt were of the same description. The guard of the stage from York to London who came all the way was very kind and in many cases prevented our being imposed upon on the road. I received 30 shillings from Mr Smith for our support on the road and on arriving at the inn on Snow Hill we had 10 shillings left which I delivered to my Father who was there to receive us and having no boxes or luggage whatever we walked home with him where we had the pleasure to meet our brothers and sisters after so long an absence quite happy, and comfortable.

The very kind and unremitting attention we have received from you demands our most grateful acknowledgements which we entreat you to accept and be assured we shall feel for ever indebted to you for it. We hope to have the pleasure of seeing you here whenever you may come to London and we are desired by our dear Father to give his best respect to you and to assure you that he is fully sensible of the great obligation he is under to you for your kind attention to us while at Cotherstone and to request that you will

**SOURCE E:
HENRY'S LETTER TO MR HALMER, AFTER ARRIVING HOME**

[PAGE 2]

not fail to favour him with a visit whenever you come to London that he may have an opportunity of thanking you personally.

Since we have been home we find that many things have been sent to us which we never had, a box containing 2 plumb puddings of about 12 pounds each with apples, oranges etc. have been embezzled from us at the school where they were delivered at Xmas last. Mr Smith has also made charges for medical assistance and medicine to a considerable amount which we never had, with various other impositions which I have not room to detail but which are by no means creditable to Mr Smith's establishment, such as stopping great part of our spending money under pretence of paying for garters, braces, slates, pencils, etc. all which it was his place to furnish without any extra charge whatever it is a very shabby advantage to take of us who had not the means of helping ourselves.

Fearing I may tire your patience I must now conclude by again returning you our best thanks and grateful acknowledgements for all favours and hope you will continue to enjoy that health and happiness in which we left you and which your humanity is calculated to produce.

I have the pleasure to be

Dear Friend

With the greatest respect

Your most obliged humble servant

H Heritage