

1789

S. Oldknow & Co.

Debtor to *Thos. Green,*
Liverpool.

	Price.	£.	s.	d.
<i>22nd. Sep. Steel Wire.</i>		1	14	8
<i>17th. Nov. 1 large Magnet.</i>			6	6
		2	1	2

Paid, _____

Remarks

This records the delivery of steel wire and a large magnet.

It is interesting in that it refers to the availability of steel in wire form in the late 18th century. Steel could then only be made in small quantities using cementation furnaces to convert wrought iron. Similarly, magnets were available but probably not for widespread commercial use.

Why Samuel Oldknow should have required a large magnet is unknown.

1797

S. Oldknow & C^o. Debtor to Sam^l. Smith & C^o.

	£.	s.	d.
<i>22nd. Mar. 1797.</i>			
<i>4 spur wheels.</i>	37	3	0
<i>41 segments, 14 cogs.</i>	37	2	0
<i>4th. Apr. 1797.</i>			
<i>82 segments, 14 cogs</i>	56	10	0
<i>4 spur wheels.</i>	5	2	9
<i>8 wheels 6ft dia., 97 cogs.</i>	19	13	0
<i>Lye shaft 14ft long, 5³/₄ in sq.</i>		16	0
	156	6	9

Paid, _____

Remarks

These items were required for power transmission purposes from the waterwheel that powered Samuel Oldknow's mill at Mellor.

Circa 1800

S. Oldknow & C^o. Debtor to *Bibby & Donnall.*

	£.	s.	d.
<i>4 boxes of green candles.</i>			
<i>120 No. 1 candles.</i>			
<i>127 No. 2 candles.</i>			
<i>716 No. 3 candles.</i>			
<i>140 No. 4 candles.</i>			
	<i>11</i>	<i>18</i>	<i>0</i>

Paid, _____

Remarks

These candles were required by Samuel Oldknow to provide lighting for his mill at Mellor.

It was common practice for employees to have to provide their own lighting and it is likely that Oldknow deducted the cost of these candles from their pay, which was 'truck money' in the form of vouchers (similar to cheques) that could only be redeemed in the mill shop.

1st. May 1801

S. Oldknow & C^o.

Debtor to
Mr. W^m. Chatterton

	Price.	£.	s.	d.
<i>1 year's rent of Traden Farm. Due 6th. Apr 1801.</i>		<i>18</i>	<i>18</i>	<i>0</i>
		<i>18</i>	<i>18</i>	<i>0</i>

Paid,

T. Parkes

G. Bullivant

Remarks

This shows that Samuel Oldknow rented farms around Mellor and Marple.

1809

S. Oldknow & C^o. Debtor to *John Kinder*

<i>For alterations to lime place store.</i>	Price.	£.	s.	d.
<i>16 Dec. 1808. 1 Bricklayer, 1 day.</i>			5	0
<i>29 Jul. 1809. 1 Bricklayer, 1 day.</i>			5	0
<i>Do., 1 Bricklayer's Labourer, 1 day.</i>			3	6
			13	6

Paid, _____

Remarks

This shows that Samuel Oldknow made some alterations to a lime shed at Marple Lime Works.

Lime had to be kept dry before it was despatched and consequently it was kept in lime sheds. Lime that got wet was said to have '*fallen*' and it could not be sold.

May 1809

S. Oldknow & Co. Debtor to *Gilbert, Bournes & Smith.*

<i>Species.</i>	Price.	£.	s.	d.
$\frac{1}{2}$ load of fine salt.		1	16	6
		1	16	6

Paid, _____

Remarks

This shows that Samuel Oldknow purchased a half-load of fine salt. The capacity of a 'load' was variable and the actual quantity is now unknown.

S. Oldknow & C^o. Bought of *W^m. Turnbull*

Species.	Price.	£.	s.	d.
<i>1 Oak Tree 20 _____ long.</i>		9	8	0
		9	8	0

Paid, 26th May 1809

Remarks

This shows that Samuel Oldknow bought an oak tree from William Turnbull.

The unit of measurement for the length of the tree is unknown.

1811

S. Oldknow & C^o. Debtor to Ashton Canal C^o.

Species.	Price.	£.	s.	d.
<i>11 Mar. To 11½ tons manure</i>	<i>3¼ d.</i>		3	2
<i>12 Mar. To 20 tons manure</i>	<i>3¼ d.</i>		5	5
<i>23 Mar. To 17¼ tons manure</i>	<i>3¼ d.</i>		4	8
<i>Delivered to Marple Wharf</i>			13	3

Signed, Thos. Prince

Remarks

This shows 48¾ tons of manure delivered along the Ashton and Peak Forest Canals to Samuel Oldknow in March 1811.

Samuel Oldknow had extensive farming interests around Mellor and Marple and the manure would be 'night soil' from the Manchester area.

25th. Feb. 1811

_____ Debtor to *James Rixon*

Species.	Price.	£.	s.	d.
<i>15 loads of lime</i>	<i>2s. 0d.</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>10</i>	<i>0</i>
<i>4 loads of sand</i>	<i>3s. 0d.</i>		<i>12</i>	<i>0</i>
<i>Oak Tree</i>		<i>1</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>
		<i>3</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>0</i>

Received, 27th. Feb. 1811

Remarks

This records the delivery of 15 loads of lime, 4 loads of sand and an oak tree to an unknown destination. The capacity of a 'load' was variable and is now unknown.

The lime would have been produced at Marple Lime Works. It is likely that James Rixon was an intermediary or middleman but the identity of the person who was in debt to him is unknown.

The nature of these commodities suggests that they were delivered to a construction site. On site, the lime would have been slaked by mixing it with water and then, after standing for a period of time, the sand would have been added to it to make mortar for building purposes.

1811

*S. Oldknow Esq. & Co. Debtor to Thos. Fearnley**Species, Coals.*

Date.	Loads.	Price.	£.	s.	d.
<i>17 Jan.</i>	<i>12</i>	<i>1s. 5d.</i>		<i>17</i>	<i>0</i>
<i>6 Feb.</i>	<i>24</i>	<i>Do.</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>14</i>	<i>0</i>
<i>20 Feb.</i>	<i>13</i>	<i>Do.</i>		<i>18</i>	<i>5</i>
<i>22 Feb.</i>	<i>13</i>	<i>Do.</i>		<i>18</i>	<i>5</i>
<i>29 Mar.</i>	<i>14</i>	<i>Do.</i>		<i>19</i>	<i>1</i> <i>0</i>
<i>8 Apr.</i>	<i>12</i>	<i>Do.</i>		<i>17</i>	<i>0</i>
<i>17 May.</i>	<i>12</i>	<i>Do.</i>		<i>17</i>	<i>0</i>
<i>28 May.</i>	<i>12</i>	<i>Do.</i>		<i>17</i>	<i>0</i>
<i>21 Jun.</i>	<i>12</i>	<i>1s. 6d.</i>		<i>18</i>	<i>0</i>
<i>Settled, Thos. Fearnley</i>			<i>8</i>	<i>16</i>	<i>8</i>

Remarks

This records 124 loads of coal received by Samuel Oldknow, between January and June 1811. The capacity of a 'load' was variable and is now unknown.

In this instance the coal may have been carried either by boat or by horse and cart from an unknown colliery (possibly Hagbank, Disley) to an unknown destination (possibly Marple Lime Works).