

Chapter 1 : Silsden -- A Living History

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The coat of arms used by Gilbert De Clare. The first earl of Clare, the founder of the family, was Richard Fitzgilbert, a knight who accompanied William the Conqueror on the Norman invasion of England in 1066. He accompanied Duke William into England, and later held one hundred and seventy-six lordships or manors. According to Burke, pp. At the time of the General Survey, he was sent with Remigius, Bishop of Lincoln, and others, into Worcestershire, and some other counties, to value the lands belonging to the crown, as well as to private individuals in these parts. He himself possessed at that time two lordships in Berkshire; one in Wilts; one in Somersetshire; one in Huntingdon; five in Cambridgeshire; nine in Oxfordshire; nine in the co. In 1066, he adhering to William Rufus, fortified his mansions in Normandy, for that king, and became chief general of his army there; yet in some years afterwards, he sided with Robert Curthose Courthouse, against King Henry I. They had three children: Walter, his successor, 2nd Earl of Buckingham, who d. According to Crispin and Macary, "Falaise Roll" pg. He was awarded the earldom of Buckingham for his services. He joined in the rebellion of Robert de Mowbray, Earl of Northumberland, against the king, but observing the William Rufus upon the point of falling into an ambuscade, he relented, besought pardon, and saved his royal master. We find him subsequently, however, again in rebellion, in the same reign, and fortifying and losing his castle at Tunbridge. He first bore the title of Earl of Hertford. He invaded Wales with an army and became lord of vast possessions there by power of his sword, but requiring other matters of moment from the king, in which he was unsuccessful, he reared the standard of revolt, and soon after was slain in a skirmish with a few Welsh yeomen, near Abergavenny, on April 15, 1135. In he removed the monks out of his castle at Clare into the church of St. Augustine, at Stoke, and bestowed upon them a little wood, called Stoke-Ho, with a doe every year out of his park at Hunedene. Richard married Alice Meschines, daughter of Ranulph Ralph? In the 3rd year of Henry II. In the 9th year of the same reign, we find him summoned by the celebrated Thomas-a-Beckett, Archbishop of Canterbury, to Westminster, in order to do homage to the prelate for his castle of Tonebruge; which at the command of the king he refused, alleging that holding it by military service it belonged rather to the crown than to the church. He married Maude St. Hillary, daughter and heir of James de St. This earl, who, from his munificence to the church, and his numerous acts of piety was called the Good, died in 1135, and was succeeded by his son, Richard. In the 7th year of Richard I. He sided with the barons against King John and his castle of Tunbridge was taken. On November 9, 1191, he was one of the commissioners on the part of the barons to treat peace with the king. On March 4, 1192, his lands in cos. Cambridge, Norfolk, Suffolk, and Essex were granted to Robert de Betun; and he and his son were among the barons excommunicated by the Pope in 1191. Gilbert De Clare, son of Richard and Amice, 5th Earl of Hertford, born about 1140, who after the decease of Geoffrey de Mandeville, Earl of Essex, the 2nd husband of Isabel, the divorced wife of King John one of the co-heiresses mentioned above of William, Earl of Gloucester, and in her right Earl of Gloucester, and her own decease, s. In June he was entrusted with the lands of Harfleur and Mostrevilliers. This nobleman was among the principal barons who took up arms against King John, and was appointed one of the twenty-five chosen to enforce the observance of the Magna Charta. In the ensuing reign, still opposing the arbitrary proceedings of the crown, and championing Louis le Dauphin, he fought on the side of the barons at Lincoln, and was taken prisoner there by William Marshal, Earl of Pembroke; but he soon afterwards made his peace. He led an army against the Welsh in 1200 and captured Morgan Gam, who was released the next year. Being engaged in an expedition to Brittany, he died on his way back at Penros in that duchy, October 25, 1200. His body was conveyed by way of Plymouth and Cranbourn to Tewkesbury. He was buried before the high altar, November 10, 1200. She was sister of William Marshal, the Surety. She died in November, 1200. His lordship, who appears to have been a very distinguished personage in the reign of King Henry III. In two years afterwards an attempt was made by Walter de Scotenay, his steward and chief counselor, to poison the earl and his brother William, which proved effective as to the latter, while his lordship narrowly escaped with the loss of his hair and nails. In the next

year the earl was commissioned with others of the nobility, by the appointment of the king, and the whole baronage of England, to the parliament of France, to convey King Henry III. About this period he had license to fortify the Isle of Portland, and to embattle it as a fortress. At his death he was "the most powerful subject in the kingdom". He was knighted on May 14, He was called "The Red" after the fiery color of his hair. He inherited not only the great Clare estates and lordships in England, Wales, and Ireland, but also a position of leadership among the magnates of the realm; and he was destined to play an even more decisive role in the civil wars which determined the fate of the struggle between king and baronage than his father had played in the initial stages of the movement for reform. Alice was the niece of the king of France, which monarch bestowed upon the lady a marriage portion of 5, marks. His castles of Kingston and Tonbridge were taken by the king, who, however, allowed his Countess, who was in the latter, to go free because she was his niece; and on May 12 he and Montfort were denounced as traitors. Two days later, just before the battle of Lewes, on May 14, Montfort knighted the Earl and his brother Thomas. The Earl commanded the second line of the battle and took the King prisoner, having hamstrung his horse. As Prince Edward had also been captured, Montfort and the Earl were now supreme. On October 20 following, however, the Earl and his associates were excommunicated by the Papal Legate and his lands were placed under interdict. Gilbert, who, like his predecessors, was zealous in the cause of the barons, proceeded to London immediately after the defeat sustained by the insurrectionary lords at Northampton in the 48th year of King Henry III. Becoming jealous, however, of the power of Leicester, the earl soon after abandoned the baronial cause, and having assisted in procuring the liberty of the king and the prince, commanded the second brigade of the royal army at the battle of Evesham, which restored the kingly power to its former lustre. In reward of these eminent services he received a full pardon for himself and his brother Thomas, of all prior treasons, and the custody of the castle of Bergavenny, during the minority of Maud, wife of Humphrey de Bohun. He veered again though in his allegiance, and he does not appear to have been sincerely reconciled to the royal cause, until , in which year demanding from Prince Edward repayment of the expenses he had incurred at the battle of Evesham, with livery of all the castles and lands which his ancestors had possessed, and those demands having been complied with, he thenceforward became a good and loyal subject of the crown. Upon the death of King Henry, the Earl of Hertford and Gloucester was one of the lords who met at the New Temple in London, to proclaim Prince Edward, then in the Holy Land, successor to the crown, and so soon as the new monarch returned to England, he was the first to entertain him and his whole retinue, with great magnificence for several days at his castle of Tonebruge. In the 13th year of King Edward I. She brought her husband a third of the vast Clare estates to which she was a co-heiress. Margaret died on April 9, in France.

Chapter 2 : Homage to John Clare - [PDF Document]

Homage to John Clare Author(s): Sandra McPherson Source: *The Iowa Review*, Vol. 2, No. 3 (Summer,), pp. Published by: University of Iowa Stable URL: <http://www.press.uoi.edu/ireview/vol2no3/mcpherson.html>

Download this page in PDF format Figure 1: It was a small miracle that this small book was published. Or, rather, it was a rare, sweet victory for new poetry in a publishing world that had turned its back on living poets. They are vivid, surprising, and arresting, and they seem to pluck elements of the natural world directly from the fen country of eastern England and to plant them, like so many seedlings, in the equally flat but fertile ground of the page. The growth and diversification of the publishing industry was fueled in part by social, political, and technological changes such as increased rates of literacy and the invention of new papermaking machines and the power press see Erickson The boom was good for readers of poetry. The market for poetry expanded as publishers contrived ways of making money from both cheap and expensive editions, from reprints as well as new collections, and from narrative, descriptive, and lyric poetry. Single-authored works by living writers were nearly squeezed out of the field. The collapse of the market for new poetry was widely recognized. Yet the same market forces that were constricting the publication of collections of poems by living writers were also opening up new audiences for poets like Clare. Competition in the poetry market came mainly from cheap reprints of previously issued poems, the periodical press, and literary annuals. The literary annuals, also known as albums and giftbooks, were a new and fabulously successful publishing product. As such, they made public and commercial the longstanding practice of copying extracts into a private, manuscript commonplace book, whose layout and eclecticism they imitated see St. They also encouraged Clare to write more poems in the modes editors tended to find most attractive. Chief among these was the sonnet. At once readily accessible and recognizably poetical, traditional and modern, sonnets were also a favorite choice among amateur authors. Whether they were sonnets or other short lyrics, the poems Clare published in periodicals and annuals were, by and large, easily assimilated to contemporary taste and norms. Short poems shared space on the page with lines from adjacent entries. Like the other works published alongside them in these venues, Clare poems selected for inclusion typically describe a conventional set of elements—“nightingales and cuckoos, primroses and violets, bees and breezes”—whose importance derives in the first instance from the ways they exemplify diurnal and seasonal patterns. Most obviously, they provide a conventional backdrop against which his experiments appear in vivid relief. Formally, for example, his sonnets depart from the English or Italian structure of most of the sonnets that appeared in these venues. To whatever extent he was responding to market pressures in composing these poems, he was also experimenting with the form in ways that were central to his work during these years. Editors such as the Rev. By a continual analysis, comparison, and generalization of things, the study of Natural History teaches the art of thinking clearly and accurately, and of reasoning with precision and force. And next to the devout exercises of religion, perhaps nothing will more completely remove sadness and disquietude, than the silent eloquence of flowers, and the vocal song of birds. Within a thick and spreading hawthorn bush That overhung a molehill large and round, I heard, from morn to morn, a merry Thrush Sing hymns to sunrise, while I drank the sound With joy: Taylor corrected the proofs and rearranged the material see Bate Clare was pleased with the idea of publication, and he approved of the firm. These harebells all Seem bowing with the beautiful in song; And gaping cuckoo-flower, with spotted leaves, Seems blushing of the singing it has heard. Careful listening, especially listening without seeing, makes vivid and perceptible otherwise un-thought thoughts. It turns latent possibility into actual aesthetic experience and insight, even wisdom. How curious is the nest; no other bird Uses such loose materials, or weaves Its dwelling in such spots: But in the context of *The Rural Muse*, the passage, and the poem as a whole, also acquires a subtle meta-poetic valence. Throughout *The Rural Muse* Clare describes birdsong and other natural melodies as models for his own lyric art. The self-deprecating description of his own poems partakes of another persistent topic in *The Rural Muse*: However fleeting might be fame, the book is a permanent place of listening and seeing in which the sounds and sights of the world find a new, audible, visible home. Stephanie Kuduk Weiner

is associate professor English at Wesleyan University, where she teaches courses in Romantic and Victorian literature and in poetry and poetics. *Mimetic Fidelity in Clare, Symons, Blunden, and Ashbery* and a series of articles about depictions of real and imagined sense experience in late nineteenth-century poetry. *Britain, Representation and Nineteenth-Century History. Extension of Romanticism and Victorianism on the Net*. Farrar, Straus and Giroux, Hodder and Stoughton, *A Publisher and His Circle*: Routledge and Kegan Paul, *The Later Poems of John Clare. The Letters of John Clare. The Annuals and the Field of Reading*, Davidoff, Leonore and Catherine Hall. *Men and Women of the English Middle Class*, U of Chicago P, *The Economy of Literary Form: English Literature and the Industrialization of Publishing*, Johns Hopkins UP, *A Century of Sonnets: Provincial Readers in Eighteenth-century England*. Smith, Elder, and Co. U of California P, *Wordsworth and the Victorians. The Evidence of Marginalia. The Domestication of Genius: Biography and the Romantic Poet. Wordsworth and Word-Preserving Arts: The Reading Nation in the Romantic Period*. London; Routledge and Kegan Paul, *Yarrow Revisited, and Other Poems. Sonnet Series and Itinerary Poems*, Cornell University Press, *Clair, Reading Nation, and* ; on the periodical press and literary annuals, see North, *The Domestication of Genius*,

Chapter 3 : John Clare: [Spenserian Sonnets.]

By Sandra McPherson, Published on 07/01/ Publisher. School of Letters and the Graduate College of The University of Iowa.

Edge of the Orison: Why, Samuel Beckett, of course. Beckett played for them against Northamptonshire. His bowling seems to have been like his dramatic dialogue: Impressive, given how outclassed the students were. John Clare was committed there just a few months after his "Journey Out of Essex". It was where he spent the last 23 years of his life, never visited by his wife. And so it is that the name Joyce and the edifice of the asylum - "the Marienbad of Middle England; well-connected neurasthenics in formal wear playing bridge" - join John Clare and Samuel Beckett in a mystical freemasonry of literary authenticity. He met love as a child in the vestry schoolroom there. Her father was a well-known figure in the village, a self-publishing poet who claimed kinship with Clare. At one point, Sinclair even begins to speculate about his own possible connection to the poet: Blood-ties remain elusive, but at the level of imagination Sinclair is a son of Clare: Sinclair locates the site and finds that it has become a branch of a mobile phone retailer called The Link. And so to a riff on London walkers in the early 21st century, with their "babble of electronic non-communication", seemingly talking to themselves as they mumble into their mobiles, hands held against ears to keep them stoppered: To hold the letters of the alphabet inside, in case they spill. A visiting Victorian worthy named Agnes Strickland told him that she was glad he could amuse himself by writing. His account of his "Journey Out of Essex" was first drafted on the road in a tiny pocket notebook that also includes sections of his poems "Child Harold" and "Don Juan", ventriloquised in the voice of Byron. One of his delusions in the Northampton asylum was that he really was the noble poet. Sinclair thus circles back to Althorp and reports a startling claim, based on two independent witnesses. The island on the Althorp estate was the burial ground of family pets: The witnesses propose an alternative burial place: Church closed, visible police presence. The most fascinating of the dozens of letters I received after publishing my biography of Clare was from a neurophysiologist, arguing with great force for a strictly organic cause: Nor is it just a personal memoir the journey ever deeper into the fens in search of elusive family links and memorabilia becomes a little indulgent. Clare functions above all as a touchstone for authenticity and thereby a stick with which to beat the inauthenticity, the placelessness and rootlessness of modern life. He oriented himself by lying down at night with his head towards the north so that he would know which way to go in the morning. He kept heading for the horizon which he spelt "orison" that would bring him back into the circle of his knowledge, the local landscape that grounded his identity. He was so hungry that he ate the grass by the roadside. By the end he was hallucinating. The reader must be prepared for vertiginous leaps from the "open field poetics" of the Black Mountain poet Charles Olson in one sentence to the spiritual wasteland of a Peterborough shopping precinct in the next. Clare loathed agriculture enclosure because of what it did to settled communities and ancient customs. Like that other great conservative-radical countryman of the early 19th century, William Cobbett, he raged against new money, new labour, the whole rhetoric of "modernisation" that is being re-enacted two centuries on. Thus Sinclair, as son of Clare: No cars, no delivery vans, no people. Welcome to Middle England. Xanaxshire, in the wake of the Lloyds fiasco, the debt mountain, the Blairite establishment of urban fixers and spinners no fox-hunting, acres of GM crops, is the home of dolour. Valium villages under the ever-present threat of imported sex-criminals and Balkan bandits; human landfill dumped in an off-highway nowhere. Enclosure, suddenly, is a personal matter:

Chapter 4 : By Our Selves review | Sight & Sound | BFI

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Chapter 5 : John Clare, Poemas - [DOCX Document]

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HOMAGE TO JOHN CLARE If John Clare gave a reading of his poetry what show would he put on, what clothes? He would soon be escaping to his realest world.

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Jonathan Bate admires Iain Sinclair's Edge of the Orison, an ambulatory homage to John Clare Jonathan Bate Fri 7 Oct EDT First published on Fri 7 Oct EDT.

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