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A Treasurer's Account, 1773-4.

THROUGH the kindness of our valued member, Mr. B. B. Granger, of Nottingham, the Account Book of the Melbourne Baptist Church from March 1771 to May 1834 has been placed in the archives of our Society. Here is an interesting early page :

1773. The Disburstments of Samuel Robinson from June y ^e 24 1773 to June y ^e 28 1774		£	s.	d.
July	Gave Br ^o Greagry to by Coles with paid for Horse Hire at Differant times	0	6	0
November	Gave Si ^s Sims being Ill	0	2	0
	Gave Si ^s Ward	0	2	0
1774 Sent to y ^e Committey by order		1	1	0
January	Gave Br ^o Greagry being Ill	0	2	6
	Gave Br ^o Martin	0	2	6
	Gave Si ^s Michel being Ill	0	2	6
	Gave Si ^s Sims being Ill	0	2	6
	Gave Si ^s Smedley	0	2	0
	Gave Si ^s Ward	0	2	0
	Gave Br ^o Jonson being Ill	0	2	6
February	Gave Br ^o Smith by Order	5	5	0
March	Gave by order to Si ^s Glasebruck to pay Hal a Years Rent	0	12	6
	April paid for two Candlesticks for Worthing- ton Meeting House	0	4	0
	Laide down to y ^e Collection made for y ^e Poor	1	3	11
May	paid for Hors Hire	0	1	0
	Gave Si ^s Michel for Nursing Si ^s Pegg	0	2	6
	Gave Sis Groves	0	2	0
	for Corn for Br ^o Perkins Hors & Lion before they went to Yorkshire	0	6	0
June	paid for Hors Hire	0	1	0
	for two Years Corn & Shewing for y ^e Ministers Hors	3	3	0
	Gave Si ^s Michel for Nursing Si ^s Pegg	0	2	6
<hr/>		£14	0	11

A Treasurer's Account, 1773-4

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	£14	0	11
paid for 7 of Candels and 2 Spancers for Worthington Meeting-house	0	5	8
paid James Moss for two Years Rent for the Meeting Ground	0	10	0
Gave Si ^r Ward	0	2	0
paid for Horshire to Nottingham Shire	0	3	0
paid for Hoshire one Journey to Measam & one to Uccolscot	0	3	0
	Dusbustment		15 4 7
Samuel Robinsons			
Receiveings	16	2	9½
	Disburstments		15 4 7
	Cash in Hand		00 18 2½

The treasurer, Samuel Robinson, was son of Thomas Robinson, who was one of the twenty-two witnesses to the marriage of Francis Smith, on the 20th August, 1753, in the Melbourne meeting-house. Such common law marriages were rendered illegal the next year, owing to the scandal of clergy who married anywhere without notice—on the Gretna Green style. Samuel Robinson died on the 5th June, 1796.

Thomas Perkins of Hinckley had much to do with founding Longford. In 1760 he and Francis Smith were ordained pastors of Melbourne. Both went with Dan Taylor to London in 1770, and on 6th June they helped found the New Connexion. Three years later, at Hugglescote, Perkins assisted in the organisation of the Association, to which is due the 1774 guinea subscription shown in the above accounts.

Can any member elucidate the item of May "for corn for Bro. Perkins Horse and Lion before they went to Yorkshire, 6s."? Even Perkins could hardly drive a horse and a lion in double harness! No vehicle of that period appears to have been known as a lion, and no "Horse and Lion" public house or hostelry can be traced. Possibly Lion is the name of a second representative.