

Inventory of Furniture, etc, at Minister's House No. 4 Osborne Terrace, Windsor, September 1880

Introduction

In 1880 Rev Henry L Church was appointed Superintendent of the Windsor Methodist Circuit. Then, as now, each circuit was responsible for providing and maintaining the manse.

Nowadays "it is the responsibility of the Circuit (as set out in Standing Orders 533, 803 and 954) to provide a suitable manse, to decorate it and to furnish it with carpets, curtains, a cooker, office furniture and a lawnmower".¹

In those days, more was provided, as illustrated by a 21 page detailed inventory² of everything, including items in the garden and servant's bedroom, down to the last teaspoon and items not present due to being in the wash ...

Notes

1. Source: *A Charter for Incoming Ministers*, adopted by the Conference of 2000
2. The original document is held in the Circuit Archives in Berkshire Records Office.

Editor's Note: This transcript includes occasional minor clarifications to make it more meaningful for today's reader.

Second Floor

- 1 3 ft 6 in Iron Bedstead
- 1 Feather Bed, bolster, and Pillow
- 1 Straw palliasse
- 3 Blankets
- 1 White Counterpane
- White Valance to bedstead
- 1 pr Mahogany drawers (5 drawers)
- 5 rush bottomed chairs
- 2 Cane bottomed chairs
- Hanging wardrobe with 5 pins & pair of cretonne Curtains

Linen etc in drawers

- 6 Sheets (union cloth)
- 11 Pillow Cases (union cloth)
- 2 Bolsters (union cloth)
- 7 Towels

Front Bedroom

- 1 Night Commode
- 1 painted Iron Fender
- 1 deal dressing Table
- 1 deal wash stand with ware complete & 2 chambers
- 1 Small Mahogany Looking Glass
- 1 Holland Blind with roller
- 1 pr Dimity window curtains
- 1 Short Muslin Window Curtain
- 1 deal Towel horse
- Kidderminster Carpet & oil cloth

- 7 Toilet Covers
- 7 Table Cloths
- 6 Check dusters
- 1 Glass Cloth

Second Floor

1	4 ft 6 in Iron Bedstead
1	Feather Bed, bolster, and 2 pillows with cases on each
1	Straw palliase
4	Blankets
2	Sheets (calico)
1	white Counterpane
1	Small Couch covered
1	deal wash stand with ware complete
1	Water bottle & Glass
1	deal dressing Table
1	Toilet cover white
1	Mahogany Pembroke Table
1	Toilet Cover
3	rush bottomed Chairs

Back Bedroom

1	deal Towel horse
1	Towel
1	deal chest of drawers (contents)
8	Short muslin curtains
6	White Bed Valances
14	White Window Blinds - various
2	White Bell curtains
1 pr	Cretonne Window Curtains with rings
1	Tapestry Carpet
1	Iron Fender
1	White Window Blind with roller, etc
1	Short Muslin curtain

Servant's Bedroom

1	4 ft Iron Bedstead
2	Feather Beds
1	Bolster & pillow with cases
2	Blankets
3	Sheets (calico)
1	white Counterpane (old)
1	Small deal Chest of drawers
2	Toilet covers
1	Towel
1	deal Table
1	Small Mahogany Looking Glass – broken
1	deal Washstand & ware white valance to Bedstead
1	White Window Blind, roller etc
1	Short Muslin curtain

Landing

2	Old rush bottomed Chairs
1	Child's Chair
2	large dust covers for Beds
1	Striped window Blind & roller etc
3	Small door Mats
	Oil cloth on landing

First Floor

Front Room

	(No Bedstead or Bedding)	1	Japanned Foot bath
1	4 ft large sized Mahogany Chest of drawers	1	Hanging Wardrobe, 5 pins & pair Cretonne Curtains
4	Cane bottomed Chairs	1	Small Mahogany Side Table
1	large deal dressing Table trimmed with muslin	1	Table cover for same
1	Toilet cover	1	Kidderminster Carpet & rug to match
1	Double deal Washstand with a double set pink and white ware complete	2	pieces Indian Matting
1	Water bottle & glass	2 prs	Muslin Window Curtains
9	Towels	2	Cornice poles
		2	Window Blinds with rollers etc
		1	Iron Fender with brass top
		2	Small door Mats

Back Bedroom

1	4 ft 6 in Ornamental Iron Bedstead	4	Cane bottomed Chairs
1	Feather Bed, bolster & 2 pillows with cases	1	Toilet cover
2	Straw palliasses	1	Mahogany Washstand, marble top with ware complete
1	Wool Mattress	1	Deal Towel horse
4	Blankets	8	Towels
2	Sheets c <i>[Editor's note: possible abbreviation for calico]</i>	1	Small Iron Fender
2	Sheets linen	1	Tin Water Can
1	White Counterpane	1	Slop Can
1	Extra Cover for same	1	Hanging Wardrobe, 5 pins, & pair cretonne curtains
	white Dimity curtains, valance and Canopy trimmed with crimson fringe	1	Muslin Splash Curtain on Wall
1	4 ft Mahogany drawers with brass handles	1 pr	Muslin Window Curtains (worn)
1	Dressing Table, deal, trimmed with Muslin	1	White Window Blind with roller, etc
		2	Glass Vases
		1	Small Iron Armchair <i>[Editor's note: entry inserted, difficult to read]</i>

Landing

- 1 Striped Window Blind with roller, etc
Stair carpeting from the Entrance Hall to top Bedroom Landing, with brass rods.

Ground Floor *

* [Editor's note: manuscript says "First Floor" – presumably in error]

Entrance Hall

- | | | | |
|---|--------------------------------------|---|--------------------------|
| 1 | Mahogany 4 tier Hat & Umbrella Stand | 1 | large cocoa door Mat |
| | Oil cloth the full length – (worn) | 2 | Small coloured door Mats |

Drawing Room

- | | | | |
|---|--|------|---|
| 1 | 4 ft Circular Mahogany Table | 2 | Walnut easy chairs covered crimson velvet |
| 1 | Crimson Table cover with gold border | | |
| 1 | Inlaid Occasional Table | 1 pr | Muslin Window Curtains (new!) |
| 1 | Mahogany Chiffonier with cupboards & drawers | 1 | Brass corner pole and rings |
| 3 | China, painted Vases | 1 | Brussels Carpet with rug to Match – (good) |
| 1 | 5 ft x 4 ft Looking Glass, gilt frame | 1 | Steel Fender and Fire Irons (Query <i>[sic]</i> mantel clock) |
| 1 | Walnut Couch covered crimson velvet | | |
| 6 | Walnut chairs covered crimson velvet | | |

Study

- | | | | |
|---|--|------|----------------------------------|
| 1 | Mahogany Chest of drawers with Escoture <i>[sic]</i> | 1 | Mahogany Easy Chair hair stuffed |
| 1 | Skeleton Bookcase with 10 Shelves | 1 | Iron Fender and fire Irons |
| 1 | 3 ft Chimney Glass Gilt frame | 1 pr | Muslin Window Curtains |
| 1 | Mahogany Couch | 1 | large Glass dish |
| 1 | large oval dining Table | 1 | Japanned Biscuit Box |
| 1 | Small rosewood Pembroke Table | 1 | Glass ink Stand |
| 2 | Table covers | | Brussel Carpet and hearth rug |
| 1 | Mahogany Chair hair stuffed | | Window Blind and roller, etc |

Lower Landing

- | | | | |
|---|-------------------------|---|----------------------|
| 1 | Butler's Tray and frame | 1 | Wooden Kitchen Chair |
| 1 | long pair of Steps | | |

Breakfast Room

1	6 ft Mahogany dining Table with extra leaf	3	Sherry Glasses
1	oil Cloth cover for same	12	Tea Cups – white and pink china
1	Mahogany Couch hair stuffed	6	Coffee Cups & saucers – ditto
2	Mahogany Arm Chairs hair stuffed	12	Tea plates – ditto
3	Mahogany Chairs hair stuffed	2	Bread & butter plates – ditto
3	Cane Chairs	4	Egg Cups – ditto
1	Easy Chair and cushion	1	Japanned Knife Tray
1	Antimacassar	6 ea	Electro plated Table & dessert Forks
1	Mahogany Pembroke Table	6	dessert & 8 Teaspoons electro plated
1	Striped Table cover on same	2	Salt spoons electro plated
1	4 ft 6 in Chimney Glass	1 pr	Sugar Tongs electro plated
1	Glass Vase	5	dinner & 3 pudding Plates blue bordered
1	Steel Fender & fire Irons	1	Small Sugar basin Glass
1	Carbon filterer	1	Felt Carpet – bordered with oil cloth
1	Electro Cruet Stand. 4 Bottles	1 pr	Muslin Curtains
1	Electro Coffee Pot	1	deal valance board with fringe, curtain rod
1	Glass Butter dish	1	Window Blind & roller, etc
2	Salts		
13	Tumblers – moulded		

Kitchen Passage

1	long hair Broom	1	Door Mat
2	Carpet Brooms		Cocoa nut matting with border fitted on Stairs
1	Mahogany Towel horse		Cocoa nut matting with border in passage
2	Brown ware salting pans		
2	Japanned Coal Scuttles & Scoops		

Larder

2	Clothes Baskets	24	odd Dinner Plates
1	zinc Water Can	1	Cake Tin
1	galvanised Bucket	1	Gallon Jar
1	Pastry Board	2	old Gravy Dishes
1	earthenware Strainer	1	Meat Tin
2	large white lip Bellows	1	Bottle Jack
5	Pudding Basins	1	Meat Stand
8	Baking Dishes earthenware	1	Gridiron

Kitchen

1	old fashioned Mahogany Side Table	1	Metal Tea pot
1	Table cover	1	Milk Jug
1	Tea & 2 small japanned trays	1 set	3 Water Jugs & 2 odd ones
1	Knifebox	1	Japanned Tea Caddy
6	German metal Table Spoons	5	Wooden Kitchen Chairs
3	German metal Tea Spoons	1	Deal Table
3	Iron Gravy Spoons	1	Japanned Knife Tray (old)
2	Carver Knives & forks	1	Japanned Tea Tray (old)
5	white-handled Knives – worn	1	Small Gas Stove
1	white-handled Fork – worn	1	Iron Toasting fork
10	small white-handled Knives	1 pr	Bellows
3	small white-handled steel Forks	1 set	Blacklead brushes
1	Copper Warming pan	1	large Coarse Towel
1	Meat Chopper	3	flat Irons
1 set	Iron Meat Skewers	1	Crimping Iron
1	Corkscrew	2	Flue Brushes
1	Vegetable Skinner	1	Copper preserving pan
1	American Clock	1	Box Iron with 3 heaters
1	Wooden flour Keg	2	Brass Candlesticks
1	Glass Earthenware Butter Jar	2	Metal Candlesticks
1	Ironing Blanket	1	Iron Tea Kettle
1	Rolling pin	1	Coffee Pot
7	Tea cloths	1	Bedroom Candlestick
5	Tea cloths new	1	Spice Tin
6	new white-handled dinner Knives	1	Spice Dredger
6	new white-handled desert Knives	1	Flour dredger
1	new white-handled Carver and fork	1	Gallon Copper Kettle
2	Table cloths	1	Gallon Iron Kettle
9	Glass cloths	1	Iron Coal Scuttle & Scoop
5	Jack Towels	2	small Hand Brushes
1	Linen bag	1	Dustpan
4	Knife cloths	3	Banister Brushes
12	dusters	1	Iron Kitchen Fender, poker and Tongs and shovel
1	Hammer	4	Glass Tumblers – moulded
4	Coloured Meat dishes – Willow pattern	2	Glass Salts
7	Meat dishes	1	China Toast rack
21 <i>[sic]</i>	dinner plates	1	Invalid Feeding Cup
1	Cheese dish	1	Papier Maché Cruet Stand
3	Bread & butter plates – odd	2	Small baking tins
3	Small ditto – odd	1	Tin Grater
4	Vegetable Dishes	1	Tin Biscuit Box
2	Gravy Dishes	1	Tin Tea Caddy
1	Soup dish (ladle broken)	23	small & 7 large steel forks (old)
1	Glass Sugar Basin	1	large Iron Boiler

Washhouse

1	brown Pan	1	small deal Table
1	Knifeboard	1	large Towel Horse
3	Meat Tins	6	Tea Towels
1	Meat Hanger	3	Dusters
1	Frying Pan	1	short Broom with brass handle
1	Wooden Wash Bowl		used Clothes Line
1	small Dutch Oven	1	bag Clothes Pegs
2	Scrubbing Brushes	3	wooden Washing Tubs
1 set	Blackening Brushes	1	short Washing Stool
6	Iron Saucepans	1	brown Pan
1	Plate Rack	1	wooden Washing Pedestal
1	zinc Pail	1	old Beer Barrel Stand
1	large earthenware Pail		

Garden

2	Garden hoes	1	Trowel
1	Garden Rake	1	Cinder Drive
1	Spade		

Summary of Bed Linen, Blankets, etc

13	Blankets	9	Table Cloths
13	Sheets	13	short Muslin Curtains
2	linen Sheets	6	white Bed Valances
16	Pillow Cases	2	white Bed Curtains
5	Bolster Cases	1 pr	Cretonne Window Curtains
4	white Counterpanes	14	white Window Blinds (various)
26	Towels	18	Dusters
6	Jack Towels	10	Glass Cloths
1	large coarse Kitchen Towel	12	Tea Cloths
13	Toilet Covers	4	Knife Cloths

Also, in Wash

8	Sheets	1	Table Cloth
1	Bolster Case	4	Bedroom Towels
4	Pillow cases		