

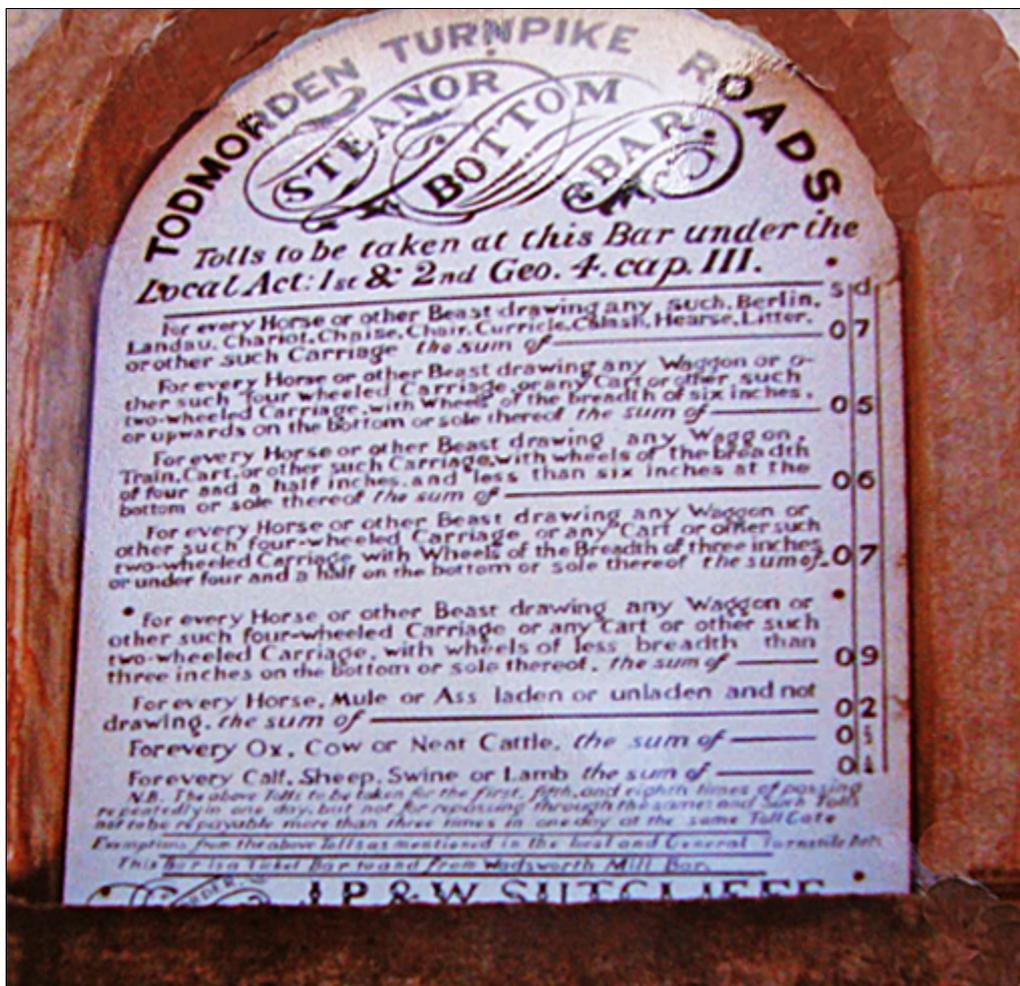
Example of Turnpike Road Charges in the 19th century

MLFHS, Oldham & District Branch

A question was asked at a recent monthly Branch meeting about the cost of tolls on the Turnpikes. No-one had a ready answer but Mike Smith (Moorside & District Historical Society) kindly offered to send some information he had stored in his own archives.

The first one is on the Todmorden Turnpike at Steanor Bottom Bar and the second one is from 1839 at the Platt Lane Toll Gate in Saddleworth.

STEANOR BOTTOM BAR, TODMORDEN TURNPIKE ROAD



PLATT LANE TOLL GATE CHARGES, 1839

PLATT LANE TOLL GATE	
A Table of the Tolls to be collected at this Gate by virtue of An Act passed in the 2 ^d year of the reign of Queen Victoria	
	S D
For every Horse or other Beast drawing any Coach, Chaise, Chariot, Hearse, Curricie, Gig, Caravan, Van, or other such like carriage, the sum of - - - - -	4
For every Horse or other Beast drawing any Waggon or other such Carriage upon Three or Four Wheels of the Breadth of Six Inches or upwards at the Bottom or Soles thereof, the sum of - - - - -	4
Of a less Breadth than Six Inches, and not less than Four and a Half Inches, the sum of - - - - -	8
And of a less Breadth than Four and a Half Inches, the sum of - - - - -	1
For every Horse or other Beast drawing any Cart or other such Carriage with Two Wheels of the Breadth of Six Inches or upwards at the Bottom or Soles thereof, the sum of - - - - -	4
Of a less Breadth than Six Inches, and not less than Four and a Half Inches, the sum of - - - - -	6
And of a less Breadth than Four and a Half Inches, the sum of - - - - -	6
For every Horse, Mule or Ass laden or unladen, and not drawing, the sum of - - - - -	1
For every Drove of Oxen, Cows or Neat Cattle, per Score, the sum of - - - - -	10
And so in proportion for any greater or less number.	
For every Drove of Calves, Pigs, Sheep, or Lambs per Score, the sum of - - - - -	5
And so in proportion for any greater or less number.	
For every Carriage of whatever Kind not drawn by any Horse or other Beast but propelled or moved by Steam or Machinery, or otherwise than by Animal power, for each Wheel thereof, the sum of - - - - -	1
When a fractional part of a halfpenny is authorised to be taken, one halfpenny shall be payable	
Only half Toll to be taken at the Delph Toll Gate when the full Toll shall have been previously taken at this Gate on the same day	
Such Carts and Carriages are to pay every time of passing and repassing.	
Post Chaises and Carriages are also to pay every time of passing and repassing in case a new driving takes place	
Horses, beasts, or Cattle drawing different waggons, wains, carts or other Carriages on the same	

Part of the Platt Lane Toll Gate is preserved in Saddleworth Museum Archives.

Photographs © and courtesy of Michael Smith

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