

Padley Water, which are likely to have replaced an earlier Town House, but few records for Chillesford have survived.

In the *Ipswich Journal* for 19 January 1805 the Chillesford overseers advertised for a man and his wife to undertake the management of the workhouse, 'Wanted directly, a man and wife to undertake the management of the Poorhouse at Chillesford. For particulars enquire of the Overseer.'

Two years earlier the Tunstall overseers had elected to provide out-relief for the poor in their own homes and the poorhouse was put up for sale:

'Household furniture, beds, bedding, washing and brewing utensils, 6 beds and bedding, 4 pots and stump bedsteads, 9 pairs of sheets, 6 pairs of blankets, a 36-gallon copper, a 12-gallon copper, brewing tubs and washing keelers, bowls, dishes, and beer casks. All new 18 months.'

These are two workhouses which do not appear in the national records from 1776 onwards.

A House of Industry was provided at Wickham Market in 1837. At Chillesford the little building was divided into Workhouse Cottages for four agricultural labourers, wives and 14 children when the Tithe Map was drawn up in 1839.

Some of the poor identified

Peregrine Styles lived in Hollesley in 1671 and was accused of being the father of a child born to Mary Pinkney of Marlesford.

He was ordered to pay the overseer of the latter parish 2s a week for the upkeep of the child until aged eight, and then £5 towards his apprenticeship. He appealed and the amount was reduced to 1s a week.

Later he moved to Butley, and either shame or the cost of the child's upkeep resulted in his being one of the few men who never married. He died in 1679 and his sister was appointed administrator of his possessions.

James Houseson from 'Capel by Hollesley' was also a trouble to the authorities. The JP, Devereux Edgar, the son of Thomas Edgar, in his *Commonplace Book* records in 1705 that Houseson, described as being 'a tall, black man, aged about 40, his own hair black' was 'a notorious bastard getter'.

Men were not only pressed into the Navy but, if found to be able-bodied

and with no visible means of livelihood, could be forced to serve in the Army. Constables were required to identify such men. We know from the *Commonplace Book* that the recruiting captain appointed by Colonel Peyton received 20s for enlisting Houseson, while Constable Marsh received 10s to escort him to the barracks. Two years later, records of the Woodbridge Quarter Sessions show he was back in Capel, having been wounded in Flanders, and was unable to work. He was allowed 20s from the Mariners and Maimed Soldiers Fund and not heard of again.

At the same time that Houseson was pressed, John Allen of Sutton, aged 18, was handed over by the Justices. His father thereupon voluntarily enlisted 'resolving not to leave him.'

Richard Lettice was discharged from a poor house in 1756, because he had been 'behaving himself in a disorderly way and refusing to comply with the orders of the house'. The house named was the 'Poor House in the parish of Butley'. The house near the *Oyster Inn* was gone by this time and thus Lettice must have lodged in Capel Town House at Butley Low Corner. It is likely that Richard, his wife Margaret and their children were all in the Poor House at this time. Two of their



Fanny Reeve with her daughter Elizabeth, when they lived in the old (windmill) cottage, now demolished near Butley's watermill. They worked for the Hewitt family, milking the cows as well as baking the bread on Fridays and washing the clothes on Mondays, fitting everything else in on the intervening days. They also brewed the beer from malt and hops in quantities to satisfy the thirst of all who came to the watermill on business as well as the workmen.