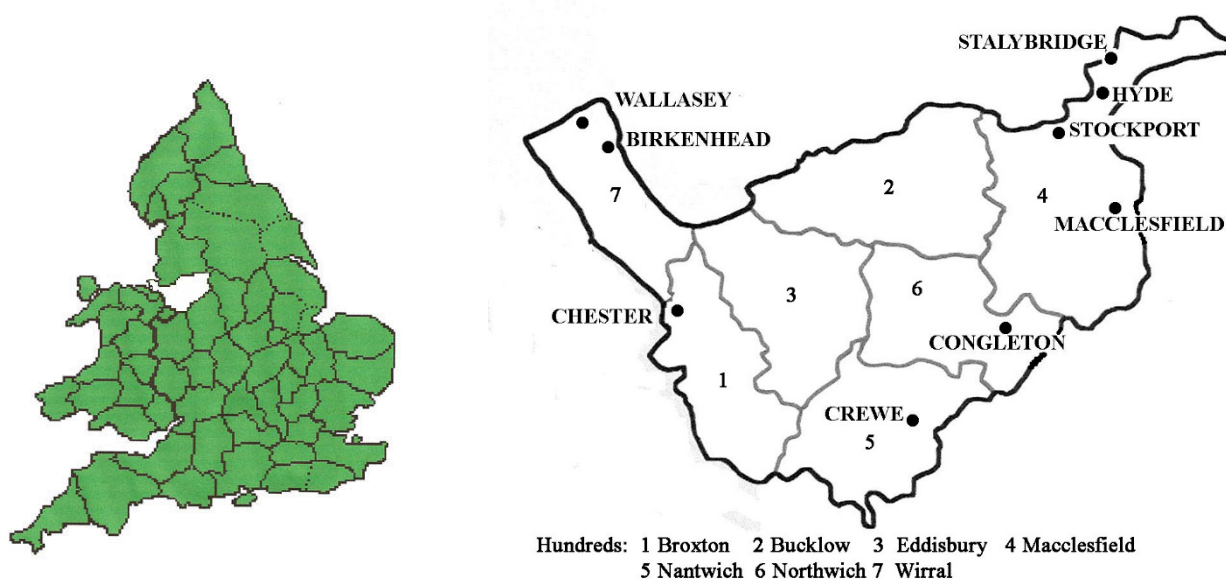


## CHESHIRE



Cheshire is a county in the north-west of England. From Roman times onwards it was important because of its position on the borders of Wales, and in the nineteenth century it became increasingly dominated by the industrial towns of south Lancashire, in particular Liverpool and Manchester.

The city of Chester was a 'county corporate' and had separate jurisdiction over local affairs. It gained additional status from the existence of an Assay Office. There were three other ancient boroughs, Congleton, Macclesfield, and Stockport, although the last was largely inactive until the 1830s. In the nineteenth century new boroughs were established in Birkenhead, Stalybridge, Crewe and Hyde, and these all took on responsibility for weights and measures in due course. Wallasey was separated from Birkenhead and became a county borough in 1913.

In the eighteenth century there were specialist scale makers in Chester, some of them associated with the Assay Office and its activities. In the nineteenth century scales and weights were sold by ironmongers, some of whom began to specialise in the scale. In the twentieth century the large national firms – Avery, Pooley, and ASCO – gradually took over much of the local trade.

## A: Inspection by the County of CHESHIRE

Dates	Events	Marks	Comments
1826	1 set of standards [303] issued.		<b><i>Distribution of standards 1827</i></b> <i>Broxton, Eddisbury, Wirral</i>
1827	13 'short' sets [380-392] issued, delivered to six High Constables of the hundreds.		Edward Bateman <i>Bucklow</i> Thomas Perris <i>Nantwich</i>
1834	9 inspectors appointed.		Thomas Mellor <i>Northwich</i>
1835	4 full sets of standards [667,668,684,685] obtained, and another two sets [717-718] soon after.		Joseph Munday <i>Macclesfield (Stockport divn)</i> William Birch <i>Macclesfield (Prestbury divn)</i> George Burgess
	Divisions were subsequently combined, and the number of inspectors reduced.		<b><i>Inspectors 1834-62</i></b> <i>Broxton &amp; Eddisbury</i> Charles Broster (1834-) --- Long (-1855-) Enoch Young (-1856-60-) <i>Wirral</i>
1860	Four inspectors only [W].	M of S	Samuel Robinson (1834-) Joseph Griffiths (-1854-62&) <i>Bucklow</i>
1862	Police superintendents appointed as WM inspectors.		Robert Clarke ( <i>West</i> , 1834) William Bowker ( <i>East</i> , 1834) Joseph Royle (-1848-50)
1867	Nine police districts, numbered as on next page.	9 CHESHIRE CO.	<i>Nantwich</i> Thomas Mellor (1834) Enoch Young (-1856-60-) George Hewitt (-1860-) <i>Northwich</i> John Henshall (1834) Joseph Royle (-1848-50)
1869	Another set of standards [1428] issued, probably because the Bucklow hundred was split into two divisions.	3 CHESHIRE CO.	<i>Macclesfield (the Manor of Stockport)*</i> John Barrow (1834) <i>Macclesfield (remainder of Stockport division)</i> Joseph Middleton (1834) <i>Macclesfield (Prestbury divn)</i> Armistead Sedgwick (1834-62) latterly for the entire hundred.
1879	Numbers 54-63 allocated to ten divisions, as on next page.		
1881	Number 148 allocated.	7 CHESHIRE CO.	
			*See Stockport Bo. for details.



¶ Various weights with Cheshire County marks, 1835-78. The one on the top left has the mark of the county district known as the 'Manor of Stockport', and probably dates from around 1835.

## Police superintendents as inspectors 1862-90

### **1. Broxton 54**

John Wilson (1862-78)  
John Plant (1879-86)  
Jos. Hollingworth (1886)  
Joseph Downes (1887-89)  
George Cope (1889-90)

### **2. Bucklow**

Geo. Andrews (1862-69)

Hundred split in 1869, into  
Altrincham and Runcorn.

### **Altrincham 55**

James Steen (1869-76)  
Edward Aston (1876-78)  
John Leighton (1881-89)

### **3. Eddisbury 56**

David Gwynne (-1865-69)  
Evan Mayho (1869-81)  
James Naylor (1881-89)  
James Walker (1889-90)

### **4. Nantwich 57**

Charles Laxton (1862-74)  
Henry Saxton (1874-78)  
Evan Mayho (1881-83-)  
John Plant (-1889-)

### **5. Northwich 58**

William Blake (1862-65)  
Rich. Rowbottom (1865-78)  
John Hindley (1881-83-)

### **6. Wirral 59**

Thos. Hammond (1862-71)  
Wm Egerton (1871-85)  
John Hindley (1886-1889-)

Joseph Griffiths, the pre-  
1862 inspector, continued to  
inspect officially in Wirral  
up to 1870 at least.

### **7. Hyde 60**

Joseph Little (1862-70)  
John Arrowsmith (1871-78)  
C. Edwardes (1878-)  
--- Moore (-1881-)  
George Lingard (-1883-90)

### **8. Macclesfield 61**

Jas. Williamson (-1863-74)  
Henry Saxton (-1874-)  
Thomas Dale (-1877-78-)  
Benjamin Cooper (1878-81)  
John Meredith (1881-83-)  
Joseph Davies (1889-90)

### **9. Stockport 62**





James Steen (-1865-69)  
John Lawton (1869-78-)  
George Cope (-1881-83-)  
Jos. Hollingworth (1889-90)

### **10. Runcorn 63**

(added 1869)  
William Egerton (1869-71)  
Edward Aston (-1875-76)  
James Steen (1876-78)  
Saml Williamson (1879-84-)  
Jos. Hollingworth (1886-)  
Nathan Large (1889-90)



¶ A 2oz brass weight with the mark of the Runcorn division, 1879-1890. There are also earlier marks from Liverpool.

Dates	Events	Marks	Comments
1889	Cheshire CC set up.		<b>Chief inspectors</b>
1890	Police to be replaced by civilian inspectors. The establishment was a chief inspector and four divisional inspectors: 1 Wirral 54 2 Nantwich 55 3 Altrincham 56 4 Hyde 57 The offices for Divisions 1 and 2 were in Chester, Division 3 in Northwich, 4 in Stockport.		W.D. Laird (q1889/90-1929) [MR 45:36] W.J. Hallard (1929-35) [MR 35:104] S.Hallard (1935-58) [MR 58:211] H.Hughes (1958-67) [MR 58:247, 67:103] W.K. Nattrass (1967-79) [MR 79:125]
1935	Nos.628-630 issued.	 	<b>Division 1 (Wirral)</b> W.J. Hallard (q1891/2-1929) J. McKinnon (1929-1936) H. Hughes (1936-58) W.K. Nattrass (1958-67) (dep.ch) W.K Dickinson (1967-72-) [MR 67:78]
1939	No.633 issued; numbers used: No.1 division 54 & 629 No.2 55 & 630 No.3 56 & 633 No.4 57 & 628		<b>Division 2 (Nantwich)</b> R. Watts (q1889/90-92) A. Timmis (q1893-1922) S. Hallard (1922-1935) C. Jones (1936-1967)
1949	A deputy chief inspector appointed (H. Hughes) [MR 49:111].		<b>Division 3 (Altrincham)</b> R. Hind (q1889/90-1927) H. Hughes (1927-36) A.R. Dain (1936-c1941) W.K. Dickinson (1946-67) [MR 67:78] J.T. Graham (1967-73) [MR 48: 59, 73:134]
1974	Parts of Cheshire transferred to Greater Manchester and Merseyside.		<b>Division 4 (Hyde)</b> J. Reeves (q1889/90-92) S.Lea (q1893-1929) [MR 48:107] T.L.E. Gregory (1930-1947) F.J. Perkins (1947-56) [MR 56:195] G.E. Dwerryhouse (1956-72-) [MR 56:255]



## B: Localities with separate jurisdiction in the county of CHESHIRE



Locality	Status	Marks		Dates & Notes
		Non-uniform	Number pre-1951	
Chester	AncBo MB:1835 CB:1888	c <sup>†</sup> c	121	s:1826 [99]
		c <sup>†</sup> c		n:1879-1974

Other marks, depicting a dagger and two or three wheatsheaves, have also been suggested.

The inspector appointed in 1834 was John Hill, who was superintendent of police from 1836 to 1864. It appears that he delegated the duties to a junior police officer, because in 1850 [B] the inspector was named as William Jenkins. In 1855 the borough council expressed dissatisfaction with this arrangement and wished to appoint a civilian inspector. However, the Recorder went against the Council's wishes and re-appointed Hill. In 1864 Henry Price, superintendent of the market was appointed as inspector. He was still in post in 1902 [K], and probably continued until 1906, when the first qualified inspector was appointed. This was Percy D. Bown, who had qualified in 1901/2 in Crewe, and served in Chester 1906-39 [MR 39:51]. He was followed by Harry Robinson (1939-1974) [MR 74: 51].



¶ Two brass weights with pre-uniform verification marks from Chester. The one on the right also has the uniform number VR 121.


Locality	Status	Marks		Dates & Notes
		Non-uniform	Number pre-1951	
<b>Congleton</b>	AncBo MB:1835 cp	 	492	s:1863 [1336]  n:1888-1965

The first mark is part of the seal of the borough, depicting a lion on standing on a barrel or 'tun'. Inspectors were appointed from 1834 onwards, although standards were not obtained until 1863, In 1834 they were George Barlow, a silk throwster, and Edward Drakeford, a clockmaker. Drakeford alone was listed in 1848 [S].

In 1863 standards were issued to John Bohanna, the chief constable from 1853 to 1877, and he was listed as the inspector in 1865 [K]. His successor Jonathan Hall was also chief constable and inspector of WM; he qualified 1890/1, and retired in 1902. Hall's replacement as chief constable was apparently not a qualified inspector of WM, and it is likely that the county inspector for No.3 Division (Altrincham) was appointed at this time; this was certainly the arrangement in 1912 [Hbk], where R. Hind was listed. However, Congleton formally retained its separate authority until 1964.



¶ The Congleton verification mark on a brass weight. This weight also has the circular mark BORO' OF CONGLETON.

Locality	Status	Marks		Dates & Notes
		Non-uniform	Number pre-1951	
<b>Macclesfield</b>	AncBo MB:1835		491	s:1826 [109] 1835 [561] 1852 [1076] 1859 [1283] 1882 [1731] 1891 [2216]  n:1890-1974

The mark represents a lion holding a wheat sheaf. The second form occurs with dates in the 1850s.

In 1834 William Lockett (CC 1836-40) and George Barber, who had previously held similar appointments, were appointed as inspectors. In 1854 the inspector was Edward Briscall, who was charged with embezzling the money he received for adjusting [*Cheshire Observer*, 12 August 1854]. He was replaced by Joseph Bramall, listed in 1860 [W] and 1865 [K]. Henry Jackson was listed in 1874 [M] and continued until his death in 1887 [BAIWM 87:5].


Samuel T. Barker qualified in 1889/90 and was listed in 1896. In 1899, after some debate, Walton Bushby was appointed [MR 99:234]. He qualified soon afterwards and served until 1946. He was succeeded by L. Hough (1947-72-).



**EMBEZZLEMENT.**  
*Edward Briscall*, was indicted for embezzling various sums of money, the property of the mayor, aldermen, and burgesses of the borough of Macclesfield. Mr. Davison appeared for the prosecution, and Mr. Macintyre for the defence.  
 Mr. Davison, in stating the case, said that the prisoner was the inspector of weights and measures for the borough of Macclesfield. There were three charges in the indictment, first that on the 2d of March, he received from the Messrs. Lockett the sum of 3s. 6d. and only paid over to the treasurer 2s. 4d., thus embezzling 1s. 2d; on the 23d of March he received from a Mr. Holywell, 1s. 11½d. and paid over to the treasurer 1s. 3d., embezzling 8½d: and on the 28th of March he received from Mr. Wilson 1s. 5½d. and paid over 8½d., embezzling 9d. The learned counsel then called witnesses to prove his case.  
 For the defence, it was contended by Mr. Macintyre that the sums for "examining, stamping, and comparing" of weights had been correctly carried by the prisoner into the ledger of the Corporation, and been duly paid to their treasurer; and that the money which prisoner was charged with embezzling was for "adjusting," or putting additional loops and rings to the weights to make them correct.  
 The prisoner was found guilty, and recommended to mercy. Sentence—A fortnight's imprisonment.

¶ An early example of the Macclesfield mark, on a weight made in the reign of William IV (1830-37). On the right is an account of the troubles of Edward Briscall, inspector in 1854.



Locality	Status	Marks		Dates & Notes
		Non-uniform	Number pre-1951	
Stockport	Manor AncBo MB:1835 CB:1888	<b>M of S</b>		s:1826 [355] 1838 [860]
			384	n:1881-1974

Stockport was an Ancient Borough. But by the 1820s the local jurisdiction was shared between the county magistrates and the Lord of the Manor. The 1826 standards were issued to the Manor of Stockport and in 1834 the Manor was regarded as a division of the county,

Stockport was created a Municipal Borough in 1835. In 1837 an Improvement Act led to the re-establishment of the authority of the borough, and the appointment of an inspector of WM, Joseph Larkum, who is listed as such in 1840 [R]. Apparently a separate inspector Thomas Reed was appointed by the manorial authorities at that time, and he received standards in 1838.

In the 1850s the manorial rights were transferred to the Borough. Larkum was listed as the inspector of WM in 1851, 1861 and 1871 [Census]. In 1874 [M] the inspector was Tom Wimhurst, who moved to Manchester soon afterwards. In 1883 [S] the name of the inspector was John W. Robinson, apparently not the John Robinson who made scales at the same time.

In 1886 William Linney was appointed. He qualified in 1891/2 and retired in 1924 [MR 30:62]. From 1924 to 1958 the chief inspector was H. Male [MR 58:124; 64:36].




¶ An undated form of the circular BORO' OF STOCKPORT mark.

Locality	Status	Marks		Dates & Notes
		Non-uniform	Number pre-1951	
<b>Birkenhead</b>	MktTown MB:1877 CB:1888		86	s:1844 [914] 1875 [1578] 1890 [2164]  n:1879-1974
<p>No mark for Birkenhead has been firmly identified, but a lion passant has been suggested.</p> <p>Although it was not formally established as a Municipal Borough until 1877, there were various forms of local authority, including a police force, well before that. Thomas S. Reed (compare Stockport) was the inspector in 1844, when the standards were issued, and was listed in 1848 [S]. In 1866 the inspector was also superintendent of the market. Thomas Gregory received the standards in 1875 and held both posts in 1878 [K] and 1883 [S]. Walter Egerton was listed as assistant inspector in 1881 [Census], and 1896 [AR]. In 1896 he was assistant to Henry Tudor, a police officer, who qualified 1889/90, and was appointed as chief inspector, retiring in 1929 [MR 39:36]. He was succeeded by H.D. Laird, who qualified in Birkenhead in 1908, worked as IWM in the Mersey Docks, and retired in 1947 [MR 77:126]. F.T. Gough was chief inspector (1948-74) [MR 49:21, 74:115].</p>				

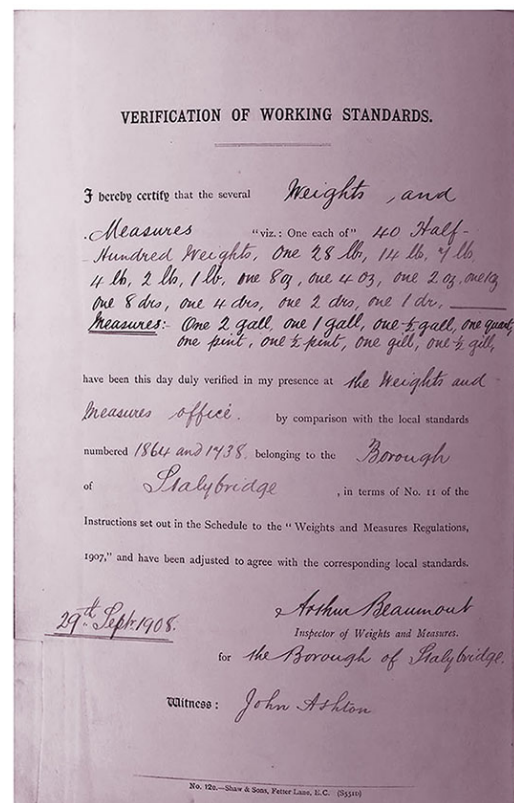
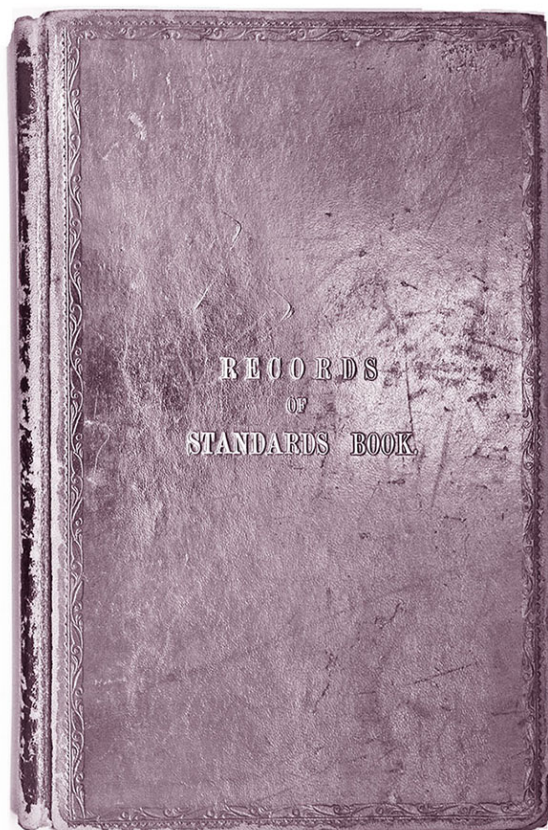


¶ A penny token used by the Birkenhead inspectors for testing personal weighing machines that were operated by a penny-in-the-slot mechanism. Probably used in the period 1930-1960.

Locality	Status	Marks		Dates & Notes
		Non-uniform	Number pre-1951	
bridge Staly	MB:1857	 ?	83	s:1863 [1364] n:1879-1974

Stalybridge is listed under Lancashire in the Fourth Report of the Standards Commission. But it was traditionally considered to be part of Cheshire, and this was legally confirmed in 1888.

James Ashton is mentioned as the 'examiner' of WM in 1860. William Chadwick, chief constable from 1862 to 1899, was IWM throughout that period. The first qualified inspector was Arthur Beaumont (q.1899/00 in Clitheroe), who was IWM and a police inspector from 1900 to 1917. Subsequent inspectors were Walter Harrison (1917-35), also a police inspector, and Samuel Wedgwood (1935-47?) J.E. Robinson was inspector for the joint authority of Stalybridge, Hyde, and Glossop from 1947 until 1972 [MR 72:120]. In 1972 R.A. Johnson was appointed as the chief inspector [MR 73:278], before WM responsibility passed to the new Greater Manchester Council in 1974.




¶ A record book kept in the Weights and Measures Department at Stalybridge 1908-1940

Locality	Status	Marks		Dates & Notes
		Non-uniform	Number pre-1951	
<b>Hyde</b>	MB:1881	---	598	n:1903-1974

It is probable that the Borough of Hyde became a Weights and Measures Authority in 1903, when the number 598 was allocated. John W. Danby, who had qualified in Rotherham in 1893/4, and had been appointed chief constable of Hyde in 1898, held the post of inspector until he died in 1931 [MR 32:9]. The WM department was then separated from the police, and A.W. Garrett was appointed as inspector. He had gone to Hyde in 1926 and left in 1934 [MR 72:31]. He was succeeded by J.E. Robinson, who moved to Hartlepool in 1943, but returned in 1947 to become inspector for the joint authority of Hyde, Stalybridge and Glossop. He was succeeded by R.A. Johnson in 1972, and WM jurisdiction passed to the new Greater Manchester Council in 1974.



Locality	Status	Marks		Dates & Notes
		Non-uniform	Number pre-1951	
<b>Crewe</b>	MB:1877		331	s:1879 [1649] n:1879-1974

The non-uniform mark has been seen on a weight also stamped with the number 331, and it was probably used only for a short period after standards were acquired in 1879. In 1881 the borough council informed the county that they had taken on the role of a Weights and Measures Authority. Samuel Stockton was appointed as inspector at that time, and was still in post in 1892 [AR].

The first qualified inspector was Measham Lea (q1895/6). He was followed by Percy D. Bown (1902-06), J. Chamberlain (1907-08), J.H. Wildman (1908-1911), A.R.G. Holdaway (1911-46) [MR 52:120], W.L. Carty (1946-55) [MR 55:56], and H.W. Pettitt (1955-72-) [MR 55:152].

¶ Letter from the town clerk of the Borough of Crewe to the Clerk of the Peace for the County of Cheshire, stating that the borough had resolved to be a weights and measures authority and had appointed Samuel Stockton as the inspector.


To the Clerk of the Peace for the  
County of Cheshire

In pursuance of the 50<sup>th</sup> section of the Weights and Measures Act of 1878 41 and 42 Vict. ch. 49 Notice is hereby given that the Mayor Aldermen and Burgesses of the Borough of Crewe have resolved to be the Local Authority for the purposes of carrying out the provisions of the above Act, and have appointed one Samuel Stockton of 161 Northwich Road of this Borough to be the Inspector of Weights and Measures under the said Act.

Passed under the Corporate Common Seal of the Mayor, Aldermen and Burgesses of the Borough of Crewe at a Meeting of the Town Council held the 24<sup>th</sup> day of April 1881

*Sam Stockton*  
Town Clerk

*I Bagg*  
Mayor



Locality	Status	Marks		Dates & Notes
		Non-uniform	Number pre-1951	
<b>Wallasey</b>	MB:1910 CB:1913	---	540	
<p>Wallasey automatically became a Weights and Measures Authority when it achieved County Borough status in 1913. Its first inspector was James Tudor (q1907 in Birkenhead), who retired in 1945 [MR 45:36]. He was succeeded by J.A.W. Price, who moved to Wallasey from Denbighshire in 1930, became chief in 1945 and retired in 1969 [MR 45:79, 79:15].</p>				

## C: The trade in Cheshire

### CHESTER

The Chester goldsmiths set up their own arrangements for assaying the 1680s, and the operation of the Mint at Chester during the silver recoinage of the late 1690s led to official national recognition for the Assay Office. These activities created demand for scales and weights. Among those involved in the trade in the eighteenth century were Richard **Brock** [EQM 2253-2256] and David **Napier** [EQM 1299].

At the time of the recoinage of gold in the 1770s the Assay Master was John **Scasebrick**. He stamped his initials (IS) on coin weights sold by Thomas **Harrop**, brazier and founder, at his shop in Lower Bridge Street. Another local trademan, John **Thomas**, pewterer, brazier and scale maker, also offered coin weights stamped with his initials (IT).

For more details see [1]. It is not known whether the specialist trade in scales and weights continued into the nineteenth century.

<b>Shaw</b>	J.G. Shaw, general furnishing ironmonger, retailer of 'Weighing Machines and the best manufactured Scales, Weights and Measures' [ <i>Cheshire Observer</i> 15 November 1856 advt] <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 107 Bridge Street, The Cross &lt;1856-58&gt;</li></ul>
<b>Avery</b>	Opened branch in 1900 [ <i>Cheshire Observer</i> 30 June 1900 advt] <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 125 Foregate Street &lt;1900-1906&gt;</li><li>• 112 Foregate Street &lt;1908-1910&gt;</li><li>• 4 City Road &lt;1914-1965&gt;</li></ul>
<b>Pooley</b>	First noted 1902 [K] <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Brook Street &lt;1902-1935&gt;</li></ul>
<b>Berry and Warmington</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Seller Street &lt;1928-1935&gt;</li><li>• Delamere Street &lt;1959&gt;</li></ul>

NEW AND EXTENSIVE SHOW ROOMS,  
FOR THE DISPLAY OF  
**REGISTER GRATES AND CHIMNEY PIECES,**  
FENDERS, FIRE IRONS, AND COAL VASES,  
**KITCHEN RANGES, PATENT KITCHENERS,**

Of all makes, and the best Assortment of Kitchen and Culinary Utensils, in Copper, Iron, and Tin.  
IRON BEDSTEDS, FROM 12s. TO £8 10s., ALL SHOWN IN ONE SPACIOUS ROOM.

*Baths, Toilet Furniture, and Japanned and Paper-Mache Trays, &c.*

CUTLERY of the best quality.—First-class ELECTRO PLATE, in Cruets, Tea Services, Spoons, Forks. &c.,  
at the most moderate charges.

**EVERY DESCRIPTION OF AGRICULTURAL IMPLEMENTS,**  
IMPROVED CULTIVATORS, TURNIP AND CHAFF CUTTERS,

CORN CRUSHERS, OIL CAKE BREAKERS, ATMOSPHERIC CHURNS, CHEESE PRESSES,  
and a general Assortment of Dairy Utensils.

Cattle and Pig Troughs, Iron Pumps, Cast Iron Racks & Mangers, Garden Rolls & Chairs,  
Iron Stable Fittings, Galvanised Game Netting, Patent Lawn Mowers, and Cast Iron Spouting, for  
Farm and other Buildings.

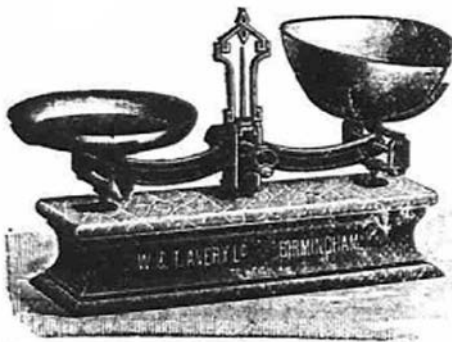
CHURCH, HALL, SHOP, CABIN, AND LAUNDRY STOVES, FITTED COMPLETE.

Sack Barrows, Weighing Machines, and the best manufactured Scales, Weights, and Measures, Nails  
Chains, and every other description of Cast and Wrought Iron Work.

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GENERAL FURNISHING IRONMONGER, &c., 157, BRIDGE STREET.

**THE CROSS, CHESTER.**



**W. & T. AVERY, LTD.,**

Have Opened NEW BRANCHES at  
125, FOREGATE-STREET, CHESTER,  
AND  
16, PEN-Y-BRYN, WREXHAM.

GROCERS, BUTCHERS & CONFECTIONERS'  
OUTFITTERS.

REPAIRS EXECUTED.

CONTRACTORS FOR THE MAINTENANCE OF ALL  
KINDS OF SCALES AND MACHINES.

¶ Advertisements from the *Cheshire Observer*,  
1856 and 1900.

*Above:* A local ironmonger's advertisement for  
'Weighing Machines and the best  
manufactured Scales, Weights, and Measures',  
1856.

*Left:* In the 1890s the management of Avery's  
specifically targetted the larger towns. This is  
an advertisement from 1900, announcing the  
opening of branches in Chester and Wrexham



MACCLESFIELD	
<b>Steel</b>	James Steel, scale maker [1857 K] <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Union Street, Dams &lt;1857&gt;</li> <li>• 51-53 Lowe Street &lt;1883&gt;.</li> </ul> Moved to Leek, Staffs by 1894.
<b>Avery</b>	First noted 1923 [K] <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 4 Stanley Street &lt;1923-1934&gt;</li> <li>• 73 Derby Street &lt;1939-1965&gt;</li> </ul>

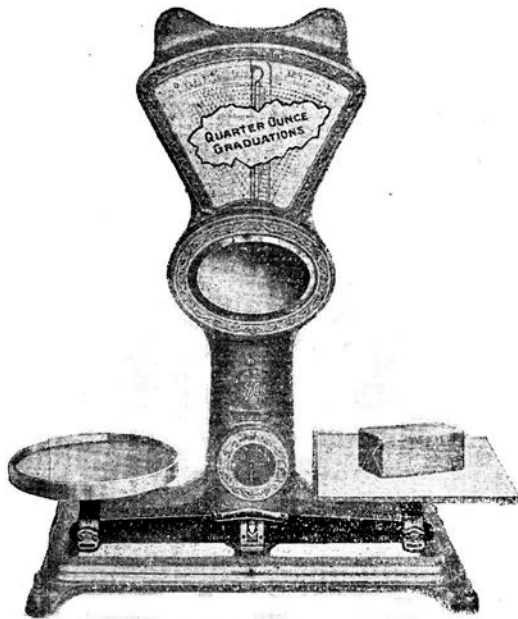
STOCKPORT	
<b>Robinson</b>	John Robinson, scale beam and weighing machine maker [1865 K], later known as J. Robinson and Sons [1883 S]. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 12 Ridgeway Lane, Middle Hillgate &lt;1865-1910&gt;</li> </ul>
<b>Widdowson</b>	Wright Widdowson, scale maker. 1910 [Hbk]. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 30 Great Portwood Road &lt;1910&gt;</li> <li>• 25 Warren Street &lt;1928-1940&gt;</li> </ul>
<b>Jackson</b>	Harry Jackson, repairer [1923 K], scale manufacturer [1928 K]. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2 Avenue Street, Portwood &lt;1928-1939&gt;</li> </ul>
<b>Avery</b>	First noted 1934 [K]. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 35a Market Place &lt;1934-35&gt;</li> <li>• Hardy's Buildings, Lancashire Hill &lt;1939-1965&gt;</li> </ul>

<b>BIRKENHEAD</b>	
<b>Lewis</b>	Joseph Lewis, scale beam maker [1865 K]. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 16 Old Chester Road, Tranmere &lt;1865-94&gt;</li> <li>• 30 Green Lane &lt;1873-96&gt;</li> </ul>
<b>Sharples</b>	George Sharples, whitesmith [1874 M], Alfred Sharples, scale maker [1894 KLB]. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 8 Union Street &lt;1874&gt;</li> <li>• 78 Gladstone Road &lt;1894&gt;</li> </ul>
<b>George</b>	Henry George, scale beam maker [1894 KLB]. William McGowan, scale repairer, also working at the same address [1894 KLB]. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 62 Market Street &lt;1894-1913&gt;</li> </ul>
<b>Avery</b>	Branch opened in 1906 [ <i>Weighing the World</i> , K] . <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 39 Argyle Street &lt;1908-1939&gt;</li> <li>• 2 Borough Road &lt;1965&gt;</li> </ul>
<b>Robinson</b>	Robinson Bros., scalemakers 1910 [Hbk]. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Market Street &lt;1910&gt;</li> </ul>
<b>Mawby</b>	Mawby and Son, repairer 1910 [Hbk]. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mouth Street &lt;1910&gt;</li> </ul>
<b>Hinson</b>	Hinson and Co., repairer 1910 [Hbk]. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 69-73 Argyle Street &lt;1910&gt;</li> </ul>
<b>Pooley</b>	First noted 1911 [Hbk]. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 26 Argyle Street &lt;1911&gt;</li> </ul>
<b>Wilding</b>	Walter Wilding, scale manufacturer [1914 K]. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1 Cambridge Road, Liscard &lt;1914&gt;</li> </ul>
<b>Berry and Warmington</b>	Branch of the Liverpool firm. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 17 Canning Street &lt;1923&gt;</li> </ul>

<b>CREWE</b>	
<b>Avery</b>	<p>First noted 1906 [K].</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 34 Oak Street, Edleston Road &lt;1906-1908&gt;</li> <li>• 47 Mill Street &lt;1914-1935&gt;</li> <li>• 1 Station Road &lt;1939-1960&gt;</li> <li>• 7 Stalybridge Road &lt;1965&gt;</li> </ul>
<b>Pooley</b>	<p>First noted 1908 [Hbk]. The first address may have been the premises formerly occupied by Samuel Stockton, the inspector from 1881 until the 1890s,</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Nantwich Road &lt;1908-1960&gt;</li> <li>• Railway Approach &lt;1923-1939&gt;</li> </ul>

ALTRINCHAM	
<b>ASCO</b>	<p>The Automatic Scale Company Ltd, in Manchester by 1916. Moved to Altrincham before 1922.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Timperly Works, Broadheath &lt;1922-1966&gt;</li> </ul> <p>Known as the <b>True Weight System</b>. Registered the trade mark ASCO in 1932. The company had many branches throughout the country: in Cheshire at Chester and Stockport. See [2], and the advertisements in [MR 30:30 and 31:11].</p> <p>Taken over by the German company Bizerba c.1960. Known as <b>ASCO-Bizerba</b> and still at the above address in 1971.</p>
<b>Hilliker</b>	<p>A.Hilliker, scale maker [1926 KMT], later known as A.Hilliker and Sons.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 46 Greenwood Street &lt;1926-1971&gt;</li> </ul>
<b>Avery</b>	<p>First noted 1959.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 36 Church St &lt;1959-1965&gt;</li> </ul>

## TRUE WEIGHT SYSTEM. EVEN ARM BEAM.



¶ Advertisement for ASCO, the Automatic Scale Company, from the Handbook of the inspectors of Weights and Measures, 1922. The company originated in the USA, but tried hard to conceal this fact.

## AUTOMATIC SCALE CO., Ltd.

Head Office and Works;  
**BROADHEATH, ALTRINCHAM, CHESHIRE.**  
 'Phone : Altrincham 1020 (2 lines). Telegrams : "Autoscale, Altrincham."  
**London Office: 16, GRAY'S INN ROAD, HOLBORN, W.C.**  
 Telephone : Holborn 6364.  
**Glasgow Office: - 133, MAINS STREET, GLASGOW.**  
 Telephone : Glasgow Douglas 1254.  
 BRANCHES AND SERVICE DEPOTS IN ALL PARTS.



<b>STALYBRIDGE</b>	
<b>Goodbrand</b>	Scale makers to the textile trades, headquarters in Manchester. Premises in Stalybridge c1920-1940.
<b>Acme</b>	Acme Scale Company, 1928 [K]. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Grasscroft Street &lt;1928-1939&gt;</li> </ul>
<b>Stalybridge</b>	Stalybridge Scale Co. Ltd., 1928 [K]. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 21 Castle Street &lt;1928-1934&gt;</li> </ul> Premises occupied by <b>Ellis Bros.</b> in 1939.
<b>Ellis</b>	Ellis Bros, scale manufacturers, 1939 [K]. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 21 Castle Street &lt;1939&gt;</li> </ul>

<b>WALLASEY</b>	
<b>Wallasey</b>	Wallasey Weighing Machine Co. [1914 K]. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 9 and 11 Burnley Street, Egremont &lt;1914&gt;.</li> </ul>

## References for Cheshire

### *Published works*

1. Norman Biggs. 'Provincial coin weights in the eighteenth century'. *British Numismatic Journal* 74 (2004) 102-120. Discusses the Chester Assay Office and the sale of money-scales and weights in the town.
2. E. Cohn and A. Rangeley. 'ASCO'. *Equilibrium* (1997:3) 2157-2160. Several illustrations of ASCO scales but sadly no information on the origins of the firm.
3. 'Personal Weighing Machines'. *Monthly Review*, 39 (1931) 196-198. Chester was the first local authority to make byelaws regarding personal weighing machines, following the Chester Corporation Act of 1929.

### *Directories*

R. Robson's Commercial Directory of ... Cheshire. [N106] 1840  
B. Bagshaw's Directory of Cheshire. [N142, ST251] 1850.  
K. Kelly's Post Office Directory of Cheshire. [ST252], 1857-1939.  
W. White's Directory of Cheshire. [ST253] 1860.  
M. Morris & Co.'s Directory of Cheshire. [ST254] 1864, 1874.  
S. Slater's Directory of ... Cheshire... . [N83, ST256] 1848, 1883, 1890.  
KLB. Kelly's Directory of Liverpool and Birkenhead [ST762] 1893-97.

### *Newspapers*

*Adam's Weekly Courant* (5 October 1773, 12 October 1773) and the *Chester News* (8 February 1774, 30 August 1774) contain advertisements for the sale of coin weights.

*The Cheshire Observer* has many reports relating to the activities of the inspectors of weights and measures in the second half of the nineteenth century.

### *Original documents*

#### *Cheshire Record Office*

CW7/1/1: Indentures for county standards, 1869 and 1879.

LBCR: Records of the Crewe WM department.

QAX/7/\* : Quarter Sessions Administration. Many documents, including QAX/7/9, notification of the appointment of Samuel Stockton in Crewe, 1881.

ZCCF/16: Papers of a special committee on Weights and Measures, 1854-55.

ZD/W/\* /\*: Records of the Chester WM department.

#### *Greater Manchester County Record Office*

1434: Documents related to Samuel Lea, a Cheshire county inspector 1893-1929.

