

- GOVERNING BODY. The bailiffs, aldermen and capital burgesses are the common Council and Governing Body of the Corporation.
A majority in number of the members of the common council are, in practice, considered necessary to constitute a meeting of the council. All acts are passed by a simple majority of the members present at any meeting.
- BYE -LAWS. The common council (the bailiffs for the time being two), are empowered by the charter to make Bye-laws for the good government of the town, and to enforce the performance of them by fines.
No collection of bye-laws exists, nor, with the exception of certain regulations respecting the driving of cattle in the streets, are any bye-laws of any practical importance considered to be now in force.
- JURISDICTION.
Criminal and Civil. Magistrates. Quarter Sessions. Petty Sessions. Civil Courts. Police. Gaol.
- The Magistrates for the Borough are, the constable of the castle and the two bailiffs.
According to the Charter, the constable of the castle and the bailiffs, or any two of them (the constable of the castle being one), have power to enquire of all "delays, defects and articles," within the town, as Justices of the Peace in England; "so nevertheless that to the enquiry, trial and determination of any treason, misprision of treason, murder, felony, or any other thing, touching the loss of life or limb" they do not proceed; and it provides that no other Justice of the county of Glamorgan shall intermeddle.
No General or Quarter Sessions appear to have been held since the year 1812; and for some time prior to that period they appear to have been rarely and irregularly held.
Petty Sessions are not regularly held, but the magistrates of the Borough meet from time to time for the despatch of business, as occasion requires.
The Charter empowers the corporation to hold a Court of Record on every Thursday in every third week before the bailiffs, for the trial of such actions as in the court of the Town aforesaid had been used and accustomed, such actions not to exceed the value of £5. in debt or damages; to be heard and determined before the bailiffs by such process and ways, as shall be consonant with the laws, and in as ample a manner and form as in any other Court of Record in England. This court has fallen completely into disuse.
The last holding of the court appears to have taken place on the 30th of August 1777.
The County Court was stated to be a good deal resorted to.
The Police Force consists of the six constables, who act when their services are required, under the direction of the Borough magistrates.
They were stated to be sufficient for all ordinary occasions.
There is a Gaol, consisting of four cells, under the Town Hall. It is used as a lock-up-house merely.
Prisoners, on committal, are sent to the county gaol.

(To be continued)

BOROUGH OF COWBRIDGE IN 1833 (CONTINUED).

CHARITIES:

The following Charity funds are under the direction of the Corporation, viz.,
The Annual rent of a tenement, comprising rather less than two acres, called Wilcox's Lands, which are let at a rack-rent of eight guineas a year; and an annual sum of 4l. in the Three per cent stocks, called Walter Williams's donation.
These sums are, according to the will of the donors, to be distributed amongst the poor of the Town of Cowbridge.
The distribution is made by the bailiffs, in the month of February every year, in small sums (for the most part under 7s) amongst the poor of the Town, without any distinction as to whether they are burgesses, or connected with the burgesses or not.

STATE OF
THE TOWN:

Population. The population of Cowbridge was:-

In 1801.	759.	
1811.	850.	
1821.	1,107.	
1831.	1,097.	(Males 627; Females 470)

Real Property Assessments. The Annual value of Real Property in 1815 was 1,792l.

The Assessed Taxes for the year 1830 were 380l.

The Parochial Assessment was for the years ending the 25th March:-

	£.	s.	d.
1825.	376.	12.	0
1829.	302.	12.	0

Houses. The number of Houses in 1830 was:-

Of 10l. and under 20l. rent.	...	45.
20l. and under 40l. rent.	...	10.
40l. and upwards.	...	1.

Parliamentary Constituency. Under the Reform Act, Cowbridge, in conjunction with Cardiff and Llantrissant, returns one Member to Parliament.

The number of electors registered for Cowbridge in 1832 was:-

Freemen.	50
10l. householders.	55
	105.

The Town is represented as rather advancing than retrograding.

There is no trade or manufacture.

It is neat and cheerful in appearance, and the public school under Dr. Williams is stated to be very flourishing.

There are no local Acts.