

A step towards respectability: **From Pub to Country House**

The 'Feast Ground' behind the George and Dragon Inn.

As Mary Jagger recounts '*Previous to the George and Dragon Inn being converted into a Working Men's Club, there was a spacious field behind the Public House which is now covered by buildings and scored by roads.*' This was the first piece of land on which cricket was played in Honley. But, as Mary Jagger goes on to say, sometime in the 1850s or 60s the land could no longer be used for cricket after '*the landlord of the "George and Dragon" Inn constructed the racecourse out of this field and those adjoining*'.

Northgate Mount.

After losing their original cricket field, the cricket players of Honley were fortunate to find a benefactor living at the local Country House. Consequently, as Mary Jagger recounts, upon the offer of a new home '*the members migrated to a large and elevated field behind Northgate Mount placed at their disposal by Mr William Brooke. Here the Club continued to flourish for a long time, until the present spacious ground was secured by Mr Brooke and other subscribers.*'