

Causes and Consequences of the Swing Riots

House of Commons Parliamentary Papers 1834

The report by the Commissioners into the disturbances, vandalism and aftermath of the Agricultural Riots and Burnings of 1830 and 1831 asked a number of questions.

Question 53 asked:

Can you give the Commissioners any information respecting the causes and consequences of the Agricultural Riots and Burning of 1830 and 1831?

Samuel Pinchin, Overseer for Box responded:

Extremely low wages and parish allowance, and a want of small portions of land to cultivate for their own benefit when not otherwise employed, From attention to these matters no Fires or Disturbances has occurred in our Parish, notwithstanding we have had sometimes 50 Men and Boys in the Winter employed on the Parish roads.