

Sundays for the purposes of worship – their distinguished peculiarity consisting in the fact of their celebrating the sacrament of the supper weekly.

Returning again to the High Street, we meet with the Savings' Bank a short way on the right. This laudable institution was established in 1817; and in 1832, the sum of £49,000 was confided to the trustees by 1609 depositors. In November, 1860, the numbers availing themselves of this eligible mode of investing their savings had increased to 4,872 persons, and the amount so deposited nearly reached to £133,980 [1st ed.: 1858, 4,260, £120,000]. The Post Office, rendered conspicuous by its gilded lamp and flight of steps leading up to the doorway, closely adjoins the Bank for Savings, and should our visitor have business there, he will be certain of meeting with civility.

The manufacture of the fabric known as plush now demands a passing notice. At the top of High Street, fronting the open space where the sheep fair is held, there is a low gateway leading to a court where this branch of industry is chiefly carried on. Many a strapping footman has mounted the box proud of those crimson inexpressibles which were woven here, and many a sturdy carter has fancied himself somebody, when sporting his figure in a new plush vest. The embossed patterns of this material are truly ornamental, and under the name of Utrecht velvet, this description of fabric is extensively used for the covering of sofas and couches. Few of their possessors have the most remote idea that they are indebted to Banbury for the glossy substance on which they recline, or that it is made of the mohair of the Turkish goat, which takes a more brilliant colouring and is of more enduring wear than any other ordinary materials. The manufacture gives employment to about two hundred persons.