

# KIDDAL 1639

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## Introduction

Kiddal is a Hamlet in the parish of Barwick-in-Elmet. About 11 km northeast of Leeds, it is located at the intersection of the road (Potterton Lane, which becomes Kiddal Lane) running north from Barwick-in-Elmet and the road (now the A64) running east from Leeds through Seacroft. The seat of the Kiddell family, Kiddell Hall, is just west of the hamlet, where John Taylor stayed at a local alehouse. Taylor was probably there on Monday, September 2: he left Cawood after breakfast that day, travelled to York where he spent less than three hours, and then, after dinner, proceeded via Tadcaster to Kiddal.

Taylor (1578-1653) was the author of at least seventy-five books and pamphlets that are extant, several of which document his travels throughout England and Europe. He dubbed himself 'the water poet' because he was a member of London's company of Boatmen and worked on the Thames transporting people across the river. This employment relied on the traffic of theatre-goers attending plays on the south bank. Given the importance of this traffic to his livelihood, Taylor led the (ultimately unsuccessful) opposition to the effort to move theatrical activity to indoor theatres north of the Thames.

## Records

1639

**John Taylor** *Part of this Summers Travels*      *STC: 23783; Bodleian, Wood 155 (2)*  
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...

From *Yorke* I rode after Dinner to *Tadcaster*, and so to a place called *Kidell*, where at a poore Ale-house I was glad of entertainment, and had the company of a Tinker who made pretty Musique with his *Banbury* Kettle-drum, there was also with him

two Drovers and 35 Hogs, which were to be driven on the morrow seven miles further to *Leeds* Market, this good lodging and company, I past the night with all, and on the morrow I road to the Town of *Leeds*; ...

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### Document Description

John Taylor, *Part of this Summers Travels*

Part of this Sum-| mers Travels,| or NEWS| from *Hell, Hull, and Hallifax,*| from *York, Linne, Leicester,*| *Chester, Coventry, Lichfield,*| *Nottingham,* and the *Divells Ars a Peake.*| With many pleasant passages,| worthy your observation| and reading.| By *John Taylor.*| Imprinted by J. O. *STC: 23783* (undated). Bodleian Library shelfmark: Wood 155 (2).