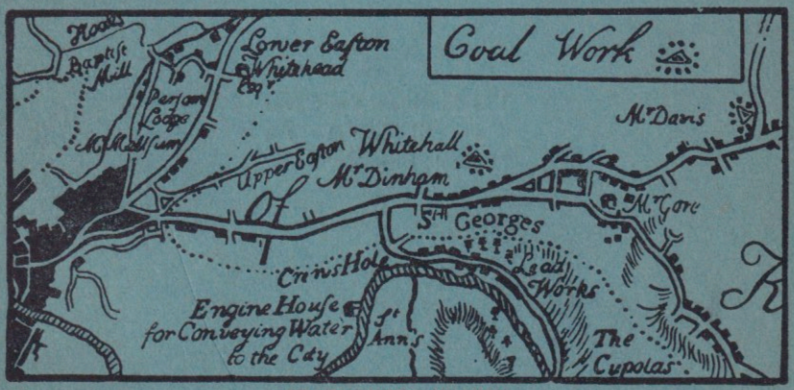
Houses and People of Old St George.

FURTHER RECORDS OF A BRISTOL PARISH

By WM. T. SANIGAR.
Author of ST. GEORGE'S IN THE EAST.



ST. GEORGE'S IN 1769.

BRISTOL.
Printed by JEFFERIES, SONS & CO., Baldwin St.
And Published by
WM. T. SANIGAR, 205 Avon Vale Rd., Barton Hill, Bristol, 5.
1936.

Price 1/6. Post Free 1/8.

The Block on the Cover
was kindly lent by the
"Bristol Evening Post."

By the same Author

"SAINT GEORGE'S IN THE EAST"

Records of a Bristol District

"Delightful little book. Will probably be a much prized possession of collectors. A very notable addition to our Bristol records."—*Western Daily Press.*

"Pen pictures painted from historical facts in a most entertaining manner. A story written round the past glories and history of St. George."—*Evening World.*

"He appears to have gone to original documentary evidence for his information, and he has written in a pleasant conversational style which carries the reader along with him in his tour of St. George's."—*Times and Mirror.*

"A charming little book which should be in the hands of everyone interested in St. George. We are glad that the writer has put the results of his search in a readable form suitable to old and young, and encourage him to publish more of the truth he has sifted from the many unreliable stories that are told about our locality."—*The Georgian.*

"A real good piece of research work, and makes an interesting and instructive booklet. It should be in all the East Bristol Schools."—F. Pickles, Esq., M.A., *former Headmaster of St. George Secondary School.*

"Mr. Sanigar brings to the district in which he was educated something of the romance and glamour of the past. I hope this little book will find its way into very many homes."—A. E. White, Esq., B.A., B.Sc., *Old Georgian; Principal of the Technical College, Shrewsbury.*

1/2d. post free from:

Wm. T. SANIGAR,

205 Avon Vale Road, Barton Hill, Bristol 5.

Houses and People of Old St. George

by

WM. T. SANIGAR

To

ARTHUR TREBILCO,

than whom none has a deeper interest

in any matter relating to

Old St. George.

INTRODUCTION.

THE SCHOOLS OF 1800

At the close of the Eighteenth Century almost the only opportunities for education afforded to the children of the labouring classes in Bristol were the Charity Schools, the purpose of which (to quote the exact words of the authorities) was to instruct and educate the children " in such useful branches of literature as will prepare and fit them for that state of servitude for which the Providence of God seems to have intended them." The attendance at the Charity School in St. George's parish was 100 on week days and 230 on Sundays; and an idea of the extent and quality of the instruction given may be formed from the information that for the year 1796 the total expenditure, including the salaries of the mistress and masters, cost of books, advertisements, printing, cleaning, heating, lighting, renovations and repairs, was only £88, which the management somehow contrived to reduce by a quarter in succeeding years.

This, fortunately, does not represent the whole state of education at that time, for there were ample facilities for the children of those who could pay. Bristol was ringed round with capacious houses in large and pleasant grounds, which were eminently suitable as schools for boarding a select number of scholars. Such establishments were found at Bedminster, Barton Hill, Arno's Vale, St. George, Easton, Kingsdown—all of which, though well out in the country at that time, were near the turnpike roads and so within easy reach of the town.

At such schools the girls (like the Miss Bertrams in Jane Austen's *Mansfield Park*, chapter 2) learned to repeat " the chronological order of the kings of England, with all the dates of their accession, and most of the principal events of their reigns, and of the Roman emperors; besides a great deal of the heathen mythology, and all the metals, semi-metals, planets, and dis-

tinguished philosophers," to which was added all the other accomplishments and graces then considered necessary in young ladies.

The boys were more fortunate, for their schools were sometimes owned by men of high attainments who, with their assistants, afforded a real ground-work for a classical, commercial, and professional education. In St. George's parish there was a number of such establishments, and it is the purpose of this little book not especially to detail the system of education in each, but rather to show what has been found concerning either the houses themselves, or the people—schoolmasters and others—who occupied them.

CONTENTS

WHITEHALL HOUSE

THE DAVISES OF WHITEHALL

REDFIELD HOUSE

AIR BALLOON SCHOOLS

AIR BALLOON SCHOOLS

I. Early Ballooning

About Air Balloon House there is little of exceptional interest beyond its situation and its name, but it is worthy of consideration because of these alone.

In 1783, the year so productive in experiments and successes in aeronautics, Stephen and Joseph Montgolfier astounded vast crowds in France when they burned straw and wool beneath silken bags, thus inflating them with heated air and actually causing them to leave the earth! The news of such a wonder spread across the Channel to England, and enthusiastic experimenters quickly tried their hands here. Very soon the talk everywhere was of the problem of the guidance of balloons, the control of balloons, the passenger-carrying possibilities of balloons, the question of the future use in commerce and in war of balloons. In short, balloons were in everybody's mouth, so to speak. A cluster of cottages then being built in Wilder Street was christened *Balloon Court;* the famous Bush Inn in Corn Street started a "balloon" coach to London; and we are told that balloons figured on crockery, glasses, handkerchiefs, fans, head-dresses, clock faces, and tokens.

Imagine the excitement then, when at 3 o'clock on Saturday afternoon, January 10, 1784, a balloon was seen to be descending on the high ground in St. George! Two had been liberated from Bath at 12 o'clock the same day by Dr. Parry and Mr. Dinwiddie. The fate of the doctor's is unknown, but the other had the distinction of coming down in St. George. It was one of the first balloons ever seen in this country, and the impression the event made can be gauged from the fact that the place became known, and is still known, as *Air Balloon Hill.*

After this a balloon was a sight not to be missed, and a forthcoming ascent was widely known and long talked of, and the great day saw thousands of people pouring into Bristol at every point from the surrounding villages and towns.

II. Bencken's Grammar School

Close to this spot in St. George where Dinwiddie's balloon came down, a Mr. Bencken opened an establishment six months later, which he named *Balloon House Grammar School*, where he "plentifully boarded and genteely educated" the sons of the gentry in writing, arithmetic, book-keeping, English grammar, Greek, Latin, French and drawing—all for what would seem to us nowaday the pitifully low charge of twelve guineas per annum. The school seems to have survived for about fifteen years, for in 1800 there was advertised "a Dwelling House on an eminence, near the turn-pike road from Bristol to Bath, near the Church," which was recommended as "well calculated for a Boarding School, having been an established one for the last 15 years."

III. The Council School

More than a hundred years after Bencken's time a school with a different curriculum, for a different type of scholar, was built near the House. This is Air Balloon Council School, opened in July 1905. The number of scholars in Bencken's school probably did not exceed thirty, but the present Air Balloon School accommodates more than a thousand.

Sources

Printed	*Location*
Bristol Directories 1793-1800	Reference Library, Bristol
Bristol Newspapers	,, ,,
Latimer's *Annals*, XVIII	,, ,,

SUMMER HILL SCHOOL

SUMMER HILL HOUSE

I. The School of Keith and his Successors

The most prominent of the boarding-schools of old Saint George was opened about a hundred and thirty years ago at Summer Hill House, which was thereafter continuously used as a boarding-school for over half a century, during the last thirty years of which it achieved considerable reputation locally and beyond Bristol.

The first reference to it is in connection with the Rev. D. Keith, A.M. (often styled Dr. Keith), who had a somewhat checkered career flitting about from place to place establishing and abandoning schools. His first appearance is in 1797, in which year he kept Prospect Place Academy, Church Lane, St. Michael's Hill—an institution which later became highly esteemed under the able management of George Pocock, a man of boundless energy, a capable master, clear writer, convincing speaker; an inventor, preacher, benefactor to schools and religious missions, in St. George and other benighted Gloucestershire districts, founder of one of the earliest (perhaps the first) organised Old Boys' Societies, father of an interesting and intellectual family, and grandfather of the renowned cricketer, W. G.

This school, even before Pocock's advent, seems to have been a prosperous business employing four assistants, three of whom resided *en famille*. Keith left it about the year 1800, and moved to the Rectory House, Kelston. He immediately opened another boarding-school there, and it was his proud boast that in it he instructed the Hon. John Cochrane and the sons of the Right Hon. Lord Dorchester. His reign at Kelston was, however, a short one, for he was obliged by the Clergy Residence Act to give up the Rectory and school. He removed to Summer Hill House, which he fitted up and opened as a

boarding-school in January 1804. He seems to have met with immediate success at St. George, for he tells us that in his very first year it became necessary to enlarge the premises—probably by erecting an annexe in the grounds. In spite of this, his stay here, as at his two previous schools, was not a long one; and in 1808, with "a heart overflowing with the warmest gratitude and attachment to his friends for their unbounded confidence for near twelve years in this country," he gave his blessing to a brother clergyman, the Rev. Henry Wood, a graduate of Oxford and late master of the Free School at Milton Abbas, Dorset, who was to succeed him at Michaelmas.

Wood's reign was shorter even than Keith's; and in 1810 all the paraphernalia of the school was advertised for sale. Thereupon, the actual owner of the premises (who seems by this time to have tired of all this coming and going) offered the house and grounds for sale, laying stress upon the salubrity of the air, the size of the premises, and the delightful views from them, which circumstances rendered them eminently suitable for conversion into a lodging-house (which he thought was badly needed in the neighbourhood), or into a factory, or even into three separate dwelling-houses, each with its own garden.

But a school it had been, and a school it was fated to remain for many years. In 1813 the property was purchased by Nicholas Webber Jones, who had previously kept a school at Wellington. He tried it for a few years, but it was later relinquished in favour of a Mr. Wragge. Wragge was ambitious. His terms were thirty guineas a year, with the usual extras for music, drawing, etc., and French and Spanish were super extras at four guineas each. Like his predecessor, he did not survive many years. A Mr. Banwell next tried it, and he reigned from 1823 to 1828.

II. The Curriculum under Stone

But a period of real prosperity was at hand, for seven years later John Stone came to Bristol and almost immediately raised the School to such a position of importance that it ranked with the best of its kind within a wide area. Dr. Stone (as he afterwards became) seems to have been a man of high intellectual attainments and marked ability as a teacher. He had been engaged as assistant at several celebrated private schools. He taught in the school of the noted Rev. Dr. Lemprière, author of the well-known classical dictionary, and in that of the Rev. T. R. Hooker, D.D., of Rottingdean, Brighton, who bequeathed Stone his favourite Bible, all his classical books, and two hundred guineas with the regret that it was not two thousand. Stone brought with him to Summer Hill many excellent testimonials to his scholarship and teaching abilities—from his former employers, from parents of scholars, and from old pupils themselves. Edward Goulburn wrote thanking him for the education and happiness of his boys while Stone was at Hooker's. One of these boys—Rev. E. M. Goulburn—afterwards became Headmaster of Rugby. A letter from Sir Benjamin Brodie, surgeon to the late King, etc., etc., thanked Stone for his attention to "my dear boys" at Hooker's. The Hon. Octavius Duncombe, M.P. for Yorkshire, and the Hon. and Rev. Augustus Duncombe (both sons of Lord Feversham) warmly commended Stone for his care of them while they were students at Rottingdean.

When Stone took over Summer Hill House, at Midsummer of 1835, there were only sixteen pupils, whom he taught alone. But not for long. Three years later the *Bristol Gazette* recorded an event in the school. This was the gift of a valuable silver inkstand bearing a plate inscribed: "Presented by the Assistants and Pupils of Summer Hill School to Mr. J. Stone,

as an expression of their esteem and attachment towards him, as a Master and a Friend. Nov. 22, 1838." A newspaper advertisement said that he then had seven masters, seven professors, and an average of one hundred boarders. He issued a prospectus, which included a coloured lithograph of the school and grounds, described as situated on a moderate eminence, on the great valley of the Avon; a spot eminently distinguished for the salubrity of its air (a feature which he got several well-known local doctors to certify), the beauty of its scenery, and the extensive view commanded.

Stone had erected in the grounds a suite of school-rooms 63 feet by 28, with a patent heating apparatus, and used also an isolation cottage for cases of illness.

The course of education embraced preparation for the Universities, the Public Schools, the Professions, Naval and Military Colleges, Civil Engineering, and the various departments of Commercial and Agricultural pursuits. The curriculum showed rather more than the range of subjects usual in such a school. Indeed, a measure of Stone's pronounced success seems to be explained by the fact that he added a number of subjects not hitherto to be acquired in a boarding-school, but which were then engaging earnest attention; and also that for his instructors he secured men of practical knowledge and marked ability in their subjects. For example, his visiting drawing-master was Marcus Henry Holmes, a Royal Academy Exhibitor and tutor to the Countess Eugénie di Montigo, who afterwards became Empress of France. Holmes is more fully considered in a later section. Another master was a civil engineer with great experience in land surveying, who had taken active part under the celebrated Brunel in the formation of the new local railway. He taught land surveying, levelling, mapping; and Stone says he had never heard of such being taught in any other school.

At the Christmas Examination and Exhibition, 1839, there were displayed some very beautiful plans of estates, measured and mapped according to the demands of the Tithe Commissioners—" from actual survey made," declaimed young Richard Jefferies in a rhymed prologue to the proceedings,

> not from mere rules,
> As is the system commonly in schools;
> For 'tis our master's principle and plan
> To blend both theory and practice when he can.

There was also a Master of a man-of-war, who besides the theory of navigation taught also the principal part of the practice—the taking of observations, determination of latitudes, working of the chronometer, clearing the distances between the sun and moon, etc.—instruction that was never given in any other school in the neighbourhood.

It was about this time, too, that Mainzer, the German singing master, musician and composer, was touring the continent. News of his successes spread over England, and an earnest invitation to Bristol was sent him. He arrived in 1842, and all Bristol, high and low, was immediately set a-singing. The method he taught was called variously the Mainzerian system, congregational singing, and singing for the million. The underlying theory was that after a few lectures the art of reading music aloud could be acquired in a very short time by a multitude at once if there were some proficients among them; and that, from the tendency to imitation, numbers would rather help than impede progress. Bristol's largest halls were packed to the roof to sing with Mainzer; and, under teachers approved by him, classes were held in many parts of the town. Here was another opportunity not to be missed by Stone. Believing vocal music to be an accomplishment of the highest order, and that it aided

in the promotion of pure religion, he early secured Mainzer's services in his School to introduce his system of singing, to be carried out under his direction by an able professor, "so that in future every boy in my school will be taught to sing, as well as to read and write." At the half-yearly Examination and Exhibition in 1842, the year of Mainzer's visit to Bristol, several choruses were sung by the whole school "in such a pleasing manner as left no doubt in the minds of the hearers of the excellence of this system of collective singing." Thus we see that St. George was one of the first places in Bristol, and in England, to adopt this mass singing. The custom, or something very much like it, has in recent years been revived under the name *community singing*.

Stone drew some of his pupils from the neighbourhood, and on his registers he had typical old St. George names such as Stone, Jefferies, Fussell, Bateman, Brain. He also had entrusted to his care the sons of officials residing abroad; and he gained such a reputation for his school that he was able to dictate high terms, so that a father anxious for his lad to benefit by an education in St. George had to be prepared for a bill of about a hundred guineas per annum—a sum to be carefully considered —if he required the fullest instruction and accommodation that Summer Hill afforded.

A prospectus gives a woodcut view of the hall at the public Examination at Christmas, 1845. Huddled together at the back of the rostrum is seen a fearful group of competitors, clad in their Sunday coats, tight in the waist, but with ample, bell-like skirts, awaiting the ordeal. Near the front is one of their fellows, declaiming with outstretched arms to a group of judges and a body of admiring relatives and friends.

The School was then in its hey-day. It was comfortable, well equipped, well staffed, well filled. It had for its Head

a man of education and enthusiasm, with a joy in his scholars and his School. He had given Jones £1,200 for the premises. He was receiving seemingly from two to three thousand pounds a year in fees, and the expenses of the School were £100 a month. So he might easily have regained his outlay on the premises and had within reach a good living and a competence to retire on. But he began and continued to spend money on his School. He erected an imposing new entrance, with specially designed lamps, and a capacious detached school-room fitted up with gallery and class-rooms; and the accommodation included dormitories, refectories, and general apartments for himself, his family, assistants, and a hundred pupils. The total cost reached £3,000 in addition to the original outlay. Matters might otherwise have gone well; but they crashed.

It has been suggested that the competition of Clifton College caused the collapse of the School. But it failed seven years before the College was opened, and five years before it was even mooted. The real cause was over-much enthusiasm, insufficient capital, little business acumen. It became known that Stone was no man of affairs, but that he had an ever-living, fervent desire for the betterment more and more of his scholars and his School, and he fell a prey to unscrupulous tradesmen. By 1847 he was in straitened circumstances and began to accept bills which were renewed time after time to the no small advantage of the drawers. For three bills of £100 each he deposited his title deeds with one tradesman, who charged £5 per cent. every three months, and those bills were renewed for years on these terms. That is one instance only. His bill book showed the rapid increase of such dealings till in February 1855, a single month, his bill transactions exceeded £900. There could be but one end. He called his creditors together and offered them 7/6 in the pound if they would allow him to continue the School in the hope of paying in full. The great majority agreed, but a few

would not. Jones took possession of the premises, and bankruptcy followed. In delivering judgment his Honour said it would have been in the best interests of the creditors if they had let him continue. There was no evidence of Stone's having contracted debts fraudently, but there was strong evidence in favour of his fair dealing. He had always studiously and honourably met his acceptances; and, although he had been accustomed to receive only half the amount, not one bill had ever been dishonoured. His Honour made it quite clear that some of the creditors appeared against Stone with hands far from clean, and added: "It seems to have been his attention to his scholars which prevented his exercising due diligence and taking care of his own affairs."

Stone's effects were sold in May 1855, and the School and two houses near were advertised for sale in September. Accompanied by only one of his seven resident masters and seven visiting professors from Summer Hill House, John Stone, L L.D., Fellow of the Royal College of Preceptors, London, opened a small school in Stoke's Croft, and later in King Square, the terms of which were five guineas a year.

III. The Reign of Mrs. Sanderson

Summer Hill House was afterwards used as a school for young ladies by Mrs. Sanderson, who came from a similar establishment at West Leaze House, Long Ashton. She occupied it from about 1859 to 1863, afterwards re-opening her school at Berkeley Square, and later at Redland Hill House.

IV. The End of the School

In 1865 Nicholas Webber Jones tried to let "those well known premises called Summer Hill House, extensively and expensively enlarged and improved a few years since by Dr.

Stone." Two years later he advertised it to be let or sold, at a rent of £70 or purchase price £1,000, describing it as "extensive premises so long favourably known as Summer Hill School, two miles from Bristol on the upper road to Bath, having a good frontage to two turnpike roads." The grounds, he said, were then twenty-nine acres in extent, beautifully timbered and forming a complete park; and that there were extensive greenhouses, a vinery, coach-house, stabling, etc., and in a secluded part of the grounds a farmhouse with all the requisite buildings, conveniently arranged. It must have been one of the most compact little estates in the parish.

Sources

Printed	*Location*
Bristol Directories	Central Library, Bristol
Bristol Guide, 1842	,, ,,
Bristol Newspapers, 1797-1865	,, ,,
Prospectus of Summer Hill Academy, 1852	,, ,,

WRITERS AND PAINTERS OF OLD ST. GEORGE.

I. THE EMRA FAMILY

1. Rev. John Emra.
2. The Country Parson's Daughters

II. THE HOLMES FAMILY

1. The Holmes Ancestry—Sir Robert Holmes, Admiral John Holmes, Banker
2. George Holmes, Artist

III. THE EMRA-HOLMES ALLIANCE

1. Marcus Holmes and Elizabeth Emra
2. Descendants

I. THE EMRA FAMILY

1. The Rev. John Emra

1. A hundred and twenty-three years ago there came to live in old St. George a lady whose maiden name was Elizabeth Bastone Blake. She was a descendant of that renowned admiral and general Robert Blake, "as skilful and resolute on land as he was on the ocean," who defended Prior's Hill Fort, Bristol, in 1643, and ten years later achieved a brilliant victory over the fleet of Van Tromp.

The lady had married a young clergyman, John Emra, who was appointed to the vicarage of St. George in 1809. The conscientious care of a poor, vast, and scattered parish left but scant leisure, but such as John Emra had he employed in writing and painting. Painting he especially loved. Only a few months before his death he took great delight, when he was well enough, in retouching a landscape he had drawn some years before; and when he knew that his days were numbered he called for his books and drawings and pictures and inscribed them in his beautiful writing with the names of his friends. He died at the Vicarage in 1842 at the age of 73. In the words of the Rev. John Hall, who preached an obituary sermon in St. George's Church, "he walked before you for thirty-three years as a minister of the gospel of Christ"; and the name of that "meek, benevolent, and gifted Country Parson," as a layman described him, was held in affectionate remembrance in the parish long after its owner was laid to rest.

In 1844, two years after his death, was published *The Second Temple, a Dramatic Poem* by John Emra, B.A. Vicar of Kingswood.

2. He, and his children, and his children's children, and their children, unto the fourth and present generation, loved and still love the pencil, brush and pen.

A friend of his daughter Frances says that she was possessed of a tender and delicate imagination; that when she painted, it was no violent standard of "high art" that she emulated, for she was always true to nature; and even in her embroideries of needle-work it was the same; she could by no means make a servile copy, but always originated her own charming designs from the wild flowers that were blossoming at her door. Her niece records that by her painting and fine needle-work she actually built two infant schools in her native parish. One of the treasured possessions of Marcus Holmes, a relation of the family, himself an artist, is two sketch books of charming water-colours by Frances Emra. A collection of her verses, with a memoir, was printed for private circulation in 1890. In this volume she is said to have had a passionate love for the poor, and a sort of divine compassion that beautified her face, made her daily life one of personal self-denial that bordered on asceticism which no-one could mitigate—because whatever was devised for her to that end found its ultimate destiny elsewhere. The book is fittingly entitled *Frances Emra. A Succourer of Many.*

Among John Emra's children were two other daughters whose literary work brought them into local prominence. One of Lucy's productions was *Things New and Old, or Recollection of a District Visitor*, a little volume of poems and sketches descriptive of St. George's parish and people. The quality of her verses may be judged from the following extract, which depicts the scenery between St. Anne's and her father's church:

Art cannot spread the vale, or arch the skies,
Or wind the stream, or bid the hills arise.
This nature's hand hath done: a lovely scene
Lies southward; hills, and dales, and pastures green;
Close to the churchyard, nearest to the view,
The home-field, with its elm-tree avenue,
The fields of corn, the hill's uncultured side,
And Somerset's deep woods and vallies wide:
Well loves the eye unwearied still to trace,
At morn and evening hour, each well-known place.

She also published *Attempts at Sketching* (1846), which comprises prose descriptions of places visited on sketching tours, and occasional verses on various themes. Another volume was *A Sister's Record*, being memoirs of Elizabeth Emra.

Elizabeth herself had the pen of a ready writer. She contributed lines to *Forget-Me-Not*, one of the elegant annuals appearing in her time. Among her little volumes of prose and verse is an anonymous one which, however, stands up far above the rest—*Scenes in our Parish, By a Country Parson's Daughter.* It excited considerable attention at the time, and brought an affectionate letter from Bowles and the honour of a visit from Southey, who expressed the delight with which he had read this little book. It is worthy of attention even in these days, especially so because of the disappearance of some of the landmarks mentioned in it. It treats of the simple manners and every-day events of a very poor parish. It is a delightful collection of anecdotes told by the daughter of a God-fearing home, whose life has been largely circumscribed by visits of sympathy to Old Hetty or Blind Sam; who has seldom wandered far from the Vicarage garden; whose great event of the year has been the Whitsuntide procession of school children, and her most adventurous expedition a ride in a farmer's cart to a distant

part of the parish. Yet these poor little diversions are described with a simplicity, and withal a literary charm, that make them a delight even after the lapse of a hundred years; a delight not only to one who knows the parish now and has lingering recollection of what it once was, but—a supreme test of quality this—to him also who knows not St. George's now, nor has ever heard of its past estate. This little book is not known as it deserves to be. It should be sought and read by everyone in St. George who professes an interest in his parish.

II. The Holmes Family

1. The Holmes Ancestry.—Sir Robert Holmes, Admiral John Holmes, Banker

While the Country Parson and his daughters employed their leisure with pencil, brush, and pen in their quiet country home in the suburbs, George Holmes was painting good water-colours and finding extensive employment in the neighbouring city as a highly capable drawing-master. It is claimed for him that he was a descendant of Sir Robert Holmes, Admiral of the Fleet in the time of Charles II., who is mentioned over and over again in Pepys's diary. Sir Robert Holmes was given a command in the squadron under Prince Rupert in 1649-50; and it was he who in 1664 reduced the Dutch African Settlements, taking the town of Niew Amsterdam, which Charles II. granted to his brother, the Duke of York, in whose honour it received its present name New York.

There appears to be some warrant for the descent of the drawing-master from the Admiral. A present member of the Holmes family possesses the seal of John Holmes, the Dublin

banker, engraved with the Holmes arms; and a ring with an intaglio of Charles I. and an inscription stating that it was presented by Charles II. to Sir Robert Holmes the Admiral. The descent is traced back through John Holmes the banker by way of the Admiral's nephew. This nephew was afterwards made Lord Kilmallock; and in 1730 George II. granted a pension of £300 per annum to Edmond Lord Kilmallock.

2. George Holmes, Artist

2. George Holmes, the artist, was born in Dublin about the year 1776. We learn from his grandson, Emra Holmes, that he was educated at White's Grammar School with the Duke of Wellington, Curran, Sheridan, and Tom Moore. He was a gifted water-colour artist, and wielded also an able pen. There is to his credit a volume entitled *Sketches of Some of the Southern Counties of Ireland, Collected During a Tour in the Autumn of* 1797. It is a well written book in the form of a series of letters descriptive of Irish characters and scenery, and is illustrated with reproductions of some of his sketches which form very early examples of lithography.

"When the chivalry of Ireland, peasant and peer, formed that famous army of Volunteers, George Holmes had the honour of being one of the units which made up that noble hundred thousand. About the year 1796 he married a young lady from Kilkenny. It was during one of these periods of bloodshed that a body was borne past the door of their house, during the absence of George Holmes on duty, which his young wife feared was that of her husband, who was uninjured. But the shock so alarmed her that her nervous system suffered in consequence, and the doctors advised her removal to England. George Holmes, therefore, bade adieu to his loved native land, and went to Bristol about 1802, where his son Marcus was born in the following year. His wife dying soon after, he removed for a few years to London. Returning to Bristol he

ultimately settled there in 1808 and married a Miss Anstey of Devizes, who bore him three children, George, Annie and Mary. George became a physician, and emigrated to Canada. Annie also went to Canada, where she married Mr. Justice John Philpot Curran. At the solicitation of these children, in 1850 their father joined them in Canada, where he ended his days.

The Permanent Collection of the Bristol Art Gallery contains one of his water-colours, 18½ x 12½, entitled "View Near Blaize Castle"; and his merit can also be judged from numerous examples of his work preserved in the Braikenridge Collection, both at the Museum and the Central Reference Library, Bristol.

III. The Emra-Holmes Alliance

1. Marcus Holmes and Elizabeth Emra

1. We have seen that George Holmes's son by his first marriage was born in Bristol on 5th May, 1803. He was baptized "Marcus" after one of the Beresford family, and Lady Araminta Monk (another of the Beresfords) was his godmother. The lad was sent to school under Reverend M. Nash at Bourton, and afterwards under Rev. Dr. Goodenough at the Bristol Grammar School. While he was at Bourton his talent in drawing declared itself in a good portrait which this lad of ten entitled "Old Philip, the Cakeman at our School." In 1823 he was admitted a student in the "Antique School" of the Royal Academy, where he studied under Fuselli. He later won the silver palette of the Society of Arts for the best drawing from still life. At the exhibition of the Society of British Artists in London, 1826, he exhibited two pictures, "The New Ballad" and "Cottager's Sabbath." The Bristol Society of

Artists held an exhibition in the Institution, Park Street, in 1832 when he showed four pictures. A local paper commented: "By far the greater portion of the pictures possess strong claims to attention. . . There are some good portraits by Holmes"—one of which was of Captain Charles Bowen, R.N., of Henbury. Holmes also exhibited "Labour in Vain" at the Royal Academy in 1833. In 1839 at the exhibition of the Bristol Society of Artists he showed an extremely picturesque "Interior of Culbone Church," and "A Collier," a genus whose begrimed visage and blackened habiliments must have been a familiar sight to him during his ten years' residence in the coal-mining parish of St. George. He was a fellow member of the Bristol Academy with the Branwhites, Muller, Curnock, Copner, Jackson, and other artists of the Bristol School.

A Branwhite (probably Nathan) received pupils at Moorfields House, and others of this little coterie had more than once been to St. George. The fine views of valley and wooded slope northward of the Church had not escaped them. Elizabeth Emra tells us that Bird and Danby lingered among these scenes and immortalised them. We know, too, that the sweep of the Avon about Conham attracted E. G. Muller, W. J. Muller, and Charles Branwhite, and that a picture of this spot came from the easel of each. It is unlikely that such visitors were missed by the Country Parson's daughters, whose prose and verse show their knowledge of almost every incident and spot in the parish. It was probably thus that they first encountered Marcus Holmes, who was eventually introduced into the Vicarage by their brother John.

A deep and lasting friendship resulted, and Marcus Holmes and Elizabeth Emra were married in July 1833. The first part of their married life was spent in a house so close to the

Vicarage garden that, describing the spot in one of her poems, the wife says:

> The shadow of my father's trees
> Falls on my husband's home.

There, in St. George's parish, Marcus Holmes, Royal Academy exhibitor, lived and painted and taught for ten years. His home was near that " home-field, with its elm-tree avenue " mentioned in the extract from *Things New and Old*. The house still stands in Harvey's Lane, and still bears the name *Homefield*.

In December 1842 he moved with his wife and five children to Westbury Hill. A personal friend of Holmes has left it on record that here he was no stranger, but well remembered and held in high regard for his active piety there in former years as a member of the Parochial Visiting Society, and as an attentive and popular teacher in the Adult School established for the quarry-men and donkey-boys of Durdham Down—honorary work for which he sacrificed much of a well-earned evening leisure after a hard day's walking and teaching.

His beloved partner died in October 1843, ten months after their removal to Westbury. Holmes himself survived till 1854, when he was suddenly seized with paralysis and thereby disabled from the labours he had for many years pursued with an excess of zeal, under which he prematurely sank. He retired to Minehead, where some of his early life had been spent, and in the beautiful neighbourhood of which he had sketched many a rustic scene. His last message, conveyed by signs when he had no longer the power to speak, was that two or three of his drawings should be given towards a collection for the relief of brother artists similarly afflicted to himself. He breathed his last at Minehead on 21st January 1854.

2. Descendants

2. One of the Holmes children, Elizabeth, married Canon E. B. Brackenbury, of Bristol. A second, Henry Marcus, became a judge in the United States. Another son (born in the summer of 1839, while his mother was on holiday at Cleve, Glos.) was Emra Holmes, Collector of Customs in Fowey, a distinguished freemason, brilliant lecturer, and author of *Tales, Poems, and Masonic Papers* (1877), *Amabel Vaughan and Other Tales* (1879), *The Lady Muriel and Other Tales* (1886).

Of this Emra Holmes there were three sons (great-grandsons of the Rev. John Emra, Vicar of St. George)—Emra Holmes, Marcus Holmes, and Robert Blake Worsley Holmes. Emra Holmes is a flourishing land-agent in Scotland. Under the pseudonym "Dark Horse" he has written *Hunt Sketches*, a series of scenes and incidents while following the fox, and word pictures of some of the followers and supporters of the George Fitzwilliam hounds.

The second son, Marcus Holmes, A.R.W.A., N.S.A.M., etc., is an artist, like his grandfather the first Marcus, and an Oxford Extension Lecturer in Art. He studied under Sir Hubert von Herkomer, R.A., and held the scholarship at that school. Mr. Holmes's work has been exhibited at the Paris salons, and for many years at the West of England Academy.

Colonel Robert Blake Worsley Holmes, O.B.E., was an engineer with a wide experience in the construction of foreign railways and docks. During the Great War he was mentioned in despatches, and received the Order of the British Empire, 1918. Two years later he was awarded the order of the Nahda (third class) by H.M. King Hussein of the Hijaz, for services in connection with the re-opening of 429 miles of railway on the frontier of Transjordania and the Hijaz. He was

the subject of a portrait and article in *Modern Transport*, July 16, 1927. Colonel Holmes retired a few years ago from the post of Director General of Railways and Docks in Palestine. He died in 1931.

The prose writing of the Emra sisters of old St. George is admirable work. It has a real beauty that entitles it to be termed "poetry though not verse," and is highly superior to any verse they wrote. For its poet the family has had to wait for Cyril Emra, a fourth great-grandson of the Vicar of St. George, through his son John. Cyril Emra is the author of a volume entitled *The Love Song of Tristram and Iseult, and Other Poems*. This work far transcends any of the verse his ancestors wrote. It is real poetry.

Sources

Printed	*Location*
Bristol Directories, 1808-53	Bristol Reference Library
Bristol Newspapers 1813-66	,, ,,
Elizabeth Emra: *Scenes in Our Parish*	,, ,,
Lucy Emra: *A Sister's Record*	,, ,,
Royal Academy Exhibitors, 1769-1904	,, ,,

Unprinted

Biographical Memoranda of the late Annie C. Curran, daughter of George Holmes	Brentford, Ontario
Diary of the Leonard Family of St. George, 1730-1856	F. Leonard, J.P., St. George
The King's Warrant Book XXX	Record Office, London
Register of Deaths	St. George's Church
Register of Marriages	,, ,,

Correspondents

L. E. Curran, grandson of George Holmes, Vancouver, B.C.

Marcus Holmes, A.R.W.A., great-grandson of George Holmes, Kilmallock, Monmouth.

THE EDENS OF WHITEHALL

I. Whitehall Road in Olden Times

II. The Fire Engine. The Mulberry Garden

III. The Rev. Thomas Eden

IV. Canon Charles Page Eden

THE EDENS OF WHITEHALL

I. Whitehall Road in Olden Times

In the Eighteenth Century the main thoroughfare from Bristol to Whitehall was a rough, country lane running between ditches from the Blackmoor's Head towards Kingswood. At night it was neither a safe nor a pleasant road to travel alone, for the fines at the Court Leet show that overflowing ditches were a common nuisance, and uncut hedges and trees hindered the king's subjects from passing in comfort. Good cover was thus afforded to a miscreant with a pistol (as Henry Davis at Whitehall House could vouch), and he might easily shake off pursuit in the dark fields on either side.

Even in the day it was a gloomy road in places, for it partly ran through an avenue of elms. But in the open stretches the eye lingered pleasantly on yellow corn and green pasture in a wide amphitheatre outspread over the Frome to Purdown, and across the vale of Avon, disappearing mistily over the southern hills. Tuneful to the ear and pleasing to the eye were those fields, for the names of many are as much a charm as the scenes they denote. Familiar to a bygone generation, they are unknown to this, but can still be uncovered in yellowed parchments with wavy edges and waxen seals. Shake out those crackling folds and you loose long-imprisoned names that come tumbling forth with a music that sets the feet a-moving to its measure—

Wainbrook Meadow, Dripwell Mere,
Hether Wood and Newlands;
Redfield Leaze and Lyppiatts Close,
Pyle Green, Broomhill, Linterns.

Frogmarsh Paddock, Saffron Close,
Hanging Hill and Gastons,
Colts Ground, Junox, Sandy Field,
Parrock at the Butts and Vinches.

II. The Fire Engine. The Mulberry Garden

By the side of this lane a hundred and fifty years ago, on the right as you go up, was a pasture owned by John Armitstead, a relative of one of the oldest local families, the Burchells, whose name (and not theirs alone) is still commemorated in maps of St. George to-day. Armitstead was known in his time as a coal adventurer—what in our day we should call a colliery proprietor—and in his field between Church Road and Whitehall Road he seems to have been working a pit, with a primitive engine for pumping, or for raising the coal. Nowaday such a machine would be known as a steam-engine; but as the power was generated from water by means of a fire, it was anciently known as a fire engine. The old name of the field in which this St. George engine stood was *Colts Ground*, or *Boulters Ground*, which was altered to the *Engine Ground*, the deeds stating as the reason " there being a fire engine erected and standing on part thereof." The *Engine Ground* sloped down towards the main road. In the early days of the invention a plume of smoke rising into the clear, country air would make the fire engine a conspicuous landmark, and the contraption itself must have been a wonder for miles round St. George, " affording to the curious Spectators the utmost Satisfaction." And so, it may be, we have the probable explanation of the curious name *Fire Engine Tavern* applied to an ancient hostelry opposite the end of the meadow which contained the fire engine. But a new explanation, based merely on reliable documentary evidence, can seldom exist long, even if one would wish it (and who would?) against an old-established folk-etymology well grounded on a simple similarity of sound or form. So there need be little fear that anything newly exhumed from a mouldy deed will displace the old and cherished versions; and far be the day when folk-etymology, with its artless inventions and delightful tales, shall perish from the earth.

All this, however, is by the way, actually and figuratively. The real reason for mentioning the *Engine Ground* at all was to point out that opposite the field so named, at the Whitehall end, was a house known as the Mulberry Garden, which once had been a wayside inn, but was converted into a country residence by the Bristol merchant William Dinham, and was afterwards owned by Jacob Player.

III. The Rev. Thomas Eden, "a truly good man"

The next occupant of the Mulberry Garden was the Rev. Thomas Eden, Curate of St. George, of whose early days we have to theorise somewhat.

In 1781, then, an unassuming young fellow was conducting a modest school on part of the premises of a brazier, in Bridge Street, Bristol. He was an instructor who did gruelling work for miserable pay. He taught grammar, reading, writing, and arithmetic for two guineas a year, merchants' accounts and geography for the same low fee, held evening classes from 6 to 8 on three nights a week for six shillings a quarter, and was busy even during the mid-day break instructing young ladies every day from 12 to 1. His name was Eden. He may have been Thomas Eden. His advertisement gives no Christian name, but it does give the impression of some accomplishment, modest withal, conscientious, hard working, but lacking that gift of self assertion which challenges the notice of those in high places and compels due recognition of ability and worth. Such a man, one feels, was Thomas Eden, who came into Whitehall a schoolmaster and a simple curate of old St. George, taught and ministered there for twenty years, and there died—a schoolmaster and a simple curate of old St. George.

The Eden descent has been traced from the famous William Patten (better known as William of Waynfleete), who in the

Fifteenth Century was Bishop of Winchester, Lord Chancellor of England, first Head Master of Eton College, founder of Magdalene College, Oxford; a man high in the councils of kings.

In the Eighteenth Century Elizabeth Patten (sister of Thomas Patten, D.D., Rector of Childrey, Berks.), a descendant of William of Waynfleete, married John Eden.

A hundred and fifty years ago the Revs. John and Thomas Eden, sons of this marriage and therefore collateral descendants of the great William of Waynfleete, were conducting a boarding school in old St. George.

It was in 1788 that they announced the opening of their school. This was of a better class than the Bridge Street establishment, and must have attracted a different kind of scholar. The curriculum includes Latin, French, Greek, Italian, Mathematics. The terms now were twenty-four guineas a year, and as the excellence of the tuition became known and appreciated the charge was raised to thirty guineas.

Thomas Eden married Ann Page, daughter of the Rev. Charles Page, of Northleach, Glos., and here in the old house at Whitehall they reared their family "in an atmosphere of intellect, taste, cultivation, and musical skill." The Edens numbered Coleridge among their friends, and it is recorded that up the stony lane one evening came the poet bringing the rough draft of a new poem; and there, by the candle light in the old house at Whitehall, he held the country curate and his wife transfixed with the magic and the music of his *Rime of the Ancient Mariner.*

Thomas Eden passed a life so quiet and uneventful that there appears to be hardly a circumstance calling for special comment; but when he died, to the announcement of his death a Bristol newspaper added the splendid epitaph "a truly good man, in whom the poor have lost a friend."

IV. Canon Charles Page Eden

"The Earnest Parish Priest"

Thomas Eden left a widow and eight children, for whom he had been able to make but scant provision. The mother would part with none, although a working woman of St. George begged, in her own and her husband's name, to be given the baby boy, whom they promised to bring up as their very own, in what was, perhaps, the most lucrative working-class occupation of the district—a collier. This infant, baptised in St. George's Church, 9th July 1807, was Charles Page Eden, aged 2, who later proved himself the pick of the brood.

Charles Page Eden attended a day school in Bristol, and the Royal Institution School at Liverpool, and afterwards taught for a while in a private school. At the age of 18 he went to Oxford, and was admitted at Oriel in 1825, at a time when he came under the influence of some admirable instructors. He took his B.A. in 1830, and two years later was elected a Fellow of his college (one of the highest honours the University could give) and Dean of his college in 1835. Almost all that is recorded of Charles Page Eden is told by Dean Burgon in *Lives of Twelve Good Men*, where we learn that his lectures in college had a stirring vivacity, clearness, and power of illustration; and that he was an unsparing but useful critic of his student's compositions. He was extremely fortunate in his period at Oxford, for his brother Fellows included such accom-

plished men as Hurrell Froude, brother of the English historian, as well as Keble, author of *The Christian Year*, and Newman, who wrote *Lead, Kindly Light.* It was in Eden's time that the great stir known as The Oxford Movement occurred in the Anglican Church. It is said that the Movement was actually started in 1833 by Keble's assize sermon from the pulpit of St. Mary's, Oxford, an event which was followed by the publication of the famous *Tracts for the Times*, of which Newman wrote the first and Eden the thirty-second, *On the Standing Ordinances of Religion.*

He was accounted a terse, clear, logical, and scholarly preacher, a large-hearted, open-handed, self-denying, sincere man of God; and some believe that it was he that Charles Reade the novelist (Eden's contemporary at Oxford) chose for the chaplain hero of his vivid exposure of jail cruelties, *It is Never Too Late to Mend.*

In 1843 he succeeded John Henry Newman (who became Cardinal Newman) in the vicarage of St. Mary's, Oxford, where for six and a half years he led a consistent, holy, and eminently useful life. In 1850 his college presented him to the vicarage of Aberford, near Leeds, where two years later he married Isabella Jane Landon, daughter of the former vicar.

Canon Eden never attained "the heights by great men reached and kept," but, like his father before him, he could not if he would, and would not if he could. He rather discharged with zeal and ability the duties of "the earnest parish priest," by which name he is signalised in Burgon's *Lives;* and it is probable, considers the D.N.B., that certain peculiarities of manner prevented his being appreciated as much as his abilities, learning, and piety deserved. He died at Aberford in 1885.

Sources

Printed	*Location*
Bristol Newspaper 1781-1885	Bristol Reference Library
Dictionary of National Biography	,, ,,
Lives of Twelve Good Men—Wm. Burgon	,, ,,

Unprinted	
Diary of the Leonard Family of St. George	F. Leonard, J.P., St. George
Register of Burials	St. George's Church
Register of Baptisms	,, ,,

WHITEHALL HOUSE

I. The White Hall

II. Whitehall House and Gardens

III. The Home of the Davises

IV. The Madhouse

V. The Board School

WHITEHALL HOUSE

I. The White Hall

In the year 1773 Sir Joseph Banks, the botanist, was searching the suburbs of Bristol for rare plants, and his journal records that he found *Arabis alpina* "neer the White House, one and a half miles from Bristol going to Kingswood."

Whatever the reason, the prefix *White* to the name of a house has not been uncommon in Bristol. Near the Bridewell in the Seventeenth Century was a house called Whitehall, in the Eighteenth Century Knowle had a White House, and so had Crew's Hole, and probably Bedminster; and an old mansion called the White Lodge, in Griffin Lane, near Park Row, existed till the Nineteenth Century.

Nor has it been unusual for a thoroughfare to take its name from a prominent building—Fairfield Road, Merrywood Road, Armoury Square, Dolphin Street, Castle Street, Mill Lane, Blackboy Hill, Whiteladies Road, and Leadhouse Lane are a few that spring at once to the mind, and there are many more.

But it is not, perhaps, so usual for a whole district to be named after this manner (except in the case of an ecclesiastical parish), though it appears that we have an example in the east of Bristol, *viz.*, Whitehall. For in that district two hundred years ago stood a house called *White Hall.* The earliest reference to it yet found is contained in the records of the Court Leet of the Hundred of Barton Regis, which tell us that in 1733 John Parsons and John Taylor the Elder were fined ten shillings apeece for not keeping the ditches clear in their gardens adjoining the road leading from the Blackamoor's Head to White Hall. In 1780 Thomas Burnell was indicted for stopping up the foot-

path leading from White Hall by George's Lane to the turnpike road from Bristol to Bath. And in 1782 Thomas Burnell's garden wall was so dilapidated as to be a public danger. This wall was " against the footpath near White Hall within the parish of St. George."

Let us look at these three extracts again. They tell us that a road led towards White Hall from the Blackamoor's Head (that will be Easton Road); that White Hall was in the parish of St. George; that it was by George's Lane; that a footpath went down from it to the turnpike road to Bath. We know that the turnpike road is Church Road. The old tithe plan of the parish shows that George's Lane is the more modern Lyppiatt Road, and the footpath appears to be Chalks Road. If this assumption about Chalks Road is right, then we have a very near indication of the site of White Hall—it must have stood near the northern ends of Lyppiatt Road and Chalks Road.

White Hall was probably the most conspicuous house within a wide area, and it is not surprising therefore that that area, originally without a name, should, as its population increased, feel the need of defining itself and its whereabouts. And this was done by fusing the two particles of its great landmark into one apt whole—*Whitehall.* And hence arose a curious anomaly. A nameless neighbourhood acquired the title *Whitehall* from its important landmark the *White Hall;* but this neighbourhood, having itself attained importance, reflected the acquired name upon its now relatively less important landmark, which thereafter became known as *Whitehall House.*

II. Whitehall House and Gardens

Whitehall House has long been demolished, but it had associations of such interest as to make it well worthy of a record that has not hitherto been made.

It was situated about a mile from Bristol, well back from the busy turnpike road, in a retired and healthy spot by the side of the road leading to Kingswood Lodge, and four pleasant fields distant from St. George's Church. A description of the house more than a hundred years ago said that it was of such a size as made it eminently suitable for a large family or a school, or that it might even be converted into three houses. On the eastern side were two cottages and gardens belonging to the owner of the house. At the back was a large lawn, kitchen gardens, pleasure garden, orchard, paddock, and stables; and adjoining them came two gardens let to Mathhew Harding and known as *Little Saffron Close* and *Great Saffron Close*, which have given us our modern name, Saffron Street. Two other little properties belonging to the owner of Whitehall House lay on the opposite side of the road. One was a garden enclosed with walls, and the other consisted of five houses. They adjoined Church Lane and were ranged along the road towards Kingswood. The tenants were Jordan Etwell, Mary Crib, Philip Fleming, Isaac Sweet, and Mathhew Harding, names well known in the district to this day. These buildings were pulled down and the site made into a shrubbery and plantation, which must have formed a much pleasanter outlook across the front lawn from the windows of Whitehall House. This plantation was later destroyed, and upon the site was built another row of houses known as Shrub Place.

III. The Home of the Davises

All this property was at various times owned by different members of the Davis family, of whom the first Bristol representative was Henry Davis the banker, one of whose sons, Richard Hart Davis, is well known to students of Bristol history. Henry Davis lived in Whitehall House till his death in 1802.

Most, if not all, of his children, were born and reared there. His widow died there in 1814, and two of his daughters remained in the house till 1829, when they moved into a smaller house adjoining—Woodbine Cottage, still commemorated in the name of a road near. The principal members of this family are treated at length in the section *The Davises of Whitehall.*

IV. The Madhouse

When the last of the Davises had vacated Whitehall House repeated attempts were made for several years to sell or let it, and in 1832 it was fitted up by Dr. John Braithwait Taylor "for the reception of females whose state of mind requires medical superintendence"—to put it plainly, as a lunatic asylum. The venture was so successful as to embolden Taylor to enlarge the premises in 1833. He died, however, at the end of that year, but his widow continued the establishment under the supervision of John Shorland, a Bristol surgeon, and she remained a tenant till her death in 1848.

The widow Taylor was succeeded by Dr. Parsons, who appears to have received both men and women patients. He remained at Whitehall House till 1855, and then removed to Fishponds House Asylum.

V. The Board School

Even before Dr. Taylor's time the house had been described as "old fashioned," and after Dr. Parsons's tenure it was allowed to fall into hopeless decay. But the site of the Madhouse, as it was then locally called, a part of which had previously been used by the Edens as an academy for the sons of the well-to-do, was once again to become an educational centre, this time for the children of the poor.

Immediately after the formation of the St. George School Board the members turned their attention to the needs of Whitehall district, and the first school they established was a small one in old Bethesda Chapel, Lyppiatt Lane. The neighbourhood quickly out-grew this limited accommodation, and about fifty years ago the Board purchased Whitehall House and ground for £1,400. They demolished the old madhouse, and on the site erected the present Whitehall School, opened in June, 1880, to supersede their old and less convenient premises in Lyppiatt Lane.

A path near the school, joining Whitehall Road with Saffron Street, long appeared on the old maps as "Madhouse Lane," but is now called Bourneville Road.

Sources

Printed	*Location*
Old Bristol Newspapers	Central Library, Bristol
Ordnance Survey, 1880-2 Glos. LXXII. 13 Scale 1/2500	
John Wright & Co.'s Plan of Bristol, 1901 Scale 5 in. to 1 mile	

Unprinted	
Records of the Court Leet of the Hundred of Barton Regis	Archives of the Corporation of Bristol
Title Deeds of Whitehall House	,, ,,
Old Tithe Plan of the Parish of St. George (undated, circa 1840)	St. George's Vicarage
Minute Books of St. George School Board	The Guildhall, Bristol

THE DAVISES OF WHITEHALL

I. The Banking House of Davis

II. The Hart-Davis Marriages

III. The Johnson Descent

IV. The Second Henry Davis

V. Richard Hart Davis

VI. Louisa Davis and John Scandrett Harford

THE DAVISES OF WHITEHALL

I. The Banking House of Davis

Henry Davis came to Bristol from Frampton Cotterell about the year 1755, and was for a number of years in partnership with John Hooper, a linen draper, in Mary-le-Port Street. But in or about the year 1784 he founded the banking house of Henry Davis & Sons, of which his son Thomas was apparently a member. The premises were in Small Street for about ten years, after which they cease to appear in the list of banking houses in the Bristol directories. Cave's *History of Banking* infers from this that following the panic of 1793 the position of Davis's bank may have been weakened, with the result that the business in Small Street was given up. But, adds Cave, the names of Henry and Thomas Davis appear as Bankers, Whitehall, in directories from 1795 to 1801, and he reasons from this that they possibly conducted a small banking business from their residence in Whitehall—an arrangement which, if it ever existed, was probably a boon to the farmers, gardeners, and colliery proprietors of the great parish of St. George.

II. The Hart-Davis Marriages

Henry Davis married twice, and in each instance the maiden name of the lady was Hart. His first wife was Ann, daughter of Richard Hart, of Hanham Hall, and sister of the Rev. Richard Hart, M.A., who was the first vicar of St. George and a lineal descendant of Sir Richard Hart, Knight, sometime Mayor of Bristol and several times M.P.

Davis's second wife was Marianne Hart (only daughter and heiress of Major Robert Hart), of whom there were two portraits (one post-mortem) by Richmond.

A study of the issue of these marriages will show that in Whitehall House were reared several of the Davis children who became connected, directly or indirectly, with some really interesting and important people, whose descendants in certain cases, notably that of Sir Samuel Hoare, present First Lord of the Admiralty, have made their names of local and national importance.

III. The Johnson Descent

Of the first marriage there was only one child, Elizabeth, who (we are told by Walter Money, F.S.A.) by reason of her mother's descent from the Hulberts, became co-heir to the Barony of de la Roche, of Haverford. It was from Whitehall House, in 1787, that Elizabeth Davis was married at St. George's Church (of which her father had many times been warden) by her uncle, Rev. Richard Hart, the Vicar.

Her husband was the Rev. James Johnson, B.D., Vicar of Langford, Berks., and Rector of Hinton Blewett, Somerset, a descendant of the ancient family of Johnston. "In the list of names which adorn the pedigree of this family," says Walter Money, "the most historic are William Johnston, a man of great loyalty, who fell on the field of Flodden, anno 1513, his grandson William, who fell fighting under the Royal standard of Pinkie, in 1547, Arthur, a man of much erudition, who, having studied physic, became eminent in that profession, and was physician in ordinary to King Charles I."

IV. The Second Henry Davis

Of Davis's marriage to Marianne Hart there were a number of sons and daughters, several of whom will repay attention. The eldest son, whom we might call the second Henry, practised as a solicitor, apparently in partnership with his own son, the

third Henry; and many of the transfers of houses and land in St. George were negotiated by the firm of Henry Davis & Son. About a hundred and twenty years ago the Davises must have been some of the most well-known people in the town. Solicitor Davis was here, there, and everywhere, helping this, that, and the other charitable organisation on platforms, committees and subscription lists; and with him were found his son Henry, his brothers Thomas Davis the banker and Richard Hart Davis, M.P., and his nephews Hart Davis and Richard Vaughan Davis. And were it for the suffering Russians during the Napoleonic war, to help the Clergy Society, the Prudent Man's Friend Society, the Auxiliary Bible Society, the Lancastrian School, to found the Bristol Church Missionary Society, or what not, the guineas of one or all of the Davises could be confidently expected, from the single one of the third and youngest Henry Davis to the fifty of his wealthy uncle, Richard Hart Davis.

Another side of the character of the second Henry Davis is portrayed by a story in Latimer. It relates that in the early days of the King Street Theatre silver tickets were issued to certain subscribers who were thereby entitled to admission to the house in perpetuity. One such ticket was raffled, and the winner being refused admission applied for advice to Henry Davis. That sharp attorney took charge of the ticket, and after using it to enjoy the plays at the Theatre for three years, sent his client a bill for fifteen guineas "for many attendances at the theatre to assert your right."

But misfortune overtook solicitor Henry Davis. His latest years were lean years. In 1831 he was forced to mortgage the Whitehall property. Two years later a fiat in bankruptcy was issued against him, and certificate of conformity registered in 1834. He died in Queen Square in 1837.

V. Richard Hart Davis

But of all the children of the first Henry Davis the centre of attraction is his second son. At his baptism he was given the names *Richard* and *Hart*, the first being his grandfather's Christian name, and the second the maiden name of each of his father's two wives. This is that *Richard Hart Davis* so well known to students of Bristol history as the man who figured with such prominence in our city a hundred years ago.

He became a partner in the Harford bank, and was in partnership also with various members of the Harford family, and with Sir Richard Vaughan, in the firm of Harford's and the Bristol Brass and Copper Company, who were engaged in Bristol and other places in copper smelting, spelter making, and in the manufacture of brass, brass battery, and wire; and he was in addition a prosperous merchant in the Spanish wool trade.

On the 26th November, 1789, the marriage of Richard Hart Davis and Sarah Whittingham was solemnised at St. Philip's Church. The bride was the daughter of William Whittingham of Earl's Mead, and sister of Samuel Ford Whittingham, who later became Lt.-General Sir Samford Whittingham, G.C.B., a soldier complimented by Prime Minister Pitt on his successful conduct of a secret mission to the Peninsula, highly esteemed by the Duke of Wellington who wrote to Richard Hart Davis "we have not such another officer in the army," and was Commander in Chief at Madras 1839 to 1841.

Richard Hart Davis began his parliamentary career as M.P. for Colchester, which he represented for five years from 1807. In 1812 a vacancy occurred in the representation of Bristol, and, at the solicitation of the Bristol Tories, Richard Hart Davis resigned his seat for Colchester (to which his son,

Hart Davis, was returned unopposed) and was nominated for his native city. Pandemonium was immediately loosed, for an election a hundred and twenty years ago is hardly comparable, in many ways, with an election in our own time. The poll then was sometimes kept open for weeks, and the turbulence during that time, the envy, hatred, malice, and all uncharitableness, the expense, the lawlessness, treasons, stratagems and spoils would be inconceivable in a present day election and would take too long to detail here. Any who wish to know more of how electioneering should not be managed would do well to study the report (true or not) of the evidence and proceedings before the Committee of the House of Commons on the petition against Davis's return. At the end of a fortnight's poll, during which, it is said, his friends spent £1,000 a day on his behalf, Davis was returned with a majority more than seven times greater than the total poll of his opponents. It was customary in those days to "chair" the successful candidate, that is to carry him in triumph in a highly ornamental chair mounted on a platform attached to long poles which were borne in procession upon the shoulders of his admirers. Flags were hung out and bells rung, and all the town made holiday. "An election in Bristol was the subject of considerable preparation, and involved enormous expense. Thousands of men joined in it—a large number wearing hats specially made for the occasion, to which were affixed cockades, ribbons, and special devices, all in the party colours." A good idea of such a ceremony can be formed from Davis's chairing, of which the order of procession was as follows:—

Seventy Constables, headed by their Captain
Flags and Banners
Ships
one of them dressed out in the colours of various nations,
and another under full sail

A numerous body of Gentlemen, four abreast
Bristol Volunteer Band
Banners
The Committee
Boatswain, with Whistle
Captain of the Chair
MR. DAVIS
In a Splendid Chair
Particular Friends of the Candidate, four abreast
Band of Music
A numerous body of Gentlemen, four abreast
Banners
&c.
&c.

This long line, probably a mile in length, was flanked by hundreds and hundreds of protectors politely styled "sidesmen" by their own party, and, with equal justice, "bludgeon men" by their opponents. They were armed with staves, in the use of which, during the election, they had just had a fortnight's good practice and were quite proficient; and their duty and pleasure it was to batter the fervour out of any of the losing side who attempted to break up the procession or to decorate with mud the newly-elected member in his gilded chair. There had, of course, been many such chairing processions before, but report said that "In all its arrangements it was probably never equalled by any ceremony of the kind in this city." It appears, however, to have been surpassed by the one following Davis's second return at the end of the same year.

Having won his seat in 1812 Richard Hart Davis continued to represent Bristol in six successive parliaments till 1831. This long course of public service included some of the most

signal occurrences and momentous events that have befallen this country in any period of her history. And of Richard Hart Davis, the man who came out of St. George, the *Bristol Mirror* said in 1842: "He was one of the most useful and popular members who has ever taken his seat in Parliament." It was of this man, who as a lad played on the lawn where Whitehall School now stands, that H.R.H. the Regent said: "There is not a man in the House of Commons, without one single exception, for whom I have a higher regard and esteem than for Hart Davis." It was to this man from Bristol East that George IV. showed his good will by offering him a baronetcy, which he gratefully declined. He did, however, accept a snuff box accompanied by a note in His Majesty's own hand, a gift which was treasured till the end of his days and bequeathed to his son Hart.

At the close of his Parliamentary career his Bristol constituents raised a fund, amounting to £756, with which they purchased a service of plate, on the principal piece of which was engraved:

Presented
By his Fellow Citizens,
Upon his retiring from Parliament in 1831,
As a mark of their esteem, and in testimony of the high sense they entertain, of the great and valuable services rendered by
him to his Native City, by the able, zealous, and unremitted discharge
of his Public Duties, during a period of Nineteen Years, comprising six successive Parliaments, in which he held the high and honourable situation of one of the
Representatives of the City
of Bristol.

The snuff box and note, and these silver salvers, together with the portrait of himself by Lawrence, he bequeathed to his eldest son Hart. The bust of himself, by Bayly, he left to his son Richard, requesting him and his brother Hart to arrange that all might remain as long as possible in the hands of some member of the family.

Richard Hart Davis was owner of the Priory, Cardiganshire, which included the lordship and Priory of the borough of Cardigan; and at Lampeter he instituted a school for the children of his tenants and of the neighbouring peasantry. He also lived at Mortimer House, Clifton, secured in 1922 by the University of Bristol as a Hall of Residence for Men), and at Walton Castle, near Clevedon. He died at Fenton House, Hampstead, in 1842.

VI. Louisa Davis and John Scandrett Harford

Readers will have seen that of all Henry Davis's children Richard Hart Davis was the one of outstanding prominence. Similarly, of Richard Hart Davis's children there was one, Louisa, who is worthy of particular mention.

While Richard Hart Davis was connected with the Harford bank one of his fellow partners was young John Scandrett Harford. He it was who married Louisa Davis. The bride was given the Davis property in Frampton Cotterell as a dowry, and her husband inherited the picturesque Blaise Castle Estate, which our Corporation, with the cordial approval of the vast majority of the public, wisely secured for the citizens in 1926. All Bristolians are justly proud of this possession, and the people of St. George should be especially interested in it since it was there that John Scandrett Harford lived with his wife Louisa Davis, daughter of Richard Hart Davis and grand-daughter of the first Henry Davis of Whitehall House.

John and Louisa Harford were friends of Hannah More, who, it is believed by the family, took her two young friends as the originals of Lucilla and Cœlebs in her highly successful work *Cœlebs in Search of a Wife*. The writer of *The Annals of the Harford Family* says that "the lovely smiling face and graceful figure of Louisa Harford, painted in 1823 by Lawrence, might be a picture of Lucilla."

The Harfords were also on intimate terms with Wilberforce, and through their friendship with Cardinal Consalvi they secured an interview with the Pope and awoke his interest and help in efforts for the abolition of the slave trade.

We have already briefly considered some of the many activities of various members of the Davis family for the advancement of benevolent and educational movements in the early years of the Nineteenth Century. Among those names can be included also John Scandrett Harford. In addition, he was President of the Bible Association for Circulating the Scriptures in Kingswood and the adjacent villages, a district whose inhabitants were contemptuously and bitterly described as "scarse humanised, uncivilised natives, in a state of semi-barbarity," a district of whose needs he had probably heard much from his acquaintance the Rev. John Emra, Vicar of St. George, and from his relatives the Davises, who lived just upon its fringe. He was also a worker in the Society for Promoting Christianity Among the Jews, Treasurer to the Bristol Church of England Tract Society, Treasurer to the fund raised for the families of soldiers who fell in the Battle of Waterloo, Treasurer to the fund to relieve the poor and combat the visitation of cholera which it was foreseen would come down from the North and scourge Bristol. For fifteen years, 1844 to 1859, he was President of the Infirmary, and it was mainly by his exertions that the Infirmary chapel was built, and the new museum formed, in 1860. And so we

might go on; for in almost any scheme of a like nature, for half a century John Scandrett Harford will be found to have been either an open-handed contributor or a tireless worker, and oft-times even both.

These interests were only a part of what must have been a full and busy life largely given to the welfare of his less fortunate fellow citizens. But John Scandrett Harford had also his seasons of recreation and ease, which he employed in a deepening of his knowledge of art. He and his wife were always attracted by a good painting, and the walls of Blaise Castle were enriched by the addition of landscapes by Salvator Rosa and Poussin and sacred figures by Guido Reni and the scholars of Michael Angelo. To such subjects he was able to bring a good and critical judgment, and the result was a collection of pictures known beyond the walls of the Castle, and a lasting joy to those who succeeded John and Louisa Harford within them.

He was also a man of literary tastes, and an accomplished scholar. And in this connection it is impossible, even if we would, to speak of him apart from his wife. For Alice Harford has said: "Louisa's love of music, poetry, and art, of French and Italian literature, her ability to grasp and enter into her husband's deep studies and literary work made her the most delightful companion." And in the pages of *The Annals of the Harford Family* we are given a delightful picture of a literary evening by their own fireside, enjoyed by these two alone. He was author of a *Life of Michael Angelo*, and *The Agamemnon of Aeschylus Translated;* and in 1862 we see him in his 78th year, grand old man, almost completely deprived of sight, but busy dictating his *Recollections of William Wilberforce* to the wife who so long had shared his "hours of studious lore and lettered ease" and was to him "Dearest of earthly beings, best of friends."

He died at Blaise Castle in 1866, and saw the fulfilment of a wish expressed in his earlier years—

> Till life shall end, may thy benignant smile
> And converse sweet thy husband's hours beguile.

His wife survived him eight years.

Sources

Printed	*Location*
Clergy List 1882	
Crockford's Clerical Directory 1935	
Bristol Directories	Central Library, Bristol
Bristol Election Petition 1813	,, ,,
Bristol Newspapers	,, ,,
Bristol Poll Books	,, ,,
Cave's *History of Banking*	,, ,,
Howard and Crisp's *Visitation of England and Wales*	,, ,,
Money's *The Johnson Family* (Bristol & Glos. Arch. Trans. VIII)	,, ,,
Burke's *Commoners*	,, ,,
Burke's *Landed Gentry*, 1846	,, ,,
Debrett's *Peerage*	,, ,,
Burke's *Peerage* 1935	,, ,,
Kelly's *Landed, Titled, and Official Classes*	,, ,,
Beaven's *Bristol Lists*	,, ,,
Latimer's *Annals, XIX*	,, ,,
Dictionary of National Biography	,, ,,

Unprinted

Bankruptcy of the second Henry Davis
Search Dept., High Court of Justice, London

Diary of the Leonard Family of St. George
F. Leonard, J.P., St. George

Registers of Baptisms, Marriages and Deaths	St. George's Church
Register of Marriages	St. Philip's Church
Will of the first Henry Davis	Somerset House, London
Will of Richard Hart Davis	,, ,,
Will of Thomas Davis	,, ,,

Correspondents

Miss Agnes Harford, great niece of Louisa Davis (Mrs. John Scandrett Harford)	Bath
Mrs. A. C. Hart Acland (grand-daughter of Richard Hart Davis)	London
Mrs. P. M. Gaddum (great grand-daughter of Richard Hart Davis)	Bowdon

REDFIELD HOUSE

I. The House and Grounds

II. Thomas Phipps. Michael Holder. The Boarding School. Lt.-Col. Brereton

III. Thomas Edwards. Isaac Stephens. Canon Cooper

IV. The Break-up of the Grounds. Gentleman Stone

REDFIELD HOUSE

I. The House and Grounds

In the early years of the Nineteenth Century there was in St. George a piece of ground called *Redfield*, on the left-hand side of the road as you go up the hill. On the upper part of this ground in 1816 the Methodists built a meeting-house which received the appropriate name, *Redfield Chapel*. It was right opposite here, on the other side of Church Road, that the gates opened to the drive of *Redfield House*. This house stood back from the road, its nearest wall being about 110 feet away, and the drive wound right and left through the trees for about twice that distance to the entrance.

Redfield House was an oblong, three-storey building with rusticated pilasters, flat fronted except for two bay windows on the ground floor. It measured 50 feet by 25, and adjoining it on the south or Barton Hill side was a two-storey dwelling-house about 25 feet square. Descriptions of the house in 1832 and 1833 tell us that beneath were beer and wine cellars. On the ground floor was the entrance hall, dining parlour, drawing-room 26 feet by 17½, and the kitchens and sculleries. The first floor contained 4 bedrooms, dressing-room, etc., and above them were 2 bedrooms, two attics, and other rooms. The out-buildings comprised a brew-house 27 feet by 13 with a large room 35 feet by 13 over it, the coach house, three-stall stable, cow houses, piggery, dairy, and two gardeners' cottages. The bay window of the drawing-room faced Bristol, looking pleasantly out over a meadow of an acre and three-quarters called *The Lower Field*. The back faced St. George, and a stained glass french window opened to the lawn and pleasure ground, the fruit gardens, a meadow, and an asparagus garden known as *Lippiatt Close*, or *Sandy Field*. This garden was let to one of

the Sweets, a very old St. George family whose name is found in the very earliest records of the district. Lippiatt Close was about 2½ acres, and lay in the angle between the Upper Bath Road (now called Church Road) and Sweet's Lane, now called Avon Vale Road. From there it extended down Church Road for a distance of 500 feet. On a piece of this garden a Sunday School was built about the year 1810 by the Redfield Methodists.

The total frontage of the Redfield House property against the main road was 1,200 feet, which would be approximately from the junction of Avon Vale Road with Church Road, down to Cowper Street. The whole comprised about eight acres, and was surrounded by a wall.

II. Thomas Phipps. Michael Holder. The Boarding School. Lt.-Col. Brereton

The earliest mention of Redfield House is found in the deeds, which say that it was once owned by Thomas Phipps, a name constantly recurring in almost all documents dealing with the St. George district for the last two hundred years and more.

In 1817 the property was conveyed to Michael Holder, a partner in the firm of Cole, Holder & Co., linen merchants, trading at 31 and 32 Bridge Street. Holder died at Devizes in 1832, and how long he was at Redfield before that is not clear.

But we know that for a time the house was occupied by a school master, for the newspapers of July 1827 contain the advertisement of " Redfield House Academy, on the Upper Bath Road, about one mile from Old Market Street," where English,

Latin, Mensuration, Surveying, Mapping, Artificers' Work, Book-keeping, Geography, and Guaging were taught for £25 per annum, no extras. The school-master's tenancy was only a short one, for in June of the following year appeared the announcement that the School had been removed to Arno's Vale.

In that same year (1828) Lt.-Col. Brereton advertised that he was giving up his house at Hambrook. He removed first to Clifton Wood House, and later to Redfield House where he was living at the time of the Bristol Riots in 1831. He was then about 49 years old. At the age of 15 he had gone as volunteer to the West Indies, in the 45th Regiment. He became Ensign in 1798, Lieutenant 1800, Captain 1804, Major 1810, Lieutenant-Colonel 1815; and it said that every step in his professional elevation was obtained without purchase.

The story of the Bristol riots has been told too many times to need a long and detailed repetition here. Suffice it to say that for three days the city was in the hands of a mob who enacted such appalling scenes of debauchery, pillage, destruction and fire as had probably never been witnessed here before, all or most of which might have been prevented by the prompt and vigorous action of fearless and resourceful men in authority. As Inspecting Field Officer of the Bristol District, Lt.-Col. Thomas Brereton was in charge of the troops. He was commanded by the civic authorities to clear the streets, but refused on more than one occasion to fire upon the people without specific orders to that effect. He was an experienced officer of 49 years of age, 34 years of which he had served as a soldier. He is said to have been a humane and benevolent man, with a sense of honour of a very high degree. He had seen active service abroad, but when it came to firing upon our own people at home he shrank from the task. The civic authorities commanded him to clear the streets, but did not give him definite instructions as to the

means he was to employ to do it. From a study of the evidence one can hardly avoid the suspicion that what the authorities wanted (in the early stages of the disturbance, at any rate) was to load the whole responsibility upon Lt.-Col. Brereton, hoping that he would fire upon the people without definite orders from them; and one of their number admitted in evidence that he could not remember any explicit orders being given. Brereton was between the devil and the deep sea. If he fired upon the people without orders he could be held entirely responsible in any investigation that followed, and he would still be the scapegoat if he did not fire and quell the riot. Added to this agony of mind he was a sick man physically, suffering acutely from visceral derangement, and in an unfit state for such responsibility. He tried various means of persuasion, going among the people, arguing and reasoning with them, riding his soldiers through them, walking them away, dispersing them with the flat of the sword, and exhibiting other signs that he little understood the devilry of which they were capable and on which they were intent. His reluctance to shed blood was construed as weakness, and emboldened the rioters to appalling acts of destruction. Prisoners were loosed, houses pillaged and torn down, and fires raged at so many points that the whole city seemed in danger of extinction. The time had come when someone had to shoulder the responsibility for the bloodshed that Lt.-Col. Brereton so much dreaded. "It was no longer a time to await magistrates," said Major Mackworth. "I called out, 'Colonel Brereton, we must instantly charge,' and without waiting for his answer (he could not but approve), I called out, 'Charge men, and charge home.' The troops obeyed with the utmost alacrity, Colonel Brereton charging with great spirit at their head."

By these vigorous means order was at last restored, and a series of investigations followed. Lt.-Col. Brereton was tried by a court-martial which opened on 9th January, 1832. Eleven

charges were brought against him, all of which, said the prosecutor, evinced great want of the vigour and decision requisite for the duties on which he was engaged, and highly disgraceful to his character as an officer, and prejudicial to good order and military discipline. He sat apathetically through four days of the trial, watching the evidence pile higher and higher, and an inescapable doom draw nearer and nearer. What his defence would have been we do not know. After the fourth sitting his servant drove him home to Redfield House. He sat through the night destroying papers and writing a letter committing his two infant daughters to the care of his uncle, Colonel Coghlan, and retired to his bedroom at 2 in the morning. A few minutes later the silence was shattered by the report of a pistol—Lt.-Col. Brereton had broken under the strain, and shot himself through the heart.

III. Thomas Edwards. Isaac Stephens.

Canon Cooper.

After the death of Lt.-Col. Brereton the house was declared to be haunted, and unavailing attempts were made to sell it for several years. In 1839 Thomas Edwards moved into it. He was a hemp and flax merchant, with a flax mill at Keynsham and a sail-cloth and twine-spinning manufactory at Cheese Lane. He also traded as a maltster, and in 1843 a writ of *Fieri Facias* was issued out of Queen's Bench against him, and his estate in 2½ acres of ground called the *Barley Field*, in St. Philip's, with 37 cottages standing on it, was put up to auction.

He left Redfield House, and Isaac Stephens, a partner in the firm of Stephens Bros., Flax Spinners, Lucky Lane, St. Philip's, succeeded him there in 1845. Stephens left three years later.

The next occupant was Rev. David Cooper, M.A., minister of St. John's, Portsea, who in 1850 was appointed to Holy Trinity, St. Philip's, Bristol, in the place of Rev. Aaron Rogers; and at the end of the following year Redfield House and most of the ground, just over 5½ acres in all (part of the land had previously been disposed of) was conveyed by the trustees of Michael Holder to David Cooper. At his advent the short periods of occupation ceased, and he lived there for 30 years. The flower gardens and shrubberies were put into order and so well tended under his supervision that the grounds of Redfield House are still remembered as one of the most delightful spots in the parish. At the end of his occupation, however, the dissolution of this pleasant scene commenced.

In 1879 two pieces of the ground round the house were sold to George and William Roberts, Builders, for £2,100. In the following January, Canon Cooper (as he then was) removed to Almondsbury and the remainder of the property was sold by auction. It had by then dwindled to about four acres, which realised £5,780. Redfield House and the gardens immediately adjoining were purchased by William Stone for £2,590. Gentleman Stone, as he was locally known, lived there till his death in 1898. Six months later the property was purchased from the executors by Albert George Verrier and Robert Inkerman Weight.

Redfield House originally stood in the midst of pleasant gardens and fields stretching from Avon Vale Road to St. Matthew's Church. The house has long been demolished and all its ground is covered with close ranks of houses and shops. The site of Redfield House is now represented by eight back-to-back gardens of the modern houses numbered 6, 8, 10, 12 in Weight Road, and 1, 3, 5, 7 in Verrier Road.

Sources

Printed	*Location*
Bristol Newspaper 1827-1880	Bristol Reference Library
Bristol Directories 1822-1890	,, ,,
Trial of Charles Pinney, 1833	,, ,,
A Full Report of the Court Martial of Lt.-Col. Brereton, 1833	,, ,,
The London "Albion," 16 Jan. 1832	,, ,,
Dictionary of National Biography	,, ,,
Ordnance Survey: Sheet Glos. (West) LXXII. 13.20. Scale 1/500	,, ,,

Unprinted

Abstract of Title of Redfield House	Archives of the Corporation of Bristol
Title Deeds of Byron House, Redfield	Dr. D. A. Alexander

Memo.

205, Elvon Vale Road,
Barton Hill,
Bristol, 5.

I hope you will find an hour's pleasant companionship in this little book. If you do, may I ask you to recommend it to a friend you think may be interested as well.

Thank you for ordering a copy yourself.

WM. T. SANIGAR.

To Mr W. T. SANIGAR,
205, AVON VALE ROAD, BRISTOL 5.

Please send a copy of

HOUSES AND PEOPLE OF OLD ST. GEORGE

to M.....

.....

.....

for which I enclose 1/8.

W.D.P. 10.

HENRY DAVIS,
of Frampton Cotterell,
Flourished about 1674.

HENRY,
b. 1680, d. 1754.
m. 1st Elizabeth Deane
2nd Sussanah, da. of
Rev. G. Bryant.

HENRY,
of Whitehall House, Banker. Many ye
Churchwarden of St. George.
b. 1733, d. 27th February 1802. Buried
St. George's Churchyard.

ANN HART
b. 1729. d. 1760.
da. of Richard Hart of Hanham Hall, and sister to Rev. Richard Hart, M.A., first Vicar of St. George, lineal descendant of Sir Richard Hart, Kt., Mayor of Bristol, and several times M.P.

1
31st May, 1757.
=

St. George's Church.
15th August, 1787.

Rev. JAMES JOHNSON, = ELIZABETH,
Bachelor of Divinity,
b. 16th October, 1759.
d. 13th September, 1825.
Rector of Hinton Blewett, Som., and Vicar of Langford, Berks.

b. 1758.
d. 18th May, 1834.
Co-heir to the Barony of De La Roche, Haverford.

HENRY,
b. 1762.
d. 31st Jan., 1837.
Solicitor.

THOMAS.
b. 1763.
d. 21st Oct., 1813.
Banker.

RICHARD HART.
b. 8th June, 1766. d. 21st Feb., 1842. Banker and Spanish Wool Merchant of Mortimer House, Clifton, Walton Castle, near Clevedon and Fenton House, Hampstead. M.P. for Colchester, 1807-12. M.P. for Bristol in six successive Parliaments from 1812-31. Portrait by Sir Thomas Lawrence, P.R.A. Bust by Bayly.

26th November, 1789.
= SARAH WHITTINGHAM,
Sister of Lt. Gen. Sir Samuel Ford Whittingham, K.C.B., K.C.H., Commander-in-Chief at Madras. Aunt of Lt.-Col. Ferdinand Whittingham, who married Charlotte Anne Reid, grand-daughter of Francis, 7th Lord Napier. Two portraits by Richmond.

1815
Miss CLAYTON = Rev. GEORGE.

Rev. SAMUEL, M.A., Rector of Hinton Blewett.

= SARAH EVES EXTON,
Descendant of Sir Nicholas Exton, Lord Mayor of London, 1386 and 1387.

HENRY = JANE BROWN FOX,
da. of Dr. Fox, of Brislington House.

HART,
b. 1791. d. 1854. Banker. M.P. for Colchester.

10th July. 1813
= CHARLOTTE DUND
da. of Lady Elea Dundas, and niece of 9th Earl of Home.

s.p.

Rev. RICHARD HART = MARY LYDIA.
b. 1843. d. 1928. Vicar of All Saints, Dunsden, to whom the Frampton Cotterell property reverted on the death of his aunt Louisa Harford.

2nd da. of Rt. Hon. Sir Thomas Dyke Acland, 11th baronet, of Killerton, N. Devon.

1873
Major HENRY VAUGHAN HART, D.L., J.P., Knight of Grace of St. John of Jerusalem.
= ANNIE C. WHITTINGHAM,
da. of Charles Whittingham, I.C.S.
Lady of Grace of St John of Jerusalem..

SIDNEY OSBORNE HART HART = CATHERINE MAW

7th April, 1866
KATHARIN LOUISA HART,
Authoress,
b. 1846. d. 1931.
= Sir SAMUEL HOA
Twenty years M.P. wich. Partner in th Barnetts, Hoare & of the City of Lond

4 da.

CHARLES HENRY HART, C.M.G., D.L., J.P. = VIVIAN BISHOP.

17th Oct., 1909
LADY MAUD LYGON, Youngest da. of the 6th Earl Beauchamp. = Rt. Hon. Sir SAMUEL, Baronet, G.B.E., M.P., for Chelsea. Sec. of State for Air, 1922-29. Sec. of State for India, 1931-35. Foreign Sec., 1935. First Lord of the Admiralty, 1936.
b. 24th Feb. 1880.

ABBREVIATIONS AND SIGNS—

b.	*Born.*	s.p.	*No Children.*
d.	*Died.*	da.	*Daughter.*
=	*Married.*	s.	*Son.*
1 =	*First Marriage.*		
2 =	*Second Marriage.*		
= | v	*They had Issue.*		

2

=

MARIANNE HART.
b. 1744. d. 13th November, 1814.
Only da. and heiress of Major Robert Hart, of Grantham, Lincs.
Two portraits by Richmond.

GEORGE BRYAN. b. 1781. d. 1789.

JAMES CORSLEY, b. 1785. d. 1817.

SAMUEL.

St. George's Church, 6th December, 1815.

SUSANNA. = Rev. JOHN LATEY, M.A.
b. 1770. Baptised in St. George's Church, 1st Feb., 1771. d. 1853.
Curate of St. George. Minor Canon of Bristol Cathedral.

MARIANNA, b. 1774. d. 7th Nov., 1841, at Whitehall. Buried in St. George's Churchyard.

FRANCES. b. 1777. d. 18th Sept., 1840, at Whitehall. Buried in St. George's Churchyard.

RICHARD VAUGHAN. = ANNIE.
1842
b. 1797. d. 1871. Commissioner of Audit.
da. of Major Robert Bates.

LOUISA. =JOHN SCANDRETT HARFORD, J.P., D.C.L., F.R.S., of Blaise Castle Estate. Author and Translator. Deputy-Lieut for Gloucestershire and Cardiganshire.
31st August, 1812.
b. Jan. 6, 1796. d. April, 1872. Framp'n Cotter'll property given in dowry Portrait by Sir Thomas Lawrence, P.R.A.
b. 8th October, 1785. d. 16th April, 1866. s.p.

CLEMENTINA. b. 1813. d. 1875. Portrait by Richmond.

ADELAIDE CLEMENTINA HART

= Rev. HENRY DYKE ACLAND.
1878
b. 1850. d. 1903.

ALFRED BARRATT =MARY DOROTHEA =E. WALTER JOYNSON
1 2

1 s.

ELMA KATIE =Rt. Rev. HENRY LUKE PAGET, D.D., formerly Preb. of St. Paul's. Bishop of Stepney and Bishop of Chester.
27th Oct., 1892

Rt. Rev. RICHARD DYKE, Bishop of Bombay.