

Burial number:

1

Mary Jones

Researched by: **Susan Skedd**

Born:

1761

Baptised:

Unknown

Died:

Unknown

Buried:

21 November 1829

Age at time of death:

68

Address at death:

Stonefield Terrace (possibly Stonefield Street)

Equivalent address (2020):

Richmond Avenue

A cousin of the painter Robert Smirke, **Mary Walker** in 1795 married John Jones (d. 1851), editor of the *European Magazine* and the *Naval Chronicle*. They had two children: Ellen Elizabeth, who married William Leonard, and John Winter Jones (1805-1881). Their son was educated at St Paul's School and worked for the Charity Commission before joining the staff of the library at the British Museum in 1837.

In the same year, John Winter Jones married Susanna Hewson in 1837; their two daughters, Mary (b. 1839) and Ellen (b. 1843) were baptised at Holy Trinity. His family, together with his father, lived at **24 Stonefield Street** in the 1830s and 1840s. It is not clear whether no. 24 had been built by 1829 when Mary Jones died; if so, it may have mistakenly been recorded as Stonefield Terrace in the burial register.

By 1846, when he drew up his will, John Jones was living at 1 Duncan Terrace. In 1866 John Winter Jones became Principal Librarian at the British Museum, succeeding Antonio Panizzi.

Burial number:

3

Ann Sophia Fell

Researched by: **Jenny Tatton**

Born:

19 September 1826

Baptised:

19 May 1827

Died:

Unknown

Buried:

24 February 1830

Age at time of death:

3

Address at death:

34 Cross Street

Equivalent address (2020):

28 Cross Street (pictured below)



Ann Sophia Fell was the sixth of the ten children of Revd Hunter Francis Fell (1791-1861), incumbent of Holy Trinity Church, and Rachel Butler, née Hall (1791-1877), who were married at St Swithin in the City of London on 13 April 1816. She was baptised at the parish church of Goring, Berkshire, where her father was curate from 1823.

In 1829 Hunter Francis Fell was appointed curate (later perpetual curate) at Holy Trinity by the Revd Daniel Wilson, Vicar of St Mary, Islington, but retained his curacy in Goring. For the next twenty years he and his family divided their time between Islington and Goring.

No provision had been made for the parish to provide a house for the clergyman of the new church. On moving to Islington, the Fell family first lived at **28 Cross Street**, which is where Anna Sophia died. Soon after, her father took on the lease of 1 Albion Cottages (now **4 Thornhill Road**) which became known as the Parsonage and remained the family home until 1851 when Fell resigned from the parish. Her sisters **Rachel Fell** (1818-1834) and **Frances Butler Fell** (1830-1834) both died in the spring of 1834 and were also buried in the crypt.

In 1851 Fell was appointed Rector of Oulton, Suffolk, where he lived for the rest of his life. He died at East Worldham, Southampton, on 10 November 1861, aged 70; his wife Rachel died in 1877, aged 84.

Incumbents of Holy Trinity Church were finally provided with accommodation c. 1900 when the parish purchased 45 Thornhill Road and it became the Vicarage.

Tale: The controversial Revd Hunter Francis Fell

Hunter Francis Fell was the son of David Fell (d.c.1806) of Caversham Grove, Oxon and Catherine Gardiner. His father was a man of property who in 1790 served as High Sheriff of Oxfordshire. He married Catherine Gardiner at St Martin-in-the-Fields, Westminster, on 1 May 1788 and they had at least eight children.

Hunter Francis Fell was educated at Pembroke College, Oxford, and was ordained priest in 1815. He was a Free Mason, being admitted to the Reading Lodge in 1810. He married Rachel Butler Hall on 13 April 1816 and together they had a large family. Their eldest son George Hunter Fell, also an Oxford man, followed his father into the Church. George married Katherine Sophia Rickards on 14 October 1869 and they lived at East Worldham, Hampshire. In 1894 Katherine is recorded as a supporter of women's suffrage.

Rev. Hunter Francis and Rachel Butler Fell suffered great personal tragedy. At least four of their ten children died young. No death record for one of their twins Francis has been found, so it may be that he also died as an infant as early as 1828. Three of their daughters – Ann, Rachel and Frances – died while they were living in Islington and were buried in the crypt of Holy Trinity Church. As was customary, Fell did not officiate at their funerals. Then, in 1849, their other twin boy Hunter Francis, who was a student at Pembroke College, Oxford, died aged 20, due to a fall from his horse during an epileptic fit.

At Easter 1849 the Holy Trinity Vestry Minutes note that Fell was absent for the first time in 22 years due to his 'painful bereavement'. He was in office the following year, but at Easter 1851 the minutes once again register his absence and record the Vestry's 'cordial and grateful thanks for his faithful, zealous and affectionate services'.

In October 1829 Fell became curate to Holy Trinity, which had been consecrated by the Bishop of London on 19 March. Fell owed his patronage to Daniel Wilson, Vicar of St Mary, Islington, and in November 1830 he was appointed perpetual curate of Holy Trinity.

At the request, indeed the 'earnest solicitation' of his parishioners, Fell published a volume of sermons in 1834. The strongly Evangelical character of his preaching is evident, as this example from his final sermon shows:

'Dear brethren! The world speaks no falsity against the preachers of the Gospel, when it affirmed that they preach "Hell and damnation;" – They do *preach Hell and damnation*; but why? And how? - They preach it, that you may escape it. They preach it, because they love your immortal souls, and the spirit of tenderness and indescribable horror of affectionate anxiety, *because they know* that as in heaven, there is yet room, so there is yet room in Hell'.

One hostile reviewer, writing in the High Church periodical *The British Critic, and Quarterly Review* (July 1835), summed Fell up as 'one of those men, who do the worst wrong to true and vital doctrines, by pushing them to that excess, that renders them either ridiculous or repulsive'.

An alternative view of Fell is captured in the notice of his death published in the *Islington Gazette* (16 Nov. 1861), which stated 'there are many in Islington who remember the fine and musical voice which used to be so well heard by the crowded congregation to which Mr Fell ministered, and for whom he, to the last, entertained the warmest feelings of respect and affection'.

Burial number:

9

Alexander Gough

Researched by: **Iria Suárez**

Born:

Unknown

Baptised:

Unknown

Died:

Unknown

Buried:

12 March 1831

Age at time of death:

51

Address at death:

19 Arundel Place, Coles Terrace

Equivalent address (2020):

154 Barnsbury Road (probable)



Of Scottish descent, Alexander Gough married Mary Booty (1764-1815) at St Giles in the Fields in 1786 when they were both living in Holborn. They had two children: John Gough (1800-1866), baker, and Alexander Dick Gough (1804-1871), architect. Seven of his grandchildren were also buried in the crypt, together with his daughter-in-law, **Harriet Gough** (d. 1850) and her father **Joseph Curtis**. Harriet Curtis had married John Gough at St Mary, Islington, on 22 November 1825.

Gough was one of the first residents in Barnsbury and owned several properties in the area, which he bequeathed to his two sons. In his will, he requested that he should be buried ‘in a decent and respectful though not extravagant manner that is with a plume of feathers and corresponding attendants but to be borne to my Grave by four men’.

Tale: The brothers Gough

The story of Alexander Gough's family is one of the most poignant to have been researched as part of this project for no fewer than nine other members of his extended family were buried in the crypt of Holy Trinity Church. He and his wife Mary Booty had two sons: John, who was born in Dean Street, Holborn, and Alexander, who was born in Middlesex Street, Kentish Town. The sons' births were registered by non-conformist ministers but both men opted to marry in Anglican churches: in 1825 John married Harriet Curtis at St Mary, Islington, and in 1827 Alexander married Mary Ann Bainbridge at St George, Bloomsbury. Alexander's marriage was conducted by his relative, the **Revd William Dick** (1779-1839), who was also buried in the crypt.

John and Harriet Gough set up home and their bakery at **118 Cloudesley Road** (formerly 25 Upper Islington Terrace), which was within sight of the newly built Holy Trinity Church. They had six children, three of whom died young: **Harriet Ann Gough** (1828-1831) and **Mary Elmer Gough** (1830-1831), who were buried on the same day, 13 December 1831, and **Elizabeth Roch Gough** (1838-1840). **Harriet Gough** died in August 1850 and was survived by her son Joseph Alexander Gough (1831-1877), and possibly by her youngest two children as well, Harriet Ann Gough (b. 1833) and John Curtis Gough (b. 1836). The widowed John Gough married Susannah Mary Pyne in December 1850 and moved to 31 Queen's Square, St George in the East, where they ran a lodging house.

After their marriage in 1827, Alexander and Mary Ann lived in White Conduit Fields and then together with his father at 17 Arundel Place. Following his father's death in 1831, Alexander moved his family to a house in **Cosmo Place, Southampton Row, Bloomsbury** (formerly 4 Southampton Court, Queens Square, and since demolished), the home of his in-laws. It was while living here that they suffered the loss of four of their children. Their eldest son, **William Alexander Gough** (1828-1833) and their eldest daughter **Mary Ann Gough** (d. 1833) were buried in the crypt on the same day, 18 April 1833. Their sisters **Eliza Matilda Gough** (1838-1838) and **Anna Maria Caroline** (1834-1839) followed them into the crypt a few years later. Soon after Anna Maria's death, the family moved to 6 The Grove, Tollington Park, Holloway.

Alexander Dick Gough trained to be an architect as a pupil of Benjamin Dean Wyatt and was in partnership with Robert Lewis Roumieu between 1836 and 1848. They worked on a number of projects in Islington, including alterations to Charles Barry's St Peter's Church, the Islington Literary and Philosophical Institute (now the Almeida Theatre) and Milner Square. On his own account, Gough designed a number of churches, including six in Islington, amongst which was his local church of St Mark, Tollington Park.

Alexander Dick Gough was buried in Highgate West Cemetery and his architectural practice was continued by his son Hugh Roumieu Gough (1843-1904).

Burial number:

19

Thomas Morgan Fair

Researched by: **Jenny Tatton**

Born:

21 June 1796

Baptised:

5 August 1801

Died:

1832

Buried:

29 March 1832

Age at time of death:

30

Cause of death:

Unknown

Address at death:

19 Stonefield Street

Equivalent address (2020):

19 Stonefield Street (pictured below)



Thomas Morgan Fair was the youngest son of Captain Thomas Fair (1764-1801), merchant mariner, and Esther, née Woolis (1770-1849). He was baptised at St Mary, Rotherhithe, just a few days before his father's death in Mahaica, Demerara (modern British Guiana), where he had sailed on his merchant ship *Esther*.

Fair's parents were married at St George in the East in 1792 and lived at East Lane, Bermondsey. They had at least three other children: Thomas Fair (bap. 1796), Esther Fair (1797-1882) and Charles James Fair (1799-1875). His father may have served in the Royal Navy but by April 1794, when he drew up his will, he described himself as 'Master of the Merchant Ship the Esther now outward bound to the port of Oporto'. It seems likely that his ship was named after his wife and daughter. Captain Fair never returned from the journey and his death was recorded in Mahaica, Demerara, on 25 August 1801.

In 1820 Thomas Morgan Fair, together with his mother, Esther Fair, witnessed the agreement articling his brother Charles James Fair as clerk to George Pritchard. All three are likely to have lived together and, at the time of his death in March 1832, this was the newly built **19 Stonefield Street**. Charles James Fair lived here with his growing family, including **Thomas Fair** (d. 1836), who was also buried in the crypt.

Esther Fair moved to Newington to live near her daughter, Esther (1797-1882), who had married John Chessell Buckler (1797-1894), architect. She was living at **8 Canterbury Row, Southwark**, when she died on 20 April 1849 and was buried at St Mary Newington.

Tale: Crossing Continents

Part I of this story is that of Thomas Fair, Merchant Sailor who travelled across Countries and Continents with links to Southern Ireland, the Docks of the East End of London, to Oporto, Lisbon and then presumably across the Atlantic Ocean to Guyana on the East Coast of South America, as this is where he died. Before he left London for Oporto, as Master of the Merchant Ship *Esther* we read in his Will that he leaves everything he has to his “beloved wife Esther”. Is it a coincidence that Thomas’s wife and his ship have the same name?

Part 2 is of Thomas and Esther Fair’s son, Charles James Fair, a Merchant living in 19 Stonefield Street, the street leading north out of Cloudesley Square. Census, Poor Rate Books and Holy Trinity archives all record him there from 1832 to 1841/2. He married Mary Leevers from Cork, Ireland and we note them baptising 3 sons and burying 1 of them at Holy Trinity Church. He also buried a brother in the same church.

On 29 September 1840 the Partnership of Christopher Joseph Steer and Charles James Fair, merchants, Finsbury Circus, London, was dissolved. Whether the Partnership was dissolved voluntarily, or because his company became insolvent, it appears that this may well have been the trigger to decide to emigrate. Fair still appears in the Poor Rate Books for 1841/2. After that it appears that Charles James Fair and his wife Mary decided to make a new life with their children in the Western Cape, South Africa. No record of their journey has been found but his daughter Mary was born in South Africa in October 1846, followed by two more children in 1849 and 1856.

Someone in the Fair family has taken a great interest in their ancestors and has compiled a Public Tree on the *Ancestry* website. This links to a website, *Global Grave Images*, where we see photographs of the Fair family grave with railings around it and the details of every member of the family that are buried there carefully recorded. The profession of Charles James Fair is not entirely clear, however; we see him first described in London, as Merchant, then Clerk of the Commercial Exchange, when in South Africa, and finally, Gentleman.

One child, Robert Herbert Fair, is missing from the family grave. He made the long journey back to England to study at Cambridge University to become a Church Minister. He married and lived with a large family and his wife Frances Jane, née Connell, in England. They were both buried in West Meo, Winchester in Hampshire. When he died, Robert Herbert Fair was 80 years old.

Burial number:

57

William Hubbard

Researched by: **Patricia Wenz**

Born:

14 September 1830

Baptised:

7 December 1830

Died:

Unknown

Buried:

11 August 1835

Age at time of death:

4 years and 10 months

Address at death:

2 White Conduit Grove

Equivalent address (2020):

Denmark Grove (demolished)

Later address:

111 Liverpool Road (pictured below)



William Hubbard (1830-1835), was the eldest son of William Hubbard (c. 1796-1847), meat salesman at Newgate Market, and his wife Sarah, née Girling (d. 1892). He was baptised at Christ Church, Newgate Street, as was the second son, **William Girling Hubbard** (1838-1840). The third son **William Hubbard** (1841-1843) does not seem to have been baptised; his twin sister Ellen Hubbard (1841-1904) was not baptised until 1849 when she was seven years old at the Islington Presbyterian Chapel, together with her three year-old brother, William Frederic (b.1845). **Frederick William Hubbard** (1843-1844). All four brothers were buried in the crypt of Holy Trinity Church.

After William Hubbard senior died on 25 April 1847, Sarah Hubbard continued the family business. In 1850 she moved to **111 Liverpool Road** (formerly **15 Cloudesley Terrace**), together with several of her surviving children: Elizabeth, Eliza, Ann and William Frederick. The two elder daughters, Sarah and Mary, had married and left home.

Sarah Hubbard senior died in 1892 at the age of 89 and was buried with her husband in the family grave in Highgate West Cemetery.

Tale: Four little William Hubbards

William and Sarah Hubbard lived at 2 White Conduit Grove (renamed Denmark Grove), between the years 1835 and 1846. William earned his living as a meat salesman; contemporary trade directories list him as working at 4 Newgate Market in the City of London, in the shadow of St Paul's Cathedral. a short journey down the Liverpool Road At this time, live cattle were still being driven down Liverpool Road, formerly Back Road, to Smithfield Market for slaughter and sale.

By 1841 the Hubbards had eight children living with them: Sarah (16), Mary (14), Elizabeth (12), James (8), Eliza (6), Ann (4) and twins Ellen and William (2 months). Their household also included a servant, Sarah Cole (18). Two of their sons, **William Hubbard** (1830-1835) and **William Girling Hubbard** (1838-1840), however, lay buried in the crypt of Holy Trinity Church.

Legislation for the central registration of births, marriages and deaths in England came into effect on 1 July 1837, so there is no death certificate for the first William, only the record of his burial. Death certificates do exist for his three brothers. William Girling, who died at home on 27 January 1840, was reported to have died from 'teething' by his father, who had been present at his death. The third **William Hubbard** (1841-1843), twin brother to Ellen, died on 4 January 1843. His death was reported by the family servant, Sarah Cole, who was present at the death and signed with her mark. The cause of death was recorded as 'Inflammation on the Chest'.

Four months later, Sarah gave birth to another son, **Frederick William Hubbard** (1843-1844). A convulsion fit at the age of eight months sent him on the short journey to the crypt to keep company with his three little brothers. The death was reported by Mary Hubbard – presumably his sister, who would have been

about seventeen years old – who was present at his death, on 22 February 1844.

In April 1845 William and Sarah had another son, whom they named William Frederic. He was baptised in 1849 at the Islington Presbyterian Chapel, together with his seven-year old sister Ellen. By this date, William Hubbard senior had died and been buried in Highgate West Cemetery.

Sarah Hubbard continued the family business as a meat saleswoman and is listed in a directory of 1850 as trading at 4 Newgate Market. Apart from meat and poultry salesmen, there were also butter and cheese salesmen, a butter and pork salesman, a carcass butcher and a butchers' cutler. Sarah was not the only female trader; four women were listed in the 1840 directory. The market, which dated back before the Great Fire in 1666, closed in 1869 when the City authorities centralised wholesale sales at the Central Meat Markets at Smithfield. The opening in 1855 of the Metropolitan Meat Market in Copenhagen Fields (later known as the 'Cally Market'), now Caledonian Park, brought an end to the centuries-old practice of livestock being driven through the streets of Islington.

In 1850 Sarah Hubbard moved to **111 Liverpool Road** (15 Cloudesley Terrace), together with at least four of her children: daughters Elizabeth, Eliza and Ann and five-year old William, who are listed in the 1851 census. The mother of eleven children, she overcame extraordinary personal tragedy and lived until she was 89. Described as 'the loving wife of William Hubbard' on the headstone, she was buried next to him in the family grave in Highgate West Cemetery. Three of her daughters – Sarah, Mary and Ellen – lie with them, together with one of her grandchildren, James Smart.

Burial number:

68

Thomas Fair

Researched by: **Jenny Tatton**

Born:

30 September 1836

Baptised:

3 October 1836

Died:

1836

Buried:

8 October 1836

Age at time of death:

Infant

Cause of death:

Unknown

Address at death:

19 Stonefield Street

Equivalent address (2020):

19 Stonefield Street (pictured below)



Thomas Fair was one of seven children of Charles James Fair (1799-1875), a merchant, and Mary, née Leever (1811-1890). Born in Bermondsey, his father was articled to the clerk George Prichard of Essex Street, Strand, in 1820, as witnessed by his widowed mother Esther Fair (1770-1849) and his brother **Thomas Morgan Fair** (1796-1832). Thomas Fair's parents married in Cork, Ireland, on 19 July 1832 and their first four children were baptised at Holy Trinity, Islington. Sadly, Thomas lived for only a few days.

The Fairs lived at **19 Stonefield Street** from 1832 until c.1842 when they emigrated to the Western Cape (modern South Africa). This followed the dissolution on 29 September 1840 of the partnership between Christopher Joseph Steer and Charles James Fair, merchants, of Finsbury Circus.

Fair worked as Clerk of the Commercial Exchange in Cape Town, where his second daughter Mary was born in October 1846, followed by two more children. The family grave is at St Saviour's Anglican Church Cemetery Claremount, City of Cape Town,

Esther Fair moved to Lambeth to live next to her daughter, also Esther (1797-1882), who was married to John Chessell Buckler (1793-1894), architect, and cousin of Henry Buckler. She was living at **8 Canterbury Row, Southwark**, when she died on 20 April 1849 and was buried at St Mary Newington.

Tale: Crossing Oceans

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Burial number:

83

Henrietta Harper

Researched by: **Alison Pollard & Chris Wells**

Born:

26 June 1798

Baptised:

8 July 1798

Died:

7 January 1838

Buried:

12 January 1838

Age at time of death:

39

Cause of death:

‘an epileptic attack’

Address at death:

3 Malvern Cottages

Equivalent address (2020):

9 Malvern Terrace (pictured below)



Second daughter and joint heiress of the Revd Richard Rice (d. 1836), Rector of Eaton Hastings, Berkshire, and Henrietta, née Dickson (1770-1832). Baptised at Eaton Hastings, Henrietta grew up in nearby Faringdon with her siblings Caroline Dorothy Harper (1797-1842), **Theodosia Harper** (1800-1840), and Richard Rice, who succeeded their father as Rector. Both parents died in Swansea and, together with her sisters, she inherited a third of the manor of Northleach and Eastington.

On 22 August 1836 Henrietta married Jevon Harper (1803-1858), an attorney at law and son of Daniel and Elizabeth Harper of Tamworth, at St Mary, Swansea. By 1837 they were living in Islington but early the following year Henrietta died of an epileptic attack. Within weeks, her sister Theodosia drew up a will leaving her estates to Jevon and the couple married on 16 April 1838 at St Cuthbert, Edinburgh. Their marriage was illegal, following the passing of the Deceased Wife's Sister Act in 1835, which may account for them having travelled to Scotland to marry.

Although her will was contested, Theodosia's death in 1840 left Jevon in control of two-thirds of the manorial estates; in 1845 he bought the remaining third from his friend, Samuel Goldney, the widower of Caroline Dorothy Rice. In 1846 Jevon married for the third time, Elizabeth Roby. He sold the lordship before his death in 1858.

A handsome memorial tablet in the north aisle of Holy Trinity Church commemorates both sisters.

Burial number:

107

Theodosia Harper

Researched by: **Alison Pollard & Chris Wells**

Born:

19 September 1800

Baptised:

Unknown

Died:

22 April 1840

Buried:

29 April 1840

Age at time of death:

39

Cause of death:

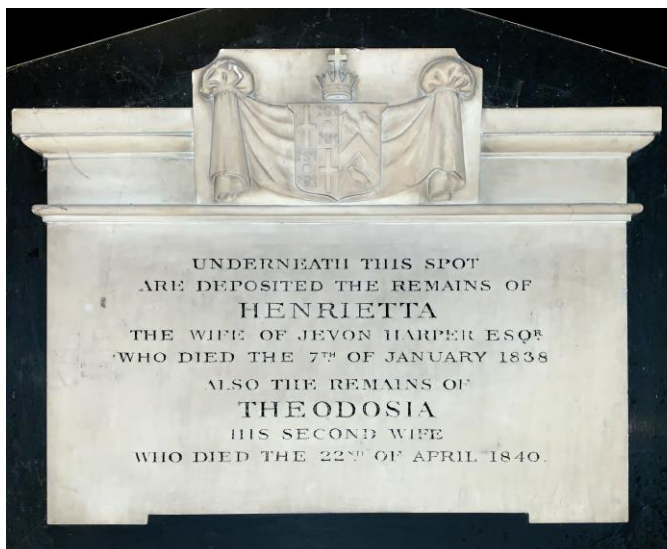
'a disorder of the stomach'

Address at death:

3 Malvern Cottages

Equivalent address (2020):

9 Malvern Terrace



Theodosia Harper was the third daughter and joint heiress of the Revd Richard Rice (d. 1836), Rector of Eaton Hastings, Berkshire, and Henrietta née Dickson (1770-1832). Baptised at Eaton Hastings, Theodosia grew up in nearby Faringdon with her siblings Caroline Dorothy Harper (1797-1842), **Henrietta Harper** (1798-1838) and Richard Rice, who succeeded their father as Rector. Both parents died in Swansea and, together with her sisters, she inherited a third of the manor of Northleach and Eastington.

In 1836 Henrietta married Jevon Harper (1803-1858), an attorney at law and son of Daniel and Elizabeth Harper of Tamworth, at St Mary, Swansea. By 1837 Theodosia was living with the newly-married couple in Islington. Within weeks of Henrietta's death early in 1838, Theodosia drew up a will leaving her estates to Jevon; three months later she married Jevon on 16 April 1838 at St Cuthbert, Edinburgh, in an apparent attempt to evade the provisions of the recently passed Deceased Wife's Sister Act of 1835. She died two years later 'of a disorder of the stomach'.

Although her will was contested, Theodosia's death left Jevon in control of two-thirds of the manorial estates; in 1845 he bought the remaining third from his friend, Samuel Goldney, the widower of Caroline Dorothy Rice.

A handsome memorial tablet in the north aisle of Holy Trinity Church commemorates both sisters (pictured left).

Tale: Four weddings and two funerals

Our tale begins in a picturesque market town called Faringdon, in Berkshire, which borders the Cotswolds. In 1800, a family of five children: Caroline, Henrietta, Frances, Richard and Theodosia lived in the vicarage with their father, the Reverend Richard Rice, and mother, Henrietta.

Revd Rice was a wealthy man who owned land in Limerick, Ireland, as well as land and property in Northleach, Gloucestershire, where he was also Lord of the Manor. In the 1820s, he moved his family to Swansea in Wales on becoming vicar of a larger church there. It was in Swansea, where his second daughter Henrietta met Jevon Harper, who was working as a clerk for Rice's solicitor, John Jenkins. Henrietta and Jevon married in 1836 when she was 37 and he was 33.

Jevon had moved from Swansea to London sometime after 1821 and was living in White Lion Court, in the City of London, working as an Attorney at Law. We can imagine that in 1837 when Henrietta and Jevon first moved into 3 Malvern Cottages, from Penton Street, with Henrietta's younger sister, Theodosia, they were very excited to be there. They were the first residents of this fine house, in a green and prosperous suburban area of London. They must have had many hopes and dreams as they settled into life there with their servants.

But it was in this very house fairly soon after they move in that tragedy struck for the sisters. Henrietta died very suddenly on 7 January 1838 (aged just 39) from a "series of epileptic seizures", when she was with Jevon's brother. She had been married to Harper for less than two years. She left all her possessions to him and he was the sole executor of her estate.

Just two weeks after Henrietta was buried in the crypt of Holy Trinity on 12 January 1838, her sister Theodosia made out her own Will

and Testament, giving her address as 3 Malvern Cottages. We assume that she was already living there, since it would presumably have been inappropriate for her to move in with Harper so soon after her sister's death. She left everything to Harper and also made him her executor.

By 16 April of the same year, Jevon and Theodosia were married, just four months after Henrietta's death.

That's even more of an achievement than you might imagine. Only three years earlier, the government had introduced new legislation to prevent men marrying the sister of their deceased wife. This forced Jevon and Theodosia to travel to Edinburgh to marry.

Their marriage certificate shows separate Edinburgh addresses of their temporary lodgings. The fact they married in Edinburgh (considered a 'foreign' jurisdiction) while not legitimately residing there, would prove critically important later. Given that London wasn't connected with Edinburgh by rail until 1851, the journey would have probably taken several days, either by stagecoach or ship.

What's more, their intention to marry would probably have had to be announced in church several Sundays in advance. So it is likely Harper would have proposed less than two months after Henrietta's death.

This level of haste would raise some eyebrows even today. But, in 1838, siblings were expected to officially mourn their brother or sister's death for up to half a year. It would also have raised questions over their haste and Harper's true intentions towards both sisters, considering they were both heiresses in possession of substantial wealth along with one third of a title, representing a marked increase in status for Harper.

Sadly, just two years later, on 22 April 1840, tragedy struck the family again and Theodosia

died. Her death certificate gave the cause of death as 'Disease of the digestive organs'. She was buried in the crypt on 29 April 1840.

Two months later, a case was brought against Harper as executor of Theodosia's will. The intention was to effectively annul Theodosia's marriage with Jevon. We still don't know who brought the case but strongly suspect it was the two surviving Rice siblings – Caroline and / or Richard Rice Jnr.

The case was heard in Britain's highest ecclesiastical court by the well-known judge Sir Herbert Jenner. On 26 June 1840 he ruled in favour of Harper. The result divided opinion and appeared to cause a minor national scandal with several newspaper reports and opinion pieces written arguing from both sides.

One year later, in May 1841, the eldest Rice sister, Caroline marries Samuel Oviatt Goldney. Only two years earlier, Goldney had been imprisoned in Bristol Gaol as an insolvent. Tragically, in January 1842, only eight months after their wedding, Caroline also died. Three years later, in 1845, Goldney sold his third of the title to Harper. The same year Goldney was listed as being back 'in the Queen's Prison for relief of insolvent debtors' (*The London Gazette*).

Harper had gone from being an Attorney-at-law or Solicitor to becoming the Lord of the manor of Northleach and landed proprietor. A year later in 1846, Harper was living in Weston, Somerset where he married his third wife, Elizabeth Christiana Martha Roby.

We suspect that Elizabeth was related to the John Roby mentioned in the Articles of clerkship certificate which Jevon signed in 1821. She was daughter of Thomas and

Elizabeth Roby, née Wood, who were from Tamworth, where Harper himself had been born. One of the witnesses was named as Elizabeth Roby Harper which suggests the Harpers and Roby families were already closely linked.

But Harper was Lord of the manor for only four years before he offered the title for sale; the Northleach town charity trustees made an unsuccessful attempt to buy the lordship.

A year later, the Harpers were living at Victoria Lodge in Weston Super Mare. He gave his occupation as 'Landed proprietor' and they had two female house servants. Jevon died in 1858, aged 54 of a 'lingering illness'. His death duties were paid by his wife in Chew Magna near Bristol. We're still waiting to receive a copy of his will, but we suspect he left his estates to his wife who outlived him until November 1879. Her will is also not yet available but we know she left a personal estate of around £4,000.

The tale leaves many questions unanswered:

- Why did Theodosia marry Jevon so hastily after Henrietta's death?
- Was it eldest sister Caroline who brought the case against Jevon in the ecclesiastical courts?
- Who paid for the memorial inscription in Holy Trinity church?
- Why did Jevon try to sell the lordship not long after purchase?
- Did Jevon actually even want the title very much? The fact he purchased the final third suggests he did.
- Was Jevon Harper a caring man, a complex opportunist, a cad or a cur?

Burial number:

151

Henry Buckler

Researched by: **Kieran Garvey**

Born:

21 June 1796

Baptised:

17 Sept 1796

Died:

26 June 1847

Buried:

2 July 1847

Age at time of death:

51

Cause of death:

Erysipelas, organic affection of the brain

Address at death:

Thornhill Cottage

Equivalent address (2020):

17 Thornhill Road (demolished) – replaced by Thornhill Road Primary School



The seventh of the nine children of Alexander Buckler (1758-1823), a city factor at Blackwell Hall cloth market, and Jane, née Ferris (1760-1801), he was born in Lothbury in the City of London. He and his wife **Mary Ann Buckler**, née Warwick (1791-1848), married at St Giles, Camberwell, in 1818 and had four children: **Catherine Eliza Buckler** (1822-1831), Alexander Buckler (1823-1905), Henry Buckler (1827-1903) and Josiah Fell Buckler (1830-1917).

Buckler was official short-hand writer (stenographer) to the Old Bailey criminal court from 1816 until his death – he recorded several celebrated trials as well as court cases featuring his fellow parishioners of Holy Trinity. He was succeeded in the job by his son Alexander.

Buckler lived at Thornhill Cottage in Thornhill Road from 1841 until his death. At the time of the 1841 census his household consisted of Henry and Mary Ann, their three sons and their two servants: Sarah Cousby aged 30, and Alice Hatt aged 15. Buckler had previously lived at **189 Liverpool Road**, formerly **54 Cloudesley Terrace** (pictured left), where he moved in 1827.

Buckler was a close friend of the Revd Hunter Francis Fell (naming his youngest son after him), a Churchwarden and Member of the Vestry of Holy Trinity Church. He is commemorated with a fine memorial in the nave of the church.

Tale: Shorthand writer to the Old Bailey: a witness to criminal justice in the early nineteenth century

In 1816, at the age of twenty, Henry Buckler became the official shorthand writer to the Old Bailey criminal court, where the most serious criminal offences of the day were tried. He continued in this role for thirty-one years until his death in 1847. As such he would have been witness to the administration of criminal justice for a significant period of time and was responsible for maintaining the official record of events. He was also involved in the publication of written summaries of trials, which were popular with a public keen to follow the crimes and scandals of the day. These were called *The Proceedings* and were published eight to ten times a year. Henry's name featured prominently on the title page of this publication, and as such his name would have been known both to legal circles and to some extent the wider public. At Holy Trinity he was a member of the Vestry Committee and a respected member of the community.

Henry was one of nine children born to Alexander and Jane. Following the death of his mother, his father remarried and had a further four children. Henry grew up in the City of London, where his father was a merchant or "factor" working at the Blackwell Hall cloth market in Basinghall Street. This was the main market for the cloth trade in England, and his father specialised in the trade of linen, which he stored in nearby warehouses. Alexander was made bankrupt three times (1788, 1796 and 1810) which may explain the changes of address over this period. Notwithstanding such adversity Alexander managed to continue working as a factor and warehouseman until his death in 1823. Both parents (and some of Henry's siblings) were buried at the Bunhill Fields cemetery in the City of London.

Both Henry's parents came from Warminster in Wiltshire, where some of the Buckler family appear to have been religious non-conformists. The fact of their burial at Bunhill Fields (known predominantly, but not exclusively, as place of burial for non-conformists) may suggest Alexander and Jane may also have held such views. Equally the place of burial was close to their residence, and proximity may have been a determining factor for burial.

Henry, his wife **Mary Ann Buckler** and daughter **Catherine Eliza Buckler**, were all buried together in the Crypt of Holy Trinity church. His wife was living at **20 Stockwell Park Road, Brixton**, at the time of her death in 1848.

Henry's eldest son Alexander took over his father's role as shorthand writer to the Old Bailey and continued as such for many years, dying in 1905 in Beckenham, Kent aged 82. His second son Henry became a stockbroker in the City of London and died in 1903 at Kingston, Surrey aged 76. His youngest son Josiah became a vicar and for many years was based in the parish of Tinsley in Yorkshire. Josiah died in Cambridgeshire in 1917 aged 87.

Burial number:

176

Elizabeth Harvey

Researched by: **Derrick Chivers**

Born:

11 May 1805

Baptised:

20 January 1806

Died:

1854

Buried:

16 June 1854

Age at time of death:

49

Address at death:

48 Lonsdale Square

Equivalent address (2020):

48 Lonsdale Square



The daughter of James and Ann Rymer, Elizabeth Isabella Rymer was baptised at St Giles in the Field, Holborn. She married William Harvey (1796-1873), surgeon and writer, on 21 June 1821 at St Mary, Islington. They lived at 50 Cloudesley Terrace (now 181 Liverpool Road) before moving to 48 Lonsdale Square.

Elizabeth Harvey died and was buried in 1854, but her remains were removed from the crypt and reburied in a double tomb in the catacombs at Highgate Cemetery in 1855.

William Harvey was a prominent citizen of Islington, serving as church warden at St Mary, Islington, and Chair of the Poor Law Board. Under the pseudonym 'Aleph', he published a number of articles in the *City Press*, a selection of which were published as *London Scenes and London People* (1863).

William died on 18 March 1873 and was buried with Elizabeth after an elaborate funeral attended by many hundreds of mourners.

Tale: From crypt to catacombs

Elizabeth Isabella Rymer was baptised on 20 January 1806, the daughter of James and Ann Rymer. After her marriage to William Harvey, their first known address is 50 Cloudesley Terrace (now 181 Liverpool Road) which they rented from Arnsby & Dinsdale (Rate Book 1843). From here they moved to 48 Lonsdale Square.

Lonsdale Square was designed by R. C. Carpenter and construction commenced in 1840 with the east side completed & occupied by 1843. The west side was occupied by 7 residents including the Harveys in 1844. The 1851 census reveals the same people were in residence as had been listed at 50 Cloudesley Terrace, namely William & Elizabeth Harvey, Elizabeth's widowed mother Ann Rymer and their servant Eliza Judd.

In 1854 Elizabeth Harvey died and was buried in Holy Trinity Church crypt, within view of her house. Hers was one of the last interments due to new Burial Acts of 1853 and 1855 which prevented interments within church yards and vaults in cities. This would have prevented William from being buried with his wife, so he purchased on 16 April 1855 for £20, double Catacomb Compartments H & J in the recently opened Highgate Cemetery. Beneath Elizabeth's burial entry for Holy Trinity has been added a note to state that the Bishop of London had granted a Faculty on 10 April 1855 for 'This lady removed to Highgate Cemetery'. She was interred there on 16 June.

William Harvey was also born in the parish of St Giles in the Field. He qualified as a Surgeon at Great Queens Street, Lincolns Inn Field and in 1838 the contents of his surgery were insured for £550 by Royal Sun Alliance.

During his life in Islington, William served as Member and subsequently Chairman of the Trustee Board and Guardian Board, was then elected to the Vestry and served as Church Warden at St Mary's. As a medical man, he devoted himself to sanitary reform; he became Chairman of the Sanitary Committee, the Poor Law Board was also active in the construction of Hampstead Small Pox Hospital.

He was author of a number of articles published in *City Press* under the pseudonym 'Aleph'. Several of these were also published by subscription as *London Scenes & London People* (1863); the list of over 900 subscribers included many residents of Islington and the City.

William died on 18 March 1873, aged 77. From the many entries in the *Islington Gazette*, he was called the 'Father of this Parish' and praised as a local philanthropist, supporter of many organisations and active member of St Mary's, but there was no mention of Holy Trinity Church. His funeral was attended by many hundreds of mourners both at St Mary's and at Highgate Cemetery, where he was interred in the Catacombs alongside his wife Elizabeth.

In 1889 a portrait of William Harvey was presented by R.M. Holborn to the Vestry of St Mary's as 'a little testimony of regard to the high qualities which the late Dr William Harvey, of Lonsdale Square, devoted to the service of Islington. His culture was wide and generous, his public energy remarkable, and his polished urbanity to the rich and poor alike, probably rarely equalled' (*Islington Gazette*, 5 March 1889). It is possible that this portrait is the one now in the collection of Islington Museum.