

**Kater, Captain Henry FRS** (1777 - 1835), soldier and scientist, was born on 6 April 1777 in Bristol. His family was of German origin.

He joined the army in 1795 and was sent to India. He worked on the Great Trigonometrical Survey under the first Superintendent, William Lambton.

He retired as a captain and returned to England in 1814, devoting the rest of his life to scientific research. He invented Kater's Pendulum, a reversible free-swinging pendulum, which measures the local acceleration of gravity. It remained in general use until the 1930s.

Kater met Sir Edward Sabine, a future member of RAS, at Henry Browne's house in Portland Place.

In 1818 using Browne's instruments, in particular his clocks and compasses, Sabine and Kater carried out a series of experiments on the oscillation of pendulums in different latitudes.

He worked with Thomas Colby, head of the Ordnance Survey (also a member of the RAS), on the connection between the observatories at Greenwich and Paris.

He was present at the second meeting held at H.T. Colebrooke's house, 32 Argyll Street, on 16 January 1823, at which the membership of the Asiatic Society, which had been founded the week before, was discussed. He was also a member of the Athenaeum in 1824.

He died on 26 April 1835.

The RAS library has:

Records of ancient science, exemplified and authenticated in the primitive universal standard of weights and measures / communicated in an essay transmitted to Henry Kater by T.B. Jervis (1835)

*Address: (1823, 1824, 1825) 12 York Gate, Regent's Park; 1 Union Place, Regent's Park (in Boyle's Court Guide 1821)*



**Captain Henry Kater by George Richmond, 1831,  
National Portrait Gallery**

**Kemshead, Henry Morris** (1792 - 1878), merchant, was born in 1792.

He primarily traded in foodstuffs. He founded the Dhobah East India Sugar Company in 1836. His original company was based in Jamaica, but he moved it from there, after having been awarded compensation for slaves employed there.

He was elected to RAS membership in 1825; he is listed as Kemshead in the subscription lists of 1826 and 1827.

Together with Alexander Grant MP (also a member of the RAS), he formed Grant & Kemshead & Company. He was also a director of the East and West India Dock Company.

Later in life he was Deputy Lieutenant of Middlesex, and a JP. In 1856 he became involved as a trustee in the rescue of the failed Ladbroke Estate development in North London.

He died on 20 September 1878. He is buried in Kensal Green Cemetery, in "a very fine Gothic mausoleum in the heart of the cemetery, at the intersection of Centre and Junction Avenues" (Legacies of British Slave Ownership).

*Address:* (1825) 46 Lime Street



**Henry Morris Kemshead, mezzotint  
1863, by James John Chant, National  
Portrait Gallery**

**Kennaway, Sir John, Bart.** (1758 - 1835), soldier in the East India Company, was born on 5 March 1758 in Exeter.

He left for India in February 1772, with his elder brother Richard, where they both entered into the service of the EIC as cadets. Promoted to Captain in 1780, he served in the campaign against Hyder Ali.

As Aide-de-Camp to Lord Cornwallis, the Governor-General, he was sent to Hyderabad to negotiate an alliance with the Nizam against Tipu Sultan. As a result he was created Baronet in 1781 in recognition of his work in Hyderabad. In 1792 he was again sent by Cornwallis as a negotiator, this time to arrange a treaty with Tipu Sultan, under which Tipu agreed to pay three million pounds as expenses incurred in the war, and left his two sons as hostages.

He returned to England in 1784 and retired to his estate at Escote in Devon.

He became a member of RAS in 1825 and paid composition subscription as elected resident member in 1827.

He died on 1 January 1835 in Devon.

*Address:* (1825) Nil; in 1834 he lived in Escote House, Honiton, Devon

**Kennedy, Alexander MD** (1764 - 1827), physician with the East India Company, was born on 22 June 1764 in Edinburgh.

He joined the EIC as Assistant Surgeon in 1788 and was on duty during many of the battles of the Indian wars. He was made Superintending Surgeon of the Madras Medical Service from 1808 to 1812. He returned to Scotland and worked as a surgeon in Edinburgh from 1819.

He was a founding member of RAS in 1823 and paid subscriptions for 1824 and 1825. He was also a Fellow of the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland and a Fellow of the Royal Society of Edinburgh.

He died on 27 March 1827 at 6 Albany Street, Edinburgh.

*Address:* (1823, 1824) Edinburgh

**Kerr, Charles** (dates unknown), was elected to RAS membership at the General Meeting of 17 May 1823. His name was withdrawn on 8 January 1824.

He could have been:

An East India merchant, based at King's Arms Yard, Coleman Street, London, who together with Edward Fletcher, Henry Alexander, Henry Porcher (all RAS members) and others, was a claimant against the estate of Robert Woolf and the heirs of Narain Chitty in a case heard by the Tanjore Commissioners in 1833.

Or Charles Kerr, MD, Born: 8 May 1799 in Bombay (Mumbai), son of General James Kerr of the East India Company service.

The *Charles Kerr* was an East Indiaman, making various voyages in the 1830s, including transporting convicts to Australia; to Sydney in 1837 and 1839, and to Adelaide in 1841. In 1826, the "Public Ledger and Daily Advertiser" carried an advertisement for the ship, described as a "fine new fast sailing-ship, A1, coppered, sailing for Bombay." Given that the EIC had the habit of naming their ships after officers of the Company, our short-lived member must have had an important position in the Company.

*Address:* (1823) in *Boyle's Court Guide* 1821 and 1829 C.D. Kerr was living at 50 Hunter Street

**Kindersley, Nathaniel Edward**

(1763 - 1831), banker and scholar, was born on 2 February 1763 at Great Yarmouth. His father, Captain Nathaniel Kindersley, was an officer in the service of the East India Company, and the family lived at Tangernaikpuram in India.

He joined the EIC as a writer in 1780. He married Harriet Butterworth in 1786 in Tangernaikpuram.



Nathaniel Edward Kindersley, artist of a miniature portrait, with a lock of hair

He was a principal founder of the Carnatic Bank in Madras, 1788, along with John Chamier, Josias du Pré Porcher, Thomas Cockburn, and others. By 1789 he was a member of the Board of Trade and Director of the Carnatic Bank.

In 1794 he published *Specimens of Hindoo Literature: Consisting of Translations, from the Tamoul Language, of Some Hindoo Works of Morality and Imagination, with Explanatory Notes.*

He was much involved in the settlement of the affairs of the Nabob of Arcot in the Carnatic, for which he claimed repayments and was subsequently claimed against during the investigation carried out by the Commissioners into the affairs of the late Rajah of Tanjore (i.e. Sir Robert Inglis, Sir Benjamin Hobhouse and Thomas Cockburn; all of whom were also RAS members) in 1808.

Along with his sons, Richard and Nathaniel William Kindersley, all residing at Westhorp House, he was owed dividends by the Bank of England in 1819. He was a subscriber to charities, such as the School for the Indigent Blind (in 1818.) He was a trustee of the will of Josias Du Pré Porcher.

He was a founding member of RAS in 1823 and paid subscriptions from 1823 to 1826.

He died on 18 February 1831 in Little Marlow, Buckinghamshire.

The RAS library has:

Specimens of Hindoo literature: consisting of translations, from the Tamoul language, of some Hindoo works of morality and imagination, with explanatory notes / by N. E. Kindersley. (1794)

*Address:* (1823, 1824, 1825) 43 Upper Seymour Street (in *Boyle's Court Guide* 1821); in *Boyle's Court Guide* 1829 he was living at 18 Edward Street, Portman Square

**Kindersley, Richard Torin** (1792 - 1879), lawyer and judge, was born in 1792 in Madras. He was the son of Nathaniel Edward Kindersley.

He was educated at the East India Company college at Haileybury; he did not enter the EIC service, as might have been expected, but remained in England and studied at Cambridge. He was called to the bar in 1818 and practiced in the Chancery division. He was Chancellor of the County Palatine of Durham for four years, then was appointed Vice-Chancellor and sat on the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council.

He was a founding member of RAS in 1823 and paid subscription for that year.

He died in 1879.



**Sir Richard Torin Kindersley,  
print by Camille Silvy, 1861,  
National Portrait Gallery**

*Address:* (1823) 3 Stone Buildings, Lincoln's Inn (in *Boyle's Court Guide* 1821); also at 45 Weymouth Street in *Boyle's Court Guide* 1829

**King, Captain Phillip Parker, RN FRS** (1791 – 1856), member of the Royal Navy, was born on 13 December 1791.

He was born on Norfolk Island, where his father was serving, but was sent back to England to be educated at the Royal Naval Academy, Portsmouth. He joined the Royal Navy in 1807.

He was sent to survey the coast of Australia four times between 1817 and 1822; he would later write about this in *Narrative of a Survey of the intertropical and western coasts of Australia: performed between the years 1818 and 1822*.

In 1826 as commander of *HMS Adventure*, he was sent to survey the coast of the Straits of Magellan. His son, also called Phillip Parker King, was a midshipman on this voyage, and subsequently served on the *Beagle* which took Charles Darwin to the Pacific.

He was a founding member of RAS in 1823 and paid admission fee as elected resident member in 1824. In January 1826 he donated various items from Australia to the RAS collections. He was also a member of the Athenaeum in 1824.

Later, Captain King lived in Australia and entertained Darwin at his house in Sydney in 1836.

He died on 26 February 1856.

*Address:* (1824, 1825) Bexley Place, Greenwich; in 1834, he was living in Sydney, New South Wales



Philip Parker King RN, c. 1816 Portrait in State Library, New South Wales



**King, Captain Richard** (dates unknown) was a member of the Royal Artillery.

It has not been possible to find much detail on him.

He was made Captain in the Royal Artillery on 8 May 1811 and was promoted to Major July 1830. In November 1851, after he had retired from the Army, Lieutenant-Colonel King was promoted to Colonel.

An R. King was Assistant Quartermaster in Woolwich in 1862.

He was a founding member of RAS in 1823 and paid subscriptions from 1824 to 1827. He was a member of the Founding Committee of the Oriental Club in 1824.

*Address: (1823) Nil; (1824, 1825) Woolwich; (in Boyle's Court Guide 1821 a Richard King was living at 9 Hans Place)*

**Kingsborough, The Right Honourable the Lord Viscount MP** (1795 - 1837), Irish politician and antiquarian, was born on 16 November 1795.

He was Member of Parliament for County Cork 1818 – 1826.

He spent his fortune trying to prove that the indigenous American Indians were in fact one of the Lost Tribes of Israel.

He was a founding member of RAS in 1823, paying his subscriptions for 1823 and 1824. In November 1825 he donated five volumes of dictionaries to the RAS library.

He published *Antiquities of Mexico*, a 9-volume series of vast books giving reproductions of Aztec MSS and descriptions of monuments. He died before he could publish the final tenth volume.

He died on 27 February 1837.

*Address:* (1823, 1824, 1825) 11 Duke Street, St James's; in 1834 he lived in Mitchelstown, Cork

**Kinloch, James** (1775 - 1838), judge and businessman, was born in 1775.

As a young man he joined the East India Company in Bombay as a writer. In August 1804, he and several others representing the Bombay Insurance Company, signed a letter to MPs in London, referring to the recent battle of Pulo Aura where a fleet of East Indiamen had been attacked by the French fleet under Admiral Linois, and where the French had been beaten off by ships of the British Navy under Commodore Nathaniel Dance. They thanked the British government for their help and as a result of a subscription of their members sent £5000 to be given to Commodore Dance and other gifts for the captains in his fleet. Other future RAS members who were at Pulo Aura include Archibald Hamilton and George Palmer.

He was a Judge in the court of the Recorder of Bombay 1805, and that same year was a member of the Committee of the Bombay Insurance Company.

He was a partner in the Firm of Forbes & Company, along with Charles Forbes, David Inglis and Michie Forbes before 1813. In 1810, Charles Forbes wrote from Bombay to his uncle in London, complaining about the other partners in the firm, saying that James Kinloch was a "malade imaginaire". (Handwritten notes of the Forbes family are lodged with the University of Cambridge Centre of South Asian Studies).

He was one of the founding members of the Highland Society, London, in 1816.

According to the Scots Magazine in 1819, the wife of James Kinloch of Brunswick Square had a son. This appears to be a reference to our member despite the fact that other sources indicate he was unmarried.

He was a founding member of RAS in 1823 and paid subscriptions from 1823 to 1825.

In 1823 he, with other shareholders of the East India Company, wrote to the Court of Directors to discuss the state of the East Indian sugar trade.

He died in 1838, and left his large estate to one of his sisters, Mrs Low. Her husband, Alexander John Low, in accordance with the will of James Kinloch, inherited the estate with his wife, and took the name Kinloch.

Kinloch was buried on the grounds of Park House in a large mausoleum, with a vault and a red granite obelisk, with an inscription which reads: 'James Kinloch Esq, Jermyn Street, St James, London formerly of Bombay in the East Indies who died on the 29th day of August 1838 in the 63rd year of his age'.

*Address:* (1823, 1824, 1825) 94 Jermyn Street; in 1834 he lived in 88 Jermyn Street; (in *Boyle's Court Guide* 1821 Jas. Kinloch was living at 19 Brunswick Square)

**Kyd, Lieutenant-General Alexander FRS FAS** (1754 - 1826), soldier and engineer, was born in 1754. He was the son of Captain James Kyd RN.

He joined the East India Company's Bengal Army in 1775 as a cadet. He rose through the ranks to become Lieutenant-General in 1819.

He served in the Engineers and was Surveyor-General during the Battle of Seringapatam when Tipu Sultan was defeated. He later became Chief Engineer in the EIC's Bengal Establishment at Calcutta. When serving at Allahabad in 1803, he discovered a jade sculpture of a terrapin in a disused water tank, which is believed to have been made for the Emperor Jahangir Shah. It is now in the British Museum.

He inherited the estate of his relative, Colonel Robert Kyd, who founded the Botanic Gardens at Calcutta.

He had several illegitimate children. One of whom, his Eurasian son James Kyd, became the main shipbuilder in India, founding docks at Kidderpore (supposedly named after him) and constructing many ships for the EIC's navy.

In 1813 he gave lengthy evidence to the Parliamentary Committee on the East India Company's Affairs.

He was a founding member of RAS in 1823 and paid subscriptions from 1823 to 1826.

He died on 25 November 1826 and is buried in St John's Wood Church.

*Address: (1823, 1824, 1825) 22 Albemarle Street (in Boyle's Court Guide 1821)*