Marshall MacDermott, Paymaster in the 8th Regiment, was born in 1791.

He joined the army as a junior officer in the 8th Regiment of Foot in 1808. He was sent to the West Indies where the British troops captured Martinique from the French. He then moved to take part in the Anglo-American War of 1812, and was wounded at New York. The regiment returned to England in 1815 to fight Napoleon, but by the time they arrived, the battle of Waterloo had taken place, and Napoleon was no longer a problem. He and his regiment served in Europe, but he took time to make a tour round the Mediterranean where he met Byron on the island of Cephalonia. Byron entrusted him with the manuscript of the last part of Don Juan which he brought back to England to deliver to Byron’s friend, John Cam Hobhouse (also a member of the RAS).

He was a member of RAS in 1825.

He served with the 8th Foot until 1829 when he retired from the army to immigrate to Australia, taking the materials to construct a house with him. He settled in Western Australia on the Swan River, which he discovered; where he later helped set up the Bank of the Swan River to help new colonists. He became manager of the bank and when the Bank of Australasia took it over he became manager there, eventually becoming manager of the bank in Adelaide. He was elected a member of the South Australia Assembly from 1857 to 1859 and was a magistrate from 1859 to 1869. He retired in 1869 with many expressions of appreciation from local people for his work. In 1874 he wrote A Brief Sketch of the Long and Varied Career of Marshall MacDermott, Esq., JP which was printed privately.

He died on 3 November 1877 at Adelaide, Australia.

Address: (1825) Nil
MacIntyre, Lieutenant-General John (1750 - 1828), Scottish soldier with the East India Company, was born in 1750 at Gordonhall in Scotland. He was the son of Dr Donald Macintyre, surgeon to Cluny’s Regiment during the 1745 uprising. His mother’s brother was James Macpherson, the poet of “Ossian”.

He was Lieutenant-General in the East India Company’s Bengal establishment. He was a member of the Highland Society of Scotland in 1816.

In the second report of the Commissioners into the affairs of the Carnatic, a claim was made against Macintyre of Maddox-Street, Grosvenor-Square and the East India Company’s service. He counterclaimed against the Company and the estate of the late Nabob of Arcot regarding indentures which he had issued in 1806.

He was a founding member of RAS in 1823 and he paid his subscriptions from 1823 to 1825. He was patron of the parish of Berwick St Leonard with Sedghill, Wilts, when Allan Macpherson was installed as Rector in August 1823.

He died on 6 July 1828 in Bognor; his will dated July 1828 is in the National Archives. There is a marble slab commemorating him in the parish church of Kingussie, Highlands.

Address: (1823, 1824, 1825) 2 Harley Place, New Road
(Listed as “Mac Intyre, Gen. 2 Harley Place” in Boyle’s Court Guide 1821).
Macdonald, Captain Alexander (dates unknown), was a founding member of RAS in 1823. There are several mentions of Alexander Macdonald, none of which can be conclusively identified with our member.

A young Scot, Alexander Macdonald, was employed as servant and piper in 1794 on the East India Company ship *Phoenix* sailing to Bombay and Madras. In 1833 Alexander Macdonald was captain of the convict ship *Caroline*, sailing to New South Wales.

In 1837 the *Richmond* sailed to India, Bengal, with Alexander MacDonald, merchant, on board.

Alexander Macdonald was a partner in James Stuart & Co. though the partnership was dissolved in 1813.

*An Account of the Highland Society of London, from its Establishment in 1778 to the commencement of the year 1813*, Sir John Sinclair, 1813 lists several Alexander Macdonalds:

- In 1786, members of the Highland Society of London who were subscribers to the works of Ossian included a Lieutenant Alex. Macdonald (Bengal), and Lieut. Alexander Macdonald.

- On March 5th 1805, Alexander Macdonald joined the Highland Society of London.

- Captain Alexander Macdonald of the 76th regiment was a member of the Highland Society of London in 1805 and again in 1811.

- An 1816 listing of members of the Highland Society of London includes:

  - Alexander Lord Macdonald;
  - Colonel Alexander Macdonald of Lyndale (on the Isle of Skye);
  - Alexander Macdonald of Broad Street Buildings, City of London.
Macdonald, Lieutenant James (1792 - 1843), soldier and linguist, was born on 29 May 1792 in Flodigarry.

In 1824 he was a Captain in the East India Company’s Service and was elected a member of the Highland Society of Scotland. He became a member of RAS in 1824; in the RAS Journal for 1835 he is given as Captain James Macdonald of the 45th Madras Native Infantry, based at Malabar. He purchased a captaincy 6 October 1825.

In 1837 he was appointed Mahrattah translator to the Tanjore Commissioners; in 1839 he was appointed Mahrattah translator to the Government. He was also appointed temporary Secretary to the College Board and the Committee for Native Education. In 1843 he was promoted to lieutenant-colonel.

He died on 28 August 1843 and is buried in Kensal green Cemetery. His will, dated October 1843, is in the National Archives. He was unmarried.

Address: (1824, 1825) Nil; in 1834 his address was Malabar
Macbride, Dr John David  DCL (1778 - 1868), Lord Almoner’s Professor of Arabic and Principal of Magdalen Hall, Oxford, was born on 28 June 1778 at Plympton, Devon.

He studied at Exeter College, Oxford and became a fellow in 1800. He married in 1805, and so had to leave his fellowship. He then decided to study law and was awarded a DCL in 1811.

In 1813 he was appointed Lord Almoner’s Reader in Arabic and at the same time became Principal of Magdalen Hall: both positions he held until his death, some 50 years later. As Principal he supervised the move of Magdalen Hall from its site next to Magdalen College to the buildings of the old Hertford College, which had been abandoned. Subsequently Magdalen Hall became the new Hertford College in 1874. In 1857 he published *Mohammedan Religion Explained*.

He was a member of RAS in 1824 and paid his subscriptions for 1825 and 1826. In November 1826 he donated a Persian MS of an *Epistle of the poet Juni* to the RAS.

He died on 24 January 1868 at Oxford.

The RAS library has

Ruqa’at-i Jami. / 'Abd al-Rahman Jami,

Jug Bashisht. / Translated from the Sanskrit Yogavasishtha traditionaly attributed to Valmiki. A copy of the version commissioned by Darashukuh in A.H. 1066 (1655-6). (Dated A.H. 1179. and corresponding date in 1822 in the Samvat era.) and

Tuhfat al-'Iraqain. / Written for Aqa Muhammad Rida, assuming that the last page, which is a replacement, is a faithful copy of the original ending, which he presented to the library on 4 November 1826.

Address: (1824, 1825) Nil; in 1834 his address was Oxford
Macfarlane, Captain James (1774 - 1849), British soldier, was born on 19 April 1774 in Scotland.

He was appointed Captain while serving as adjutant at the Chatham Recruitment Depot in 1822. He was a Major by 1849.

He was the great grandson of James Macfarlane of Muckroy and Erins. He took great interest in his family’s history and carefully tabulated records of births and deaths.

He lived at Sunbury, Middlesex. He married his cousin Ann on 25 October 1814. They had four sons and one daughter.

He was a founding member of RAS in 1823 and paid subscriptions from 1823 to 1826. He died on 25 October 1849 at Sunbury, Middlesex.

Address: (1823, 1824, 1825) Chatham Depot
MacKenzie, Charles Alexander (dates unknown) was a member of RAS in 1824. His address is listed as 44 Parliament Street which was an office building, not a hotel. This is a problem: there is no one of this name listed in contemporary registers as living in Parliament Street; the nearest is Charles Kenneth MacKenzie, whose details follow:

The Members’ list of the Zoological Society of London for 1831 lists: Alexander MacKenzie of 26 Southampton Place, New Road, and Charles MacKenzie FRS FLS FGS of Harris’s Hotel, Parliament Street, so there seem to be two of them (and neither is called Charles Alexander). Harris’s Hotel was a prominent hotel near the Houses of Parliament and a frequent meeting place for freemasons. It is listed at 16 Parliament Street in the “Merchant, Tradesman's and Solicitor’s Book of Reference” 1831.

The Archives at Kew Gardens contain a letter from Charles Mackenzie to Sir William Hooker, dated 24 July 1828, from Holmes’ Hotel, Parliament Street, saying that he has just come back to London and would like to send Hooker his collection of plants collected in Haiti. Holmes’ Hotel was at 17 Parliament Street (Westminster Poll Book 1818).

This was almost certainly Charles Kenneth MacKenzie, FRS, born in Scotland 1788, whose father, Kenneth MacKenzie, a barrister, bought a plantation in Demerara and moved to the Caribbean as Attorney-General of Grenada. The family survived several years of rebellion during which time the elder MacKenzie had to defend the island and its British planters against the rebels led by Julien Fedon (1795-6). Charles may have been at school in England during this time. He studied medicine in Scotland and then again in London, gradually becoming known for his scientific work on geology and flora. He was a member of the Geographical Society and the Linnaean Society. Shortly after qualifying as a doctor he joined Wellington’s army in the Peninsular War and saw service in several battles. After the war he returned to London and his studies. He was elected FRS in 1815. With the support of Canning he joined the Foreign Service and was appointed consul in Haiti; he wrote a full report on the country for Canning, but this was ignored when Canning fell from power. In 1830 he was appointed Commissioner to the British-Spanish Commission in Havana, Cuba, but was dismissed by Palmerston in 1834.

MacKenzie also had problems with the Royal Society: he had lost his membership early in the 1830s, was reinstated in 1832, rejected again in 1835 for non-payment of his dues and then readmitted again in 1836. He continued his literary and scientific work, in particular journalism for various newspapers. He went to live in New York for a few years, and then settled in the USA, either in New York or Boston, and contributed articles from there to British papers.

He married Rebecca Molyneux in Southwark, on 12 January 1828.

He died in a fire at the Rainbow Hotel, New York City in 1862, aged 75.

This may be our member, because of various links, such as the London hotel.
Mackenzie, James (dates unknown), was a British businessman.

He was a partner in the firm of Gledstanes, Drysdale and Co., with William Castellaw Drysdale and John Hampden Gledstanes (both also members of the RAS) The company traded for some years in London, and was originally set up in 1789 as the Wanstead Church Tontine to raise funds for rebuilding Wanstead Church in Surrey. It was dissolved on 31st December 1831 (“The London Gazette” issue 19171).

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

He married Frances Eleanor Simpson on 10 June 1824.

In 1839 James Mackenzie was one of the proprietors of East India Company stock who wrote to the Court of Directors asking them to petition the Houses of Parliament to appoint a Select Committee to investigate the duties levied on Indian-produced goods at British ports.

The London Metropolitan Archives have a document dated April 1854 which is the release of a property to the executors of James Mackenzie of Winchester and Hampton.

Address: (1823, 1824, 1825) 4 Burton Crescent; in 1834 his address was 45 Mecklenburgh Square

Burton Crescent is now Cartwright Gardens; No. 4 was destroyed in World War II.

Robert Mayne (also a member of the RAS) was living at the same address at the same time.
Mackillop, James (1786 - 1870), Scottish businessman and MP, was born on 17 July 1786 in Stirling, Scotland.

His father was a farmer at St Ninian’s, Stirling. He travelled to Calcutta, and joined the agency house of his uncle, Robert Downie (also a member of the RAS). Downie returned to England in 1811, and Mackillop remained as partner in a new firm, Cruttenden, Mackillop and Co., which was one of the most important trading companies in Bengal. He returned to England in 1824 and joined the firm of Palmer’s, Mackillop and Co. After some difficulty, he managed to get himself elected MP for Tregony in 1830. He only remained an MP for two years. The Calcutta agency failed in 1834, and he returned to Bengal to set up a new partnership, Mackillop, Stewart and Co., but returned to England in 1838. The partnership was still functioning without him in 1862.

He was a founding member of RAS in 1823 and paid subscriptions from 1823 to 1827.

He died on 27 January 1870 at Nice, France. He never married.

Address: (1823, 1824, 1825) 49 Weymouth Street, Portland Place; in 1834 his address was 4 Montagu Square (also in Boyle’s Court Guide 1829)
Mackinnon, Charles (1773 - 1833), Scottish physician and MP, was born 1773 in Scotland. He was a member of the Skye branch of the Mackinnon family and was educated at Aberdeen University.

He joined the East India Company's naval service as a ship's surgeon in 1794, serving on the Duke of Buccleugh and then the Nottingham (until 1798). He was 2nd surgeon in Canton from 1800 to 1805, then appointed head surgeon at Prince of Wales Island (now Penang) in 1808. He was reprimanded for spending more time trading than as a surgeon, and was suspended by Governor James Drummond. He was reinstated and returned to England in 1818.

He retired from the Company's service in 1821. He remained as a member of the United Company of merchants trading with India.

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

He had hoped to become a director of the EIC and also a Member of Parliament. He stood as a candidate for election to Parliament in Ipswich in 1827; he was not elected, but with his co-candidate petitioned parliament to overturn the result. His petition was upheld by the speaker, and so he was eventually elected. He remained MP for Ipswich for four years.

In 1833 he fell ill and went to France to recuperate, but died in Beauvais on his way back to England. His daughter Sophia erected a tablet to her parents in St Mary Abbot's Church in Kensington.

Address: (1823, 1824, 1825) Camden Hill, Kensington
Mackintosh, Sir James MP FRS (1765 - 1832), Scottish jurist, Whig politician and historian, was born on 24 October 1765.

Born near Inverness, he was brought up by his grandmother. He went to Aberdeen University in 1780, then to Edinburgh to study medicine. He took his degree in 1787 and moved to London the following year.

In 1789 he married Catherine Stuart whose brother Daniel was the editor of The Morning Post, of which Mackintosh become a frequent contributor.

He was fascinated by the French Revolution and wrote *Vindiciae Gallicae: A Defence of the French Revolution and its English Admirers* in praise of it as a reply to Burke’s criticisms. The book was very influential, putting him at the forefront of English philosophers. He left his medical practice and was called to the bar. He gave a series of public lectures at Lincoln’s Inn which were very successful.

His wife Catherine died in 1797.

In 1798 he married Catherine Allen, the sister-in-law of the Wedgwoods who were partners in a pottery firm. Through them he met Coleridge, whom he asked to write for the Morning Post.

He was appointed Recorder of Bombay in 1804, but fell ill. He disliked India and returned to England four years later. He became an MP in 1813 and remained Member of Parliament for Knaresborough until his death. From 1818 he was Professor of Law at the East India Company College at Haileybury. He was Honorary President of the Literary Society of Bombay in 1823 and a founding member of RAS that same year; he was a member of the Committee of the Athenaeum in 1824. He was Commissioner for the Affairs of India in the Whig government of 1830.

Throughout the final years of his life he wrote his masterpiece, the *History of the Revolution in England in 1688*, which was only published in 1834, after his death.

He died on 30 May 1832 in London after a chicken bone was wedged in his throat. He is buried in Hampstead churchyard.
Address: (1823, 1824, 1825) 42 Cadogan Place; earlier, on his return from India: 26 Albemarle Street
Maclew, Andrew (1765 - 1847), British administrator, was born on 5 December 1765 at St Martin’s in the fields, Westminster.

He was a governor of the Magdalen Hospital in 1821, as were several other RAS members.

He was present at the meeting held at H.T. Colebrooke’s house, 32 Argyll Street, on 9 January 1823, at which the Asiatic Society was founded. He was also present at the second meeting held at H.T. Colebrooke’s house, on 16 January 1823, at which the membership of the Asiatic Society was discussed. He was also a member of the Founding Committee of the Oriental Club in 1824.

He was a friend of Henry Colebrooke’s who asked him in 1829 to look through the records held in East India House London, to see if they contained any references to the developing scandal in India concerning his brother James Edward Colebrooke.

In 1842 he was asked to produce deeds to a property in Twickenham, and his address was given as “Poulett Lodge, Twickenham”.

In 1848 it was announced in court that he had left a legacy of £20 “to be placed in the poor-box of the court for the relief of deterring indigence”.

He died in April 1847 in Brentford, Middlesex.

Address: (1823, 1824, 1825) F 1, Albany (in Boyle’s Court Guide 1821); in 1834 his address was 15 Waterloo Place (also in Boyle’s Court Guide 1829)
Macleod

See

Mcleod
**Mactaggart, John** (dates unknown), was a member of RAS in 1825. It has not been possible to ascertain much biographical detail on this member, these are details that might pertain to our member:

John Mactaggart was a shipowner, owner of the *Marquis of Huntly* sailing to Bombay and China in 1819.

John MacTaggart was twice churchwarden of St Lawrence Pountney in the City of London, from 1795 to 1797.

Sir John Mactaggart of Ardwell, Bart., MP for Stranraer, was a member of the founding committee of the British and Irish Union Railway from Dumfries to Stranraer in 1845.

In 1830, in the Scottish Jurist, Vol 3, 1831, the following statement: “I, John McTaggart, Esquire, Merchant in London, do hereby exoner and discharge the late company of Mr McKerlie and McTaggart, merchants in Glasgow, and Alexander McKerlie, merchant there, my brother-in-law, as a partner of that Company, and as an individual”.

*Address:* (1825) 22 Manchester Square (also in *Boyle’s Court Guide* 1824 and 1829 spelled McTaggart)
**Macwhirter, Dr. John** (1780 - 1853), Scottish physician, was born in 1780.

He served in India as a surgeon with the East India Company from 1803 to 1825, including service during the Maratha War of 1803. On 9 December 1810, he married Harriet Reid in Calcutta.

He returned to Scotland to continue his medical studies and became MD of St Andrews in 1816 before returning to India.

He was a founding member of RAS in 1823 and paid subscription for 1824.

He returned finally to Scotland in 1825 and became President of the Royal College of Physicians of Edinburgh 1831-1833. He was a member of the Caledonian Horticultural Society in 1824. He testified to the Royal Commission on Municipal Corporations in Scotland in 1834.

In 1845 he immigrated to Australia and settled in Geelong from 1846 to 1852 when he returned to Scotland. Envelopes of letters addressed to him in Australia exist in Australian philatelic collections.

He died on 13 December 1853 in Edinburgh.

*Address: (1823, 1824, 1825) 48 York Place, Edinburgh*
Malcolm, Sir John GCB KLS FRS (1769 - 1833), Scottish soldier, diplomat and historian, was born on 2 May 1769. His father was a Scottish farmer; his brother was Admiral Sir Pulteney Malcolm, also a member of the RAS.

Nicknamed ‘Boy’ throughout his life, he was a sports and games enthusiast. He joined the East India Company’s Madras Army, arriving in India in 1783. He served until 1794 when he returned to England to recover his health.

He returned to India in 1795, as secretary to General Clarke; en route he took part in the capture of the Cape of Good Hope from the Dutch. He was sent on a mission to Persia in 1800, during which he is said to have introduced the potato to Persia. He returned to India and became secretary to Lord Wellesley, the Governor-General. He served with Sir Arthur Wellesley (later Duke of Wellington) in the Anglo-Mahratta war of 1803 and the two became very friendly. He returned to Persia, but failed in his mission because the French had struck up a deal with the Persians.

When he was Resident in Mysore, Major de Havilland, also a member of the RAS, was the military engineer who designed and constructed many buildings for the Residency.

As Captain John Malcolm, with a group of others including John Macdonald Kinneir, Snodgrass and Pottinger, he visited the Gate of All Nations at Persepolis in 1808 and 1810 and carved his name there.

He returned to England in 1812, and spent his leave writing his History of Persia which earned him an honorary DCL from the University of Oxford. He was back in India in 1817 and served in several more campaigns. He returned to England in 1822.

He was a founding member of RAS and 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 was discussed. He paid subscriptions to the Society from 1823 to 1825. In November 1823 he donated three books to the RAS Library: his History of Persia, Instructions to Officers and Memoirs of Central India. He later made a large donation of Persian manuscripts and other books in 1827.

As well as a member of RAS he was a member of the Literary Society of Bombay in 1823, a founder of the Oriental Club; member of the Founding Committee and first Chairman of the Oriental Club in 1824, and a member of the Athenaeum in 1824.
In 1827 he was appointed Governor of Bombay. Like Mountstuart Elphinstone before him, he devoted much effort to the education of the Indians and promoted their entry into the civil service. He returned to England for the final time in 1831. He joined Wellington in Parliament as MP for Launceston but only remained an MP for two years, during which time he opposed the Reform Bill. In 1833 he persuaded the Directors of the East India Company to accept the government’s proposals for reform of the Company’s charter.

He died on 30 May 1833 at Hanover Square and is buried in St James’s Piccadilly.

The RAS Library has: *The Government of India*, 1833.

*Address:* (1823, 1824, 1825) Hyde Hall, near Sawbridgeworth, Herts; died at Prince’s Street, Hanover Square
Malcolm, Vice Admiral Sir Pulteney KCB (1768 - 1838), British naval officer, was born on 20 February 1768 in Douglan, Dumfriesshire. His father was a Scottish farmer, but his uncle was an Admiral. His brother was Sir John Malcolm, also a member of the RAS.

At ten years old, he joined the Navy as midshipman on the Sibyl where his uncle was Captain. He changed ships together with his uncle, moving to the Jupiter. In 1792 the Jupiter took Admiral Pigot to the West Indies and Malcolm was promoted to lieutenant. In 1793 he was first lieutenant on a frigate, the Penelope, and was involved in many actions, including the capture of the French frigate Inconstante. In 1804 he was sent to the Mediterranean in the Royal Sovereign, then to the Kent in which Nelson was blockading Toulon. He moved again, this time to the Donegal which moved to join Admiral Collingwood off Cadiz. The ship had to go into Cadiz for repairs when the French fleet appeared, and was not able to take part in the Battle of Trafalgar. Nevertheless, Malcolm managed to get the ship out to join the fleet after the battle and captured a French boat, as well as dealing with ships which had been disabled. After the battle, Admiral Collingwood said: "Everybody was sorry Malcolm was not there, because everybody knows his spirit, and his skill would have acquired him honour. He got out of the Gut when nobody else could, and was of infinite service to us after the action".

He then saw more service in San Domingo (1806), and St-Vaast-la-Hougue (1810). Malcolm transferred to the Royal Oak which he commanded in 1812. Promoted Rear-Admiral in 1813, he served in the war with the United States, and in 1815 was in charge of a squadron in the North Sea in liaison with Wellington. From 1816 to 1819 he was Commander-in-Chief of the fleet guarding Napoleon on St Helena. Vice-Admiral in 1821, he was Commander-in-Chief Mediterranean from 1828 to 1832.

In 1809 he married Clementina, daughter of William Fullerton Elphinstone, a director of the East India Company, and sister of John Fullerton Elphinstone (also a member of the RAS).

He was a founding member of RAS in 1823. He was also a member of the Founding Committee of the Oriental Club in 1824, which was founded by his brother Sir John Malcom. Pulteney would serve as the Club's chairman in 1837.

He died on 20 July 1838 at East Lodge, Enfield.

Address: (1823, 1824, 1825) 2 Upper Harley Street
Marsden, William FRS FAS (1754 - 1836), orientalist and civil servant, was born on 16 November 1754 in County Wicklow, Ireland. He was the son of John Marsden, merchant and banker of Dublin.

His elder brother Thomas had gone to India as a writer with the East India Company, and obtained a post for his brother William at Bencoolen in Sumatra. William, who had been planning to go to Trinity College, suddenly found himself in 1771, at the age of 17, on a ship to India. By the time he reached India, he found that his brother Thomas had died, having been poisoned by irate Brahmins after he had cut down a sacred banyan tree.

Marsden was appointed secretary in various positions in the EIC service and studied the Malay language. He returned to England in 1779, via St Helena, and immediately made the acquaintance of Sir Joseph Banks, who introduced him to other members of the Royal Society. He published his *History of Sumatra* in 1783, and was elected FRS in the same year. The following year he was elected Fellow of the Asiatic Society of Calcutta.

On the instigation of Earl Spencer (later member of the RAS) he joined the Admiralty, first as Second Secretary, and then was promoted to First Secretary, where he was involved in dealing with various mutinies by seamen. He was also involved in the design of new ships for the navy.

In 1805, he received the first information of the Battle of Trafalgar late at night, and had to inform the King and the cabinet of the events the following morning. Due to the strain of his work at the Admiralty he resigned in 1807.

He brought together a collection of documents relating to Portuguese Jesuit missionaries in India in the 17th century, which is now in the archives of King’s College, London. His collection of oriental coins was given to the British Museum.

He was a founding member of RAS in 1823 and paid subscriptions as a resident member. In November 1825 he donated a copy of his *Numismata orientalia* to the RAS library. He made a large donation of books (mainly his own works) and documents including drawings of Hindu deities to the RAS in 1827. In 1824 he was a member of the Athenaeum and in 1830 he was a founder of the Royal Geographical Society.

He died on 6 October 1836 at Queen Anne Street in London.

He published:
Catalogue of Dictionaries, Vocabularies, Grammars and Alphabets 1796.

Grammar and Dictionary of the Malay Language 1812.

Travels of Marco Polo 1818.


Address: (1823) 27 Cavendish Square; (1824, 1825) 50 Queen Anne Street, Cavendish Square (also in Boyle’s Court Guide 1829); Aldenham, near Watford, Herts; (in Boyle’s Court Guide 1821 he was living at 4 Euston Place)
Matson, Captain Henry  RN (1775 - 1827), navy officer, was born in 1775 at Sandwich, Kent.

He joined the navy in 1790 as a midshipman on the Arrogant commanded by his uncle Captain John Harvey. He then moved to the Halifax station in 1796 as a lieutenant on the Rover. He then moved to the West Indies, again under his uncle, and was commander of the Cyane in 1799. From 1803 he was commander of the frigate Venus, on the Irish station, where he captured several French ships. In 1809 he commanded the St Florenso before retiring from the Navy in 1810.

He was a member of RAS in 1825.

He died on 31 May 1827 at Walmer, Kent.

Address: (1825) United Service Club
Maughan, Captain Philip (1783 - 1865), navy officer and surveyor, was born in 1783.

He joined the East India Company’s naval service, the Bombay Marine, in 1798. As a lieutenant in the Bombay Marine in 1804, he made a survey of the Gulf of Cutch, for which the government paid him 1000 rupees “as an encouragement to others to emulate his praiseworthy conduct”.

In 1810, he prepared for the East India Company a marine chart of what was to become the Victoria Harbour in Hong Kong: this map, entitled “Macau Roads”, was the first map depicting the area in detail.

On September 25 1817, his brother, Captain Jacob Maughan, died at sea on board the East Indiaman General Kyd, as he was travelling to Bombay.

In 1820, in command of the Discovery, he started a major survey of the Persian Gulf beginning at Cape Mussendom, but had to give up his work because of ill-health in 1821.

He became a member of RAS in 1825.

On 15 March 1827 he married his second wife, Elisabeth Arnott, at St Thomas’s Church, Bombay.

He died on 13 November 1865 in Rosneath, Argyll.

Address: (1825) Agents: Messrs. Inglis, Forbes and Co., 2 Mansion House Place
Mayne, Robert (dates unknown), was a member of RAS in 1824, paying subscriptions for 1825 and 1826.

There is no obvious member of the Society among several Robert Maynes:

Robert Mayne was a London merchant trading with India, China and Lisbon in the 1770s.

In 1818 Robert Mayne was purser on the East India Company’s ship Atlas, owned by Jasper Vaux, and commanded by Charles Otway Mayne.

Son of Robert Mayne, MP, he was educated at Westminster School and Christ Church, Oxford, where he obtained his BA in 1803. He was rector of Limpsfield, Surrey, for 34 years from 1806.

Robert Graham Mayne of the 59th Native Infantry, served in the Bengal Army in the 1840s and 50s. (British Library India Archive). Robert Mayne, 17th Native Infantry, served in the Bengal Army in the 1850s.

4 May 1843, Robert Mayne, formerly captain of the 86th Regiment, died in Sydney, New South Wales, Australia.

19 January 1846, Robert Mayne, retired Commander RN, died in Jersey, aged 63. He had joined the Navy on 3 March 1798, and as midshipman served on the Polyphemus at the Battle of Copenhagen in 1801. He was commissioned Lieutenant in 1804 and served in various ships, until he rejoined the Polyphemus at the Battle of Trafalgar in 1805. He then commanded a signal station at Cork, and joined the office of the Agent for Transports where he worked in Spain, Portugal, France, Canada, and the West Indies. He retired as Commander in 22 December 1842.
McDermott, Marshall  See Mac Dermott, Marshall
**McDonnell, Dr James** (DOB unknown - 1834), physician and surgeon, was born in Newton Stewart, Co. Tyrone, Ireland.

He studied at St John’s College, Cambridge (admitted 1822, and kept the Michaelmas Term 1823), then studied medicine in London, qualifying as MD and MRCS there. He lived and practised as a physician and surgeon in Buenos Aires. His address there was Calle de la Biblioteca 136, according to advertisements which he placed in the local press.

He was elected to RAS membership in 1825 and paid his admission fee and annual subscription for 1825.

He married Francis Matilda Platt on 20 September 1828 at St John’s College. They had several children who were baptised in Argentina.

He died on 28 March 1839 in Buenos Aires and is buried in the British cemetery at Chacarita. Other British doctors working in Buenos Aires were present at his funeral.

*Address: (1825) 19 Leicester Square; in 1834 his address was Buenos Ayres; in Boyle’s Court Guide 1821 Jas. McDonnell was living at 30 Gerrard Street, Soho*
**Mcleod, Major-General William** (1759 – 1836), soldier with the East India Company, was born in 1759.

He was born into the Arnisdale branch of the Macleod clan in 1758 and joined the EIC army in 1779 as an ensign. He arrived in Madras in 1780, and was appointed by the EIC as their agent to settle boundary disputes with Tipu Sultan of Mysore. He took part in the 3rd Mysore War against Tipu in 1799 as an intelligence officer, reporting on life in the bazaars. He received a medal for his service at Seringapatam. In 1808 he was head of station at Cuddalore.

He returned to England in 1813 and married Margaret Mackenzie in Inverness in 1815. He was a founding member of RAS in 1823 and paid subscriptions from 1823 to 1827.

He died on 16 November 1836 at his house in Fulham and is buried in St Ann’s Church, Soho.

*Address:* (1823, 1824, 1825) Arnisdale Cottage, Fulham
McNeill, Sir John (1795 - 1883), Scottish surgeon and diplomat, was born in 1795 at Oronsay House, Argyll.

Born on the family island of Colonsay, which he later bought from his brother, he studied medicine at Edinburgh University before joining the East India Company in Bombay, working as a surgeon until 1836.

Travelling from Bombay in 1820, he met up with James Baillie Fraser (also a member of the RAS). Together they travelled to Persia with Fraser disguised as a Persian merchant.

He was a founding member of RAS in 1823 and paid subscription as a non-resident member.

Between 1824 and 1835 he was attached to the EIC legation in Persia as political assistant to the Minister. In the Journal of the RAS for 1834 he is referred to as “Surgeon to the Embassy, Persia”. From 1835 to 1838 he was secretary to the special British embassy to Persia. The Persian ruler, Mohammed Shah was determined to take the town of Herat in Afghanistan and was supported by the Russians who were trying to gain a toehold in Central Asia. The British succeeded in raising the siege of Herat, and the Shah and the Russians left the scene. He returned to Persia in 1841 to sign a commercial treaty.

In 1845 he was appointed chairman of the board administering the Scottish Poor Law Act; this was during the period of the Potato Famine. He set up the Highland Emigration Society which helped poor Scots to immigrate to Australia. During the Crimean War he was sent with Colonel Alexander Tulloch to Crimea to report on the arrangement for supplying and accounting for supplies. Their report was highly critical of Lord Raglan’s command and resulted in reforms to the whole system. The House of Commons passed a motion to offer honours to Tulloch and McNeill, who was made a Privy Councillor.

He died on 17 May 1883 at Cannes, France.

He wrote:

Progress and Present Positions of Russia in the East 1838.

Report on the State of the Highlands and Islands of Scotland 1851.

Address: (1823, 1824, 1825) Edinburgh; in 1834 his address was Persia
Melville, John (dates unknown), was an inventor.

He was a member of the Scottish Corporation of London in 1799. He became a member of RAS in 1825 and paid subscriptions from 1825 to 1828.

In 1829, at Allan Bank, Berwickshire, he married Miss Swinton, daughter of Samuel Swinton of Swinton, Berwickshire.

He stood for election to Parliament for Lyme Regis in 1831 as a reform candidate, but was beaten into third place. He was an early member of the Radical Club in 1833.

In 1838 (and again in 1842) he took out a patent for a means of increasing the power efficiency of steamships.

In 1851 Mr John Melville of Upper Harley Street proposed a new invention to strengthen the ties between railway carriages, so as to reduce the possibility of a break in an axle which was the most common form of accident at the time.

Address: (1825) Nil; (1827, 1828, 1829 and 1835) 16 Upper Harley Street (also in Boyle’s Court Guide 1829)
Melville, The Right Honourable Lord Viscount KT FRS (1770 - 1851), British Statesman, was born Robert Dundas on 14 March 1770 in Edinburgh. He was the son of the 1st Viscount.

He studied at Gottingen, and then Cambridge. Before inheriting the title he was MP for Hastings in 1794, for Rye in 1796 and Midlothian in 1801. In Parliament he said very little, except for speeches in defence of his father in 1805 and 1806, when his father was being impeached.

He was made President of the Board of Control for India in 1807 by the then Prime Minister, the Duke of Portland. After the death of his father in 1811 he became First Lord of the Admiralty.

He was very active as President of the India Control board, forming alliances with princely rulers and occupying Portuguese trading posts in India and China, the Dutch settlements in Java, and French posts in Mauritius and Reunion.

He was a founding member of RAS 1823 and paid subscriptions to 1828.

At the Admiralty he tried to continue British naval supremacy gained at the Battle of Trafalgar in spite of government cuts to the naval budget. He increased the navy with improved ships, but refused to adopt the new-fangled and untested steam power. His interest in Arctic exploration resulted in various places being named after him in northern Canada.

He died on 10 June 1851 at Melville Castle, Edinburgh.

Address: (1823, 1824, 1825) Admiralty and Melville Castle (in Boyle’s Court Guide 1821); his house was 16 Arlington Street; (1827, 1828) Nil; in 1834 his address was Melville Castle, Edinburgh
Mendez, Francis (DOB unknown – ca. 1834), was a Portuguese merchant of Calcutta.

He bought a ship from John Hudson, master mariner, in 1826. He was a subscriber to the Journal of the Asiatic Society of Bengal in 1833. Sworn in as a Grand Juror at the Supreme Court of Calcutta 27 July 1833, “the first occasion on which native gentlemen were admitted on the jury.”

He was a member of RAS in 1823.

Address: (1823, 1824, 1825) Nil; in 1835, his address is given as Calcutta
Metcalfe, Sir Charles Theophilus, Bart. (1785 - 1846), was a British colonial administrator he was born on 30 January 1785 in Calcutta. His father was Major Thomas Metcalfe of the East India Company Army.

Charles was brought up in London at 49 Portland Place, Langham Place. He left England for India in 1800, becoming a writer with the EIC. He studied languages at Fort William College and was appointed political assistant to General Lake in 1804. In 1808 was sent as envoy to Lahore, where he concluded a treaty recognizing the independence of the Sikh states.

In 1811 he became Resident in Delhi, firstly for the EIC then, two years later, for the British government. In 1819 Lord Hastings appointed him to the important post of secretary in the secret and political department of the government.

He was a founding member of RAS in 1823 and is listed as a non-resident member up to 1828.

In 1827 he joined the Supreme Council and two years later became acting governor-general of Bengal. Although he only served for a year, he encouraged the freedom of the press, which earned him the displeasure of the EIC directors in London. As a result he resigned as Governor-General in 1838.

Returning to England he was appointed Governor of Jamaica by the Prime Minister Lord Melbourne in 1839. As governor he successfully negotiated the consequences of the recent Negro Emancipation Act. Ill-health compelled his resignation and in 1842 he returned to London.

He was appointed Governor of Canada, a position that he held from 1843 – 1845. He had great difficulty in dealing with the elected representatives in the legislature. He managed to get the British government to pardon the rebels of the 1838 uprising, despite being very ill with cancer. He returned to England and retired to his estate in Berkshire.

He died on 5 September 1846 in Berkshire.

The RAS library has:

Metcalfe’s mission to Lahore, 1808-1809 / by Victor G. Kiernan
Address: (1823) Hyderabad (1824, 1825) Hyderabad; (1827) Delhi; (1828) Calcutta; in London, he lived in Mansfield Street, Portland Place; (in Boyle’s Court Guide 1821 his address is given as 19 Upper Harley Street)
Michael, Captain James (DOB unknown - 1838), was a soldier with the East India Company and Asian scholar.

In 1823 he was captain of the escort to the Rajah of Tanjore, who wanted to give him a present of 4000 rupees on his leaving the service; this was refused by the Madras Government, and Captain William Handy was appointed in his place.

He was a founding member of RAS in 1823 and is listed as a member up to 1828. In February 1824 he donated some ivory models of Callasy sticks and a drawing of a “Minaret erected by the Rajah of Tanjore in memory of Napoleon” to the RAS.

In 1834 he was Professor of Hindu Literature and the History of Asia at the EIC College at Haileybury. He served as translator to the Bombay Council of the EIC in 1836.

He died in January 1838.

Address: (1823) 46 High Street, Marylebone; (1824) Madras; (1825) Petersham, Surrey; (1827) Nil; (1828 and 1834) East India College, Haileybury
**Michell, Major Edward** (1787 – 1841), Brigadier-General, was born in 1787.

He entered the Royal Military Academy, Woolwich, as a cadet in 1802 and became first lieutenant the following year. As a young lieutenant he was stationed at Gibraltar in 1805; in a letter dated 19 April he describes how the French fleet tricked Nelson into sailing towards Egypt, while the French escaped through the straits of Gibraltar into the Atlantic. The letter was recently sold in a collection of Nelson Memorabilia by Berryhill & Sturgeon Ltd.

In May 1811, as Brigadier-General, he was stationed in Spain. He saw action at many of the Peninsular War battles and was injured at Barrosa when he was shot in the shoulder. From 1813 to 1814 he served in Holland, and was again wounded at Bergen-op-Zoom. He then served in the Anglo-American War of 1814-15, including the battle of New Orleans.

He became a member of RAS in 1824, paying subscriptions up until 1828.

He died on 24 January 1841 fighting Ibrahim Pasha in the Syrian War of 1840-41; a monument was erected to him in Jaffa (modern day Tel Aviv) which still stands today.

*Address:* (1824, 1825, 1827, 1828) Woolwich
Mill, James (1773 - 1836), historian, economist and philosopher, was born James Milne on 6 April 1773 in Angus, Scotland. He was the father of Utilitarian philosopher John Stuart Mill.

Mill's father was a shoemaker and farmer. Despite the family’s poverty, his mother resolved that he should receive a first-rate education, sending him first to Montrose Academy and then to the University of Edinburgh where he excelled as a Greek scholar.

Although ordained a minister in the Church of Scotland, he spent his time tutoring various pupils and decided to go to London, where he became editor of the Literary Journal and St James’ Chronicle. He was employed by the East India Company between 1819 and 1836.

James Mill worked for twelve years on his major work the History of British India which met with great success when it was published in 1817. This work was highly critical of both Hindus and Moslems.

He was a founding member of RAS in 1823 and paid subscriptions up to 1828.

He died on 23 June 1836 in London.

Address: (1823) Nil; (1824, 1825, 1827, 1828) East India House; he lived at 39 Rodney Street, Pentonville Road from 1805 to 1810; his son, J.S. Mill, was born there.
Molony, James (1785 - 1874), Irish landowner, was born on 18 August 1785. He was the son of James Molony of Kiltanon, Co. Clare, who was High Sheriff of Co. Clare in 1802.

Molony served 20 years in the East India Company service and, like his father, was High Sheriff of County Clare in 1828.

He was an important Irish landowner. In 1845, at the beginning of the potato famine, he sold the best quality potatoes to his starving tenants at the cheapest price of “a penny-halfpenny a stone”.

He was a founding member of RAS in 1823.

He was appointed a trustee of the estate of Charles Harding and his wife, the former Ann Hamilton, in 1824; the document is in the Huntingdonshire Archives.

Together with Charles Mills the younger of London, he stood guarantee as trustee of the estate of the late Lady Ann Hamilton in 1845.

He died on 7 July 1874 in Leamington but was buried in Tulla churchyard, County Clare.

Kiltannon House was burnt down in the troubles of 1922, and the Molony family left the estate.

Address: (1823, 1824) Willesbourne, near Stratford on Avon; also of Kiltannon, Co. Clare, Ireland
Monckton, John (1739 - 1830), businessman, was born in 1739. He was the son of John Monckton, the first Viscount Galway, brother of Edward Monckton and Generals Robert and Henry Monckton.

Along with Edward Monckton and his son Henry Monckton, of Portland Place, he held shares in the East India Company in 1815, when he was living at Fine Shade, near Stamford.

He was a founding member of RAS in 1823 and paid subscriptions until 1828.

He listed as a member of the United Company of Merchants of England trading to the East Indies in 1825.

In 1829 he contributed £100.00 to the foundation of King’s College, London; he was living at Maidstone at that time.

He died in 1830.

Address: (1823, 1824, 1825, 1827, 1828) 46 Portland Place; (in Boyle’s Court Guide 1821 only Edward Monckton is listed at this address)
Monckton-Coombs, Lieutenant-Colonel John (DOB unknown - 1833), was a soldier in the East India Company army and member of RAS.

He joined the East India Company army of the Madras Presidency, and by 1819 he was British Commissioner in Penang. Together with Stamford Raffles (also a member of the RAS) he signed a treaty of Friendship with the Kingdom of Achin in that year.

He married Anna Maria Smoult in May 1819, in St John’s Cathedral, Calcutta. In July 1826 his third son, John, was born in Teddington, Middlesex.

He became a member of RAS in 1825 and served as a member of the RAS Committee. In 1826 he presented the Society with two books including a copy of The Principles of Harrison’s Timekeepers. In 1828, he presented the Society with a copy of Mackenzie’s Results of the Survey of the Mysore. In June 1826 he presented the RAS with various items from Prince of Wales Island (Penang), including poisoned arrows, a stick insect and a specimen of “caouchouk” (i.e. rubber).

He died on 10 October 1833 in the cantonment at Palaveram, a military camp in the suburbs of Madras, which later served to hold newly arrived recruits to the EIC army. He was returning from ball practice with his brigade when he was killed by a havildar from the 5th regiment who was “infuriated by passion and blinded by intoxicating drugs” (inscription on his tomb in the cemetery of St George’s Cathedral, Madras). Some personal details of him are held in the British Library, Asian and African Studies Section.

Address: (1825) Nil. In 1830 his address was Madras.
Money, William Taylor MP FRS (1769 - 1834),

Eldest son of William Money (1738 - 1796), a captain of several Indiamen and subsequently director of the East India Company. William Taylor Money entered the EIC naval service as lieutenant on the Rose in 1786. He was commander of the General Goddard in 1793, and following that command, of the Walthamstow. He retired from active seagoing service in 1801 and became Marine Superintendent in Bombay. He became a director the EIC in 1811, and was MP for Wooton Bassett and then Mitchell. In parliament he supported Wilberforce and Buxton (both RAS members) in eradicating slavery in the West Indies.

A painting of the three Money brothers: William, James (1772-1833) and Robert Taylor (1775-1803), by John Francis Rigaud, is in the National Maritime Museum, Greenwich, London (see below).

He was a founding member of RAS in 1823 and paid his subscription in 1824. He was also a Member of the Literary Society of Bombay in 1823. His sister Martha, married David Deas Inglis, a plantation owner and member of the RAS.

He lost money investing in estates in Java, and entered the consular service. He was consul in Venice when he died on 3 April 1834.

Address: (1823) East India House; (1824, 1825) 181 Piccadilly; (also W. Money 3 Hanover Street, in Boyle’s Court Guide 1821 and 1829)
A group portrait of three sons of William Money (1738-1796), a Director of the East India Company and an Elder Brother of Trinity House, commissioned by Sir Robert Wigram Bt (1769-1830), Money’s lifelong friend and business partner. William Taylor is in the middle. His right arm rests on the shoulder of his brother Robert, who stands to the left and is shown half-length, to right, wearing a red coat. He is in profile looking at his eldest brother and pointing with his right hand to a map of China at the place marked Canton. James, the right hand figure, holds the other end of the map with his right forefinger placed on Calcutta. Through a window behind him the Indiaman ‘Rose’ is shown at anchor. James and Robert both spent their lives in the civil branch of the Company’s service, with Robert serving in China.
Moor, Major Edward FRS, FAS (1771 - 1848), British soldier and Indologist, was born in 1771.

He joined the EIC army as a cadet in 1782, and became captain in 1796, having been wounded at Dooridroog near Bandgalore in 1791. He retired from the army in 1806, and lived at Bealings House, Great Bealings, where his son was later to be rector.

He wrote *The Hindu Pantheon* in 1810, an early discussion of Hindu religion.

He was a founding member of RAS in 1823 and paid subscriptions to 1828. In May 1826 he donated six of his works to the RAS library. He was also a Member of the Literary Society of Bombay in 1823.

In 1834, while living at Bealings, he heard a ghostly ringing of the bells in the servants' hall which he described in his book *Bealings Bells* 1841, in which he suggested physical sources for the paranormal event.

He died on 26 February 1848 at Bealings.

Address: (1823, 1824, 1825, 1827, 1828) Bealings, near Woodbridge, Suffolk
Moore, Daniel FRS FAS (1760 - 1828), solicitor, was born in 1760.

He practised as a “highly respectable” solicitor in Lincoln’s Inn for many years, and lived in his chambers there, as he was not married. He was a great supporter of learned societies “where his good humour and love of science always ensured a hearty welcome” (Obituary, New Monthly Magazine, Vol. 24).

He was a member of the Royal Astronomical Society, and Treasurer of the Royal Society. He was treasurer of the Public Dispensary in Carey Street, and also of the Law Association. He was governor of Christ’s Hospital and the French Hospital. He lent the Royal Institution £1000 interest-free when the society was in financial difficulties, and bequeathed the sum to them in his will.

In 1823 he gave £50 to the Society.

He was a founding member of RAS in 1823, and donated £50 to the Society in that year; he is listed as a member up to 1827. He was also a member of the Athenaeum in 1824.

He died on 6 January 1828 at his lodgings in Kentish Town.

Address: (1823, 1824, 1825, 1827) 8 New Square, Lincoln’s Inn; (in Boyle’s Court Guide 1829 listed as D. Moore, 40 Castle Street, Holborn; also listed in Boyle’s Court Guide 1829 together with Wm. Lake)
Moore, Robert Montgomery (DOB unknown - 1873), was a member of RAS and held various positions in Irish law enforcement.

He was a member of RAS in 1825 and paid his admission fee and annual subscription in 1826 and 1827; he is listed as a member until 1828.

He was mentioned as a juror in the Belfast Commercial Chronicle in July 1833.

He was High Sheriff of Tyrone in 1834 (A genealogical and heraldic history of the landed gentry of Ireland, Burke, 1912), also in 1832, when his address was ‘Stormhill, Aughnacloy’. He was Deputy Lieutenant of Tyrone in 1835.

He died on 2 March 1873 in Aughnacloy.

There was an action in the High Court of Dublin, 1884, regarding the estate of Robert Montgomery Moore, deceased, of Sandymount.

Address: (1823, 1824, 1825, 1827, 1828) Nil
Moreau, César (1791 - 1860), statistician and economist, was born on 22 November 1791 in Marseilles.

He was appointed French Vice-consul in London in 1816. He wrote a large number of books on statistics, in particular on commercial subjects.

He was the founder of the Société de statistique de Marseille. He was a freemason.

Commenting on his latest work on the British Navy, the Oriental Herald said it was “another proof of the surprising industry and research of this really extraordinary individual. There cannot be many such men as M. Moreau on the globe at any one time” (Oriental Herald 1827).

He was a member of RAS in 1825 and is listed in the subscriptions paid list for 1827 and 1828. In November 1825 he donated three books on economics and a sheet “Tabular View of British Trade” to the RAS library. He made a further donation of six of his works to the RAS in 1827.

He died on 30 November 1860 in Paris.

Selected bibliography:

The Rise and Progress of the Silk Trade in England 1826.

Moreau’s East India Company’s Records.

The Past and Present Statistical State of Ireland.

Chronological Records of British Finance.

The Table of Commerce of Great Britain.

State of the trade of Great Britain with all parts of the world.

Précis sur la franc-maçonnerie, son origine, son histoire, ses doctrines, etc.

Address: (1823, 1824, 1825) Nil; (1827, 1828) 21 Soho Square
Morie, John FAS (ca. 1768 - 1844), clerk and book collector, was born around 1768.  
For many years he served as Clerk to the Committee of Shipping in the East India Company; in this role he signed off the registers of ships and their crews. In later life he was a well-known book collector specialising in colour-plate books. The catalogue of his library after his death in 1844 runs to several volumes (spelled Morrice in London Gazette, Part 2, p. 1788, see below at Morrice).

He was a member of RAS in 1824 and paid subscriptions for 1824 to 1828.

He died on 10 March 1844 and is buried in Saint Pancras Church.

Address: (1824, 18251827, 1828) 11 Upper Gower Street (also in Boyle’s Court Guide 1829)  
(in Boyle’s Court Guide 1821 his address was 50 Upper Gower Street)
Morier, James Justinian FRS (1780 - 1849), British diplomat and novelist, was born in 1780 in Izmir Turkey, where his father worked for the Levant Company.

He was educated privately in England, and returned to work for his father’s business in Izmir in 1799. He stayed there until 1806. His diplomatic career started in 1808 when he became secretary to Sir Harford Jones, the British envoy to Persia. He returned to Persia in 1811 as secretary to Sir Gore Ouseley, the British ambassador. He became Chargé d’Affaires at the British Embassy in 1814. J.J. Morier visited the Gate of All Nations at Persepolis in 1809 with James Sutherland and carved his name there (Encyclopedia Iranica: Persepolis Graffiti: Foreign Visitors; Making their Marks: Foreign Travellers at Persepolis: St John Simpson).

He was a member of RAS in 1824 and paid subscriptions from 1824 to 1827. He was also a member of the Athenaeum in 1824.

Between 1824 and 1826 he was British Commissioner to Mexico where he negotiated a treaty which came into force in 1827.

He wrote several action novels, the most famous being The Adventures of Hajji Baba of Isfahan (1824).

He also wrote:

A Journey through Iran, Armenia and Asia Minor to Constantinople in the years 1808 and 1809.

A Second Journey through Iran to Constantinople between the years 1810 and 1816.

He died on 19 March 1849.

The RAS library has:

A second journey through Persia, Armenia, and Asia Minor to Constantinople between the years 1810 and 1816: with a journal of the voyage by the Brazils and Bombay to the Persian Gulf: together with an account of the proceedings of His Majesty's Embassy under Sir Gore Ouseley, Bart. K.L.S. / by James Morier, esq., late His Majesty's Secretary of Embassy and Minister Plenipotentiary to the Court of Persia ; with two maps, and engravings from the design of the author. (1818)

Address: (1824, 1825) Nil; (in Boyle’s Court Guide 1829 listed as Jas. Morier, 22 Charles Street, Berkeley Square )
Morland, Sir Scrope Bernard, Bart. MP (1758 - 1830), British politician and Baronet was born Scrope Bernard in New Jersey on 1 October 1758. He was the youngest son of Sir Francis Bernard, 3rd Baronet.

He studied at Oxford where he became Doctor of Civil Law in 1788. He held several posts in the Irish Parliament, until he was elected MP for Aylesbury in 1789. He was Under Secretary of State in the Home Department until 1792.

He succeeded to the baronetcy when his elder brother died in 1818, and added the name Morland to his surname, so that he could inherit the estates of his wife’s father.

He was a founding member of RAS in 1823 and paid subscriptions for 1823 and 1824.

He died on 18 April 1830.

Address: (1823, 1824, 1825) 50 Pall Mall (in Boyle’s Court Guide 1821)
Morrice, John (dates unknown), was a member of RAS in 1824. It has been difficult to trace down exact details, what follows may or may not pertain to our member.

John Morrice was Clerk to the Committee of Shipping, East India House in 1811 (London Gazette, Part 2, p. 1788; elsewhere spelled Morice).

Emily, daughter of John Morrice of South Street, Finsbury Square, died in Brighton, May 22 1823.

John Church Morrice (Attorney at Law) was Bailiff of the City of London in 1827 and joint Alderman in 1828

John Morrice, formerly a partner in Larking & Morris, was the sole supplier of timber to the British Navy from 1817 until his death in 1848 (London Merchant networks).

John Morrice, Mariner of the merchant service of London left a will dated 27 November 1822.

There is confusion between Morrice and Morris; also with John Morice above.

Address: (1823, 1824, 1825) Nil
Morris, John (1765 - 1840), member of the Bombay civil service, was born on 16 August 1765. According to a family tradition, he was the illegitimate son of the younger brother of George III (reported in the Australian Dictionary of Biography, under Edward Ellis Morris). His son, John Carnac Morris (1798 – 1858) was a noted scholar of Indian languages.

A member of the Bombay civil service, he was a director and three times Chairman of the East India Company. Having served as director several times from 1814, he was disqualified as director in 1838 (directors regularly disqualified themselves as a way of resigning from the board).

In March 1815, his house like many others was attacked during a riot against the Corn Bill, then passing through the Commons; members of the mob “completely demolished his windows” (Annual Register for 1815, also mentioned in the correspondence of Lady Melbourne).

He was a founding member of RAS in 1823 and paid subscriptions for 1823 and 1824. He was also a member of the United Company of Merchants of England trading to the East Indies in 1825.

He died on 27 July 1840 at Leamington, Warwickshire. A tablet in Marylebone Parish Church commemorates him: “Sacred to the Memory of John Morris, Esquire, of Baker Street, Portman Square, formerly of the Bombay Civil Service, and Director of the East India Company, born 16th Aug. 1765, died at Leamington, Warwick, on 27th July 1840.”

Address: (1823, 1824, 1825) 21 Baker Street, Portman Square (in Boyle’s Court Guide 1821, and in Boyle’s Court Guide 1829)
Morrison, Reverend Robert DD (1782 - 1834), Anglo-Scottish Protestant missionary, sinologist, lexicographer and translator, was born 5 January 1782.

Born in Scotland to a family of poor farmworkers, he was brought up in Newcastle, where his parents had moved in search of a better living. His father started a shoe-making business, and Robert left school at 14 to join his father’s business as an apprentice.

The family lived by Christian principles and Robert learnt whole sections of the Bible when still a young boy. He decided to become a missionary and set about learning Latin, Greek and Hebrew. In 1803 he left home to go to Hoxton Academy in London where he trained as a Congregational minister. His mother died in 1804, that same year he joined the London Missionary Society as a trainee. The Headmaster of Hoxton Academy had received a tract urging the need for missionaries to go to China, this encouraged Robert, who continued his studies by taking courses in medicine at St Bartholomew’s Hospital and astronomy at Greenwich Observatory.

He had been studying Chinese for some years and was helped by a fellow student, Yong Sam-tak, who came from Canton. However, the only foreigners allowed into China were those who were engaged in trade. Anyone else was forcibly removed from the country. Another problem was that the ships of the East India Company were not allowed to take missionaries as passengers.

Morrison tried to find a solution to these problems. In 1807 he went to New York where he was able to get the American Consul in Macau to sponsor him. He travelled to Macau but was expelled for his Protestantism by the Portuguese. In the end he became an official translator for the EIC where his skills in Chinese were appreciated. He settled in Macau, and married Mary Morton in 1809, they had three children together. He travelled to China in 1817 as a member of Lord Amherst’s mission: he was able to see for himself that there was not a single missionary working in the country. Mary died of cholera in 1821 and was buried in the Old Protestant Cemetery in Macau.

In the meantime he was working on his Chinese Grammar which was published in Bengal in 1812. He worked on a translation of the Bible but this was burnt by the Catholic Bishop of Macau who considered it to be heretical. He worked on his dictionary which was eventually published in 1819 under the auspices of the EIC.

Morrison returned to England in 1824, bringing with him his large library of Chinese books. He became a member of RAS in 1824 and paid subscriptions as non-resident for 1824 and
1825. In April 1824 he made a donation of ten of his books and some tracts to the RAS, in 1827 he donated Chinese books and documents; he also donated specimens of lava from Owhyhee to the RAS collections in February 1826.

He was made a FRS. He set up a language institution in London to teach missionaries Chinese. He married again and returned with his new wife to China in 1826. He immediately fell foul of the EIC officials who were busily developing the opium trade with China, a trade of which Morrison was openly critical. His wife and family were sent back to England.

Living alone, he fell ill and died on 1 August 1834. He is buried in the Old Protestant Cemetery in Macau. At the time of his death Morrison had amassed one of the most comprehensive libraries of Chinese literature in Europe. His library formed the core of The Language Institution in Bartlett's Building, London. For his pioneering work in the field, Morrison is often considered the ‘Father of Anglo-Chinese Literature’.

He wrote many books including:

* A Grammar of the Chinese Language 1815.

* A View of China for philological purposes 1817.


The RAS library has:

Memoirs of the life and labours of Robert Morrison / by his Widow ; with all notices of his Chinese works, by Samuel Kidd. (1839)

Urh-chih-tsze-teen-se-yin-pe-keaou : being a parallel drawn between the two intended dictionaries, by the Rev Robert Morrison and Antonio Montucci ... : together with Morrison's Horae Sinicae, a new edition with the text of the popular Chinese primer ... San-tsi-king. / Montucci, A Morrison, R (1817)

Robert Morrison: the scholar and the man: an illustrated catalogue of the exhibition held at the University of Hong Kong, September fourth to eighteenth, 1957, to commemorate the 150th anniversary of Robert Morrison's arrival in China / by Lindsay Ride. (1957)

Robert Morrison and the Protestant plan for China / Christopher A. Daily (c2013)

Memoirs of the Rev. William Milne, late missionary to China, and principal of the Anglo-Chinese College / compiled from documents written by the deceased; to which are added occasional remarks, by Robert Morrison... (1824)


Portrait of Jehangir / Morrison, Robert (1828) (formerly owned by Morrison and presented to the society by him in 1829).
A dictionary of the Chinese language in three parts: part the first; containing Chinese and English, arranged according to the radicals; part the second, Chinese and English arranged alphabetically; and part the third, English and Chinese / by the Rev. Robert Morrison. (1815. [-1823])

To the British public, interested in the promotion of Christianity, morals, and useful knowledge, among heathen nations, this account of the Anglo-Chinese College is respectfully addressed (January 20, 1825) (presented to the society by Morrison in 1825)

Address: (1824, 1825) Canton, China; (also 69 Berners Street 1824)
Mowbray, George (ca. 1747 - 1825), was a founding member of RAS in 1823, born around 1747.

He married Jane, the daughter of Jane Coghill, to whom the Duke of Portland had demised 13 Devonshire Street in 1789. In 1801, he and three others were seized of stocks to pay an annuity to a Mrs Ann Jones (document in the Devon Record Office Archives). In 1815 he contributed to the Refuge for the Destitute in Middlesex.

He died on 16 May 1825 in Devonshire Street. There is a memorial to him in St John’s Wood Chapel.

Address: (1823, 1824, 1825) 13 Devonshire Street, Portland Place
Munster, Right Honourable the Earl of

See Fitzclarence
Murdoch, Thomas FRS FAS (1758 - 1846), Scottish merchant, was born in 1758 in Cumlodden, Ulster.

During his family’s migration to the United States, Thomas decided to settle in Madeira. He became a partner in the wine merchant house of Newton, Gordon and Murdoch. He wanted to restore the good reputation of Madeira wine, saying that he had discovered that where the Athenaeum Club had drunk 1,556 bottles of port and 1,736 bottles of sherry in 1835, the club had only consumed 132 bottles of madeira in that year.

He married Charlotte Leacock of Madeira in 1788. He returned to England with his wife’s family in 1803; a wealthy man, he spent his time in literary pursuits.

He was elected Fellow of the Royal Society in 1805, and became a member of the Geological Society in 1812, where Arthur Aikin (member of the RAS) was Secretary. He was a founding member of RAS in 1823 and a founding member of the Athenaeum in 1824. He was a member of the Society of Civil Engineers in 1812 and in 1825 he was a member of the United Company of Merchants of England trading to the East Indies.

His wife died 10 January 1844. Murdoch died two years later.

Address: (1823, 1824, 1825) 8 Portland Place (in Boyle’s Court Guide 1821)
Murray, Captain James RN (dates unknown), was a founding member of RAS in 1823 and paid subscriptions from 1823 until 1827.

It has not been possible to identify which of the following officers was our member: note that none seem to have any close connection with the RAS.

James Murray Northey (known as Murray) (1761 – 1832) was a captain in the Royal Navy. He served on the Salisbury when she was wrecked on San Domingo in 1796, and then was captain of the prison ship Lutine (of which the bell serves to open sessions in the London Stock Exchange) in the Mediterranean.

Captain James Arthur Murray, son of Lord Murray, was born 10 March 1790; he joined the Royal Navy in June 1803 on the frigate La Chiffonner, captained by Chas Adam. In 1816 he was captain of the Griffon at St Helena, and was at Rangoon in the closing stages of the first Anglo-Burmese war in 1824. However, he served mainly in the Mediterranean and West Indies, and retired from the Navy in 1846 (“Naval Biographical Dictionary”, William O’Byrne).

A miniature portrait of Captain James Murray RN (1778 – 1834) by Samuel John Stump, was sold at Bonhams in 2007 for £2800. Captain James Murray RN was buried at New Abbey Manse, near Dumfries, 29 May 1834, aged 56

Address: (1823, 1824, 1825) 35 Soho Square (in Boyle’s Court Guide 1821)

Curiously, 35 Soho Square was used as a recruiting office for the East India Company army from 1817 to 1833 (British History Online, Survey of London); could it also have been a lodging house at the same time?