

Palmer, George Jun. (1799 - 1883), captain with the West Essex Yeomanry, was born on 23 July 1799. He was the son of George Palmer, the prominent Indian merchant.

He is listed in the 1826 subscription list of RAS. He was married to Elizabeth Charlotte Surtees and together they had three sons and a daughter. Elizabeth Charlotte Palmer died in 1848 and is buried in All Saints Church, Nazing, Essex. Her memorial also commemorates her father-in-law, George Palmer Senior. Though not himself a member of the Society, Palmer Snr was connected with several RAS members: he took part in the battle of Pulo Aura as captain of the *Boddam* along with future RAS members Archibald Hamilton and James Kinloch; and he was a partner in the firm of Palmer's, Mackillop, Dent & Co. of which James Mackillop was a RAS member.

He died in 1883.

Address: Nil; in Boyle's Court Guide 1821 George Palmer is listed at 10 Gray's Inn Square

Parker, Thomas Lister, FRS (1779 - 1858), landowner and patron of the arts, was born on 27 September 1779 at Browsholme, Yorkshire. He was the son of John Parker of Browsholme Hall, a large estate in Yorkshire (now in Lancashire).

He went to school at Clitheroe Grammar School and then studied at Christ's College, Cambridge. He succeeded to the estate at the age of 18 and spent large amounts laying out the grounds and refurbishing the Hall. He wrote and contributed to, several books on Browsholme and the surrounding area.

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

He formed a large collection of antiquities which he bought in England, or during his extended Continental Tour of 1800-1801, when he visited Moscow, Venice and Paris. His lavish expenditure forced him to sell Browsholme to his cousin, and to retire to spend the latter part of his life in Manchester.

He died on 2 March 1858 at the Star Inn, Manchester.

Address: (1823) Portugal Street, Grosvenor Square; in *Boyle's Court Guide* 1821 is listed at 5 Henrietta Street, Brunswick Square, and in *Boyle's Court Guide* 1829 also at 6 Lincoln's Inn Old Square

Parkes, Samuel (1761 - 1825), British chemist, was born on 26 May 1761 in Stourbridge.

He was educated at the school in Market Harborough, and started his career working in his father's grocery business. He was the founder of the Stourbridge Public Library.

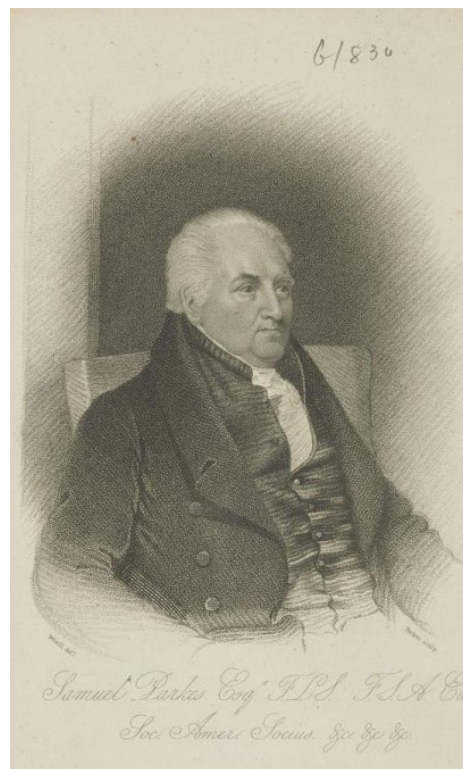
He opened a chemical manufactory in Goswell Street, London, in 1807. He was an expert chemist, and was called on to give his opinion in several legal cases.

He wrote many books on chemistry including *The Chemical Catechism* in 1806 and *Rudiments of Chemistry* in 1809.

He was a founding member of RAS in 1823 and in November of that year he donated a copy of his *Chemical Essays* to the RAS library.

He died on 23 December 1825 at Mecklenburgh Square and was buried at the New Gravel Pit Chapel, Hackney.

Address: (1823, 1824, 1825) 30 Mecklenburgh Square



**Samuel Parkes, engraving published 1822,
National Portrait Gallery**

Parkhouse, George (dates unknown), was a civil servant and Secretary to the Tanjore Commission.

As secretary he was signatory to many official statements relating to the enquiry into the estate of the late Rajah of Tanjore (1830). He appeared several times before the House of Commons to present reports from the Commission.

He was a member of RAS in 1825 and paid subscriptions for 1826 and 1827.

He married Frances Armstrong, on 10 April 1830 at Bath; his address at the time was Eastfield Lodge, Hants.

Address: (1823); in 1834 his address was 11 Manchester Buildings, where the Tanjore Commission was based (in *Boyle's Court Guide* 1821).

Parratt, Edward (dates unknown), was Clerk to the House of Lords.

In 1811, an altercation took place in a passage of the House of Lords, between Perceval Lewis and Edward Parratt Jr, when Mr Lewis “expressed himself in Language the most scurrilous and disrespectful towards the House, and on my remonstrating on the impropriety of his conduct called me an impertinent officious Puppy, and a damned scoundrel, or words to that effect” (testimony of Parratt to the House of Lords, 6 June 1811).

He was a member of RAS in 1825 and paid subscriptions from 1825 to 1827.

In 1850 he was listed as Clerk of the Journals to the House of Lords. If this was our member, he was notorious in 1849 for suing the Duke of Buckingham for “having criminal conversation with his wife, Mrs Henrietta Parratt, a pathetic empty-headed woman who had been swept off her feet by the attention of a great nobleman.” Parratt won his case and obtained damages of £2000 which was paid for the duke “out of Carlton Club funds.”

Address: (1823) Nil (in *Boyle's Court Guide* 1829 he was living at 13 Milbank Row, Westminster)

Parson, Rev J (1780 - 1835), chaplain and rector, was born on 3 December 1780 in Rushall, Staffordshire.

He studied at Clare College Cambridge attaining his BA in 1802 and then his MA in 1805. He was appointed chaplain to the East India Company in Berhampore, Bengal, in 1805 and travelled to the residency in Calcutta at Fort William the following year. As priest at St John's Cathedral Calcutta in 1820 he officiated in several marriages.

He was a member of the RAS in 1827 and paid his Admission fee & Annual Subscription for that year.

He married Sophia Hardwicke, daughter of fellow RAS member General Thomas Hardwicke and they had ten children. He returned to England with his wife in the *Thomas Grenville* in 1820 and became firstly rector of Ashwicken in Norfolk, and then of Campsey Ashe in Suffolk in 1829. He remained in both posts until his death on 23 December 1835.

Paterson, George (ca. 1756 - 1831), was a ship commander in the East India Company service.

A George Paterson of the East India Company bought Castle Huntly, Ayrshire, in 1777, but it is unclear as to whether this was our member.

Paterson was ship commander from 1817 and retired after seven voyages. George Paterson was Deputy Accountant-General at East India House 1819 when his niece, Emily Potts was married.

He was a founding member of RAS in 1823 and paid subscriptions from 1823 to 1827. In June 1826, he donated a copy of *Pugh's Observations sur la Calorique* to the RAS Library.

The RAS library also has *Fortune and Integrity: a study of moral attitudes in the Indian diary of George Paterson, 1769-1774* by Pamela Nightingale, published 1985, which may refer to our member.

He died on 5 May 1831 at his house on Dorset Square and is buried at St John, Hackney.

Address: (1823, 1824, 1825) 2 Upper Portland Place; (in *Boyle's Court Guide* 1829 at 7 Furnival's Inn)

Patton, Lieutenant-Colonel Robert CB (1775 - 1837), soldier in the Bengal service, was born in 1775.

One in a family of seventeen children, he was son of Major-General Robert Patton (1743 – 1812) who was Military Secretary to three Governors-General, the last being Warren Hastings, before retiring to Scotland where he bought Kinaldy Castle in Fife; however his money began to run out, and he let the castle and took the appointment of Governor of Saint Helena in 1801, taking three of his daughters with him as staff. One of the girls, Anna Maria, became an important botanist and botanical illustrator.



Colonel Patton

Robert Patton joined the East India Company as a cadet in 1791 and moved up the promotional ladder: being Ensign in 1792, Lieutenant in 1794, Captain in 1804 and Major in 1814.

He was a member of RAS in 1825 having been elected at the General Meeting of 4 December 1824.

He was President of a Court-Martial held in Agra on 28 November 1826. In 1835, as Colonel Robert Patton of the Bengal Army, he was the commander in Oude.

He died on 11 November 1837 in Bath.

Address: (1825) Nil; in 1834 his address was “Commanding in Oude”

Peach, Samuel (1762 - 1832), supercargo and director of the East India Company, was born in 1762.

He was the grandson of Samuel Peach (1725 – 1790), a London silk merchant and director of the EIC, who was elected MP for Cricklade, but was unseated after a petition by other candidates.

Peach worked for the EIC as a supercargo in Canton from 1779. He made his fortune in the EIC's service in China, "where he was highly respected for his talents and integrity both by the Chinese and foreign residents" (*Asiatic Journal* 1832). As a supercargo in Canton, he was forced to spend his summers in Macau to escape the heat of the city; this was not always uneventful. In 1789 he was dragged out of the house he was renting by the Portuguese authorities who said that they wanted the house to lodge an important visitor from Portugal. This was not the only occasion on which the Portuguese insulted the British, and the Select Committee complained bitterly about the treatment British employees of the EIC received. While in Macau, Peach had a son by an unknown woman: Ricardo Augustino Peach was born in 1795, and died in South Africa in 1863.

He was a member of the Canton Committee in 1803 when the affairs of Charles Mackinnon (later, a member of the RAS) were discussed. Subsequently, the directors of the EIC appointed him President of the Select Committee at Canton in September 1805, shortly after which he returned to England; his description of this voyage can be found in a letter from 1805 in the Lincolnshire Archives.

He married Amelia Baillie in April 1806 and bought Idlicote House, Warwickshire in 1807.

He was a founding member of RAS in 1823 and a member of the Athenaeum in 1824.

He was one of the principal figures in an important court case in 1827, where a young man, Lawrence Coppard, was accused of perjury after testifying at an earlier trial at the King's Bench, concerning lack of payment from Samuel Peach for regilding some mirrors, work which Peach denied ever having ordered. In the end the defendant was found not guilty.

He died on 17 August 1832 at Portland Place.

Address: (1823, 1824, 1825) 33 Portland Place, (corrected to 53, 1824) (in *Boyle's Court Guide* 1821 is listed at 53 Portland Place); also Idlicote House, Warwickshire

Pearson, Alexander (1780 - 1836), surgeon with the East India Company, was born in 1780.

He was a ship's surgeon with the EIC; he travelled to Macau in 1805 and introduced vaccination using vaccine which he obtained from Portuguese or Spanish ships which called on the colony. In 1816 he wrote *Respecting the Introduction of the Practice of Vaccine Inoculation into China 1805. Its Progress since that Period and its Actual State* which was sent to the National Vaccine Establishment at Canton. Sir George Staunton translated a work by Alexander Pearson on Smallpox Vaccination into Chinese for dissemination among the Chinese population.

Pearson was a member of RAS in 1825 and paid composition subscription as non-resident member in 1827.

He retired from service in Macau in 1835. He died the following year, on 23 December 1836 at Lodge Place, Regent's Park.

Pearson, Very Reverend Dr Hugh Nicholas DD (1776 - 1856), clergyman, Dean of Salisbury, was born in 1776.

He studied at Oxford, and was ordained in 1802, although was almost rejected for having praised the work of William Wilberforce (member of the RAS). He was one of the groups of evangelicals who set up the Oxford Bible Society. He worked at Clapham in 1803-6 and was a member of the Clapham Sect, a group of social reformers centred on William Wilberforce. He was a committee member of the Church Missionary Society.

He was a founding member of RAS in 1823 and paid subscriptions for 1824, 1825 and 1826.

He was Dean of Salisbury from 1823 to 1846.

He wrote:

On the Propagation of Christianity in Asia, 1808.

Life of Dr. Claudius Buchanan, 1817.

Memoirs of the Rev. Joseph D. Jænicke, 1833.

He died in 1856.

Address: (1823, 1824) Nil, (1825) 72 Marine Parade, Brighton

Peel, The Right Honourable Sir Robert MP FRS (1788 - 1850), British Conservative statesman and Prime Minister of the United Kingdom, was born on 5 February 1788.

Son of the 1st baronet, also Sir Robert Peel; his father was a prosperous textile manufacturer in Bury, Lancashire. The young Robert was educated at Bury School, then at Christ Church, Oxford, where he had a double first in Classics and Mathematics.

He entered Parliament in 1809 under the patronage of the future Duke of Wellington, as MP for the rotten borough of Cashel in Ireland. He later became MP for Tamworth, a seat he retained until his death.

He was obviously the rising star of the Conservative Party, and soon had several junior ministerial posts. He joined the Cabinet in 1822, and served as Home Secretary under the Prime Minister, the Earl of Liverpool (also a member of the RAS), for five years. It was during this period that he reorganised the police service, bringing in the new style police officer, firstly in London at Scotland Yard, then throughout the country. They were popular, and popularly called “bobbies” or “peelers” after him. He also cut taxes to stimulate business, and reorganised the banking system.

Liverpool resigned in 1827, and Peel followed, but after a short period returned as Home Secretary under the new Prime Minister, Wellington (also a member of the RAS). The Whigs returned to power in 1830, but in 1834 William IV persuaded Peel to become Prime Minister of a minority government. The government passed to the Whigs under Lord Melbourne, and Peel had to wait until the election of 1841 to become Prime Minister again, this time with a majority.

This time he served for a full five years, introducing important legislation on Mines, Income tax, the Factories and the Railways. Most notably he pushed through the repeal of the Corn Laws, in the face of famine in Ireland, and much to the disgust of the old Tory landowners. In much of this, he had to rely on support from the Whig opposition, and many old Tories regarded him as a traitor. Nowadays he is considered the founder of the modern Conservative party.

He was a founding member of RAS in 1823. Together with Aberdeen and Wellington, Peel was one of three future Prime Ministers who were members of the RAS in 1823. Peel was also a member of the Athenaeum in 1824.

He died on 2 July 1850 after falling from his horse on Constitution Hill.



Sir Robert Peel, by John Linnell, Mclean Museum and Art Gallery, Inverclyde

Address: (1823, 1824, 1825) 12 Great Stanhope Street, May Fair; in 1834 his address was Privy Gardens; (in *Boyle's Court Guide* 1821 is listed at 16 Upper Grosvenor Street, and in *Boyle's Court Guide* 1829 Whitehall Gardens)

Penleaze, John Story (1786 - 1855), British politician, was born in 1786 in Hampshire.

His father was a prosperous surgeon. He was educated at Magdalen College Oxford, and was called to the bar at Lincoln's Inn in 1812. His father left a fortune to Penleaze when he died in 1819, which he used to purchase the estate at Bossington. He was elected to the Southampton borough council and contested the parliamentary election for Southampton in January 1830, and again in 1831 and 1832 but failed each time. He lost again in the first Reformed Parliament of 1834, but eventually replaced J. B. Hay who had been elected. He took his seat in the Commons and voted in the debate on the Reform Bill of 1831, and again on 2 July 1833 on the proposal to build a new House of Commons.

He was a member of RAS in 1826 and paid admission fee and annual sub for that year. In 1829 he made a donation of a Hindu painting to the society.

He seems to have had financial problems and was forced to sell Bossington in 1833 to pay off his mortgage. He was consul in Amsterdam from 1840 to 1841, and in Barcelona from 1841 to 1854.

He died on 12 April 1855.

Address: (1823) Bossington House; (in *Boyle's Court Guide* 1829) 104 Piccadilly

Pennington, Colonel Gervase CB (1761 - 1835), soldier in the Bengal army, was born in 1761.

He joined the Bengal army in 1782, and was promoted Major in 1810.

He was the first Commandant of Fatehgarh Fort from 1784 to 1786. He was adjutant in the 3rd Brigade Bengal Horse Artillery from 1825 to 1832. His regiment was involved in the Siege of Bharatpur in 1825-26.

He was a founding member of RAS in 1823.

He married Jane Grant at Rothiemurchus, Scotland, on 17 December 1825.

He was made CB in the Coronation Honours list of 1831, and was presented to King William IV at his levee in March 1832.

He died in 1835. His will, dated 5 August 1835, is in the National Archives.



Portrait of Gervase Pennington

Address: (1823, 1824, 1825) Nil; in 1834, his address was Malshanger, Hampshire

Pepys, William Hasledine FRS (1775 - 1856), chemist and inventor, was born on 23 March 1775.

A Quaker, he was born in London, where his father made surgical instruments.

In chemistry, he determined the composition of carbon dioxide and the density of ammonia. He invented various scientific instruments, including the mercury gasometer and a voltaic coil, which was later used by Davy in his research into electromagnetism.

He was involved with numerous Societies. He helped found the London Institution in Finsbury Square (later the Royal Institution), and was its secretary from 1821 to 1824. In 1807 he was a founding member of the Geological Society along with Aikin and Greenough (both members of the RAS) and a member of the Athenaeum in 1824.

He became a member of RAS in 1824 and paid subscriptions from 1824 to 1827.

Address: (1824) 24 Poultry, (1825) 22 Poultry



William Hasledine Pepys, by Walter, printed by Day and Haghe, 1836, Royal Institution

Perry, Philip (1770 - 1830), shipwright, was born in 1770.

He belonged to a family of shipwrights who all worked in the Blackwall Shipyards for the East India Company. The family actually owned the yards after his father, John Perry Senior, bought the site in 1779. The yards expanded greatly in the 1780s, as more and more East Indiamen were being built or repaired; this encouraged his father to build the large Brunswick Dock, which opened in 1790. Twenty years later the situation was very different as more and more East Indiamen were being built in India, which was cheaper and more convenient for the EIC. Consequently, business in the London docks declined.

Together with his brother John, Philip Perry inherited Moor Hall in Essex from his father in 1810.

He was a founding member of RAS in 1823 and paid admission fee as newly elected resident member in 1824. He was also a member of the United Company of Merchants of England trading to the East Indies in 1825.

He died on 19 January 1830. There is a memorial to him in the EIC Chapel, Poplar, East London. His brother John had died in 1824 and so Moor Hall passed to Thomas Perry, the third brother.

Address: (1824, 1825) 50 Upper Harley Street. Moor Hall, near Harlow, Essex

Perry, Thomas (DOB unknown - 1833), was a civil servant in the East India Company. He was the son of John Perry Senior and the younger brother of John and Philip Perry. He inherited Moor Hall from his brothers when they died.

He served in the EIC civil service, on the Bengal establishment. He was magistrate of the Zillahs of Agra and Etawah from 1808 to 1811. His letterbooks from the period of his service in India from 1808 to 1822 are in the Archive Section of Cambridge University Library. They contain letters from and to Perry and the correspondents include several members of the RAS, including Robert Patton, J. Shakespear, Richard Strachey, and others.

In March 1823, he married Maria Jane Watlington of Upper Bedford Place, Russell-square.

He became a member of RAS in 1824. In the same year he donated *An account of the populations of the chief towns and villages in the District of Etawah, Bengal*, to the RAS library; this manuscript can no longer be found in the RAS library. He was also a member of the United Company of Merchants of England trading to the East Indies in 1825.

He died on 15 October 1833 at Moor Hall, Essex.

Address: (1824, 1825) 62 Montagu Square; (in *Boyle's Court Guide* 1821 John Perry was still living at this address)

Persse, Patrick (1768 - 1839), landowner, was born in Ireland in 1768.

He studied at Trinity College, Dublin, gaining his BA in 1789. Although his main address was Brompton, London, he also had a house in Tunbridge Wells. He was a member of RAS in 1825.

He died on 12 June 1839. He was unmarried, leaving considerable property. In February 1840 the "London Gazette" carried an advertisement asking "all persons having claims upon the estate to of Patrick Persse send forthwith the particulars of their claims to the executors".

In his will, dated 20 March 1838, he left his niece £1200 in stock, and his nephew £3000 in stock. He left the whole of his Irish estate to the three children of his nephew Patrick, who was deceased. Papers concerning probate on his estate are in the National Archives.

In 1840, "Sylvanus Urban" in the *Gentleman's Magazine* reported that Patrick Persse of Brompton had bequeathed £10,000 of stock in the Bank of England, to be equally divided between the Benevolent Society of St Patrick, the National Benevolent Institution, the Philanthropic Society, and the Refuge for the Destitute, and the Indigent Blind.

Address: (1825) 16 Queen Street, Brompton; Spring Garden, Ireland

(Born: 1768; died: 12 June 1839)

Petit, Louis Hayes FRS FAS (1774 - 1849), lawyer and Member of Parliament, was born on 2 November 1774.

He was a member of a Huguenot family. His great-grandfather, Lewis (Louis) Petit, came to England after the Revocation of the Edict of Nantes, joined the army and eventually became a Brigadier-General and Lieutenant-Governor of Minorca in 1708. His father, John Lewis Petit, was a physician and practised at St. Bartholomew's Hospital for many years until his death in 1780.

Louis Hayes Petit was brought up by his mother and studied for the bar. He lived in Lincoln's Inn all his life but did not pursue a legal career after 1821. He became MP for Ripon in 1827 and stayed in Parliament for five years. After that, he lived comfortably off the mineral rights of his estates.

He was a founding member of RAS in 1823 and a member of the Athenaeum in 1824.

He died on 13 November 1849 in Lincoln's Inn.

Address: (1823, 1824, 1825) 9 New Square, Lincoln's Inn (in Boyle's Court Guide 1821)



Louis Hayes Petit, engraving 1822

Pettiward, Roger FRS FAS FHS FLS (1754 - 1833), landowner, was born in 1754. His father was the Rev. Roger Pettiward of Fairfax House, Putney, who owned large estates in west London.

He bought Finborough Hall in Suffolk, in 1794, and spent a great deal of money on rebuilding the manor. He also owned a market garden in Kensington, which became what is now the Pettiward estate in Putney and West Brompton. He was for a time a partner in a City stationery firm and became Master of the Worshipful Company of Stationers in 1831.

He was a founding member of RAS in 1823 and paid subscriptions for 1825 and 1826. He was also a member of the Athenaeum in 1824.

He married but had no male heir. His property was inherited by his great-nephew, who took the name Pettiward according to the terms of Roger's will.

He died in 1833 in Trafford Park, Manchester.

Address: (1823, 1824, 1825) 127 Park Street, Grosvenor Square; Great Finborough Hall, Suffolk (both addresses in *Boyle's Court Guide* 1829)

Philippart, Sir John (c.1784 - 1874), British military writer, was born in London around 1784.

He originally intended to become a lawyer and studied briefly in Scotland. He soon realised that he was more interested in military affairs and joined the War Office as a clerk. He wrote pamphlets, with suggestions as to improvements to be made in the efficiency of the army. His first suggestion was to establish a benefit fund for officers, but this was turned down by the government who feared it might undermine morale. He then suggested that the militia should be made available for service abroad, which was accepted.

He was a member of RAS in 1825 and remained on the subscription list for 1826. In May 1825 he donated copies of *The East India Military Calendar, Vols 1 & 2* to the RAS library (though.

He was a very active member of the Order of St John of Jerusalem, and was chancellor of the order for many years. He was made a knight of the Swedish order of Gustavus Vasa in 1832.

For two years he owned and wrote for a military magazine called the "*Military Panorama*". In addition to this he published throughout his lifetime; his works include *The Northern Campaigns* (1813), *The Royal Military Calendar* (3 vols) 1815-16 and *The East India Military Calendar* 1823 (and several further volumes).

He died in 1874 at Hammersmith.

Address: (1824, 1825) College House, Hammersmith

Phillimore, Joseph LL.D. MP (1775 - 1855), English civil lawyer, politician and Regius Professor of Civil Law at Oxford, was born on 14 September 1775 at Orton, Leicestershire.

He studied at Westminster School and Christ Church, Oxford University, becoming DCL in 1804. He practised in both the ecclesiastical and Admiralty courts, and became Regius Professor of Civil Law at Oxford in 1809. During his career he edited several volumes of Law Reports.

He held a number of official positions. He was chancellor of the diocese of Oxford, Worcester (1834) and Bristol (1842); he was judge of the admiralty court of the Cinque Ports; and he served on the India Board from 1822 to 1828. He was a founding member of RAS in 1823.

He successfully pursued a career in politics, becoming Member of Parliament for St Mawes from 1817 to 1826 and then for Yarmouth, Isle of Wight from 1826 to 1830.

He was a member of parliament for a relatively short time, but was noted for being an advocate of Catholic Emancipation and an interpreter of international law.

In 1843, his youngest son, Robert, then a student at Christ Church, Oxford, got into difficulties when swimming with a friend in the Thames. Phillimore went into the water to try to save the two swimmers, but failed. They both drowned, and the incident is recorded on an obelisk by the Thames at Sandford Lock.

He died on 24 January 1855 at Shiplake near Reading.

Address: (1823, 1824, 1825) 5 Whitehall (in Boyle's Court Guide 1821)

Phillips, Thomas RA (1770 - 1845), leading English portrait and allegorical subject painter, was born on 18 October in Dudley, Worcestershire.

He first learnt glass-painting in Birmingham before moving to London where he met Benjamin West. West found him a job working on the stained-glass windows of St George's Chapel in Windsor Castle. He then studied at the Royal Academy and practised historical or allegorical painting, which was very popular at the time. Later he concentrated on portraits of society ladies and gentlemen, with a particular interest in writers such as William Blake, Walter Scott, Samuel Taylor Coleridge and Michael Faraday amongst others.

His reputation grew and he painted some of the most important people of his day, including the Prince of Wales.

He moved to 8 George Street, Hanover Square, where he lived for many years in the house previously occupied by David Mallet, the author of "Rule Britannia". There he had his studio, where he painted his portrait of Byron, among many others.

He was a member of RAS in 1825 and paid subscriptions for 1826 and 1827. He was also a member of the Athenaeum in 1824.

He died at his house in George Street on 20 April 1845.

Address: (1824, 1825) 5 Brunswick Square; in *Boyle's Court Guide* 1821 is listed at 8 George Street, Hanover Square



Thomas Phillips, self-portrait 1802, National Portrait Gallery

Pigou, Charles Edward (1755 - 1841), supercargo with the East India company and High Sheriff of Sussex, was born on 17 March 1755.

The Pigou family was Huguenot, originally from Amiens. His father, Frederick Pigou (1711 – 1792) was supercargo and then director of the EIC; he was also a manufacturer of gunpowder in Canton. Another branch of the Pigou family made gunpowder at Dartford from 1778. The Record of Services of the Honourable East India Company's Civil Services of the Madras Presidency lists Frederick Pigou as a director from 1741 to 1757.

In 1778, Charles Edward Pigou was appointed supercargo under the East India Company's Select Committee in Canton, along with William Henry Pigou, his brother.

In August 1792, he married Charlotte Rycroft, daughter of Richard Rycroft of Clarges Street.

He lived also at Shernfold, Sussex, where he demolished the old house and built a new one; he was High Sheriff of Sussex in 1800. The East Sussex Records Office has a summons issued against him on 14 April 1813 for non-payment of rates.

He was a founding member of RAS in 1823 and of the Founding Committee of the Oriental Club.

He died in 1841. His will, dated 5 January 1841, is in the National Archives.

Address: (1823, 1824, 1825) 15 Clarges Street, Piccadilly (in Boyle's Court Guide 1821)

Pitman, Lieutenant-Colonel Robert (DOB unknown – c.1847), served in the Bengal Infantry, being colonel of the 45th Native Infantry in 1830. As colonel, he was appointed CB in the Coronation Honours List of 26 September 1831. In Hart's New Army List for 1840 he is listed as a Major-General. He married Mary Anderson on 15 September 1827.

He was a member of RAS in 1825 and paid subscription for that year.

The will of Robert Pitman of Edinburgh, Midlothian, dated 13 April 1847, is in the National Archives.

Address: (1825) Bombay; later, in the RAS Journal for 1834, his address is given as Edinburgh

Pitman, Robert Birks (dates unknown), was a special magistrate in the Windward Isles between 1834 and 1836; his memorial concerning the pay and conditions of his service as magistrate is in the National Archives, under “matters relating to Trinidad”.

He was a member of RAS in 1824 and paid subscriptions up until 1826.

He wrote: *A succinct View and Analysis of authentic information, extant in original works, on the practicability of joining the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans by a Ship Canal across the Isthmus of America*, 1825 (work on the Panama Canal did not begin until 1881, and then proceeded very slowly); he donated a copy of his book to the RAS library in December 1825 but it is no longer in the library.

Address: (1823, 1824, 1825) Nil

Platt, Thomas Pell (1798 - 1852), English orientalist and librarian, was born in 1798 in London.

He went to school in Norfolk before entering Trinity College, Cambridge in 1815. He took his BA in 1820 and became a Fellow in 1823, serving as Examiner at Cambridge in 1825.

He joined the British and Foreign Bible Society and later became its librarian. He published a catalogue of Ethiopian biblical manuscripts and edited New Testament texts for the Bible Society. Originally an Evangelical, he moved to the Tractarian side of the Church of England in later life.

He was a member of RAS in 1825 and paid subscription for that year. In June 1826 he donated four MS of his works to the Society. He was also a member of the Committee of the Oriental Translation Fund.

He died on 31 October 1852 in Dulwich.

The RAS library has:

Novum Testamentum Domini nostri et Servatoris Jesu Christi Aethiopice / ad codicum manusccriptorum fidem edidit Thomas Pell Platt. (1830)

Address: (1825) Trinity College, Cambridge; in 1834 his address was Child's Hill, Hampstead

Plowden, Richard Chichely (1743 - 1830), officer in the East India Company, was born in 1743. He was born into a very old Shropshire family; his ancestor, Sir Roger Plowden, was part of a crusade to the Holy Land with Richard I and was at the siege of Acre in 1191.

His brother-in-law, Edward Wheler, succeeded Warren Hastings as Governor-General of India. Plowden and his family moved to India and after some string-pulling he was appointed Factor in the Bengal Presidency in 1780 and soon after became Captain of the Bodyguard of the Nawab of Oudh in Lucknow. Plowden and Wheler fell out after Plowden objected to Wheler's remarriage following the death of his wife in 1781. As a result the bodyguard of the Nawab was disbanded and Richard was appointed Collector of Customs in Dacca. However, he never actually went to Dacca and instead remained in Calcutta, becoming a member of the Committee of Accounts in 1784. Plowden held this post until his return to England in 1790.

His wife, Sophia Prosser, kept a diary for 1787 to 1789 which is in the Asian section of the British Library. While in Lucknow, he and Sophia became friendly with Claude Martin, a former French officer, and now EIC major-general who was also known as a noted architect, art-collector and reputedly the richest man in India. Sophia's diary contains many references to him, and they shared a correspondence. (*A man of the Enlightenment in eighteenth-century India: the letters of Claude Martin, 1766–1800*, Rosie Llewellyn-Jones)

On his return he had amassed a fortune of around £33,500 which he used to purchase a house in Devonshire Place. He was made a director of the EIC in 1803 and used his position to find posts for his sons.

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

His son, also Richard Chichely Plowden, of the Bengal Civil Service, died aged 21, on board the "General Kyd" on 21st September 1825 and is buried in the old Protestant Cemetery in Macau.

He died in 1830.

In 1844, one of Richard's sons, W. H. C. Plowden, was a director of Globe Insurance Ltd of Pall Mall, together with Henry Alexander, John Hodgson and Sir Walter Stirling, all of whom were members of the RAS.

Address: (1823, 1824, 1825) 8 Devonshire Place (in Boyle's Court Guide 1821)

Plymouth, The Right Honourable the Earl of (1789 - 1833), English nobleman, was born on 2 July 1789.

He was born Other Archer Windsor; his unusual first name was a family name, supposedly derived from a Viking ancestor called "Otho". He became the 6th Earl of Plymouth when he was ten years old, on the death of his father, the 5th Earl, on 12 June 1799.

His family had a couple of connections with other RAS members. He had two sisters, one of whom, Lady Harriet Windsor, married Robert Henry Clive, son of the 1st Earl of Powis (and a member of the RAS). His mother remarried in 1800; her second husband was Lord Amherst who was also a member of the RAS.

After school at Harrow, Plymouth entered the House of Lords but was not active in politics. He did, however, vote against the Reform Bill of 1831.

He married Lady Mary Sackville, daughter of the Duke of Dorset and heiress of Knole House.

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

He was fond of hunting, and kept a large hunting stable at his house, Hewell Grange. There he entertained the Duchess of Kent and her young daughter, Victoria, in 1832.

He died suddenly on 20 July 1833 whilst on board his yacht at Deptford.

Address: (1823, 1824, 1825) 27 Grosvenor Square (in Boyle's Court Guide 1821)



6th Earl of Plymouth, Kelmarsh Hall, attributed to John Opie

Pollock, Sir David FRS (1780 - 1847), Scottish lawyer, was born on 21 September 1780 in London. He was the son of David Pollock, a Scot who had built up a prosperous business in equipping horses in London; he was saddler to George III and the family lived in the Royal Mews. Pollock Senior had three sons: Sir David, Sir Jonathan Frederick Pollock, Bart., Chief Baron of the Exchequer, and Field-Marshal Sir George Pollock, Bart., Constable of the Tower of London.

Sir David Pollock was educated at St Paul's School and Edinburgh University. He was called to the bar in 1803, and married Elizabeth Gore Atkinson in 1807.

He was a founding member of RAS in 1823; a Freemason who joined the Prince of Wales' Lodge in 1826; an elected Fellow of the Royal Society in 1829 and a member of the Royal Astronomical Society. He paid subscriptions to the RAS up until the year 1827. The RAS library has a Burmese manuscript *Aramatthajotikā I - Khuddakapāṭhaṭṭhakathā* which is accessed under 'Pollock', so presumably is his donation.

He became a King's Counsel in 1833, and was Recorder of Maidstone in 1836. He was appointed a Commissioner for the Relief of Insolvent Debtors in 1843. In 1846 he was appointed Chief Justice of Bombay.

He died on 22 May 1847 in Bombay, not very long after having taken up his post. He is buried in Bombay Cathedral.

Address: (1823, 1824, 1825) 40 Lincoln's Inn Fields (in *Boyle's Court Guide* 1821); in 1834 his address was Dartmouth House, St James's Park

Ponsonby, The Honourable Frederick (1783 - 1837), British soldier and Governor of Malta, was born on 6 July 1783.

He was born into an aristocratic family. His sister was Lady Caroline Lamb who was later the wife of Prime Minister Lord Melbourne as well as the mistress of Byron among others.

In 1800, after receiving an education at Harrow, he joined the 10th Light Dragoons and served in Ireland. He moved to the 23rd Light Dragoons and served in the Peninsular War. He was made Lieutenant-Colonel in 1810 and given command of the 12th Light Dragoons in 1811. He was an expert on all matters relating to the cavalry, and corresponded about them with Wellington.



Portrait of Frederick Ponsonby by Thomas Heaphy, National Portrait Gallery

At Waterloo, the 12th Dragoons were ordered to charge downhill for a short distance, but charged too far and bore heavy losses. Ponsonby was wounded in both arms, knocked off his horse and then stabbed by a French lancer. He was rescued by a Major in the French Imperial Guard and taken off the battlefield in a cart. He was looked after during his convalescence by his sister, Caroline Lamb.

He was promoted to Major-General and made Governor of Malta in 1825. In the same year, he married Lady Emily Charlotte Bathurst, daughter of the 3rd Earl Bathurst (also a member of the RAS); they had six children.

He was a member of RAS in 1825 and paid subscriptions up until 1827.

He died suddenly on 11 January 1837 when stopping at an inn in Basingstoke.

Address: (1825) 4 Grosvenor Square; in *Boyle's Court Guide* 1821 his address was 19 St James's Square

Porcher, Henry MP (1795 - 1857), British banker and MP, was born 7 February 1795 in Madras to an old Huguenot family. His father was Josias Du Pré Porcher, an East India Company civil servant in Madras. He was brother-in-law of John Chamier (also a member of the RAS).

His father named an East Indiaman after him in 1817. The *Henry Porcher* served in the EIC fleet from 1818 to 1831, mainly taking convicts to Australia. After that she was sold and finally was wrecked near Thurso in 1858 after her captain committed suicide during a voyage from Quebec to Grangemouth.

Having returned to London, he joined the family East India agency in 1812, becoming a partner in 1816. He was joined by Edward Fletcher and James Alexander (both members of the RAS) and together on 31 December 1815 set up the banking firm of Fletcher, Alexander and Co. His father died in 1820, leaving him £10,000.

He was MP for Clitheroe from 1822 to 1826.

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

In 1843 he leased Park House, Heckfield, from the Duke of Wellington's estate. Unfortunately he was owed £152.9.10 in the crash of the bank Marsh, Sibbald and Co. in 1824.

He died after falling from his horse on 17 November 1857, at Heckfield, Berkshire.

Address: (1823, 1824, 1825) 9 Devonshire Square, Bishopsgate Street; in *Boyle's Court Guide* 1829 and in 1834 his address was 10 Park Crescent; (in *Boyle's Court Guide* 1821 is listed at 6 Arlington Street)



Henry Porcher MP by George Richmond, sold at auction 2018

Porter, Sir Robert Ker (1777 - 1842), Scottish artist, traveller and diplomat, was born on 26 April 1777 in Durham.

He studied at the Royal Academy, having always wanted to be a painter. He specialised in the large historical paintings which were in vogue at the time, but also supplemented his income by painting scenery at the Lyceum Theatre.

He was appointed Historical Painter to the court of Alexander I of Russia, and painted large historical scenes for the Admiralty building in St Petersburg. He fell in love with Princess Shcherbatoff, and was forced to leave Russia because her family objected. He travelled back to England via Finland and Sweden, where he met Sir John Moore, and travelled with him to Spain. He watched the Battle of Corunna, where Sir John was killed.



Sir Robert Ker Porter, engraving by Thomas Woolnoth, published 1822 National Portrait Gallery

He returned to Russia, and married Princess Shcherbatoff. He was in Moscow at the time of the Napoleonic invasion in 1812. He returned to England in 1813, and then left to go back to Russia, this time to travel south to the Caucasus and on to Teheran. Back in England, he was appointed Consul in Venezuela, where he continued his painting.

He was a member of RAS in 1824 and paid subscriptions for 1824 and 1825. In February 1825 he donated a copy of his *Travels in Georgia, Persia, etc.*, to the RAS library.

In 1842 he returned to Russia to see his daughter who had married a Russian officer. He was on the point of taking a boat back to England when he died suddenly in his droshky, returning from saying farewell to Tsar Nicholas I. He was buried in St Petersburg.

He wrote:

Travelling Sketches in Russia and Sweden during the years 1805-1808.

Letters from Portugal and Spain, written during the march of the troops under Sir John Moore.

Narrative of the Campaign in Russia 1812.

Travels in Georgia, Persia, Armenia, Ancient Babylonia 1817-1820.

Address: (1824) St Petersburg; (1825) 49 Beaumont Street; in 1834 his address was HBM Consul, Caracas

Powis, The Right Honourable the Earl of (1754 - 1839), MP and Governor of Madras, was born Edward Clive on 7 March 1754. He was the son of Robert Clive, "Clive of India".

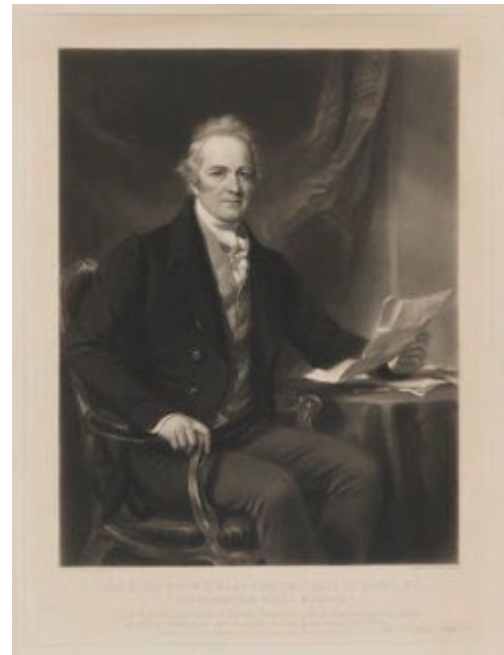
He succeeded his father as Baron Clive of Plassey in 1774, but being an Irish title it did not allow him a seat in the House of Lords. Educated at Eton and Christ Church Oxford, he became MP for Ludlow from 1774 to 1794. In 1794 he was made Baron Clive, which gave him a seat in the House of Lords. He served as Governor of Madras from 1798 to 1803.

Physically, he was a strong man, and could be seen "when about 80, digging in his garden at 6 o'clock in the morning in his shirtsleeves" (Complete Peerage Vol X).

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

He died on 16 May 1839 in Berkeley Square.

Address: (1823, 1824, 1825) 45 Berkeley Square (in Boyle's Court Guide 1821)



Edward Clive (later Edward Herbert), 2nd Earl of Powis, mezzotint 1848, National Portrait Gallery

Price, Major David (1762 - 1835), Welsh orientalist and officer in the East India Company, was born in 1762 at Merthyr Cynog, near Brecon.

He matriculated at Cambridge in 1779 but had to leave because he had no money. Instead of pursuing further education he decided to go to India with the EIC. He sailed on the *Essex* in 1781 and arrived in Madras. He volunteered for service in south India and passed through Ceylon on his way to Bombay. He was put in command of a battalion of Bombay sepoys and served in the war against Tipu Sultan. He lost a leg in the battle of Dharwar in 1791.

He moved to Surat on the EIC administrative staff, where he became interested in Persian culture and began to collect Persian manuscripts. He became Persian secretary to the commander of the Bombay Army in 1799 and was present at the fall of Seringapatam. He became prize agent for the Bombay army, and made a fortune. He retired to Brecon in 1807.

He was a founding member of RAS and served on the Committee of the Oriental Translation Fund, and on the council of the society itself. He gave over 70 manuscripts to the society (see below). He was also a member of the Literary Society of Bombay in 1823.

He died on 18 December 1835 at Watton House, Brecon.

The RAS library has:

Chronological retrospect, or Memoirs of the principal events of Mahommedan history, : from the death of the Arabian legislator, to the accession of the emperor Akbar, and the establishment of the Moghul empire in Hindustaun. From original Persian authorities. / By Major David Price, ... (1811. [-1821.])

Memoirs of the Emperor Jahangueir / David Price. (2013.)

Memoirs of the Emperor Jahangueir, / written by himself; and translated from a Persian manuscript, by Major David Price, (1829.)

Risalah-i Jihad. / Written on the instructions of Tipu Sultan



David Price of Merthyr Cynog; Brecknock Society and Museum

(among several manuscripts which belonged to David Price and which were left to the society in his will)

Address: (1823, 1824, 1825) Brecon, South Wales

Pryor, Lieutenant- Colonel William S. (DOB unknown - 1831), was a soldier with the East India Company.

In a letter of 25 January 1782, the Court of the East India Company informed the Governor General, Bengal, that William Springham Pryor had been appointed a cadet for Bengal.

He served in the Bengal Native Infantry, being made Lieutenant on 13 November 1791 and Captain-Lieutenant of the 22nd Regiment in 1804.

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

He is listed as a member of the United Company of Merchants of England, trading to the East Indies (1815) as "Major William Springham Pryor, East India Company's Service, Great Amwell, Herts"; in 1825 the same list gives his address as "14 Somerset Street, Portman Square".

He died on 5 May 1831. His will, dated 3 June 1831, is in the National Archives.

Address: (1823) 14 Somerset Street, Portman Square (in *Boyle's Court Guide* 1821, where his name is spelled Prier); (1824) 28 Regency Square, Brighton; (1825) Nil

(Died: 5 May 1831 at Regency Square, Brighton)

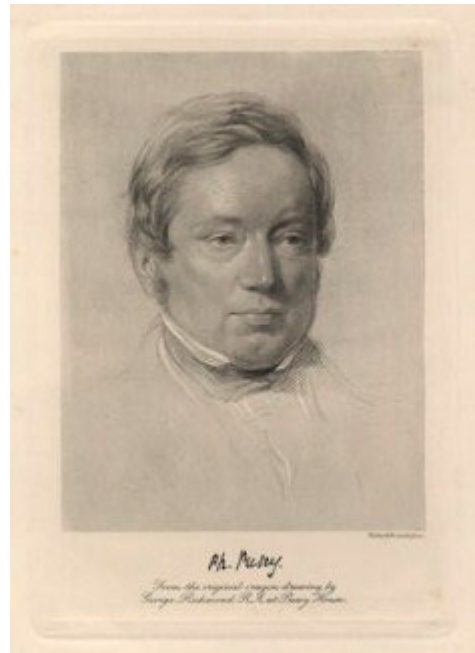
Pusey, Philip Jun. FRS MP (1799 - 1855), reforming agriculturist and Tory MP, was born on 25 June 1799. He was the son of Philip Pusey of Pusey, Berkshire. The original Pusey family had died out in 1710, but the estate and the name were passed on through a nephew, John Allen, whose wife was from the Bouverie family and who adopted the Pusey name. His brother was Edward Bouverie Pusey, the ecclesiastical scholar and High Anglican.

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

He inherited the manor of Pusey in Berkshire in 1828. He was MP for Chippenham 1830-1831 and for Berkshire 1835-1852. He was Commissioner for the Foreign and Colonial Production section of the Great Exhibition of 1851. An ardent agricultural reformer, he helped found the Royal Agricultural Society and was its Librarian for some time. He specialized in utilising water-meadows for grazing cattle as well as developing a type of clay pipe that could be used for draining boggy land.

He died on 9 July 1855.

Address: (1825) 35 Grosvenor Square (in *Boyle's Court Guide* 1821 the Hon. P. Pusey is living at this address); in *Boyle's Court Guide* 1829 and in 1834, he was living at 50 Upper Brook Street.



Philip Pusey, late 19th century photogravure, after George Richmond, National Portrait Gallery