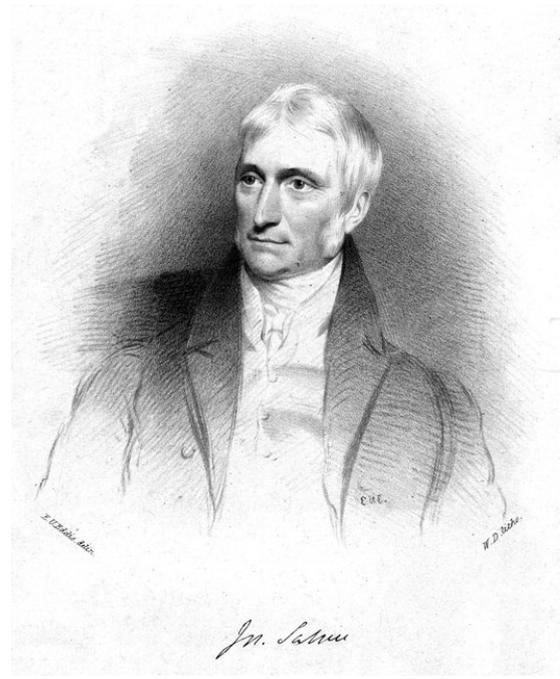


Sabine, Joseph FRS (1770 - 1837), English lawyer, naturalist and writer on horticulture, was born on 6 June 1770.

Joseph was the elder brother of Sir Edward Sabine, the geophysicist, astronomer and civil engineer, who was famous for his experiments on pendulums, which he carried out with his brother-in-law Henry Browne (also a member of the RAS).

Joseph Sabine was a naturalist by inclination. He held the post of Inspector General of Taxes from 1808 to 1835, but at the same time was secretary of the Royal Horticultural Society, where his financial expertise helped him to stabilise the society's finances. Unfortunately this was done at large expense and he resigned when threatened with a motion of censure. He then joined the Zoological Society of London.



Portrait engraving of Joseph Sabine by E.V. Eddis

His brother Edward was part of Ross's expedition to the Antarctic in 1818, and sent a new species of gull to his brother. Joseph named the gull "Sabine's Gull" in honour of his brother.

He was a member of RAS in 1825 and paid admission fee and subscription from 1824 to 1827. He was also a member of the Athenaeum in 1824.

He died on 24 January 1837 in Mill Street, Hanover Square.

Address: (1825) 40 Duke Street, St. James's; in *Boyle's Court Guide* 1821 he is listed at 12 Edward Street, Cavendish Square

Salmond, Colonel James (1766 - 1837), British soldier and historian, was born in 1766.

He joined the East India Company army as a subaltern and then the British Army in 1796. He became adjutant of the 1st Regiment of Royal East India Volunteers. In 1809 he was appointed Military Secretary of the East India Company, and was promoted to Major-General in 1837. In 1819 he was awarded a special grant of £500 in addition to his salary, by the Company in recognition of his work as Military Secretary. In addition to his military career he compiled a *History of the Anglo-Mysore Wars*.

He was a founding member of RAS in 1823.

In March 1832 he testified to the Select Committee of the House of Commons on the affairs of the East India Company. He was particularly questioned about the pay and conditions of the sepoys in Bengal compared with those of other presidencies, and about the levels of satisfaction of European officers in the Bengal army. He also said that he thought that the native artillery should be disbanded and that guns should be kept in the hands of the British troops.

He died in 1837.

The RAS library has:

A review of the origin, progress, and result, of the late decisive war in Mysore : in a letter from an officer in India : with notes and an appendix, comprising the whole of the secret state papers found in the Cabinet of Tippoo Sultaun, at Seringapatam : taken from the originals containing, his correspondence with the French, Zemaun Shah, &c. from the year 1796, with a view to the overthrow of the British Empire in India : the separate written opinions of his principal officers of State on that measure / Salmond, James., Hansard, Luke, 1752-1828, & Staunton, George Thomas, Sir, 1781-1859, (1800.)

Address: (1823) 40 Montague Square in *Boyle's Court Guide* 1821; (1824, 1825) East India House

Seymour, the Right Honourable the Lord FRS

Address: (1823, 1824, 1825) Park Lane

See Somerset

Shakespear, John (1774 - 1858), professor of Hindustani, was born in August 1774.

Born into a farming family in Lincolnshire, he came to the attention of the local lord of the manor, the future Marquess of Hastings. Hastings sent him to London to learn Arabic.

In 1805 he became Oriental Professor at the Royal Military College at Marlow. The East India Company opened a new college for cadets at Addiscombe in 1809, and Shakespear was appointed Professor of Hindustani there. While teaching he also compiled a Hindustani grammar and dictionary, the dictionary being based on that produced by William Hunter in 1812. Shakespear's dictionary went through several editions.

His method of teaching Hindustani at Addiscombe (as compared to that adopted by the Company's College at Haileybury) was the subject of a vigorous debate at the Court of the East India Company in December 1822 (Debate at East India House 19 December 1822, as reported in the Asiatic Journal).

He was a founding member of RAS in 1823. In November 1826 he presented copies of three of his works to the Society's library.

He lived a frugal life and in 1856, believing himself to be descended from William Shakespeare, made a substantial grant towards the purchase of Shakespeare's house in Stratford. When he retired he bought Langley Priory in Leicestershire near where he had been born.

He died on 10 June 1858 at Langley Priory, Leicestershire. On his death there were insufficient funds in his estate to pay his bequests.

The RAS library has:

Muntakhabāt-i-Hindī, or selections in Hindustani: with verbal translations or particular vocabularies, and a grammatical analysis of some parts, for the use of students of that language / by John Shakespear. (1840-1844)

Folk-tales of the Lushais and their neighbours / J. Shakespear; with notes by T.C. Hodson. (1909)

A guide to the speedy acquirement of the Maratha language, on the Hamiltonian system / by Captain David Capon. (1830.)

This volume was given to Shakespear in 1839 by Major Jervis, and was presented to the society by Gordon Johnson, President, in 2014

Address: (1823, 1824, 1825) Addiscombe near Croydon; in 1834, his address was 9 Charles Street, Manchester Square

Shawe, Colonel Merrick (1772 - 1843), British soldier, was born in 1772.

He joined the army as an ensign in 1788, then joined the 76th regiment in India in 1790. He was wounded at Seringapatam, and as a result carried a musket ball in his shoulder for the rest of his life. When Napoleon invaded Egypt, Shawe was given the task of forming a Calcutta Militia for the protection of the eastern part of India. When the 76th Regiment was ordered to Mysore in 1799, Shawe preferred to rejoin his regiment, rather than remain with the Calcutta militia. Cornwallis wanted him to stay in India as one of his aides, but Shawe decided to return to Europe with Wellesley. He served for a period in Ireland, then transferred to Europe in command of the 76th,

and was sent to Walcheren, where, like most of his troops, he fell ill with Walcheren fever. He served under Wellington (also a member of the RAS) during the Peninsular War, where he was wounded. He became Military Secretary to the Marquess Wellesley, Governor-General of Bengal, and subsequently of Ireland.

He was a founding member of RAS in 1823 and 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.

Because of lengthy periods on half-pay, Shawe had financial problems, which friends tried to alleviate. In the end he was offered an administrative position on the Board of Stamps. He was implicated in the lengthy investigation into the affairs of the Duke of York (Frederick, second son of George III and Commander-in-Chief of the Army – “The Grand Old Duke of York”, and Vice-Patron of the RAS from 1823 to 1827) in the House of Commons in January 1809; there one Colonel Wardle accused the Duke of having taken bribes to use his influence in the promotion of half-pay officers (including Colonel Shawe), the bribes having been passed to the Duke through the good offices of Mrs Clarke, his mistress. Colonel Wardle proposed that the Duke of York should be removed from the office of Commander-in-Chief. The House voted against the charge by a smallish majority, but the Duke resigned nevertheless. See a similar story at Fitzclarence.

Shawe died in Dublin in 1843.

His daughter, Isabella, married the novelist William Thackeray. Shawe is reliably considered as the model for Colonel Pendennis, in Thackeray's novel of the same name; it is also very likely that Shawe was Thackeray's source of information about the politics and fashions of the early Regency period which feature so prominently in *Vanity Fair*.



Miniature cameo portrait of Colonel Merrick Shawe, 1800, by Samuel Andrews

Address: (1823, 1824, 1825) 11 Old Burlington Street; in 1833 he was living in Dublin Castle

Shoolbred, John (1766 - 1831), Scottish physician, was born in Auchtermuchty, Fife, in 1766.

A surgeon with the EIC, he was superintendent of the Calcutta Native Hospital from 1792 until 1816. His title was Superintendent of Vaccine Inoculation. While working there he introduced smallpox inoculation to India, and was a signatory to the declaration of Native Inoculators in favour of Vaccine inoculation. He was worried that traditional Brahmin inoculators were spreading the disease through their ineffective treatment.

He published a "*Report on the State and Progress of Vaccine Inoculation in Bengal during the year 1804*".

He was a founding member of RAS in 1823.

He died on 12 October 1831 at Cheltenham.

Address: (1823, 1824, 1825) Marlborough Buildings, Bath

Shore, The Honourable Charles John (1751 - 1834), British official of the East India Company and Governor-General of Bengal, was born on 5 October 1751 in St James's Street, Piccadilly.

His father was employed by the EIC, and his mother's father was a captain in the EIC's Naval Service. Charles was sent to Harrow, and then moved to a commercial school in Hoxton where he learnt bookkeeping. Frederick Pigou (father of Charles Edward Pigou of the RAS) was an old friend of the family, and found him a place in India. He left England in 1768 to become a writer with the EIC in Calcutta.

He was appointed to the board of revenue at Murshidabad, where he studied languages in his spare time. He joined the Revenue Council in Calcutta where he was appalled by the extravagance of Warren Hastings, then Governor-General. His criticisms reached Hastings, and he was forced to resign from the council. However, he remained on good terms with Hastings, and returned with him to England in 1785. Appointed to the Court of Directors in 1787, he returned to India and joined the Bengal government under Lord Cornwallis.

He returned to England to testify at the trial of Warren Hastings, and spoke on Hastings' behalf.

In 1793 he was appointed governor-general in succession to Cornwallis, and remained in that post until 1797. In Bengal he met Sir William Jones and succeeded him as President of the Asiatic Society of Bengal. He also met Charles Grant (member of the RAS), with whom he worked on the evangelization of India.

He was created Baron Teignmouth in 1798.

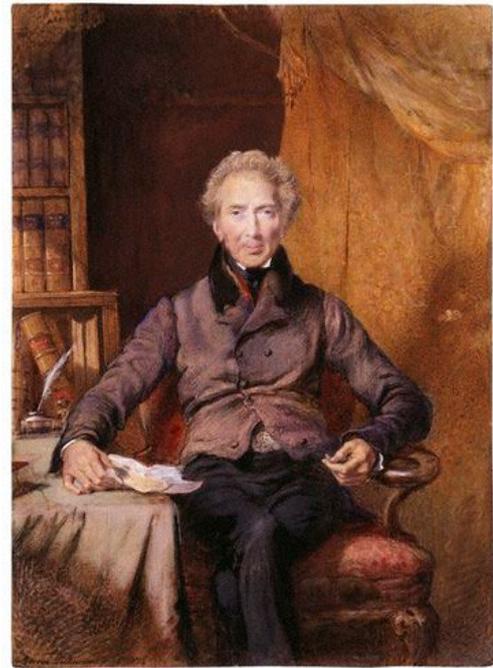
Back in England he lived in Clapham and became a prominent member of the Clapham Sect. He was the first President of the British and Foreign Bible Society in 1804.

He was a founding member of RAS in 1823.

He died on 14 February 1834 in Portman Square.

The RAS library has:

Memoir of the life and correspondence of John, Lord Teignmouth / by his son, Lord Teignmouth. (1843)



John Shore, 1st Lord Teignmouth, 1832,
watercolour by George Richmond, National
Portrait Gallery

Address: (1823, 1824, 1825) 4 Portman Square

Skinner, Reverend John (1772 - 1839), British vicar and archaeologist, was born at Claverton, Somerset, in 1772.

Educated at Oxford, he was vicar of Camerton from 1800 until his death. He carried out many archaeological excavations in the countryside round Bath, in particular excavating the long barrows at Priddy where he discovered Bronze Age tools and ornaments.

He also made several tours to visit archaeological sites in other parts of the country, including Anglesey, and Hadrian's Wall, which he described in detail in several books of memoirs, illustrated with many sketches done in situ.

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

He committed suicide in 1839 by shooting himself. His diaries were part-published after his death, and were influential on Virginia Woolf, who wrote a review essay on them in her collection *The Common Reader* 1932.

Address: (1823, 1824, 1825) Camerton near Bath



Rev John Skinner, rector of Kilmersden,
Radstock Museum

Skinner, Samuel (1744 - 1854), circuit judge, was born on 4 June 1744 in Madras, India.

He was educated at Eton. His son, Charles, was also born in India and went on to serve as a circuit judge in Australia. His wife, Mary, was a noted society hostess, who entertained literary figures and ex-Indian civil servants at their house in Portland Place, and at Shirley Park, their country residence near Croydon.

Two manuscript books of her notes and impressions of life in India and Surrey, with illustrations by her and her husband, as well as by Sir John Malcolm and Dr Whitelaw Ainslie (both RAS members), were sold by Sotheby's in 2005.

Samuel Skinner 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 died on 21 May 1854 in Chittoor, India and is buried in the Hospital Compound, Old Fort.

Address: (1823, 1824, 1825) 23 Portland Place (in Boyle's Court Guide 1829)

Smith, George MP (1765 - 1836), British MP, was born on 30 April 1765. His father, Abel Smith, was a banker in Nottingham. One of his brothers became Lord Carrington. Several of the Smith brothers were also members of Parliament, including Samuel (also a RAS member).

He entered the House of Commons in 1791 and served as an MP for more than forty years, first at Lostwithiel, then Midhurst and Wendover. He later became a director of the East India Company.

He married Frances Mosley, and they had fifteen children, (one was Thomas Charles Smith, also a member of the RAS; see below). He was the great-great-grandfather of the Queen Elizabeth, the Queen Mother.

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

He died on 26 December 1836.

Address: (1823, 1824, 1825) 1 Upper Harley Street in *Boyle's Court Guide* 1821 (earlier, 1811, he lived at 68 Harley Street); later his address was 4 Portland Place

Smith, Henry (1765 - 1826), solicitor and MP, was born in 1765. He was the son of John Smith, also of Drapers Hall; he followed his father's career, becoming first a solicitor, then in 1797 Clerk to the Drapers Company and Solicitor to the East India Company, of which he was also a stockholder. He held both posts until his death.

He was MP for Calne for five years from 1807, and voted against various measures: he voted to impeach the Duke of York for corruption in awarding commissions in the army (see entries at Fitzclarence and Shawe); he voted against the award of a pension to the Duke of Wellington (also a member of the RAS). He voted several times in favour of the East India Company when it was being attacked in the Commons.

He was a founding member of RAS in 1823.

He died in 1826.

Address: (1823, 1824, 1825) Drapers Hall, Throgmorton Street

Smith, Samuel (DOB unknown - 1835), was a governor of the Asylum for the Deaf and Dumb Poor in 1821 and a patron of the Children of the Charity Schools of London, Westminster and Southwark, in 1825. His wife, Mrs Smith of 39 Charlotte Street, Portland Place was a subscriber to the Ladies Royal Benevolent Society in 1818. He was a subscriber to the Surrey Dispensary, Union Street, in 1821 (it was a medical charity offering medical services to the poor).

He did have connections to India: His son, also Samuel Smith, was a judge in Calicut and died at Ootacamund in 1831. According to his will he was of the Civil Service of the Honourable East India Company on the Madras Establishment, and Judge of the Zilla of Malabar of Ootacamund on the Neilgherry Hills, East Indies.

Samuel Smith became a member of RAS in 1824 and was subscribed as a non-resident member.

In 1825 Samuel Smith served as Treasurer of the Phrenological Society of Calcutta when Clarke Abel (also a member of the RAS) was president (*Asiatic Journal and Monthly Register*, 1825).

In 1829 Revd James Bryce (also a member of the RAS), the Scottish minister of the kirk in Calcutta, brought an action for libel against Samuel Smith, the publisher of a Bengal newspaper, who had declared that Bryce spent too much time dealing with political matters when he should have been exercising his religious duties. Although the court found for him, Bryce was forced to pay part of the defendant's costs, which were very high. This could be a connection of Samuel J Smith, which was a firm of printers in Bangkok in 1825; they were still printing the "Siamese Repository" in 1870.

He lived at 39 Charlotte Street which in 1804 had been the residence of Sir Francois Bourgeois and Noel Desenfans, dealers in works of art, whose collection of paintings later formed the basis of the Dulwich Picture Gallery. In 1828 Dante Gabriel Rossetti was born in 38 Charlotte Street, next door to 39.

He died in August 1835. His will, dated 29 August 1835, is in the National Archive.

Address: (1823, 1824, 1825) 39 Charlotte Street, Portland Place (in *Boyle's Court Guide* 1821 and 1829)

There is another possible match for this member:

Smith, Samuel MP (1754 - 1834), British MP and banker, was born on 14 April 1754.

He was partner and director of his family bank in Nottingham. He was Whig MP from 1788 to 1832 for four constituencies: St Germans, Leicester, Midhurst and Wendover. He was the brother of George Smith MP, who was also a member of the RAS, as well as brother to Lord Carrington, and cousin of William Wilberforce (also a member of the RAS).

Smith, Thomas Charles (1797 - 1876), civil servant in the East India Company, was born in 1797. He was the son of George Smith MP (also a member of the RAS), who lived at the same address.

He joined the EIC as a writer in Canton, China, in 1812.

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

In 1828 he became supercargo of the East India Company in Canton, and in 1830 became a member of the Select Committee. He was taught Chinese by Dr Robert Morrison (also a member of the RAS). He was a partner in Magniac, Smith & Co. in 1837. He was a friend of Jardine and Matheson, the Hong Kong and Shanghai traders.

He was a Director of the Bank of England in 1838.

He died in 1876.

Address: (1823, 1824, 1825) 1 Upper Harley Street; later his address was 4 Portland Place

Snodgrass, Thomas FRS (DOB unknown - 1834), was a civil servant with the East India Company.

His father, Gabriel Snodgrass, had been Surveyor to the EIC in Madras for many years, and recommended his son for a post as writer. He moved up within the EIC administration and became Resident in Ganjam in 1791. There he employed a lax system of accepting bribes, and of using funds intended for famine relief to erect buildings for his own use, including a large country house.

His post was abolished in 1794, but he was reappointed some years later and continued to work in the same way as before. "Defalcations of the revenue, coupled with fraud and wholesale oppression," became the order of the day (as related in *Memories of Madras* by Sir Charles Lawson). A Commissioner was sent out from England to investigate his affairs. It transpired that all his papers were kept in a temple in the middle of a lake, and that he rowed across the lake with the commissioner. The latter loaded all the documents into a larger boat, which then sank. The result was that Snodgrass was dismissed without a pension. It was reported that he returned to London, put on old clothes, and swept the street outside East India House. A crowd gathered to watch, and the police were called to deal with the disturbance. As a result, Snodgrass got his pension.

He was nevertheless very rich and bought the house in Chesterfield Street. He spent a large amount of money fitting out the house, but only had one reception there. On his death he left £175,000 to the daughter of a man called Russell of Marylebone, "entirely because her father had been kind to him when he first went to India". (*Gentleman's Magazine*).

He was a founding member of RAS in 1823 and paid a composition as resident member in 1825 and 1826. In addition to the RAS, he was also a member of the Royal Society of Arts, a member of the Founding Committee of the Oriental Club, a fellow of the Royal Geographical Society, one of the Managers of the Royal Institution and was prominent in charities relating to the merchant navy.

It has been suggested that Dickens took the name Snodgrass for one of Mr Pickwick's companions from hearing the name used in Bath by an amateur poet whom he met in an inn.

He died on 28 August 1834.

The RAS library has

Descriptions and figures of two hundred fishes: collected at Vizagapatam on the coast of Coromandel / by Patrick Russell, M.D. F.R.S. (MDCCCIII [1803])

A continuation of an account of Indian Serpents: containing descriptions and figures, from specimens and drawings, transmitted from various parts of India, to the Hon. the court of directors of the East India Company, and published by their order, / under the superintendence of Patrick Russell, M.D. F.R.S. (1801)

These two books were presented to the RAS by Snodgrass in 1829

Plants of the coast of Coromandel : selected from drawings and descriptions presented to the hon. court of directors of the East India company / by William Roxburgh, M.D.
Published by their order under the direction of Sir Joseph Banks ... (1795-1819) (this volume belonged to Thomas Snodgrass)

Address: (1823, 1824, 1825) 10 Chesterfield Street, May Fair in *Boyle's Court Guide* 1821

Solly, Richard Horseman FRS FAS (1774 - 1858), British naturalist and botanist, was born on 29 April 1774.

He was the grandson of Isaac Solly, a merchant in the Baltic, whose ships were captured during the Napoleonic Wars; and the son of Samuel Solly, the surgeon at St Thomas's Hospital, and brother of Samuel Reynolds Solly (also a member of the RAS).

At a lecture given to the Linnaean Society on March 6th 1832, he showed the progression of sap in a species of *Pittaspora*, named *Pittaspora Sollya* after him. In a later lecture, read to the Linnaean Society in April 1836, he described observations of the *Santalum album* which he had taken the previous year in the Botanical Garden at Calcutta. The Australian plant Bluebell Creeper or Australian Bluebell (*Sollya Heterophylla*) is named after him.

He was a founding member of RAS in 1823, as well as being a member of the Geological Society.

He died on 30 March 1858 in Great Ormond Street.

Address: (1823, 1824, 1825) 48 Great Ormond Street in Boyle's Court Guide 1821 and 1829



Print of Richard Horsman Solly 1855, in the National Portrait Gallery

Solly, Samuel Reynolds FRS (1781 - 1866), Justice of the Peace for Hertfordshire, was born on 3 March 1781.

He was the grandson of Isaac Solly, a merchant in the Baltic, whose ships were captured during the Napoleonic Wars, and who was declared bankrupt in the banking crisis of 1837; and the son of Samuel Solly, the surgeon at St Thomas's Hospital, and brother of Richard Horseman Solly (also a member of the RAS).

He was educated at Cheam School, and then Magdalen College, Cambridge.

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

In 1840 he was owner of tithes on a farm at Bunkers Hill, Hemel Hempstead.

He died on 18 September 1866.

Address: (1823, 1824) 18 Henrietta Street, Cavendish Square; (1825) 6 Hinde Street, Manchester Square; in 1834 his address was Serge Hill, Kings Langley

Somerset, His Grace the Duke of FRS (1775 - 1855), British landowner and amateur mathematician, was born on 24 February 1775.

Born Edward-Adolphus, Somerset was the son of the 10th Duke of Somerset; named originally Seymour, his name was changed to St Maur because it was thought this was the original spelling of the family name. The Seymour family was a very old and very senior noble family led by the Dukes of Somerset. Queen Jane Seymour, Henry VIII's third wife, was a descendant.

Edward-Adolphus was known as Lord Seymour until he succeeded to the dukedom in 1783. In 1795 he went on an extended tour of the British Isles. In 1808 he bought a property in Park Lane which he rebuilt and called Somerset House, this was his principal residence where he lived for most of his life. He had estates in various parts of the country, including Bulstrode Park in Buckinghamshire.

A noted mathematician, he was President of the Linnaean Society of London 1834-37 and President of the Royal Institution from 1826 to 1842

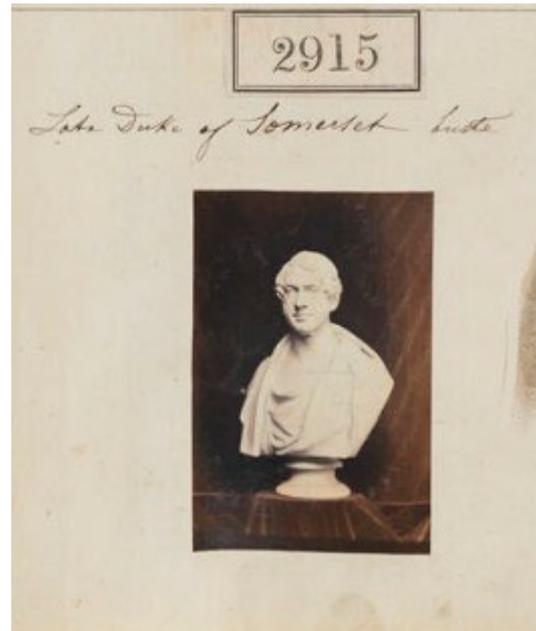
He married Lady Charlotte Douglas-Hamilton, daughter of the Duke of Hamilton. They had seven children.

He was a founding member of RAS in 1823. Note that both the Duke and Lord Seymour have separate entries in the subscriptions lists and printed members' lists for 1823, 1824 and 1825, when they were, in fact, one and the same person. By the time of the printed list of 1835, only the Duke is listed.

Somerset House in the Strand is a national building, containing offices and museums, built on the site of the original palace of the 16th century Dukes of Somerset, which was demolished from 1775. It has no connection to the 19th century family.

He died on 15 August, 1855 at Somerset House, London.

Address: (1823, 1824, 1825) Park Lane in *Boyle's Court Guide* 1821 and 1829



Photographic print of a bust of Edward Adolphus Seymour, 11th Duke of Somerset, Camille Silvy, 1861, in National Portrait Gallery

Somerville, Major Henry Erskine (born 1806), was a soldier with the East India Company. He may have been descended from King Henry VII.

Somerville was a student at Charterhouse in 1817 (List of Carthusians 1800-1879), though this may not be the same person given the dates of his service in the army.

He joined the East India Company's army in Madras in April 1815. In 1817 he was appointed adjutant of the recruiting service in Chatham. He was promoted to Major 28 September 1820. In 1821 he was Staff Captain and second-in-command of the Company's recruiting service in Chatham (India Office & Burma Office List).

He married Eleanor Dixon 15 June 1826. His son was born at Chatham 3 January 1827 (Dumfries Weekly Journal 1827). He was promoted to Lieutenant-Colonel in the East Indies army 30 August 1841 (Gentleman's Magazine Vol 170).

Another Henry Somerville served in the Madras Army and in December 1800 was promoted to Lieutenant and on 16 November 1809 became Captain. He retired from the Madras Army and returned to England on April 8 1815 (Alphabetical list of Officers of the Indian Army, Dodwell, 1838). Note that these dates do not fit with the others.

He was a founding member of RAS in 1823.

He died in 1863.

Address: (1823, 1824, 1825) Chatham Depot

Sotheby, Frederick Samuel (1792 - 1870), captain in the Bengal artillery, was born in 1792. He was the fifth son of William Sotheby and brother of Hans Sotheby (both members of the RAS).

Between 1817 and 1820, Captain F.S. Sotheby, when Commandant of the Artillery of the Nizam of Hyderabad, received an extra payment of 200 rupees per month for his work as Superintendent of the General Depot at Hyderabad. He was promoted to Major in 1838.

He was a founding member of RAS in 1823.

He died in 1870.

Note that none of the Sotheby members of the RAS had any connection with the famous London auction house.

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

Sotheby, Hans (1780 - 1827), businessman and linguist, was born in 1780. He was the son of William Sotheby and brother of Frederick Samuel Sotheby.

He studied at Fort William College, Calcutta in 1806-7, gaining prizes for proficiency in Arabic, Persian, Mahratta and Hindustani. He was in the same group of students as James Tod (also a RAS member).

He served in India as assistant to the Resident at Hyderabad (Henry Russell), and was appointed to Moorshedabad by the Governor-General, Lord Hastings, as one of his last acts before relinquishing office. Immediately after, Charles Metcalfe (later Sir Charles Metcalfe, Governor-General and member of the RAS) began investigating the relations between East India Company officials and the corrupt government of the Nizam of Hyderabad, in particular as far as William Palmer & Company (of which Hans Sotheby was a partner) was concerned. It was suggested that the activities of William Palmer & Co. although considered by the Bengal government to be beneficial to British interests in India, were in fact illegal in that they involved payments to William Palmer and his partners of moneys which had been taken as bribes from Indian civil servants working for the Nizam.

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

Note that none of the Sotheby members of the RAS had any connection with the famous London auction house.

Address: (1823, 1824, 1825) Nil

(Born: 1780; died: 27 April 1827)

Sotheby, William FRS FAS (1757 - 1833), soldier and classicist, was born on 9 November 1757. He was the son of Colonel William Sotheby of the Coldstream Guards; his father died when he was nine, and he was brought up by guardians.

Educated at Harrow, he joined the Army in 1774 by purchasing a commission in the Dragoon Guards, and then studied at the Military Academy at Angers in France. He served in the army until 1780, when he married an heiress, Mary Isted. They had five children, among them Hans Sotheby of the East India Company, and Colonel Frederick Sotheby (both members of the RAS). His son George Sotheby of the East India Company, was a Member of the Literary Society of Bombay, and died in the Mahratta War in 1817.

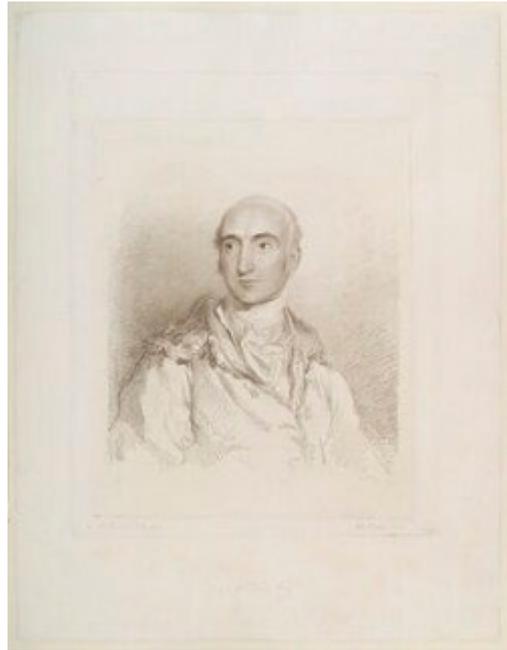
He is best known as a translator of Homer and of Virgil's *Georgics*.

As well as being a founding member of RAS in 1823, he was also a member of the Founding Committee of the Oriental Club in 1824 and a member of the Athenaeum in 1824.

He died on 30 December 1833.

Note that none of the Sotheby members of the RAS had any connection with the famous London auction house.

Address: (1823, 1824, 1825) 13 Lower Grosvenor Street (in *Boyle's Court Guide* 1824 and 1829)



William Sotheby, engraving 1805, after Sir Thomas Lawrence; in National Portrait Gallery

Spencer, The Right Honourable The Earl KG FRS FAS (1758 - 1834), Whig politician, was born on 1 September 1758. Born George John Spencer, he was educated at Harrow and then Trinity College Cambridge where he graduated as MA in 1778. He held the title of Viscount Althorp until he succeeded his father, the 1st Earl Spencer, in 1783.

He was a notable Whig politician, being MP for Northampton and then Surrey before succeeding to the title. He was a member of William Pitt the Younger's cabinet from 1794 to 1801 as Lord Privy Seal and First Lord of the Admiralty. He was Home Secretary in Grenville's "Ministry of All the

Talents" in 1806 and 1807.

He was a well-known book collector, buying large numbers of books and manuscripts from former monasteries after the Napoleonic occupation of Austria and Germany. His vast collection was sold in 1892 and now forms the basis of the John Rylands Library in Manchester.

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

He died on 10 November 1834.

Address: (1823, 1824, 1825) 27 St James's Place in Boyle's Court Guide 1821 and 1829



2nd Earl Spencer, by John Singleton Copley, 1800.
National Portrait Gallery

Speirs, Captain Alexander (1785 - 1847), soldier and political agent, was born on 17 December 1785.

Speirs was a cadet at the Royal Military College, Marlow, in 1802. He had very little money and his father Archibald Speirs of Glasgow, although a very rich trader, refused to have any contact with Alexander who was illegitimate. Through Archibald's contacts with William Elphinstone, a director of the East India Company, Alexander was sent to join the EIC army and left England in 1805 for Calcutta. He was engaged as a lieutenant in the Bengal Native Infantry. He became political agent in several places, ending in Nagpur. He took a concubine, Helen Beg, whom he married shortly before his death. She had seven children by him, all born in India.

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

Captain Speirs was elected a member of the Agricultural and Horticultural Society of India in 1835. Lieutenant-Colonel Speirs was appointed Political Agent in Neemuch in 1834 at a salary of 2000 rupees per month. Alexander Speirs was British Resident in Gwailor from 1839 to 1843.

He died on 11 March 1847.

Address: (1823, 1824, 1825) Nil; in 1834 his address was "Superintendent of Ajmere, and Assistant Resident in Rajputana"

Stanhope, Lieutenant-Colonel The Honourable Lincoln (1781 - 1840), soldier and four-in-hand coach driver, was born 26 November 1781. He was the second son of Charles Stanhope, 3rd Earl of Harrington.

He was a member of the South London Floricultural Society. His portrait as an infant was painted several times by Sir Joshua Reynolds, accompanying his mother and brother, though oddly to modern eyes, both children are always shown in girls' clothes according to 18th century custom.

As Captain in the 14th Light Dragoons he fought in the Peninsular War of 1809. As Lieutenant-

Colonel in the 17th Light Dragoons he saw service in India in 1819-21 during the Maharatta War, defending the Cutch and storming Dwarka in the fight against Waghers or pirates.

In later life, he was a well-known four-in-hand coachman, though according to contemporary commentators not as good a driver as his brother Fitzroy Stanhope.

He was a member of RAS in 1824 and paid subscriptions for 1824 and 1825 only.

He died on 29 February 1840.



Lincoln Stanhope, lithograph, 1836 National Portrait Gallery



Jane, Countess of Harrington and her children; engraving after Joshua Reynolds, 1784

Address: (1825) Stable Yard, St. James's; in Boyle's Court Guide 1821 listed at 44 Curzon Street

Staunton, Sir George Thomas, Bart. MP FRS (1781 - 1859), traveller and orientalist, was born on 26 May 1781.

His father, Sir George Leonard Staunton, the first baronet, was a diplomat and orientalist, who was appointed secretary to Lord Macartney's abortive embassy to China in 1792 to 1794, and decided to take his son with him to China as his page. Before leaving for China the younger George learnt some Chinese, which proved to be enough to be able to talk to the Qianlong Emperor who was very amused by the young English boy and gave him a present.

He went briefly to Cambridge University, then was appointed writer with the East India Company in Canton. Here his knowledge of Chinese improved and he translated Dr George Pearson's work on vaccination into Chinese.

In 1816 he was appointed second-in-command of Lord Amherst's mission to China (which was no more successful than Macartney's). While in China he visited Hong Kong to examine the harbour, and walked around on the island. After Hong Kong was ceded to the British, Staunton Street was named after him. He did not return to England with Amherst's party in the ill-fated *Alceste* and so was spared the effects of the shipwreck. He returned on the East Indiaman *Scaleby Castle* and at the same time was able to bring back some of Clarke Abel's specimens which he was able to give back to Abel to replace the specimens lost in the shipwreck.

He returned to England permanently in 1818, bought a country house at Leigh Park in Hampshire, and became an expert on China and Chinese affairs. He was a member of parliament for 34 years (from 1818 to 1852), but was never able to get a government position in spite of many pleading letters to various Prime Ministers.

He was heavily involved in the foundation of the Royal Asiatic Society in 1823. 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. In 1823 he gave £50 to the Society. In the same year, he made a large donation of Chinese books, and books on China in English and other languages, totalling 186 volumes in all, to the Society; in 1824 he made a donation to the museum of 18 items including a sword, and in 1828 made a further large donation of books, including his "Chinese Tract on Vaccination", and engravings. In 1824, he paid £13.13.00 for a mahogany table for the society's house.

He was also a member of the Literary Society of Bombay in 1823, the Founding Committee of the Oriental Club in 1824 and of the Committee of the Athenaeum in 1824.



Sir George Staunton ca. 1820 by Martin Archer Shee, British Embassy, Beijing

Much of his time was taken up by his house at Leigh Park, whose gardens he made into one of the finest estates in the country. He was particularly interested in Chinese plants, which he grew in special hothouses. He created water features, and built follies. He also added to the house, in particular creating a new library.

In later life he affected a "Chinese" way of speaking and bowing which was noticed by many people who came into contact with him. Henry Crabb Robinson met him at a Linnaean Society dinner in 1829, and commented that "he amused me much ... He has a jiffle and a jerk in his bows and salutations which give him a ludicrous air; but he is perfectly gentlemanly, and I believe in every way respectable. He is a great traveller, a bachelor and a man of letters." (Crabb Robinson's Diary, Vol II). Maria Edgeworth met him in 1830 and noted: that he had "grown very old and lean and chou-chouing in quick time in the oddest manner. I never saw anything as droll as his bows and I thought they would never cease at every fresh word I said on meeting him - chou! chou! - as if he had been pulled by a string and brought up again by a spring to perpendicular then churning head and whole body up and down as you might push up and down a figure of old on spiral springs jumping up on opening a snuff box. Sir G. however is very good natured." (Edgeworth Letters, p450).

He died on 10 August 1859 at Devonshire Street. He never married, and the baronetcy became extinct on his death.

He wrote several books on China:

A translation of the Great Qing Legal Code known as the Fundamental Laws of China (1810).

Narrative of the Chinese Embassy to the Khan of the Tourgouth Tartars (1821).

Miscellaneous Notices Relating to China and our Commercial Intercourse with that country (1822).

Notes of Proceedings and Occurrences during the British Embassy to Peking (1824).

Observations on our Chinese Commerce (1850).

Just before his death, he also wrote his *Memoirs* (privately printed, London 1856) in which he complained bitterly about not being able to gain government office (he wanted to be a Privy Councillor) after he left China. He said that the only organisation of which he was proud of being a member was the Royal Asiatic Society.

The RAS library has:

Memoirs of the chief incidents of the public life of Sir George Thomas Staunton / Staunton, George Thomas (1856)

Nouvelles des missions orientales, reçues a Londres par les Directeurs du Seminaire des Missions Etrangères, en 1793, 1794, 1795 & 1794: pouvant servir de suite aux Lettres edificantes des missionnaires de la Compagnie de Jesus. / Staunton, George, Thomas (MDCCXCVII [1797])

Ta Tsing Leu Lee : being the fundamental laws, and a selection from the supplementary statutes, of the penal code of China : originally printed and published in Pekin in various successive eds., under the sanction, and by the authority, of the several emperors of the Ta Tsing, or present dynasty / Translated from the Chinese and accompanied with an appendix consisting of authentic documents, and a few occasional notes, illustrative of the subject of the work by Sir George Thomas Staunton (1810)

Seventh report from the select committee appointed to take into consideration the state of the administration of justice in the provinces of Bengal, Bahar and Orissa. / Staunton, George Staunton (Printed in the Year MDCCLXXXIII [1783])

Travels in Kamtschatka, during the years 1787 and 1788 / translated from the French of M. de Lesseps ... In two volumes. (1790)

Reise der englischen Gesandtschaft an den Kaiser von China, in den Jahren 1792 und 1793 : aus den papieren des grafen von Macartney ... / zusammengetragen von Sir George Staunton ...; aus dem Englischen übers. von Johann. Christian Hüttner. (1798)

A journal of the passage from India, by a route partly unfrequented, through Armenia and Natolia, or Asia Minor: to which are added, observations and instructions, for the use of those who intend to travel, either to or from India, by that route / by Thomas Howel, M.D. ([1789])

These books were presented to the RAS by Staunton in 1824 and 1825; the library has many other books and manuscripts which were gifted by him.

Address: (1823, 1824, 1825) 17 Devonshire Street, Portland Place (in *Boyle's Court Guide* 1829); in *Boyle's Court Guide* 1821 he is listed at 19 Portland Place

Stewart, The Honorable. C. F. (dates unknown), was a member of RAS in 1824.

This member was probably the same person as Charles Francis Stuart (see below). He was a member of the Asiatick Society of Bengal in 1815, and is possibly the author of *Journal of a Residence in Northern Persia and the Adjacent Provinces of Turkey*, published in London, 1854.

Stewart, Major Charles (1764 – 1837), soldier and orientalist, was born in 1764 in Lisburn, Co. Antrim.

He joined the East India Company's Bengal army as a cadet in 1781. When the Company's College at Fort William Calcutta opened in 1800 he joined it as Assistant Professor of Persian. He returned to England in 1806 and was appointed Professor of Arabic, Persian and Hindustani at Haileybury College in 1807. He remained at Haileybury until 1827 when he retired to Bath.

He was a founding member of RAS in 1823 and paid subscriptions from 1823 to 1827. In December 1823 he donated five books and two manuscripts to the Society. He received the gold medal of the Oriental Translation Fund in 1831.

He died on 19 April 1837 in Bath. His portrait hangs in the Victoria Memorial Hall, Calcutta.

He wrote many books, including several translations, amongst them are:

History of Bengal, London 1813.

The Mulfuzāt Timury, or Autobiographical Memoirs of the Moghul Emperor Timur, translated, London, 1830 (Oriental Translation Fund).

The Tezkereh al Vakiāt, or Private Memoirs of the Moghul Emperor Humayūn, by Jouher, translated, London, 1832 (Oriental Translation Fund).

The RAS library has:

The travels of Mirza Abu Taleb Khan, in Asia, Africa, and Europe, during the years 1799, 1800, 1801, 1802, and 1803 / written by himself, in the Persian language ; translated by Charles Stewart, ... (1814)

A descriptive catalogue of the oriental library of the late Tippoo Sultan of Mysore: to which are prefixed, memoirs of Hyder Aly Khan, and his son Tippoo Sultan / by Charles Stewart, (1809.)

(these books were presented to the RAS by Stewart 1824)

The history of Bengal: from the first Mohammedan invasion until the virtual conquest of that country by the English A.D. 1757 / by Charles Stewart, (1813.)

The Tezkereh al Vakiat or, private memoirs of the Moghul Emperor Humayun. / Jouher ; translated by Charles Stewart. (2013)

The Mulfuzat Timury or, autobiographical memoirs of the Moghul Emperor Timur / Charles Stewart. (2013)

The Mulfuzāt Timūry, or Autobiographical memoirs of the Moghul Emperor Timūr, / written in the Jagtay Tūrky language, turned into Persian by Abu Talib Hussyny, and translated into English by Major Charles Stewart, late Professor of Oriental Languages in the Honourable East India Company's College. (1830.)

The Tezkereh al vakiāt, or Private memoirs of the Moghul Emperor Humāyūn, / written in the Persian language by Jouher, a confidential domestic of His Majesty; translated by Major Charles Stewart, of the Honourable East India Company's service, M.R.A.S. &c. &c. (M.DCCC.XXXII.)

Malfuzat i Timuri / [Supposedly translated into Persian from Eastern Turkish by Abu Talib al-Husaini]. (MS given to the society by Major Davy, this was the basis for the translation made by Stewart in 1830)

Address: (1823, 1824, 1825) Hayleybury College, Herts; in 1834 his address was Kingswood Lodge, Englefield Green

Stewart, Captain Josiah (1781 - 1839), Scottish soldier and East India Company agent, was born in 1781.

He studied at Edinburgh University before joining the Royal Navy as a midshipman; he switched to the East India Company army which he joined as a cadet in 1800.

Captain J. Stewart, with a group of others including John Macdonald Kinneir, Snodgrass and Pottinger, visited the Gate of All Nations at Persepolis in 1810 and carved his name there. (Encyclopedia Iranica: Persepolis Graffiti: Foreign Visitors; Making their Marks: Foreign Travellers at Persepolis: St John Simpson)

He was assistant to Sir John Malcolm (also a RAS member) on his embassy to Persia in 1805, then served as Political Officer in Jaipur, Gwalior and Hyderabad where he was Resident. He was wounded and lost his right arm when travelling on the EIC cruiser *Teignmouth* when she was attacked by a French ship in the Persian Gulf. He married Frances Dean, by whom he had two children. He was living at Gwalior in 1824, when his wife gave birth to a son there. His son, Lieutenant-Colonel William Little Stewart, later served in the Crimean War.

He was a founding member of RAS in 1823 and paid subscriptions for 1823, 1824 and 1825. He was also a member of the Literary Society of Bombay in 1823.

He died in 1839. His Army of India Medal with clasps for Argaum, Gwalighur and Mahidpoor was sold at auction in London in 2015, and again in 2017.

Address: (1823, 1824, 1825) Nil

Stirling, Sir Walter G., Bart (1758 - 1832), soldier and MP, was born in Philadelphia on 24 June 1758. The 1st Baronet, he was the son of a Scottish Captain in the Royal Navy; his mother was American.

He served in the Volunteers during the Napoleonic wars, was successively Commandant of the Somerset Place Volunteers 1798, Colonel in the Prince of Wales' Loyal Middlesex Volunteers 1803-8, and in the London and Westminster Light Horse 1803-7.

He was created a baronet in 1800. He was living at 78 Pall Mall in 1800, when he carried out extensive repairs on the house.

He was an MP, for Gatton in 1799 to 1802, then for St Ives from 1803 to 1820.

He was a director of Globe Insurance Ltd of Pall Mall, together with Henry Alexander, John Hodgson (members of the RAS) and H.C. Plowden (son of a member of the RAS).

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

He died on 25 August 1832.

Address: (1823, 1824, 1825) 105 Pall Mall in Boyle's Court Guide 1821



Sir Walter George Stirling, hand-coloured etching 1824, by Richard Dighton

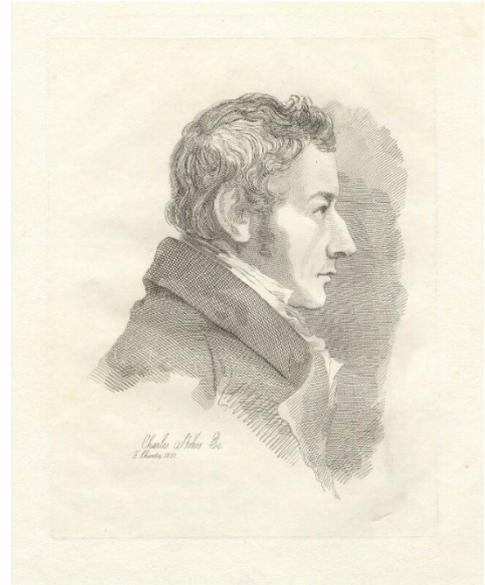
Stokes, Charles FRS (DOB unknown - 1854), was a stockbroker.

He was a friend of Turner, and a collector of his paintings; he also acted as a financial advisor to the painter. Turner wrote to him on 19 December 1851, the day before he died: "Dear Stokes. Enclosed is a wish for Mr F Marsh to advance on my account £100. I do not like the debts of Mr Woods – not paid. Have the goodness to do it". This was almost certainly the last letter Turner wrote.

Founding member RAS 1823; paid subscriptions for 1823 and 1824 in 1824; and paid subscriptions for 1826 and 1827 in 1827. He was also a fellow of the Astronomical Society of London and a member of the Athenaeum in 1824.

He died in 1854. His will, dated 7 January 1854, is in the National Archives.

Address: (1823, 1824, 1825) 4 Verulam Buildings, Gray's Inn in Boyle's Court Guide 1821



Charles Stokes, by Mary Dawson Turner, after Chantrey, National Portrait Gallery

Stone, Henry (1777 - 1845), civil servant and banker, was born in 1777.

As a young man he worked in the Bengal Civil Service, but then became a partner in the family bank, Martin, Stone and Martin, which had traded at 68 Lombard Street since at least 1702 (mentioned in the London Gazette, 23 November 1702). At that time, with other partners, it was Martin, Stone, Foot and Porter; it was the forerunner of Martins Bank which was bought by Barclays in the 1960s.

He was the brother of George Stone who succeeded James Martin as a partner. Another partner, John Martin (1774-1832), married Frances Stone, daughter of Richard Stone in 1803. Henry Stone's daughter, Sibella (born 1810) married George Norman (another banker, and great-grandfather of Montague Norman, Governor of the Bank in the 1920s); her daughter, Sibella Charlotte, married a barrister, Henry Bonham Carter, and was the great-grandmother of Helena Bonham Carter.

He was a founding member of RAS in 1823.

He died in 1845.

Address: (1823, 1824, 1825) 68 Lombard Street

Stone, Major William (dates unknown), was a founding member of RAS in 1823.

It has not been possible to ascertain the identity of this member. The following are various pieces of information, not all of the same person.

Captain William Stone married Mary Plestow of Lower Seymour Street in 1807 (The Athenaeum, Vol 2). Captain William Stone was owed £89.10.10 in the records of Marsh, Sibbald & Co., a bank which collapsed in 1824 (his address is listed as Tunbridge).

Mr William Stone of Basildon Berks is listed as a member of the United Company of Merchants of England trading to the East-Indies in 1815.

In 1845 William Stone, a wealthy farmer and magistrate, left his estate of 800-acre Basildon Farm to his wife, Sarah (Shackel family story in Read History)

In 1831 W.H. Stones, Esq., was a member of the Union Club.

William Stone of Englefield was High Sheriff of Berkshire on 12 February 1817.

In the Royal Court Guide for 1842 there is a William Henry Stone at the Union Club and Streatley House, Oxfordshire.

Address: (1823, 1824) 6 Berners Street, Oxford Street (written Burners in list); (1825) 63 Grosvenor Street

Strachey, Edward (1774 - 1832), judge and translator, was born on 18 December 1774. He was the son of the first baronet, Sir Henry Strachey.

He was educated at Westminster and St Andrews University, and went to Bengal as writer in 1793. He became a judge, and also befriended Mountstuart Elphinstone (also a member of the RAS), who was two or three years younger than Strachey, but also a writer in the East India Company, and was among other things, the first British envoy to Kabul.

He married in 1808, and returned to England in 1811 and retired from the East India Company's service in 1815.

The Somerset Heritage Centre holds a letter written by Edward Strachey in 1808 to his brother George, informing him about his plans to get married.

He lived for a time at the family estate of Sutton Court, but went to live in London when he was appointed examiner in India House where he was a colleague of James Mill (RAS member) and his son, J. S. Mill. Living in Fitzroy Square he became friendly with Carlyle, who often visited him.

His Persian was good and he translated and published the Sanskrit text on algebra, the "Bija Ganita" in 1813.

He was listed as a member of the United Company of Merchants of England trading to the East-Indies in 1815. Unfortunately, he was owed £3185.11.6 in the crash of the bank Marsh, Sibbald and Co. in 1824 (his name is spelled Stracey in the bank records), and as Sir Edward Stracey he was owed a further £5203. 7.4.

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 died on 3 January 1832 at Sheeter's Hill, London.

The RAS library has:

Bija ganita: or, The algebra of the Hindus / by Edward Strachey of the East India Company's Bengal Civil Service. (1813) (volume presented by G. T. Colebrooke in 1824)

Address: (1823, 1824, 1825) 31 Fitzroy Square in Boyle's Court Guide 1821

Strachey, George (1776 - 1849), civil servant in the East India Company, was born in 1776. He was the son of the first baronet, Sir Henry Strachey, and brother of Henry, Richard and Edward Strachey.

He studied at Trinity College Cambridge, and in 1795 won the Browne gold medal for a Latin epigram, and in 1796 the same medal for a Greek Ode.

He went to India in 1798, taking with him a letter from his poet friend Robert Southey, in which Southey told him to “return from India with as uncorrupted a heart as you will carry there”. He entered the East India Company’s service and became Chief Secretary in Madras; in 1816 he received a series of letters and memoranda about the Pindaris which are in the British Library, Asian and African Studies Section. The Somerset Heritage Centre holds a letter written by Edward Strachey in 1808 to his brother George, informing him about his plans to get married.

In 1821 he bought Bownham Park, near Stroud, Gloucestershire, for £5825; he demolished the old house and built a new mansion in its place between 1839 and 1849.

He was a founding member of RAS in 1823.

He died in 1849 at Bownham Park.

Address: (1823, 1824, 1825) 45 Wimpole Street; in 1798 his address was Crown Street, Duke Street, Westminster

Strachey, Sir Henry, Bart. (1772 - 1852), merchant and director of the East India Company, was born in 1772. He was the son of the first baronet, and elder brother of Richard, Edward and George Strachey; he succeeded to the title in 1810. He also inherited the house in Hill Street, Mayfair.

He is listed as a member of the United Company of Merchants of England trading to the East-Indies in 1815. He was a director of the East India Company and was elected to the Committee of By-Laws in June 1820.

He was a founding member of RAS in 1823.

He died in 1852.

Address: (1823, 1824, 1825) 2 Hill Street, Berkeley Square (9 Hill Street in *Boyle's Court Guide* 1821); in *Boyle's Court Guide* 1829, and in 1834 his address was 115 Mount Street

Strachey, Richard (1781 - 1847), Resident in Lucknow, was born on 21 May 1781. He was the son of the first baronet, Sir Henry Strachey, and brother of Henry, Edward and George Strachey.

Following the dismissal of Colonel Baillie as Resident in Lucknow in 1815, Richard Strachey was appointed to his place. He did not last long in this position, and when he resigned as Resident in 1817, Felix Raper (also a member of RAS) became Acting Resident from January 1817 to April 1818.

Richard Strachey visited the Palace of Darius and the Gate of All Nations at Persepolis during two visits to Persia in 1800 and carved his name there (Encyclopedia Iranica: Persepolis Graffiti: Foreign Visitors; Making their Marks: Foreign Travellers at Persepolis: St John Simpson).

He was a founding member of RAS in 1823.

He died on 5 May 1847.

Address: (1823, 1824, 1825) 9 Hill Street in *Boyle's Court Guide* 1821; in *Boyle's Court Guide* 1829, and in 1834 his address was 115 Mount Street

Strange, Sir Thomas (1756 - 1841), Chief Justice, was born on 30 November 1756 in Henrietta Street, Covent Garden.

His father was a Scottish artist, but Thomas was born in England and studied law at Lincoln's Inn. He was called to the bar in 1785.

He was appointed Chief Justice of Nova Scotia in 1789, and spent seven years in Halifax, dealing mainly with property matters, but also dealing with the process of freeing slaves.

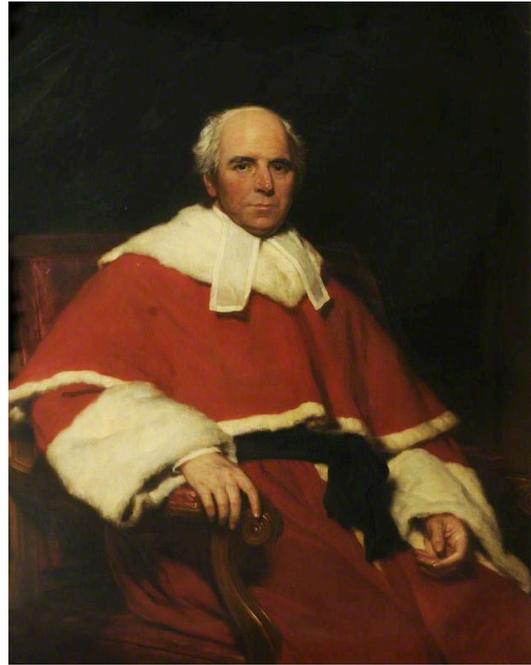
He returned to England in 1796 and was then appointed Recorder of Fort St George (Madras), becoming Chief Justice in 1800 when the Recorder's Court was replaced by a Supreme Court.

He retired from service in India in 1817 and returned to England. He published *Elements of Hindu Law* in 1825, and *Hindu Law with reference to such portions of it as concern the Administration of Justice in the King's Courts in India* in 1830.

He was a member of RAS in 1824 and paid subscriptions from 1824 to 1827. In November 1825 he donated a copy of *Elements of Hindu Law* to the Society's library.

He died on 16 July 1841 in St Leonards, Sussex.

Address: (1824, 1825) Sydney Place, Bath



Sir Thomas Andrew Strange, by Martin Archer Shee, Christ Church, Oxford

Strathallan, The Right Honourable the Lord Viscount, was a member of RAS in 1824.

See entry below.

Address: (1824) Nil; (1825) 30 Great George Street, Westminster

Stuart, The Honourable Charles Francis (dates unknown), was a member of the Bengal Supreme Court.

See also the entry at Stewart C.F., presumably the same man. *See also* Strathallan, above.

In the East-India Register and Directory 1819, he is listed under members of the Supreme Court of Judicature Bengal (Sir Edward Hyde East, Chief Justice) as “Hon Charles Francis Stuart, Master in Equity, accountant general and keeper of the records”.

He was a member of RAS in 1824; his name is given as

“Lord Viscount Strathallan” in the 1824 list. In the 1835 list of members of the RAS he is listed as: “Hon Charles Francis Stuart, Erskine House, Glasgow”



Charles Francis Stuart, by Sir Henry Raeburn

Stuart, Daniel (1766 - 1846), Scottish journalist, was born on 16 November 1766 in Edinburgh.

Born into a family of strong Jacobite tendencies, he came to London in 1778 to join his brothers who were printers. Charles Stuart wrote plays, and Peter Stuart launched *The Star*, the first proper London evening paper. In 1788, Peter and Daniel Stuart started printing the *Morning Post* which was not financially sound. The owner, Richard Tattersall, sold it to the two Stuarts who gradually increased the circulation until it could rival the *Morning Chronicle*. Samuel Taylor Coleridge joined the paper and wrote regular articles. Southey also wrote for it when Coleridge was away. Even Wordsworth contributed some poems. In 1828 Stuart sold the *Post* when its circulation had reached 4,500.

Stuart then concentrated on the *Courier*, a paper which he had acquired some years earlier and increased the circulation enormously. Coleridge contributed some of the copy, and it became noticed because of its political essays. In 1822, Stuart sold his share of the paper.

He was a member of RAS in 1824 and paid admission fee and annual subscription in 1824. He made a donation of Dow's *History of Hindoostan* to the RAS in 1827.

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

He bought the manor of Wykeham Park, near Oxford, but still lived in his house in Upper Harley Street, where he died on 25 August 1846.

The RAS library has:

The Asiatick miscellany: consisting of original productions, translations, fugitive pieces, imitations, and extracts from curious publications. / Gladwin, Francis & Stuart, Daniel

The history of Hindostan : translated from the Persian / by Alexander Dow. (1803)

(this was presented to the society by Daniel Stuart in 1827)

Address: (1824, 1825) 9 Upper Harley Street in *Boyle's Court Guide* 1821 and 1829

Stuart, James MP (1774 - 1833), politician, was born on 12 July 1774. He was the illegitimate son of William Stuart, 9th Baron Blantyre.

He was educated at Uxbridge, and was destined to join the East India Company as his brothers and sister were all connected to the Company. His father died in 1776, and his mother, Harriet Teasdale, became the favourite of the 5th Earl of Sandwich, John Montagu (son of the 4th Earl, the inventor of the “sandwich”). Her connections proved invaluable to James’ career.

He joined the Bengal service as a writer in 1791. He was rapidly promoted and became Registrar of the Courts of Sudder Dewany and Nizamut Adawlut in 1798 but had to resign because of ill health. He went to the Cape in 1799 to recuperate and returned to Bengal in 1801. He took up his old post, and moved to become judge of the court of appeal in Benares in 1808. He then was appointed a member of the council of the College at Fort William in 1811 but was forced to resign again for health reasons and went to recuperate at the Cape.

He was appointed to the supreme Council of Bengal in 1817, when it was estimated that his annual salary was over 55,000 rupees. He became President of the Board of Revenue, and retired from the Company’s service in 1822, when he returned to England.

Elected MP for Huntingdon 14 May 1824, he held the seat until 2 May 1831 in spite of much criticism of his connections and his Indian service, where, it was said, he had “imbibed slavish principles”. He was elected director of EIC in April 1826 and served on the Company’s shipping committee.

He was a member of RAS in 1824 and a member of the Athenaeum the same year.

He died on 6 April 1833, leaving an estate of under £20,000. One of his legatees was his nephew, Sir James Brooke, later Rajah of Sarawak.

Address: (1824) 20 Montagu Square; (1825) 63 Portland Place

Montagu Square was built between 1810 and 1815, and is part of the Portman Estate. The architect was Joseph Parkinson. It was built by David Porter, who named it after his former employer when he was a chimney-sweep, Mrs Elizabeth Montagu, the society hostess and blue-stocking. Anthony Trollope lived at No. 39 from 1873 onwards.

Stuart, Captain Thomas David (dates unknown), was a soldier.

On 1 September 1823, at Greenhead, Glasgow, Captain Thomas David Steuart of the Hon. East India Company's service, Bengal Establishment, married Mary eldest daughter of George Pinkerton (Blackwood's Edinburgh Magazine Vol. 14).

He was elected a member of the Royal Society of Edinburgh in 1823.

He was a member of RAS in 1824 and paid admission fee and subscription in 1824.

A Major Stuart is in a photograph of officers of the 1st Madras Light Cavalry taken at Poona, in 1868 (in the BM Asian Section, India Office Select Materials).

Address: (1824, 1825) Nil

Sullivan, Right Honourable John (1749 - 1839), civil servant in the East India Company and MP, was born on 7 April 1749 in Cork, Ireland. He was the son of Benjamin Sullivan, Clerk of the Crown for county Cork and Waterford, Ireland.

He studied at Greenwich until he was 15, when he joined the East India Company as a writer in Madras. This was through the influence of Laurence Sullivan (1713 - 1786), who was born in Cork to a notable Irish family, and who eventually became Chairman of the EIC, though his connection to John Sullivan is unsure.

John rose to become a factor in 1771, then member of the council at Mazulipatam in 1774, then was appointed Resident in Tanjore by Lord Macartney (like him an Irishman) from 1781 to 1785, when he retired from the company's service.

He bought the manor of Richings Park, near Iver in Buckinghamshire, in 1772.

On his return to England he became MP for Old Sarum 1790 to 1796, for Aldborough 1802 to 1806, and finally for Ashburton 1811 to 1818. He joined the government as Undersecretary for War 1801 to 1804, member of the Board of Trade (1805) and Privy Councillor (1805). He became an unpaid member of the Board of Control, overseeing the East India Company, in 1805-6 and again in 1812. He was a trustee of the Westminster Life Assurance Office in 1805, and of the British Fire Office in 1811.

An insurance certificate for him, issued by the Sun Fire Office in December 1789 is held in the London Metropolitan Archives.

He was a founding member of RAS in 1823.

He died on 1 November 1839 at Richings Park. He is buried in the family vault in Iver Church.

Address: (1823, 1824, 1825) 79 Harley Street; Richings Lodge, Colnbrooke, Bucks (in Boyle's Court Guide 1829 given as 87 Harley Street)



John Sullivan, 1808 print by William Whiston Barney after Sir William Beechey, British Museum

Sumner, George Holme MP FRS FAS (1760 - 1838), lawyer and MP, was born on 10 November 1760 in India. He was the son of William Sumner, member of the Bengal Council.

He was educated at Harrow and Emmanuel College Cambridge. He studied law at Lincoln's Inn. He succeeded to the estates of his uncle Thomas Holme in 1794, and added the name Holme to his surname.

He inherited the mansion at Hatchlands when his father died in 1796, and made notable changes and additions to the house and estate. Bonomi made changes to the exterior of the house and also made a new entrance on the west front. Humphrey Repton was engaged to deal with the park and gardens and made new wide lawns and gravel walks.

He also inherited the family townhouse from his father. This was 11 Great George Street (not the Grafton Street address in the RAS records).

He was an MP for many years, including representing Guildford from 1790 to 1796, then from 1806 to 1807, then Surrey from 1807 to 1826, and Guildford again from 1830 to 1831.

He was a founding member of RAS in 1823.

He died on 26 June 1838.

Address: (1823, 1824, 1825) 2 Grafton Street in Boyle's Court Guide 1821; Hatchlands, Guildford, Surrey



George Sumner Mezzotint 1814 by William Ward

Sussex, H.R.H. the Duke of (1773 – 1843), the sixth son and ninth child of King George III, was born on 27 January 1773 at Buckingham Palace.

Augustus Frederick, Duke of Sussex, spent most of his life abroad. In 1793, he married Lady Augusta Murray, daughter of the Earl of Dunmore, in Rome; then they were married again in London later the same year (on 5 December 1793), at St George's Hanover Square. However, George III annulled the marriage under the Royal Marriage Act and the Court of Arches declared both marriages void on 7 July 1794. Their children were declared illegitimate. He repeated the offence after the death of Lady Augusta, when he married Lady Cecilia Buggin in 1831. This time his marriage proved more acceptable and Lady Cecilia was made Duchess of Inverness by Queen Victoria in 1840.

The Royal Marriage Act was proposed by George III in 1771 to prevent members of the Royal Family from marrying without the consent of the reigning monarch.

He was a member of RAS in 1824, though there is no record of him ever paying his subscription.

He died on 21 April 1843 at Kensington Palace.

Address: (1824, 1825) Kensington Palace in Boyle's Court Guide 1821 and 1829



Mezzotint 1816 by Thomas Hodgetts, National Portrait Gallery

Sutherland, James (dates unknown), was a founding member of RAS in 1823 who paid subscriptions from 1823 to 1826.

There are two men with the name James Sutherland who may have been our member: one worked in the Civil Service and the other in the Army. The following provides biographical detail on both.

Bombay Civil Service

March 1, 1831, James Sutherland, Esq., appointed by the Hon. Court of Directors to be a provisional member of Council at Bombay, has this day taken the oaths and his seat, as a member of the government (Asiatic Journal).

In a case in Chancery in 1858, George Simson testified that James Sutherland had left £5000 in his will to be divided between the children of his adopted daughter Mary Ann Sutherland and the marriage certificate of George Simson and Mary Ann Sutherland (dated 26 November 1822) was produced in evidence (also shown was the baptismal record of George Sutherland Simson (son of George Simson and Mary Ann Sutherland, baptised 31 October 1823) (University of St Andrews Archives).

Bombay army

Major-General Sir James Sutherland of the Bombay Infantry is listed as a Knight of the Lion and the Sword in Henry Kerr's book "A few words of advice to Cadets and other Young Persons proceeding to India" 1842.

30 August 1839, Captain David Babington, 17th Native Infantry, married Maria Anne, eldest daughter of Colonel James Sutherland of the Bombay Army, at Madras.

St James' Church Baroda, commonly called the White Church, is dedicated to the memory of James Sutherland (1790 – 1840), Political Commissioner for Guzerat, and Resident at the Court of His Highness the "Guicowad" (Gaekwad) (information from the Bombay Diocesan Trust Ltd).

He was buried in Marylebone New Church, Marylebone Road, where his tomb is still to be found.

The will of James Sutherland of Saint Marylebone, Middlesex, dated 12 December 1828, is in the National Archives.

James Sutherland visited the Gate of All Nations at Persepolis twice in January 1809 with J. J. Morier, and carved his name there (Encyclopedia Iranica: Persepolis Graffiti: Foreign Visitors; Making their Marks: Foreign Travellers at Persepolis: St John Simpson)

Sutherland, James Charles Colebrooke (1792 - 1844), administrator in the Bengal Civil Service, was born on 6 November 1792. He was the son of Andrew Sutherland, RN, Commissioner of Gibraltar, and Louisa Colebrooke, daughter of Sir George Colebrooke (the second baronet) and elder sister of Henry Thomas Colebrooke, founding member of the RAS.

He joined the Bengal Civil Service as a writer in 1807, and lived in Calcutta for the rest of his life. He was made Principal of Hooghly Moisin College on the recommendation of Lord William Bentinck, Governor-General of Bengal (and member of the RAS). He visited the Bhagalpur Hills in 1818/19, and papers relating to this visit are held in the British Library.

His wife was Charlotte Garstin, daughter of the Surveyor-General of Bengal.

He translated the *Dattaka-Mimansa* and the *Dattaka-Chandrika*, treatises on the Hindu Law of Adoption.

He was a founding member of RAS in 1823.

He died on 1 February 1844.

Address: (1823) Nil; (1824, 1825) Calcutta

Sydenham, George (1785 - 1863), political agent, was born on 23 October 1785 in India. He was the son of Major-General William Sydenham of the Madras artillery.

His two elder brothers, Benjamin and Thomas, were both political agents in Hyderabad, and George was political agent for his brother Thomas in Aurungabad, having been employed originally as Persian interpreter. All three brothers were favourites of Lord Wellesley, the former Governor-General ("The Nizam, his History and Relations with the British Government", Henry Briggs, London 1861).

Thomas Sydenham resigned his post following his part in the officers' mutiny of 1809, and In Appendix 20 to the Minutes of the Select Committee on the Affairs of the East India Company (February 1832), it was stated that in 1816 Captain George Sydenham was Political Agent in Berar. As Political Agent, he made a proposal that a troop of 4000 horse should be organised under the

command of British officers, to deal with insurgents which were invading the Company's territories, and the proposal was accepted by the Governor-General, the Marquess of Hastings.

He was owed £1718 in the crash of Marsh, Sibbald & Co., 1824. At the time his address was 10 Curzon Street, Mayfair. Mrs Sydenham, living in Bath, was owed £5706.

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

He died in 1863.

Address: (1823, 1824) 14 Upper Seymour Street, Portman Square; (1825) Nil



George Sydenham, pastel by John Russell, sold 2008 by auction in London

Symmons, John FRS FAS (1741 - 1832), horticulturist, was born in 1741.

He was a plant specialist and member of the Royal Horticultural Society and the Linnaean Society. He collected over 4000 plants which he kept in his garden at Paddington House (they were catalogued by William Salisbury in *Hortus Paddingtonensis*).

He is first recorded as living at Richmond House in 1790, and from there moved his book collection and his plants to Paddington House. He also had an estate in Wales near Milford Haven, and was a member of a group of debauchees called the Noblemen and Gentleman's Catch Club. This has led to speculation that he was the model for Lord Westhaven in the gothic novel *The Horrors of Oakendale Abbey* (1797) by the famous surgeon, Sir Anthony Carlisle FRS, writing under the pseudonym "Mrs Carver". This seems all the more probable as Carlisle had married Symmons' daughter Martha in 1800. Symmons was also instrumental in seconding the application of Lord Elgin to join the Society of Dilettanti, and it has been suggested that he may have used his influence in the purchase of the Elgin marbles.

Symmons had been introduced to Carlisle by the surgeon John Hunter, and in 1799 he presented Carlisle with a specimen of a lemur for dissection, which Carlisle used to show the arterial system in the animal which allowed it to move very slowly (two letters from Carlisle to Symmons in 1800 and 1802 are quoted in the journal of the Linnaean Society) ("Medical portrait gallery" by Thomas Joseph Pettigrew, 1840).

He was a founding member of RAS in 1823 and a member of the Athenaeum in 1824. He was elected FRS in 1794.

The contents of his house at Paddington Green were auctioned by Philipps in March 1828.

He died in 1832.

Address: (1823, 1824, 1825) Paddington House