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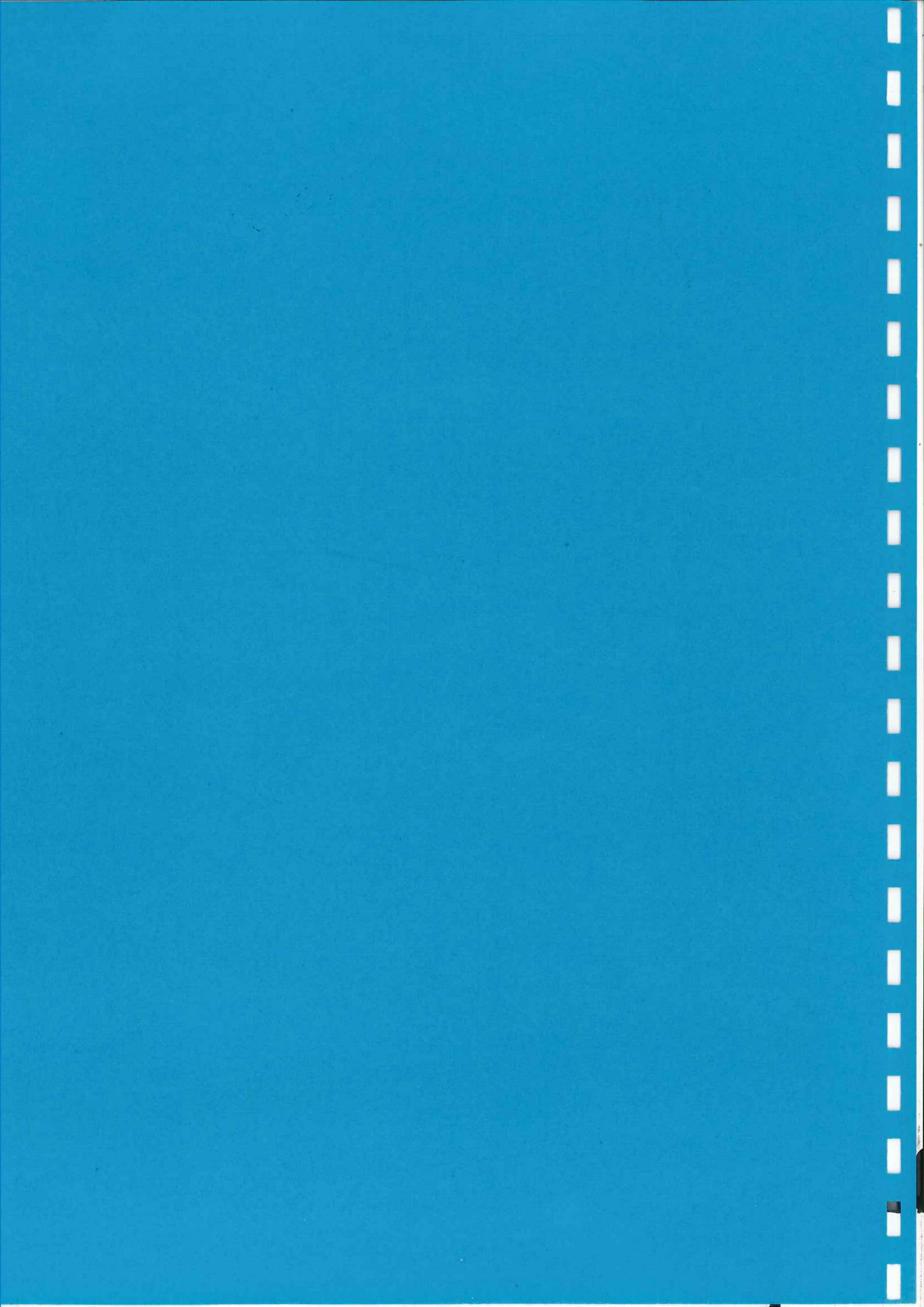
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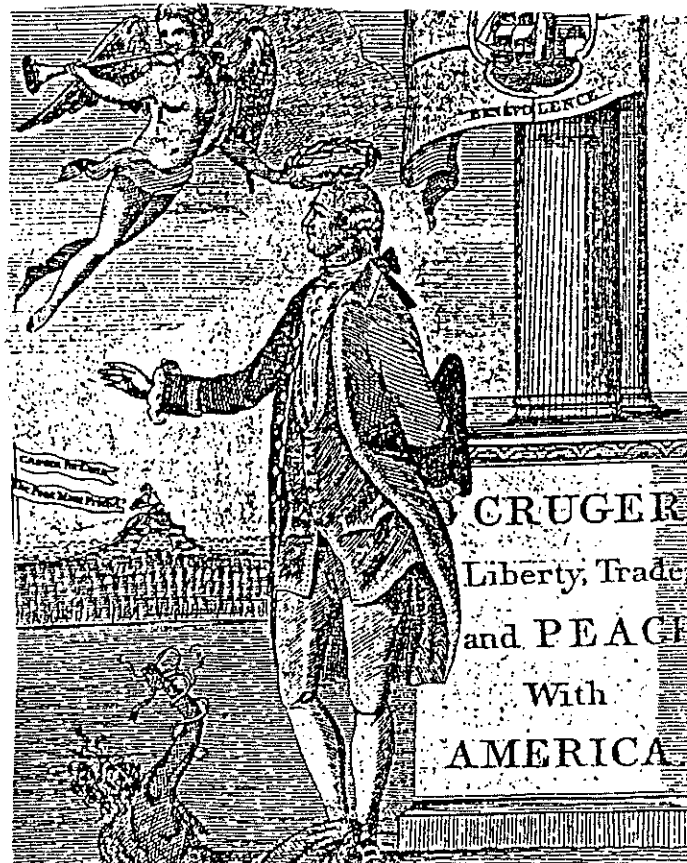
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Brislington Bulletins No.4

1750 - 1774



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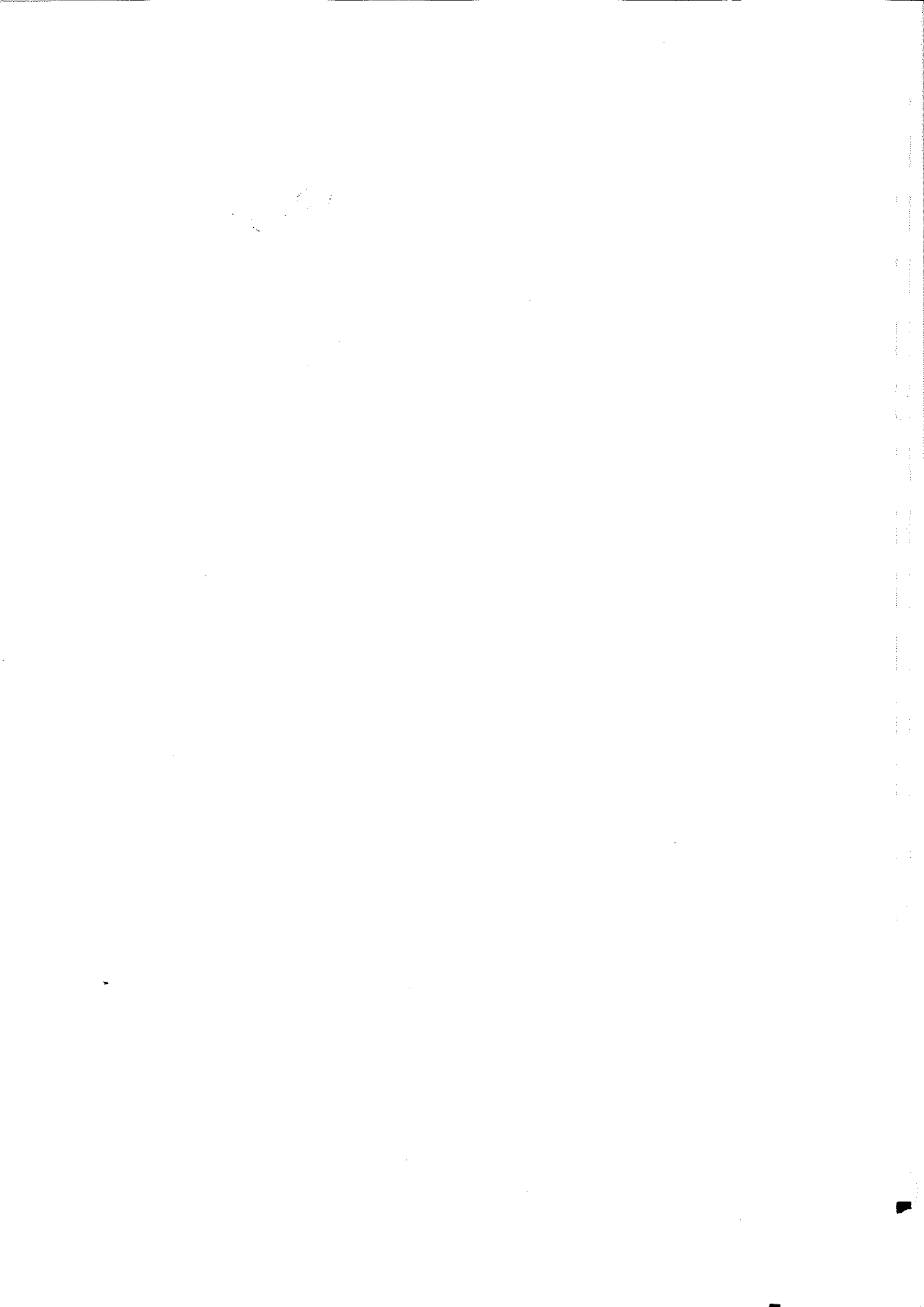
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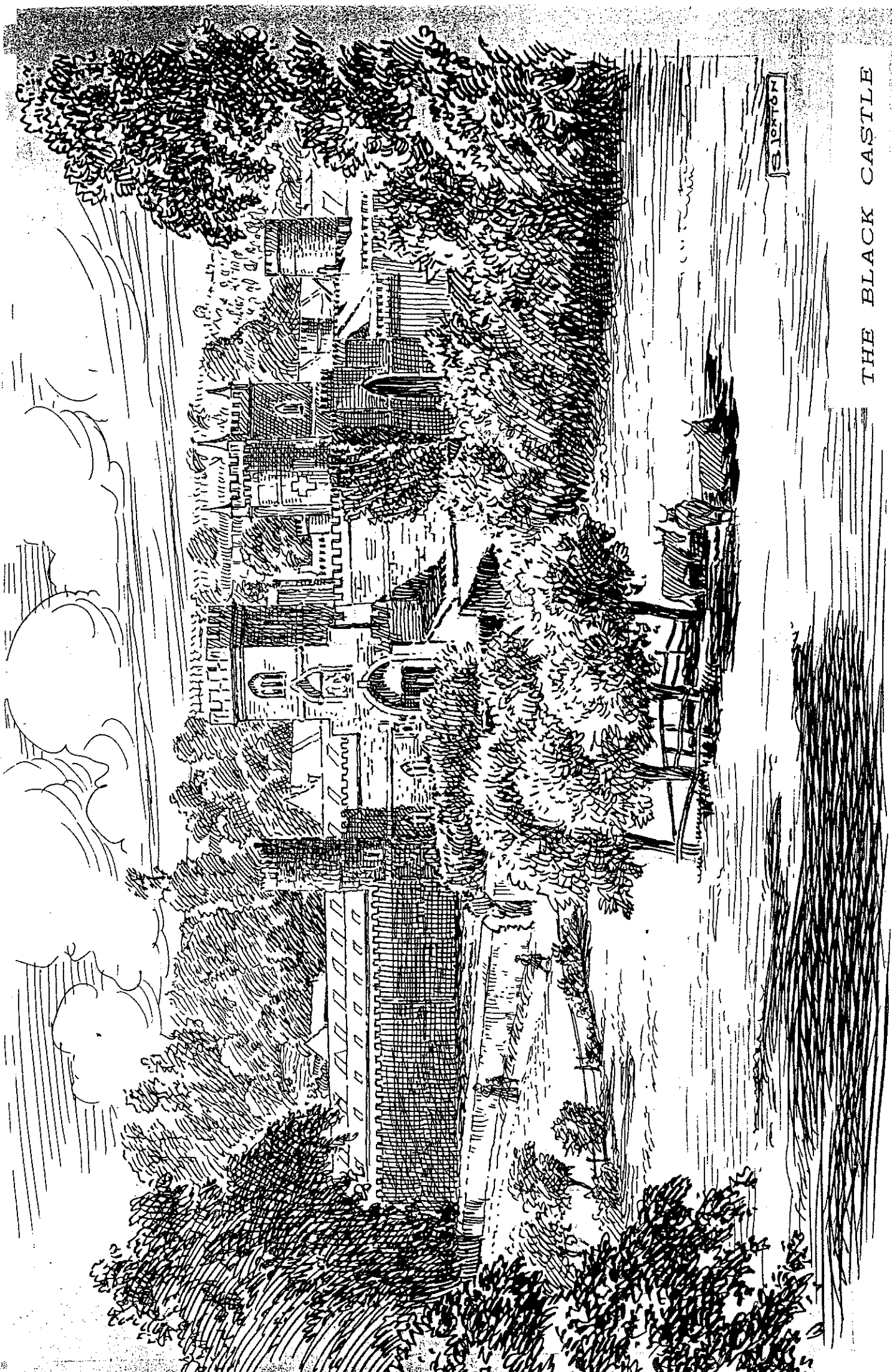
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THE BLACK CASTLE

COTTON FAMILY - see FOREWORD.

ROBERT COTTON / ELIZABETH ASHTON. 6-8-1727 Bedminster ✓

JOSHUA " S.O ROBT 4p ~~See~~ & JAS. 26-3-1732/3

ELIZ. " do " + ELIZ. 4p " " 1-1-1736

Foreword

The fourth volume of "Bulletins" records the years 1750-1774, a period of great unemployment and distress throughout Somerset and a time when Brislington's Common came to be known as "The Hounslow Heath of the West". These two situations were probably not unconnected. Newspapers report the dangerous footpads - historical muggers - who lurked on the Common and were far removed from the "dashing" highwaymen of popular myth, whilst the Vestry minutes record pathetic tales of Brislington's poor.

Some of our great houses were built in this period, but the most talked about architectural event must surely have been the building of William Reeve's famous folly, the Black Castle. During the writing of this chronology, the past overlapped the present, when the local press carried frequent updates about the Castle's renovation. I am delighted to see that the kings and bishops have been restored to the formerly empty niches of the Gate, even if weekend revellers think it a hoot to place the odd traffic cone in the crook of a royal arm.

Despite his lasting legacy, Reeve's time in Brislington was short. He was here by 1763 - his flamboyant signature adorns the St Luke's Vestry minutes, even though as a Quaker, he was unlikely to have attended the parish church - but by 1774 he was declared bankrupt, and left Brislington. A few years later he was dead. His fellow Friends denounced his extravagant building works, but it was the American War which had proved his undoing. I am quite sure that such a man would have had a portrait painted. Has anyone ever come across a likeness of William Reeve?

A visit of a much shorter duration was made by Henry Cruger, an American politician, who in 1774, along with Edmund Burke, represented Bristol in Parliament. His appearance in Brislington, certainly suspicious, may or may not be an example of early political sleaze, though nothing can be proved one way or the other.

Once again, this minutiae hopefully gives a flavour of the past to present inhabitants, as well as perhaps assisting those who are tracing their Brislington ancestors. I have failed miserably to help an Australian correspondent who asked me to undertake a simple search, we both thought, to find his forebear, Robert Cotton, who, according to a settlement examination paper of 1790, found amongst the parish records of Keinton, Devon, was born in Brislington, about 1759. The family supposedly stayed here until 1762, when they went to Weston Bath, and where they lived until 1780 before going to Devon. Increasingly desperate searches in both parishes and the entire area, if not the world, have found neither hide nor hair of Robert or his family, though his parents may have been Robert Cotton and Mary Driel, married at St James Bristol on 1 January 1753.

If you have any knowledge of this family please let me know.

D.P. Lindegaard, Brislington.
January 1996

Sources & Abbreviations

ARL County of Avon Reference Library
BAR Bristol Apprentice Roll
BMLB Bristol Marriage Licence Bonds
BPB Bristol Poll Book
BRO Bristol Record Office
BWI Bristol Weekly Intelligencer
FFBJ Felix Farley's Bristol Journal
MI Monumental Inscription
PRBA Parish Register, Bath Abbey
PRK Parish Register, Keynsham
PR St A Parish Register St Augustine, Bristol
PR St G Parish Register, St George
PR St J Parish Register, St James
PR St LB Parish Church of St Luke, Brislington
PR PJ Parish Register St Philip & St Jacob
PRT Parish Register, Temple
SFBJ Sarah Farley's Bristol Journal
SRO Somerset Record Office

Allen, Ashford, - St Luke's Parish Church [StLPC]
Alumni: List of graduates of Oxford & Cambridge
Bristol Lists
Camp, A.J., Index to PCC Wills
Egarr, Ralph, The Story of St Luke's Church
Gane, C.E., History of Brislington
Latimer, J., Annals of Bristol in the 18th Century [L18c]
MacMillan, A.S., Somerset Epitaphs
Rowe, J. & Williams, D., Bygone Brislington [BB]
Somerset Archeological & Natural History Society, Vol 47

My thanks as always to the staff of Bristol Record Office, Somerset Record Office, and Avon County Reference Library for their patient assistance.

The following illustrations are reproduced by kind permission of

Bristol Record Office:

Jeremiah Pillinger's Contract, P/Xch/5/5 [facing page 16]
List of the Poor who had bread, P/StLB/Ch/7 [facing page 34]
Henry Cruger's Bond P/StLB/OP/14/(g)12 [between pages 36 & 37]

Avon County Library

Summer House at Langton Court, B26068 [facing page 8]
Statues in Niches at Arnos Gate, B26068 [facing page 26]
Portrait of Henry Cruger MP, 13293 Vol 2, p369 [between [pages 36 & 37]
Arnos Castle [The Black Castle] by Samuel Loxton D145 & D149 [frontispiece
& endpapers]

1750

The date 1750 is carved into the house now known as Georgian Cottage which stands with its companion Yew Cottage in Hollywood Road, Brislington. Both cottages have a blocked-in window, a reminder that "Window Tax", first raised in 1696, was still in operation. [In fact it would remain on the statute books until 1851.] The tax was levied in accordance with the number of windows in a house. Occupants unable or unwilling to pay protested by blanking their windows, thus depriving themselves of light, and cutting off their noses to spite their faces. The names of the inhabitants of these cottages in 1750 are unknown.

Another payer of window tax in the Brislington community must have been John Braikenridge, gentleman, who about this time built a house called Winash on land he had purchased in 1740 from the Hall family. The house stood in the Dixon Road area of the Trading Estate. The Braikenridges were Scots, from the Glasgow area, who had settled in the West Country. John married Mary Weare in Bath in 1737. The Weare family owned land in Dyrham and Bitton, and some of them became important in civic affairs in Bristol, particularly Alderman George Weare, Mary's brother. John and Mary Braikenridge's son, born 1738, was called George, after his maternal uncle, and the couple later had a daughter, Mary. [ARL B23360 BL6H, BB p18,p27]

William Reeve, who would later build the Black Castle, was at this time making his mark as a Bristol merchant. According to Latimer, he appeared in court this year, as a witness, and was cross-examined with great hostility by an attorney called Robert Henley.

At the end of the day, smarting with rage and humiliation, William followed the uppity lawyer to a public house, the White Lion, where Henley was entertaining some cronies, and summoning him to a private room, challenged him to a duel, proving that he was a very unusual Quaker:

"Thou might'st think, perhaps, that a Quaker might be insulted with impunity, but I am a man of spirit. Here are two swords, here are two pistols; choose thy weapons, or fight me at fistycuffs if thou had'st rather; but fight me thou shalt, or beg my pardon!"

The despicable Henley pleaded "the privileges of the bar", but when this cut no ice, offered a grudging apology. Reeve declined, and insisted that the apology be made in the public bar before Henley's friends. Honour was thus satisfied. Several years later, Henley who had since become Lord Chancellor, imported two pipes of Madeira into Bristol. With the wine languishing in the docks, he wrote to Reeve begging him to pay the port fees and forward them to him. Reeve bore no malice and did so. Later, along with members of the nobility and gentry, our William dined in London with the Chancellor, who told the above tale amid much jollification. [L18c p285]

The poor lived in a different world. At the end of this winter, those "strangers" who had come to Brislington seeking work were rounded up, and on 16 February, the committee men who ran parish affairs - mostly voluntarily - decreed:

"The Overseers to immediately take proper means to remove all intruders in the parish to their proper place of settlement, namely, Isaac Treasure, Hester Robins, James Pearl, William James and family, Mr Welsber, millman, and family, Mrs Gifford, Widow Harris, James White and family, John Simms and family, Lewis Briant and family, Nathan Pritchard, Betty James, John Gane, William Hawkins and wife, a male child that goes by the name of Cavenhuller Williams in the keeping of Hanna Bright, Edward Swain and family, the widow of James Swain and family, a female child in the care of Barbara Lansdown which she says came from Mr Jones's, mason, in Temple Street, John Day and wife."

And afterwards, "any other business", concerning those that did belong to the parish, "that Joseph Carter's wife be allowed one shilling a week for the future and that 20L a year be allowed for Ann Shewring's rent."

[Signed] Israel Gleson
T. Daniel, jun
Jno Weymouth.

[BRO P/St LB/V/1, 16.2.1749/50]

April 17

The vestry was required to sort out a family dispute: "Ordered that the household goods belonging to Sarah Champion be delivered to William Challiner, her son, in consideration of his having buried her and if Thomas Champion refuses to do this, he is ordered to be struck off the parish books."

[Signed] Giles Bailly
John Hawkins
Jno Braikenridge
William Brown
Daniel Merryweather
Samuel Symonds

[ibid, 17.4.1750]

[There was certainly no love lost between William and his stepfather. Sarah had only been in the ground two days. Poor Thomas Champion, presumably bereft of a bed, chair, or even a saucepan, did not survive very long and was buried on 15 December.]

Easter Tuesday

Samuel Symonds was declared Churchwarden for the next year, with Robert Robins and Thomas Huntington as Overseers of the Poor. [ibid]

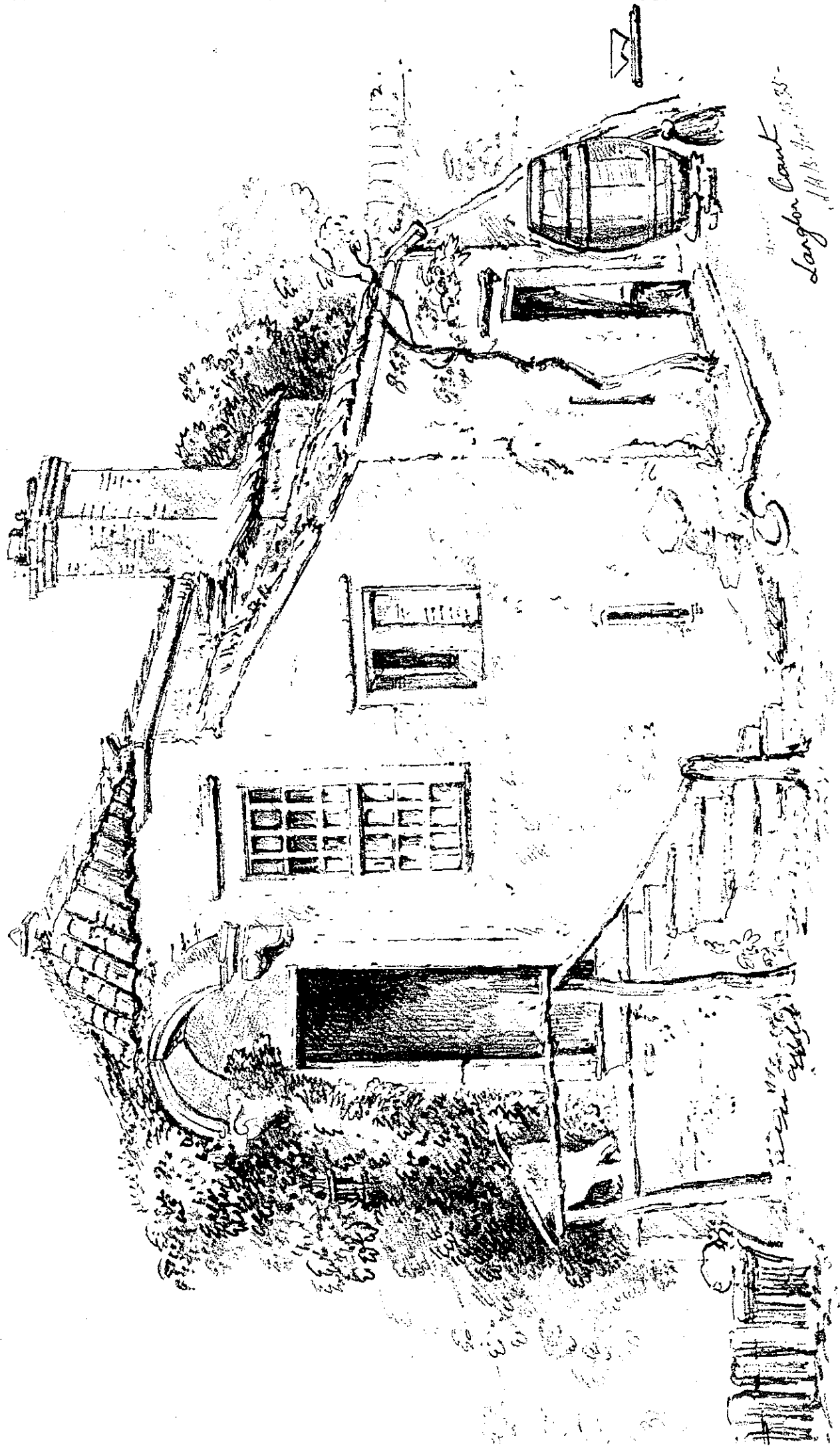
May 19

The local paper reported: "died after a lingering illness, the Rev. Mr Hunt, vicar of Brislington." Michael Hunt was buried at Brislington on 20 May. His wife Jane survived him less than five months: she was interred on 2 October. They appear to have had only one child, Mary baptised in 1722. She is perhaps the Mary Hunt, buried at Brislington on 11 February 1774.

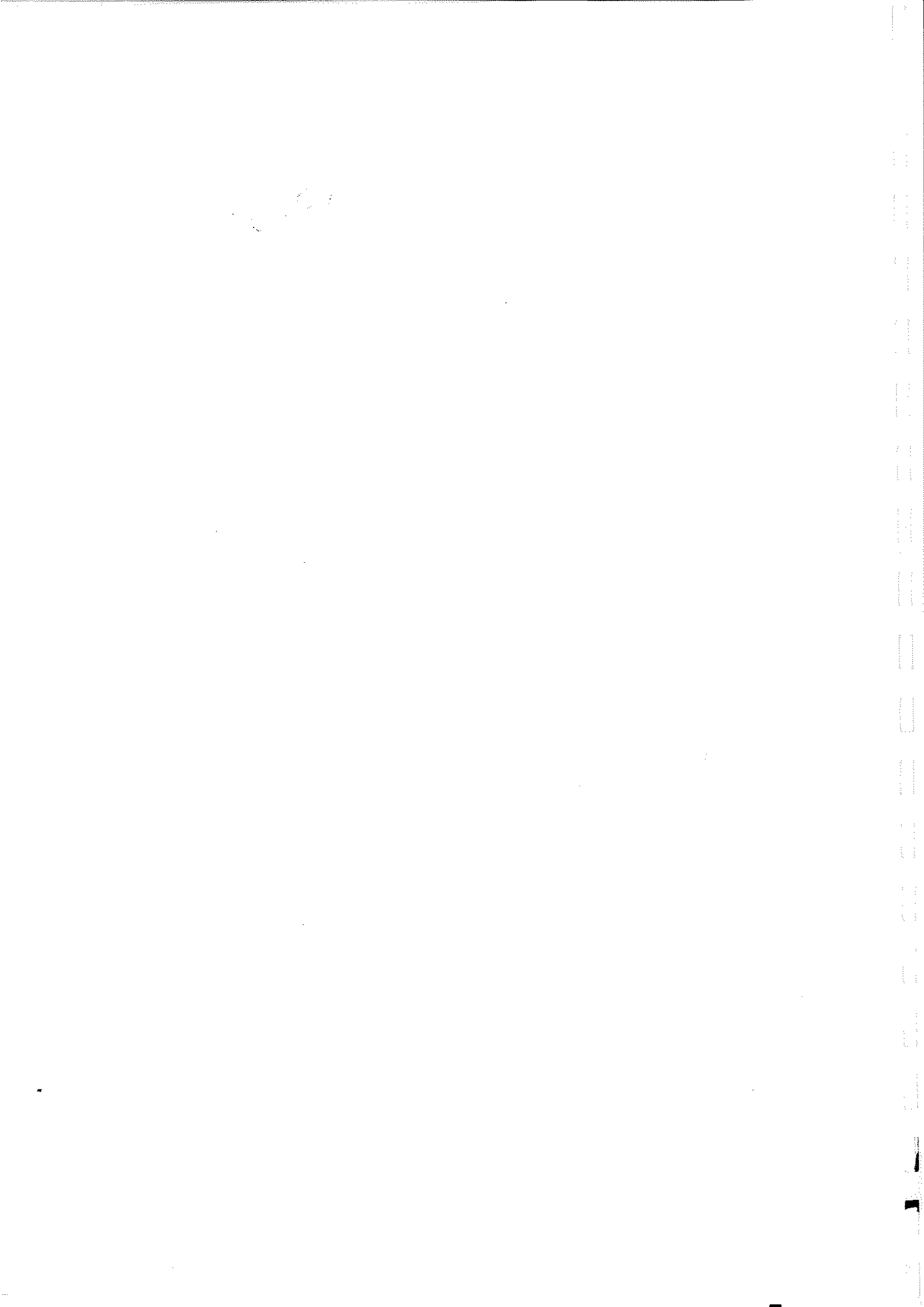
[BWI; PRStLB]

October 19

The comings and goings of Michael Hunt's old adversary, Joshua Wharton's servants, noted in Bulletins 3, appear to be confirmed as normal by the peripatetic nature of Edith Lester's career when she was examined in the Brislington vestry according to the Laws of Settlement.



SUMMER HOUSE AT LANGTON COURT



Edith said she was "born in the parish of Bradley, Somerset, and when she was about 12 years of age, she went into servis with one Jane Berrold of West Pennard for about threequarters of a year, and then went to Hornblotton and there lived with Amey Stride about half a year and from thence went to Whitchurch and lived there three months and from thence to the parish of Brislington and hired herself to Farmer Harding for a year and then continued after that year of servis another nine months. Then went back to Bradley and lived with her father half a year and then lived at her own hand about a year, then hired herself to one Sarah Newport at East Pennard and continued at that service only one week and hath lived at her own hand ever since."

The ~~X~~ mark of Edith Lester. Before me, George Hodges [BRO/P/StLB/OP/10c/5

[There was no knowing what women would get up to if left to their own devices, and any woman "living at her own hand" was certainly not encouraged. Edith was presumably forced to find indentured employment in a household, as similar women would be ordered to do in 1752, or be removed to Bradley.]

December 13

A bond was issued in which Abraham Pope, the younger, and Jonathon Pope the elder, basketmaker, promised to indemnify Samuel Symonds and Robert Robins, the Guardians of the Poor of Brislington, in the sum of £80 in respect of the bastard child expected by Grace Newby of which Abraham Pope was the putative father. [P/StLB/OP/14g/8]

[Later on, Abraham "did the decent thing" - see 6 March, 1754.]

1751

March 31

John Jones, base born, the son of Ann Jones of St Thomas's parish, and Stephen Madley of Castle Precincts was baptised at St Luke's. [PRStLB]

May 10

"Stephen Madley of Castle Precincts and James Powell of Thomas Street bound in the sum of £40 to indemnify Robert Robins and Samuel Symonds, the Parish Officers of Brislington concerning Ann Jones of the City of Bristol, lately delivered of a male child of which Madley stands charged to be the reputed father". A note adds that "James Powell is a journeyman pewterer whose wife keeps a shop in Thomas Street". [So that was all right then. He - and his wife - were apparently respectable, and fit to stand as surety.]

[BRO P/St LB/OP/14g/9]

November 11

Just as Brislington removed those who did not belong in the parish so did other parishes remove Brislington's own poor back to Brislington. On this day, John Cook and his wife Lettice were removed to Brislington from Clifton. [BRO P/St LB/OP/11d/7]

1752

January 25

Removal to Brislington of "Mary Bampton, otherwise Banton, the wife of John Bampton, with Sarah aged 14 months and Sampson, four and threequarters, her children from St Thomas parish." [BRO P/St LB/OP/11d/8]

May 6

Among other business, those present at the vestry meeting, John Hawkins, John Haskins, Samuel Symonds, William Lydyard and John Weymouth, agreed that the "Legal course be taken with Ambrose Robbins who begs in the highway."

[[BRO/P/StLB/V/1]]

[I have a terrible feeling that the "legal course" may have been the whipping post.]

June 2


The vestry dealt with all manner of items: Isaac Treasure, who had previously been removed in February 1750 was obviously so fond of Brislington that he had sneaked back in. The vestry would have none of it. It was "agreed that Isaac Treasure and family be carried away", and that his "base born children be put out" - that is to apprenticeships, "the least to the occupier of the Pot House and the biggest, if not above age, to the Farm."

[The manufacturing potters of St Anne's seem to have long departed for the City of Bristol, though the Pot House itself remained, and by 1763 it was inhabited by the Roads family. Whether they were there in 1752 is not known, and it seems incredible that the youngest little Treasure should be placed with someone whose name nobody could remember. The Farm was the Home Farm of the Langton Court Estate.]

It was further agreed "that Rachel Tibot be carried to the parish of St Werbergh's in the City of Bristol as soon as brought to bed and fit to be removed" - readers of Bulletin's 3 will already be familiar with the ways of dealing with unmarried expectant mothers.

And "that Abigail Peasley's child be put to apprentice at Captain Braikenridge's, Mrs Prist's boy to the occupation of Thomas Daniel, the girl to Mr Edols or Branch. Betty Elliott to be gave two shillings towards the support of her child and all young women [living] at their own hands be warned out to service immediately."

Finally, the overseers were to "provide badges for all those on monthly pay and not to pay them except they respectively wear them according to the law."

[Signed] John Weymouth
Richard Peasley
William Maberley
John Brown
Samuel Symonds
Jeremiah  Pillinger

his mark

William Lydyard.

[[BRO P StLB/V/1]]


[The sight of Jeremiah Pillinger, my distant kinsman, attending a vestry meeting surprised me. My family were more usually to be found on the receiving end, and this was the first of only three occasions when he attended. It is fun to discover that one shares common traits with an ancestor: I suspect Jerry joined with enthusiasm to do his bit in public

life, went once, and thought it was rather boring, but felt obliged to go again. By the third time he knew there was more to life than committee meetings. I hope, though, that he voted against the cruel motion that paupers should "wear the badge".]

July 28

Rachel Tibot [Tippett] had given birth to her baby. The midwife was paid two and sixpence, and a wet nurse £4. It appears that the vestry's mean threat to remove Rachel as soon as she went into labour had not been enforced. [ibid]

October 20

A vestry meeting and one of the few occasions when a woman appeared among the familiar male gathering. Sarah Fleet,  her mark, witnessed the proceedings.

The turnpike was in disrepair, and it was ordered that "a new oak gate be painted white and set up at the lower end of the Common against Keynsham parish, and the walls on both sides shall be built up."

God helps those who help themselves, so the vestrymen decreed that "Hester Pope's ground to be given to Sarah Fry, she promising to free herself and her child from the parish." And that Richard Shewring "be allowed one shilling a week until he has a horse to employ himself."

A hint of impropriety: "John Nash and Betty Elliot applied for relief and was refused, and that the Overseers do separate them."

"Rachel Tibbott applied for sixpence a week for rent and was refused as yet."

Dastardly criminals were abroad, and the vestry gave a "warning to those who Buys the furze or Gorse that's carried clandestinely off the Common that they, every one of them, will be presented as receivers of stolen goods except they immediately desist." [ibid]

November 4

Advertisement: "To be let or sold, the Crown Inn in Brislington, two miles from Bristol, situated in the Bath Road, being a large commodious house with plenty of good water. For further particulars, enquire of Edward Laight, apothecary in St Augustine's Back, Bristol." [FFBJ]

November 4

The bleak circumstances of those who travelled about with no place to call their own can be imagined. In the absence of an Overseers of the Poor book we might be misled into thinking that the harrying through the parish of those without papers had ceased, or at least was not as great as shown in Bulletins 3. Many must have been hurried through as fast as their legs could carry them, and in the absence of legs, the carrier and his horse were probably utilised as before.

From time to time the parish register notes the burials of those who died on the road, as on this day, the burials of "two children of a stranger". [PRStLB]

November 24

John Stone was removed to Brislington from Marksbury.

[BRO P/St LB/OP/d/11/9]

and on the same day, Rachel Tibot and her baby son Thomas were removed to St Werbergh's.

[BRO P/St LB/OP/12e/10]

but Rachel came back, and on

December 19

Notice was given "that Rachel Tibbott is to return to where she was carried by one of the Justices in a week from the date hereof, on refusal, the Officers are required to deal with her as the law direct." [BRO P/St LB/V/1]

1753

January 16

Thomas Scott married Elizabeth Hawker - "at Brislington" according to the register of St Augustine's Church, Bristol. A newspaper also reports "married last Tuesday at Busselton, Mr Thomas Scott, junior, an eminent merchant of London to Miss Hawker, eldest daughter of Samuel Hawker of Wallbridge [Willsbridge?] in the County of Gloucester, esquire." There is no entry at St Luke's.

[PRStA, FFBJ]

January 23

News from the vestry "that a copy of the will of Mrs Elizabeth Palmer be got for the benefit of Elizabeth Elliott as soon as possible.

[BRO P/StLB/V/1]

April 24

George Fackrell, for Mr Braikenridge's estate, and Jonathon Phillips, carpenter, were voted Overseers of the Poor. It was ordered that a silver chalice, belonging to the church, should be exchanged.

[ibid]

August 8

The Overseers were to pay Ann Jones [the same Ann who had been deserted by Stephen Madley?] one shilling and sixpence per week for the maintenance of John Banton's deserted child, and the officers were to make their best endeavours to bring John Banton to justice, a sad sequel to the removal order of January 1752. One of the children must have died, and perhaps Mary Banton, too.

[ibid]

December 28

High dudgeon. It was "ordered that William Dowling, a tythingman of Whitchurch be prosecuted for bringing One Hanover, a lunatick vagrant, into this parish, and leaving him here."

[Signed] Samuel Symonds Thomas Phelps William Lydyard
 William Brown Richard Edols Thomas Tipton
 John Haskins Israel Gleson

[ibid]

1754

February 18

William Pritchard of Busselton married Sarah Holbin of North Stoke, by licence at Bath Abbey.

[PRBA]

March 6

Abraham Pope married Grace Newbury, by banns at Temple Church, Bristol.

[PRT]

April 17 to May 1

Parliamentary Election. The candidates for the Bristol constituency were Sir John Philips, baronet, Tory; Richard Beckford, esquire, also Tory. He owned slave plantations and was lampooned as "a West India Hog" and "a Negro Tyrant". The third, the Hon. Robert Nugent, Whig, was "a whitewashed Protestant" as he had recently converted from Catholicism.

Six resident Brislington men were enfranchised and voted as "Country Voices".

William Bush, linendraper

Joseph Forrest, barber

John Hawkins, esquire [from Temple]

William Maberley, butcher

Samuel Symonds

William Sellwood.

All except William Sellwood had two votes, and these five perhaps talked over the matter amongst themselves, and unaminously chose Philips and Beckford. They failed to persuade William who alone voted for Nugent, and no doubt smugly reminded them of the fact when Nugent, afterwards Lord Clare, was elected, with 2590 votes. Beckford came second with 2248, and Philips last with 2163.

[William Maberley may be the same as the William Maberley who married Elizabeth Nichols at Mangotsfield, Gloucestershire on 1 November 1756, both stated to be "of this parish".

A William Selwood married Susanna Cole on 24 January 1726/7 at St Nicholas, Bristol. The Selwood family had lived in Brislington for a century or more.]

As well as these, other well known Brislington "names" voted from their Bristol addresses. John Coryton Gotley, an apothecary, and William Reeve, both at St Philip & St Jacob, and William Lyne, at St Michael. All voted for Nugent. [BPB]

May 12

John Davie, Brislington's new curate conducted the marriage of William Teague and Lettice Hughes. Davie was an Oxford graduate, MA in 1744, and the son of Benjamin Davie of St Ewens, Bristol. During Davie's incumbency, until 1758, Benjamin Hancock and Samuel Butler also conducted weddings at St Luke's. It would be interesting if Samuel Butler was a forebear of the famous Samuel Butler, the author of The Way of All Flesh and Erewhon, who is known to be connected with Brislington via his mother, a daughter of Philip Worsley who lived at Arno's Court after William Reeve's bankruptcy.

[StLPC, PRStLB, BB, p42]

June 18

The vestry ordered that "Grace Jones, who lately lay in, in this parish be seek't for and brout to Justice" - presumably having run away, leaving her baby behind. [BRO P/St LB/V/2]

August 16

At Keynsham was "buried Mrs Anne Keate, daughter of Rev Mr Keate, formerly vicar of Keynsham", and of Brislington. Her sister Sarah was buried at Keynsham two years later to the day. [PRK]

1755

The Black Dog Inn, "at the Bridge", mentioned in a deed of this date, was the corner house to the left immediately across the old bridge in the village. Under the name of "the Old Dog" it appears to have been occupied by Cornelius Harris [see 1756]. It had ceased to be a public house prior to 1854 when a tailor called Mr G. Hicks lived there. The old sign, then kept in Mr Hicks' back bedroom has, alas, since disappeared.

[SRO DD/GL/126, ARL BL8FI-B26068]

The Harris family were well known as boxers, and in this year, Latimer records that Cornelius Harris of Brislington fought a bare knuckle challenge against Jack Slack, a Norwich butcher, sometime Champion of England, for a purse of £150 at a yard in Guinea Street, Bristol.

Cornelius was so badly beaten it was thought he would not survive, but happily the following November, he and his wife Sarah baptised a daughter at St Luke's. Cornelius lived on for another two and half years. He was buried on 17 May 1759. Before his fateful bout, the Harris family had boasted of never having "been beat".

[L18C, PRStLB]

May 3

Removal to Brislington of Elizabeth, the widow of Israel Glisson, labourer and Sarah her daughter, aged 12, from St Mary Redcliffe.

[BRO P/St LB/OP/11d/10]

[The Gleson or Glisson family were entitled to bear arms - see their Family Tree in Brislington Bulletins 2. Parts of the family, reminiscent of the D'Urbervilles, had been slipping down the social scale during the last century. The late Israel, the labourer, is not to be confused with his kinsman of the same name, who was fairly well off, appeared in the list of principal landowners, and enjoyed the gentleman's title of "Mr".]

1756

February 19

The Will of John Newman, of the City of Bristol, plumber, is dated this day. He had considerable property, leaving lands in Brislington, currently occupied by William Weymouth to his wife Rebecca, for life, plus a farm in Winford in the tenure of Thomas Hazle. He made George Tyndall, esquire and Sydenham Teast the elder, merchant, both of Bristol, trustees to hold the land recently purchased from Captain James Pearce "in trust for the husband of my daughter Rebecca Newman, spinster, who she shall marry at any time hereafter, and then during term of the natural life of her husband or husbands" [!], then to her children, and in case of failure of issue to "my son John Newman, his heirs etc." Rebecca was to have "one third of the plate, plus £1,600 to be paid to her within twelve months of my decease." All other property in Bristol to John Newman, junior, and his children, to revert to Rebecca if he had no issue.

[BRO 4550/54]

[The Newman estate, formerly "White's" and "Pearce's", belonging to William Newman, was entailed on his son, and White's passed to his granddaughter, Ann Newman who married the Reverend Sydenham Teast Wyld of Yatton. Rebecca Newman who inherited Pearce's married the Reverend John Dolman of Henbury. In 1724, a John Newman gave £26 to St Luke's to be distributed to "the poor who attend Divine Service" on every St John's Day and St Peter's Day. John Newman the plumber continued the tradition when he endowed St Stephen's

Church in Bristol. His name appears amongst a list of benefactors, formerly kept in the porch of that church.]

February 1

William Peckford of Brisilton and Joane Sheppard were married at Keynsham. [PRK]

July 17

Several lots in the Sandy district of Brislington went on sale at the Exchange Coffee House in Corn Street, Bristol:

A piece of Pasture ground, 2 acres, called Little Sandy; Great Sandy Field, three acres, let on a lease for 7 years to Robert Marklove [3 expired at Lady Day, last: Per. annum £9. 9s.0d.

Five acres called Tibbot's Lease, with a new built barn, let to Mr George Fackrell: per annum 8. 8s.0d

Right of commons for four horses, worth per annum: ditto 10s.0d

Messuage known by the Sign of the Old Dog, with a garden, stable and brewhouse, let to Mr Cornelius Harris, on a lease for 21 years:

per annum 16. 19s.0d
House, stable and orchard, let to Mr Philips: ditto 3. 3s.0d

Tenement and garden let to Richard Noble: ditto 1. 10s.0d

Workshop and outhouse let to Jon[athon] Philips: ditto 10s.0d [ARL, B26068]

August 1

"Buried a poor man, a stranger" at St Luke's. [PRStLB]

December 21

William Leaver, Ann his wife, and James, Mary, John, Ann, Rachel, Sarah and George, their children acknowledge they are parishioners of West Pennard in Somerset. [see also 9.9.1770] [BRO P/St LB/OP/9b/24]

1757

February 28

John Coryton Gotley, owner of property in Brislington, married Sarah Calaway by licence at St Philip & St Jacob, Bristol. [PRPJ]

[Mr Gothley's *(sic)* land, mostly adjacent to West Town can be clearly seen on the map of 1745/6 - see Bulletins 3, but the Gotleys appear to have been largely absentees, living in the St Philips and Castle Precincts area of Bristol. Other Gotleys married in Bristol: William Gotley married Elizabeth Davis 9.9.1764, and William Gotley, butcher, married Elizabeth Williams, 30.7.1767, both at St Philip and St Jacob. John Gotley married Elizabeth Hubball, 28.3.1767, at St Peters.]

July

William Reeve, along with three other leading merchants on behalf of the Society of Merchant Venturers, invited the Duke of Newcastle to the anniversary dinner of the Whig Club at Venturers' Hall. [L18c, p285]

October 31

"A stranger, a vagrant" buried at St Luke's.

[PRStLB]

November 6

John Wilton of Brislington and Betty Parker were married at St George.

[PRStG]

November 13

Samuel Phillips of Brislington and Jane Harris were married by licence at St James, Bath.

[PRBJ]

November 13

A long way from home, Cornwall Heselton, son of Thomas and Elizabeth of Liverpool, Lancashire, was baptised at Brislington.

[PRStLB]

1758

January 2

Thomas Harril of Brislington and Mary Pinn, were married at Keynsham. [PRK]

June 11

Richard Moore, curate, the new vicar, conducted his first wedding at Brislington

[PRStLB]

June 14

"Monday last, a woman haymaker that lodged at Mrs Roach's at Brislington got up in the middle of the night and carried off wearing apparel to the value of £10."

[FFBJ]

June 26

The job of churchwarden was not always a happy one, and from "Bulletins 3" we know that Joshua Wharton complained bitterly about the amount of work involved. On this day, Henry Jones was reported for failing to render his accounts. This was a very serious matter, and he was reported to Wells, to the Bishop's Court. He soon produced the accounts and the charges were dropped.

[P/St LB/V/2]

July 1

"Monday last, died at his house at Brislington, Mr John Newman, senior, plumber of this City".

[FFBJ]

August 28

Thomas Blanning son of Thomas Blanning of Busselton, ropemaker, bound to Thomas Gould, ropemaker and Hannah his wife for seven years. Friends to find apparel and washing.

[BAR]

1759

February 10

"Sunday night, two gentlemen were attacked by a couple of footpads on Brislington Common, but the gentlemen making resistance, the rogues thought it proper to sheer off without their expected booty."

[FFBJ]

March 17

Jeremiah Pillinger was retained as scavenger for the parishes of Christchurch and St Ewens in Bristol, for two days in every week,

Agreed March 17th 1759 With Jeremiah Pillingen
as Sawyer for the Parish of Christchurch
and St. Lewis as follows that for the sum
of Thirty six Pounds the said Pillingen agrees
to Clean the Streets and take away the dirt
and Ashes at least Two days in Every Week
that is to say Wednesdays & Saturdays and at
such Other Times as Occasions may require
for One Year from the 25th of March Next
and for the said Jeremiah Pillingen's Neglect
to Clean the Streets and carrying away the
Dirt & Ashes aforesaid then it shall be Lawful
for the Mayor and one of each Parish to Employ
Any Other Person they shall think Proper
to Carry it away and deduct the Expence out
of the Above Summ of Thirty six Pounds
the Above Salary to be Paid Quarterly
as Witness Our Hands

The Mark of
Jeremiah Pillingen
Michael Will

I agree to pay six Pounds
out of the above Summ
for the Parish of St. Lewis
Mayor and one of
each my Hand

1000

Wednesdays and Saturdays, to clean the streets and carry away the dirt and ashes accumulated there. He was paid £36 per annum [BRO P/XCH/5/5]

August 4

John Cottrell, junior married Elizabeth Lacy of Brislington at Keynsham. [PRK]

August 7

We have heard of the parish paupers being compelled to wear "the badge". Now Brislington had an unofficial Poor House. It was situated at The Rock, and on this day, Mr Brown, Mr Joseph Langton's steward was given formal notice that it was to be rented by the parish for the poor. From then on, the vestry minutes record the delivery of people to "Rock House". [P/St LB/V/1]

1760

About this time, Robert Bailey built Broomwell House and John Coryton Gotley sold his house, which retained the name Gotley Lodge, to Thomas Harding who later sold it to John Estridge. By 1780, it belonged to Edward Lyne. [BB, pps 45, 33]

2 August

Trade Advertisement:

G. Braikenridge, late apprentice to an eminent packer and presser in London, takes this method of acquainting his friends that he has opened his warehouse in Small Street, and shall be much obliged to them for the favour of their Business." [FFBJ]

[This must be "our" George Braikenridge, aged 22 years!]

26 December

Trouble in the vestry: "After the accompts were signed Mr Maberley came to us at the Black Dog and Star adjoining Brislington Bridge and demanded the accompt and after rade it said that he would not agree that the stones bought of Mr Phelps should be paid for and that he never did or never could agree that any surveyor in the East tything of Brislington should by stones for there was a thousand lodes and more on the common and that farmer Brown and he and one more which I suppose to be John Busey would sware the same the third day of Jany following at Pensford Sessions and declared to or three times that if he lived he would be there to oppose me, for he would oppose in so doing.

"Now brother officers, please to obsarve. The account of Mr Edols was in the year 1748 which was performed by Mr Maberley's brother in law, Mr John Weymouth, and there he paid

	£	s	d
for stones	2	11	6
and for ale	1	12	1

and Mr Maberley signed to his accompt. The accompt of Mr Maberley was in the year 1751 and he said he received nine and threepence in cash, but nobody knows of who, and brought himself one penny in dept. But nobody signed to Mr Maberley's accompt. Mr John Busey's accompts should have been in the year 1758 but he brought in no accompt at all."

Samuel Symonds, the Surveyor of Highways."

[P/StLB/HM/2, quoted by C.E.Gane, History if Brislington, 1913.]

[C.E. Gane, writing in 1913 says the Black Dog and Star was "possibly on the site of 'Ye Olde Village Tea Rooms' [!] in the Square" - he could have added, probably near 'Ye Olde Brislington Stocks'. I have to say that nobody ever really spoke like this.]

1761

Around this time, a Mr Dobbins kept a school at the top of Brislington Hill where Brislington Hall was later built. He was afterwards succeeded by "The Reverend Mr Butler", [presumably Samuel Butler]. [ARL BL8FI B26068]

In this year, Edward Long Fox was born at Falmouth. In due course he would become one of the most well known of Brislington's inhabitants.

April 25

"Thursday died at Brislington, Mr Emery, an eminent farmer of that parish", whose name lives on at Emery Road and Emery Farm, though his burial does not appear in the St Luke's register. [FFBJ]

June 29

Thomas Merryweather agreed to discharge all payments accruing from the residence in Brislington of Elizabeth Maggs. [BRO P/St LB/OP/8a/5]

July 11

"Wednesday, a man driving his waggon over Brislington Common, it overset, and killed him on the spot." [FFBJ]

August 5

Jane Sutton, widow of John Sutton, and her children Elinor aged 6, Sarah, 4 and John Jacob, 1½, were removed from Brislington to Mere, Wilts.

[BRO P/St LB/OP/12e/11]

October 7

John Day, although living in Brislington was acknowledged to be lawfully settled in Keynsham. [BRO P/St LB/OP/9b/25]

1762

Walter Trevena, BA was Vicar of Brislington. As his name suggests, he was a Cornishman, the son of Richard Trevena of Redruth, and a graduate of Exeter College, Oxford. At the time of his appointment to Brislington he was 30 years old. There were 59 weddings between 1762 and 1775 when this volume ends, and he officiated at all except five of them. In this period, at least, I can find no justification of the unkind remark contained in the St Luke's Parish Church booklet that "Thomas Ireland, the Vicar of Christchurch, City, did most of the work." Thomas married only one couple - in 1773. [Alumni, PRStLB]

In the first part of this year, the Widow Gleson, presumably Elizabeth, who had been removed to the parish in 1755, received eight shillings poor pay. In the first part of 1763 she was paid two shillings. Mr Israel Gleson meanwhile continued his interest in parish affairs, though it appears he was now old and infirm. When he could not attend the vestry, others signed on his behalf. [BRO P/StLB/V/11]

January 3

"buried a child, died in the small pox, on the road."

[PRStLB]

January 13

Removal to Brislington of Ann Nourse, a female bastard child aged about 7, from Temple. [BRO P/St LB/OP/11d/12]

February 11

Mary, the wife of Benjamin Sommerill, on board the King George, privateer, and Ann, 7, Benjamin, 2, and Grace, 9 months, their children, were removed from Temple to Brislington. [BRO P/St LB/OP/11d/14]

[Poor Mary. We shall meet her again in 1770.]

February 15

Mary, the wife of Andrew Caynes, labourer, now a soldier, with Betty aged 14, Daniel, 13, Jacob, 8, and Thomas, 3, their children, removed to Brislington from St Thomas. [BRO P/St LB/OP/11d/11]

March 29

Sad death of the Lord of the Manor:

Sir George Cobb, youngest son of Sir Thomas Cobb, of Adderbury in Oxfordshire, and widower of Ann, daughter and co-heiress of Joseph Langton of Newton Park, the widow of Robert Langton of Brislington, died at nearly 90 years old. He accidentally drowned in the moat at the country seat belonging to John Blagrove, near Reading. His will was proved at the Prerogative Court of Canterbury in 1762 under the reference "Oxon May 168". [ASW, 4th series, footnote, p34]

April 27

Isaac Phelps of St James, Bristol married Lydia Beacham of Brislington, at St James. [PRStJ]

July 29

Mr Israel Gleson made his will:

"I Israel Gleson of Brislington otherwise Bufselton in the County of Somerset", being somewhat indisposed but [thanks be to Almighty God] of sound and disposing mind and memory, do make and ordain this my last will and testament....." leaving

"all the family pictures in my house at Brislington with two family chests, the hanging press in my dining room, the large looking glass and buck's head shall continue to remain and be enjoyed in my dwelling house in the nature of heirlooms by the person who shall become installed thereto. All the rest of my household goods, furniture and linen [except my spring clock] divided into three equal parts by Elizabeth Paget and Sarah Brookman, both now living with me, with two parts of the three to Elizabeth Paget and one part to Sarah Brookman to sell or dispose of as they wish without consent of the executor. Elizabeth Paget is to have the enjoyment of my dwelling house with all courts and gardens thereto belonging for twelve months next after my decease without paying any rent, with a further sum of £150 and my spring clock. Sarah Brookman to have a further £100. To Mrs Andrews, wife of Charles Andrews of the City of Bristol, grocer, my share and interest in Keynsham Blade Mills, now used as a Steel Mill. Also £100 to Mrs Andrews. I release William Glifson, formerly of Bristol, but now of Loxton in Somerset, of such monies as are indebted to me at the time of my death, all promissory notes, &c to be delivered to him by my executor

in trust. Also, £20 apiece to William, and his wife. To the child or children of William Glifson who shall be living at the time of my decease, £10 apiece at the age of 21 years. To the son and daughters of my cousin Mary Wilcocks of Bufselton, widow, namely Thomas Wilcocks, Leah Wilcocks and Elizabeth, the wife of Richard Plaister, £10 apiece. To Hester Gleson, daughter of my cousin Thomas Gleson, late of the City of Bristol, deceased and to the two daughters of my cousin Israel Gleson who was sometime in His Majesty's Service [but since deceased], £10 apiece when 21. To my tenant, James Colston and to Elizabeth Gray, niece of Elizabeth Paget, ten guineas apiece. To Thomas Boulter of Keynsham, formerly my servant, five guineas. I forgive my tenant Millbrough Brookman, widow, such arrears of rent [not exceeding one years rent in the whole] as shall be owing to me at the time of my decease. To Elizabeth Wilton, who lives with my tenant Mrs Brookman and to my late servant John Lipyate, three guineas apiece.

An annuity from all the freeholds, messuages, lands and tenements lying in Brislington otherwise Bufselton to my cousin Mary Wilcocks, widow, during her natural life and one other annuity as to rent charge of £6 per annum to Elizabeth Patch, spinster daughter of Joseph Patch, late of Bristol, haberdasher of hatts [sic] deceased, to be paid quarterly.

The freehold of the messuages, lands and tenements to Edward Lynes, only son of Edward Lynes of Bristol, Doctor in Physick, now an infant aged 5 years and a half, at the age of twenty one years, with rent and profits of the same for his maintainence until the age of 21. If he dies before 21, then to his father Edward Lynes, upon payment of £2,000, the conditions contained in a separate parchment in possession of Elizabeth Paget, to be delivered to Edward Lynes the son when he attains 21 years. Edward Lynes, the elder to be executor in trust. [BRO 35447/Box no 5 xxxviii]

[The mysterious "separate parchment" which was held by Elizabeth Paget is not to be found amongst the papers deposited at the Bristol Record Office. Young Edward Lyne lived to inherit, and appears again in the will of his father, Edward Lyne, senior, in 1767.]

A Charles Andrews married Ann Stevens, 13.2.1704/5, at St Werbergh's and another Charles Andrews married Hannah Skuse, 22.5.1755, at Clifton. The second seems more likely to be the Mrs Andrews named above. I have not traced William Glisson's marriage, but the family continued at Loxton, for Benjamin Glisson married Sarah Baker there in 1775 and Henry Hebden Glisson married Mary Hancock there in 1776. Richard Plaister married Betty Wilcox, [sic] at Brislington 4 September 1758. Her sister Leah would later marry John Hawkins. Cousin Israel, "sometime in His Majesty's Service" who had two daughters is not the same Israel whose wife and child were removed from St Mary Redcliffe in 1755.]

August 5

Removal from Brislington: Thomas Wilcox, to Temple. [BRO P/St LB/OP/12e/12]

August 9

Removal to Brislington of Mary Cope, single woman, with her nurse child Christiana Laetitia Mackintosh, "sworn to be a bastard born of her body", from St Peter and Paul, Bath. On August 30, Mary, the mother now written as

* papers also at Bath
R.O. with the same
info.

Mary Cole, was examined again, and her child Laetitia was removed to Walcot, Bath. What happened to Mary is not recorded.

[BRO P/St LB/OP/11d/13 & P/St LB/OP/12e/13] *

October 21

Mr Israel Gleson was buried at St Luke's.

[PRStLB]

1763

January 19

Martha, the wife of John Weymouth, senior, of this parish, died 19 January 1763; gravestone found in the churchyard. [MI]

February 22

Captain Henry Huish was buried at Brislington. His obituary which appears on 26 February says he was "late a Commander with one of His Majesty's Ships of War." [PRStLB, FFBJ]

[Captain Henry Huish or Hewish and his wife Mary had been living in Brislington at least since 1761. The parish register records two children, George and Maryah Joanah baptised 10 July that year. Another daughter, Anna Sophiah, probably born posthumously, was baptised 3 April 1763.]

March 21

John Hawkins of St Nicholas, gentleman, widower, over 21, obtained a licence to marry Leah Wilcox, of Brislington, spinster. Although the licence stated the marriage was to be at All Saints, it was registered at St Nicholas. [BRO EP/J/3/3/2, PR]

[Leah Wilcox was a cousin of Israel Gleson, and mentioned in his will.

May 9

William Bristow of St James, Bristol married Sarah Leonard of Brislington, at St James, by licence. [PRStJ]

June 13

John Baker married Dorothy Waymouth of Brislington, at Keynsham. [PRK]

August 6

"To be Lett for the Remainder of a Lease and enter'd in immediately
A Good Accustomed Publick House
With all conveniences for Brewing etc.
Halfway to Brislington and known as Arno's Vale.

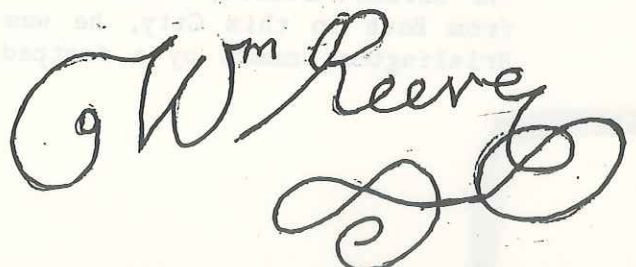
For further particulars enquire of Mr Cray of Thomas Street.

NB. The Household Goods, Plate, etc. to be sold. [Advt FFBJ]

September 2

The church needed renovation, and it was ordered to be whitewashed, and the steps in the path be properly made. Mr Brown, who was the steward of Mrs Masters [Elizabeth Chester Masters, nee Cann] was given notice that her wall was ruinous and should be immediately rebuilt. [BRO P/StLB/V/2]

This was the first time that William Reeve attended the committee meeting at the vestry, and signed with a wonderful flamboyance:



September 19

Henry Weymouth, son of John Weymouth of Brislington, apprenticed to James Jefferies, of Bristol, as a house carpenter. [BAR]

November 19

"Wednesday night, a poor woman was coming over Brislington Common, when she was robbed of four shillings, (it being her all), by a single footpad." [FFBJ]

December 2

The church clock was found to be "very ruinous and a part of it deficient and not to be found." A Mr Goldstone was requested to give a quotation for a new one.

Mention is made in the minutes of "the Common Gate, situated across the Bath Road at the bottom of the common at the Keynsham end of the parish, otherwise known as Redland Gate and in later years, Hicks Gate."

"The house was merely a hovel for the residence of a person to open and shut the gate and was thrown down once the Common was enclosed..." so recorded Braikenridge, rather haughtily, but for the time being, "the person" was relatively safe, on certain conditions, when the vestry ordered that:

"Thomas Hawkins shall have the keeping of the Gate at the further end of Bussleton Common and shall continue in his place provided he puts his daughter out to service and likewise maintains a parish child with clothes, victuals, drinks, washing and lodging as long as he continues there." [ARL B26068, P/StLB/HM/2 Gane]

[This was a tried and tested method of dealing with the poor. As late as 1828, writes Gane, orders were given to select a quarry where all able bodied persons and all boys of eight upwards capable of work should be employed and all girls should be sent to service.]

1764

January 21

"Sunday, between four and six, one Sarah Doderage, returning from Bristol to Bath on horseback, was attacked on Brislington Common by a footpad who gave her a violent blow with a stick, pulled her from her horse and drove him away, then dragged her some distance from the road where he robbed her of 2s 8d, threatening to murder her if she dared cry out, after which he ravished her, and used her in a barbarous manner.

"He is a well set man, not very tall. He wore a blue surtout coat, a small round brimmed hat and had a brownish silk handkerchief at his neck, a brown wig, and was marked with the small pox." [FFBJ]

No-one was arrested for the rape and robbery of Sarah, or for the November attack, and shortly afterwards, the same man - apparently - struck again:

January 28

"Mr Halbert Atkins, brother to Mr Atkins, mercer of Broad Street, returning from Bath to this City, he was attacked at about five in the evening on Brislington Common by a footpad. He happened to have a large whip & with

the butt end of it knocked him down and would have secured him, but seeing another fellow approach, he thought it prudent to ride off. He gives the same description of his assailant as mentioned in our last, and in all probability was the same fellow who robbed and abused the poor woman on Sunday sennight." [FFBJ]

March 31

"Last week Timothy Roads belonging to the Pothouse at St Anne's, near Brislington, with his Wife, Apprentice, and Journeyman, were committed to Ilchester Goal, for making base Shillings; they were discover'd thro' the Apprentice's endeavouring to pass one of them, which the Person refusing, he innocently said he would go home and change it, for that his Master made them. Hereupon the House was searched, and sufficient Proof appear'd for their Commitment as above. They will be tried for the same at Taunton Assizes, which begin on Monday next the 2nd April." [FFBJ]

April 6

Removal to Brislington of Sarah, wife of Thomas Pope, basketmaker and John, their son, from St Peter. [BRO P/St LB/OP/11d/15]

[We shall meet Sarah again in 1770. Thomas Pope was a bad lot.]

April 14

"On Thursday sennight the Assizes ended at Taunton.....eight were discharged for want of Prosecution, among whom were James [sic] Roads, Elizabeth his wife, William Bennett, and James Fox, for counterfeiting the Coin of this Kingdom." [FFBJ]

[So it was all a mistake!]

June 6

Mary Harrill, of Brislington, widow, made her will:

"In the name of God, I Mary Harrill of Brislington, alias Bufslaton in the County of Somerset, widow, being in perfect health and of a sound and disposing mind and memory do hereby make my will in the form following...:

to daughter Sarah White, wife of Daniel White, of Brislington, labourer, £5
to daughter Leah Short, wife of Joseph Short, of City of Bristol, cordwainer, £5

to daughter Mary Brittain, wife of William Brittain, of North Stock, yeoman, £5

to daughter Hannah Harrill, £10

to daughter Rachel Weeks, wife of William Weeks of Bufsleton, aforesaid, coalminer, one shilling, and no more

to son in law, Joseph Short, £5, for cloathing grandson James Weeks, now an apprentice in Bristol.

The rest in trust to executors Henry Harrill of Brislington, yeoman, brother in law, and Cornelius Adams of Bristol, apothecary, and good friend, all property, plate, linnen, stock in trade to be sold, and the profits divided between son Thomas Harrill, of Brislington, yeoman, Sarah White, Leah Short, Mary Brittain and Hannah Harrill, share and share alike." [BRO 26992/8]

[It is interesting to compare the above with the will of James Harrill, in 1748 - see Bulletins 3. He left his daughter Sarah White, one shilling, and here his widow compensates Sarah, but cuts off another daughter, Rachel Weeks! At the same time, she requires James Weeks, her grandson to be properly kitted out, and gives the task not to his parents, but to his uncle, her son in law, Joseph Short; was he the apprentice's master? I don't think Mary was on speaking terms with the adult Weeks'!

William Weeks married Rachel Harrill, at Brislington on 16 May 1745. Joseph Short married Leah Harrill by licence "with her mother's consent" at St Stephen's, Bristol, 1 September 1754. William Britten of North Stoke married Mary Harrill at Brislington by licence on 26 December 1758.]

June 18

John Braikenridge of Winash was buried at St Thomas in Bristol, leaving a widow and two adult children. It seems clear that Mary was supported in her widowhood by her brothers, in particular, George Weare. Apprenticed as a grocer, he became a successful businessman, was a member of Bristol Corporation, alderman of various wards, Sheriff 1750-1 and Mayor of Bristol 1767-8. He died, a bachelor, in 1778, and resident in Brislington. John Braikenridge's will was proved in 1765 at the Prerogative Court of Canterbury under the reference "Bristol Feb 1742".

[PR, Bristol Lists; A.J.Camp, Index to PCC Wills, 1750-1800]

October 12

A letter from "An Honest Farmer" was printed in the magazine "Museum Rusticum" no: 71, p 312, where it was spotted by George Braikenridge. It describes an interesting method of heating:

"Gentlemen

I find that a neighbour of mine in Bristol who signs himself a Somerset man has written you a letter describing the method of making Coal-balls in this part of the world. I live in Brislington, and am of the opinion that we in this town make as good Coal balls as they do anywhere, and as our method differs somewhat from that described by your correspondent, I hope you will indulge me so much as to permit your readers to be made acquainted with it. We in this town take one third part of mud [sleach] and two thirds of small coal [culm]: these we mix very well together, after which we make it into round balls to burn, but if these are to be burned soon it requires some skill to manage matters properly. Almost all I know I have learned from experience, for I have had but little school learning, and this good mistress has taught me that the best way of burning these balls is as follows. I use no grate, but burn them on the hearth. I first cause a few cinders to be lighted; when these begin to burn, I pile up the Coal balls over them in this form



till they rise to a point at the back of the chimney. I then plaster the outside over with the mixture they were made of, and making a hole at the top, and another at the point [?] for the sake of vents, they burn well, and make an excellent fire.

I am with great respect, gentlemen
your humble servant
An Honest Farmer."

[I recall my father making something similar in the freezing winter of 1947 when fuel was very scarce, but I think he used small coal and cement. No doubt in 1764, the "Honest Farmer" used Brislington's own coal. By the time George Weare Braikenridge was writing in 1853, the industry was no more. G.W.B. recalled an "area on the left on entering the Stockwood Lane from the Bath Road [where] the first field had been worked as a quarry, and the other, called Scotland, had a large number of coal batches, on which grew several old oak trees....thus shewing that the pits had been opened to raise coal long prior to the time at which the collieries were in general work." John Hurle bought this land from George Stocker, and filled up the quarry with rubble. He levelled the batches, cutting down the trees. Another coal batch remained "at the angle of the field as you enter from the Bath Road into Stockwood Lane on land purchased by Mr Ireland from Mr Maberley." Mr Ireland planted it with firs. "The walls of the old fire engine standing near the brook near Brislington Bridge were converted by Mr Langton into a carpenter's shop and a cottage." Several batches could still be seen in 1853: at the side of Water Lane and on common land at Birchwood.] [ARL B26068]

1765

February 5

Removal to Brislington of John Slope, alias Pearce, from Middlezoy, Somerset. [BRO P/St LB/OP/11d/17]

February 18

Removal to Brislington of Elizabeth, widow of Robert Young, and Ann, aged 10, Susannah, 5 and Elizabeth, 3 years 6 months, their children, from Lambeth, County of Surrey. [BRO P/St LB/OP/11d/16]

June

Along with more Church refurbishment, the bells were recast. The Great Bell being repaired by Thomas Bilbie of Chew Stoke for £26. [Egarr]

In this year, William Reeve became a member of the Society of Merchant Venturers. He had inherited his grandfather Henry Newman's estate from his mother and purchased additional land from Fortunatus Hayley and Jonathon Jones of Brislington. He set about building a kingdom.

1766

At Arnos Court, on the site of the former Halfway House, he erected an imposing mansion, and on the other side of Bath Road, A CASTLE, uniquely fashioned from copper slag waste. This edifice contained a Bath House* - the equivalent modern status symbol would probably be a swimming pool! - and a conservatory, as well as stables for his horses. The Castle could be reached by a passage running underground from the house, and overground by way of a colonnade. Set into the stable wall was a

*The Bath House was demolished in 1965 through City Council vandalism, and unfortunately there was no William Reeve around to save it. The Colonnade however was saved, and though it is sad it is no longer in Brislington or in Bristol, it can be seen at Portmeiron in North Wales. It therefore starred in the cult TV series The Prisoner! William would have been delighted.

memorial stone, which for a time was believed to be that of Nicholas Thorne, the founder of Bristol Grammar School, and which had been nefariously purloined from St Werbergh's Church. As it turned out, William was falsely accused. The local press reported on 1 March that Nicholas was in fact in his rightful place and the monument adorning "a gentleman's Gothic Stable in the Neighbourhood of this City" was in fact "another Alderman that in the position of devotion strikes the beholder's eye at the entrance of the new erected stable."

In October, Horace Walpole, a "literary and archeological fribble", as John Latimer described him, saw the work for the first time and feigning shock, said, "Going into town, I was struck with a large Gothic Building, coal black and striped with white. I took it for the Devil's Cathedral. I found it was a uniform castle, lately built, and serving for stables and offices to a smart false Gothic house on the other side of the road."

William was by no means finished, and found the perfect companion for his castle. The City Fathers, evidently the forebears of the 1965 lot, were about to destroy an elaborate Gateway, built in 1659, which stood, appropriately, in Castle Street, Bristol. William caught them just in time, and made arrangements to bring the gate to Brislington, in what must have been an major undertaking involving no end of men and heavy horses. The Gate stands guard above a path to the Castle (now a publ), but those seeking the picturesque, will be disappointed to find a cavernous warehouse adjacent to the walkway.

William also rescued four mediaeval statues en route for the City tip and set them into the niches of the Gate. They represented two kings, a bishop and appropriately, Robert, Earl of Gloucester, who had once been given Brislington as a gift. These statues went to Bristol Museum at the beginning of the 20th century, but have recently been replaced by modern replicas. [L18C, p 377, BB p43, FFBJ 1.3.1766]

January 21

Meanwhile, in the village, "Whereas Mary Gane gave her oath before John Durbin esquire that Thomas Gay of this parish had carnal knowledge of her body, we agree to discharge the said Gay on Mr Baily's joining him in a note to indemnify the parish to pay one shilling a week as soon as the child becomes chargeable". It is as well to have influential friends: Giles Baily, who stood up for Gay, was one of those who signed the vestry minutes. [BRO/P/St LB/2]

February 25

Isaac Pillinger, a small farmer, [the son of Jeremiah], took a parish apprentice for "as much money as agreed him this day for William Smith, at two shillings a week." Later, Isaac in turn fell on hard times, two of his own children were placed on the parish, and found masters. Swings and Roundabouts. [ibid]



Mediaeval Figures at Arno's Gate

100

100

100

100

April 1

Some officials had evidently been taking advantage of parish funds, and it was decreed that "If Vestrymen go to a Publick House, they shall each man spend his own money". Despite the date, it was no joke.

[BRO/P StLB/HM2/Gane]

July 1

"A Strange Man, a Inverlaid, died in the Road", was buried at St Luke's.
[PRStLB]

September 7

John Hammors of Brislington, bachelor and Elizabeth Dyer spinster, were married at Keynsham.
[PRK]

December 29

James Scott Cookson, the son of Captain James and Mrs Elizabeth Cookson was baptised at St Luke's. On 30.6.1768, "Joseph, child of Captain Cookson" was buried.
[PRStLB]

1767

A vagrancy pass was issued to George Pritchard all the way from "Kensington, County Middlesex", from parish to parish as far as Brislington, and endorsed with parishes en route. [BRO P/St LB/OP/13f/1]

William Reeve, still Empire building, bought the old Vicarage, along with the Rectorial lands and great tithes. These, with the advowson, had been purchased by the Popham family on the death of Queen Catherine Parr, to whom they had been granted by Edward VI. The Pophams continued to hold the advowson of the living until 1891 when it was secured by the Bishop of Bath and Wells as a first step to providing a new vicarage.

[SRO DD/GL/22; Somerset Arch & Nat Hist Soc Vol 47 i p57]

March 9

Thomas Price, a victualler and Charles May, a quay porter, were bound in the sum of £20 to the Brislington churchwardens and overseers on condition that "for Samuel Wickwick, they shall truly pay....in the sum of 9d per week [when he is able to pay same] for and during the natural life of Sarah Wickwick, the wife of Samuel Wickwick."

[BRO P/StLB/OP/8a/4]

June 22

Edward Lyne made his will:

"Considering the certainty of death and the uncertainty of the time thereof, I, Edward Lyne, of the City of Bristol, Doctor in Physick, of sound mind and understanding, revoke all former wills and appoint John Adams JP of Wick in the County of Somerset, esquire, Cornelius Adams, of the City of Bristol, apothecary, and Joseph Beck, of Frenchay in Gloucestershire, gentleman, to be my executors, and I give them £50 apiece for their trouble.

"To my only son, Edward Lyne, on arrival at 21 years, all and every one of my freehold, leasehold and copyhold estates in Keynsham, in the possession of John Hitchman, yeoman and limeburner, Barnaby Dolman, yeoman, Richard Edols, gentleman, His Grace the Duke of Chandois [sic] and William Cantel, yeoman, or their undertenants, and also all my reversionary interests on the decease of my father William Lyne and

Richard Edols, aforesaid, brother in law of William Lyne, consisting of freehold lands, tenements and premises in Brislington, now in possession or occupation of Richard Edols, gentleman and John Busy*, yeoman and one piece of pasture known as Innox or Enocks Brook in Brislington purchased by me of Messrs Prosser and Cotterell in trust for the estate of [blank] Daniel and now let to Richard Jones, yeoman, also messuages, tenements &c in Wine Street, Bristol,** in possession of Thomas Cadell, bookseller and stationer, Samuel Pierce, grocer, and Joseph Shepherd, sadler and victualler, the last of which is known by the sign of the Plume of Heather. Other houses in Lewins Mead in the occupation of Hugh Verricombe, gunsmith; houses in Thomas Street in possession of Samuel Smith, distiller and James Harper, barber. All to Edward Lyne immediately he attains 21 years. My executors to convert my possessions into money, pay all my debts and funeral expenses and be guardians to Edward Lyne during his minority.

"To my housekeeper Phebe Hayling, all my wearing apparel, linen and woollen, and all remaining cloathes that belonged to my wife Hester Lyne, whether silks, printed cottons, linen, muslin or cambrick, to be disposed of as she thinks fit.

"To my worthy good friend, Celia Willcocks***, relict of Joshua Willcocks, and daughter of Cecilia Ball of Downend, £100 to be paid within one year of my decease.

"Each of my servants living with me at the time of my death, one year's wages over and above what may be due to them in lieu of mourning.

"My gold watch, being a very good timepiece, I leave to my executors to be preserved for my son when he shall attain the age of 16 years, then to deliver same to him. My paintings to be deposited in the house, late Glefsons at Brislington, particularly the two fruit pieces, a Hunting piece, a piece with dead game, a musical piece by Ostade, a sea piece by ffry with a looking glass under it, a lady surprised, my own portrait and a drawing of fowls in crayons to be there preserved for my son until he is 21. My books and cases I desire may be placed in the same house to be kept till my son attains 21.

* Also known as Beesy - see elsewhere in text.

** the Wine Street property came through his grandmother Johane [Joan] Lyne, nee Daniel, see BRO 07939/18.

*** Joshua Willcocks of London married Celia Ball at Bristol Quakers on 8 August 1739.

..... and - romantic soul that I am, I was delighted that

Edward Lyne, MD, of Castle Precincts married Celia Willcocks of St James, widow on 20 October 1770 by licence at St Philip and St Jacob.

"My carcase I desire may be deposited in the Burying Ground used by the people called Quakers adjoining the Common at Brislington and placed in the same grave wherein my wife Hester was interred, being of depth sufficient to contain the remains of both. My corpse to be carried from the place of my decease in a hearse without any person to accompany it and to be received at the door by four poor men of Brislington and by them to be interred without any ceremony, funeral service or oratory whatsoever. To each one of the said poor men, five guineas for their trouble.

"And whereas I Edward Lyne was married on or about 30 May in the year 1753 at the Quaker Meeting at Belluton in Somerset to Hester Blanch, the daughter of Robert and Mary Blanch, and co-heiress, with her only surviving sister Hannah Blanch, daughter of the said Robert and Mary. Of which marriage there was issue William, Mary and Edward Lyne. The said Hester dying 4 February 1757 survived by her father and the said Hannah dying 1 June 1760, leaving behind a will to which I, Edward Lyne, was sole executor and in the case of the death of my children was possessed of freehold tenements &c in Felton, otherwise Whitchurch and Brislington, both in Somerset and Israel Gleson, maternal uncle to the two sisters Hester and Hannah Blanch, dying on or about 15 October 1762, did by his will dated 29 July in the same year appoint me executor and trustee for my only surviving child Edward Lyne, leaving me all he died possessed of with his will of which he executed two parts was by him sealed up in the care of Elizabeth Paget, spinster, servant to Israel Gleson together with the separate parchment containing the names of the persons to whom £2000 are to be paid on my son Edward Lyne dying before the age of 21 years.....as constituting some of the Principle Title Deeds of the estate of the said Israel Gleson as the description of the lands, tenements, &c would swell my will to too large a size, I refer to the plan of the Weston and Whitchurch estates surveyed and mapped by William Ffoord....."

set my hand this 22nd day of June.

witnessed by Joseph Forster
Jacob Kirby
Thomas Fisher.

Edward Lyne

(BR0 07939/22)

September 26

"Two persons, a master and a servant took up their aboard at the Black Dog, Brislington, and not content with living well, and running up a tolerable score under false pretences obtained money from the landlord which has enabled them to seek distant quarters as not since to be found." A week later, on October 3, it was reported that "one of the felons is taken, one Emerson from Mangotsfield, who has been guilty of such fraudulent practices for years past." The pub's name was given as "The Black Dog and Star." [FFBJ]

November 28

"Tuesday morning died in Cherry Lane, Ann Hall, wife of Benjamin Hall, maltster of Brislington and as from previous information there was reason to think his cruel treatment to be the occasion for her death a

Coroner's Inquest was taken on her body. It appeared they had lived unhappily together, and that not long since he beat her for two hours successively with a horse's cropper which occasioned her to leave him and fly to her sister's in Cherry Lane. A few days later at an interview they had at St Thomas's he expressed great contrition for his inhuman behaviour to her and at length got her consent to go home with him. They had not far proceeded beyond Temple Gate before he repeated his cruelty to her but by the interposition of some persons she was rescued from him and carried to her sister's where she languished until Tuesday last. She had a violent contusion to the head and was bruised in many parts of her body. After sitting several hours the jury brought in a verdict of wilful murder against the husband, and he was immediately committed to Newgate." [FFBJ]

1768

February 13

"On Saturday night last, Captain Powell of this Port, returning to this City" [that is Bristol] "in a chaise was attacked by two footpads on Brislington Common who first dragged him out of the chaise and on his making some resistance beat him unmercifully. He was robbed of his watch, a banknote of £25, his hat and wig and some other things of value. One of them is a short thick man, the other tall and thin, and supposed by their brogues to be Irishmen. Several persons 'tis said have been robbed near this place within this fortnight." A week later on February 20, it was further reported that "the two fellows who robbed Captain Powell on Brislington Common were apprehended on Friday last. Their names are James Ward and Christopher Cardiff. On their examination, Cardiff confessed the affair. He therefore is retained in Bridewell but the other is sent to Goal. They will take trials at Somerset Assizes. It seems as if Cardiff had not possessed more mercy than his comrade both the driver and the Captain would have met with their fate. Ward is a hardened Fellow and has been much hackneyed in villainy." [FFBJ]

March 5

"A man charged with housebreaking [and said to be an accomplice of the two men who robbed and ill treated the Captain lately on Brislington Common] was taken near Whitchurch Friday night last after a long and severe struggle, by Mr Maggs, [the noted bruiser]. He is committed to Ilchester Gaol." [FFBJ]



George Maggs

RICHARD CORYTON 2.0 John & ELIZABETH GOTLEY
Sp St James, 31-7-1768.

April 2

"We hear from Taunton that Christopher Cardiff, one of the persons that stopp't Captain Powell.....is condemned and...." [a most surprising development, given what the papers had been saying about him]... "that Jeremiah Ryan, alias James Ward, who was before looked upon to be the most notorious offender, is acquitted." [FFBJ]

[This information appears to have been incorrect: see August 20, below.]

June 4

Benjamin Hall was acquitted of the murder of his wife Ann. Evidently the judge believed that she committed suicide by beating herself to death. [FFBJ]

August 20

But"At Bridgwater Assizes, we are informed that James Ward was capitally convicted of stopping and firing at a person on Brislington Common." [FFBJ]

October 6

Removal to Brislington of John Powell, gardener, and Martha his wife, from St Philip and St Jacob. [BRO P/St LB/OP/11d/18]

[This couple could either be the John Powell who married Martha Bliss, 12.3.1756, at Mangotsfield or the John Powell who married Martha Hawkins, 31.1.1764 at St Philip & St Jacob.]

October 22

died Nathaniel Brown, aged 41, the son of William and Sarah Brown, whose gravestone is in the churchyard. [MI]

and on the same day came alarming news that "Yesterday evening a woman was found barbarously murdered on the side of the river near Mr Reeve's at Brislington. She appears to be one Sarah Stone of Salford [sic] between this City and Bath. A few days since she went to Chewton Revel and was accompanied on her return by her sweetheart, since which time she has been missing. Several marks of violence appeared on her face and breast. Her hat and shoes were missing." [FFBJ]

Sarah was buried at St Luke's on October 23, the register stating simply that "Sarah Stone was drowned". What was the truth? Did she fall, or was she pushed? Accident or a lover's quarrel? Why was her boyfriend never fully questioned? At the very least he was culpable in letting her walk home alone when footpads were abroad. But did he get away with murder? Nobody, it appears, was ever arrested in connection with Sarah's death.

October 29

"Sunday evening, a person riding from Bath to this City was attacked on Busselton Common by two men and robbed of three guineas." [FFBJ]

November 26

The Powells, now living in Brislington were at it again, and a vagrancy pass was issued: John Powell, gardener, a rogue and vagabond, and his wife Martha, apprehended in Clifton, wandering and begging there. [BRO P/St LB/OP/13f/21]

1769

January 3

John Bryant, ropemaker, bound to James Dobben, Churchwarden of Brislington, and William Jones and Moses Spencer, Overseers of the Poor, for £40 in respect of Joanna Trast, of the parish of Brislington, single woman, sworn to be pregnant of a child or children of Joseph Bryant, son of John Bryant.

[BRO P/St LB/OP/14g/10]

May 19

Acknowledgement that William Harris, Susanna his wife, and Catherine, James and William, their children, sojourning in Brislington, were legally parishioners of Hanham in Gloucestershire. Signed by Henry Creswick, Lord of the Manor, Hanham Court, and John Hook, overseer.

[BRO P/St LB/OP/9b/26]

February 17

The vestry ordered new items for the church: "a new bier, a new cloth for the communion table, two new squabs and five new sconcies": - well - they knew what they were.....

[P/StLB/V/2]

April 1

An Advertisement. "To be let, a large commodious house in Brislington or Busselton, formerly the George Inn, having an excellent cellar, water and other conveniences. It is well calculated for a Baker having a good oven or any other Person that requires room. For further particulars apply to Mrs Freeman at the White Hart Inn, in the Old Market, Bristol."

[FFBJ]

The George eventually became "Woodland House" which still stands at the Church Parade.

[BB, p2]

Oakenhill Cottage was also advertised for sale in this year: "all that messuage wherein Thomas Daniel, yeoman, deceased, did lately dwell, situated in Brislington and called Lower Oakenhills."

[BRO P/St LB/HM/1b]

June 20

Elizabeth Lewis, single woman, was removed to Brislington from Dundry.

[BRO P/St LB/OP/11d/20]

June 24

"Last night, about half after 10 o'clock, two gentlemen of this City, returning from Bath by a Post Chaise were stopp't by two footpads on the upper end of Mr Reeve's wall at Brislington and robbed of two guineas in gold, a dollar, a pistarine and a brass almanack. They appeared to be rather young men, one dressed in blue, the other in a light surtout coat.

[FFBJ]

July 16

Felix Farley's Bristol Journal announced: "Sunday was married at Brislington Church, Mr John Rawlins, surgeon of this City, and Miss Fawcett, of Week". This may be Wick in Brislington or Wick St Lawrence. The newspaper is in error, for "John Rawlins, surgeon, and Katherine Fawsill, spinster, both of this parish" were married at Abbots Leigh by banns on 16 July. There is no entry in the transcript of St Luke's Parish Register.

[PRStLB, FFB, 22.7.1769]

August 18

Order that Peter Weymouth pay 30 shillings towards the lying in of Ann Laver, single woman, and one shilling a week towards the cost of maintaining her bastard child. [BRO P/St LB/OP/14g/11]

- which was a fine way to start married life, for Peter had married Susanna Smith the previous 29 June. Ann was probably the daughter of William Laver whose family came from West Pennard - see 1756.

August 26

Priscilla Budd was "apprehended in the parish of Maidenhead, Berkshire, as a rogue and vagabond and not giving a good account of herself". She swore on oath that she was "the wife of Samuel Budd, gone from her, who was born and bred up in the parish of Bosleton in the County of Somerset and never did any act whereby to obtain a subsequent settlement."

The mark of



Priscilla Budd

[BRO P/St LB/OP/13f/3]

[Martha, the daughter of Samuel and Priscilla Budd was baptised at St Luke's on 12 May 1766. This baby must have been dead before the sad events described above. Priscilla would have been removed to Brislington like others described in this text.]

September 2

Marriage licence bond, Thomas Hammor of the parish of Busselton, yeoman, widower, over 21 and Isabella Green, of St John the Baptist, Bristol, widow, over 21. John Underwood, brassmaster of St Philip and St Jacob was bondsman. [BRO EP/J/3/3/3]

October 21

"Tuesday was found dead on Busselton Common, Adam Newman, who formerly kept the Three Cups in Bath. It is thought he fell from his horse in an apoplectic fit as no marks of violence were found on him, and his watch and money were found in his pockets." [FFBJ]

[Adam Newman, widower of Walcot married Elizabeth Morley, widow, by licence at Bath St Michael, 12 October 1760. Perhaps he was a member of the once numerous Brislington Newman family?]

November 13

Removal to Brislington of Thomas Rowlands from Lambeth, in London.

[BRO P/St LB/OP/11d/19]



December 21

St Thomas Day - and a list of Poor that "had bread" under the charity:

John Bendigoe	Ann Challinder	Bety Pillinger
Mary Wilcox	Hester Griffin	Priscilla Lewis
Joseph Elliott	Ann Hicks	Joseph Williams, sen
Sarah Teague	Isaac Mearn	Mary Plumer
John Coggins	Widow Lacy	Henry Pillinger
Mary Cains	Joseph Peasley	Mary Davis
Henry Barton, sen	Sarah Osborne	Mary Watson
Thomas Hines	Elinor Huntinton	Martha Gay
Thomas Bright	Thomas Hawkins	George Millard
Rachell Wilcox	Jonathon Morgan	Daniel White
Bety Hipsley	Dorothy Weeks	John Batton
Ruth Lacy	Thomas Skinfill	William Parsons
Richard Plaister	Johanah Osram[?]	Martha Davis
John Pillinger	Joyce Wodam	James Lane
Thomas Lacy	John Smith	Sarah Wickweek
Grace Pope	Francis Robins	William Curtis
Joseph Williams, jun	Ambrose Robins	Gabriel Llewelling
John Hamers	Dani Weeks	Peter Weymouth
John Moone	Richard Huntinton	William Teague
Ann Lewis	Bety James	Richard Purnell
George Moone	Sarah Phillips	John Keates

Written in different handwriting, are the following - and as some of the names were by no means "poor" - I can only assume the same applied to all, and that these fellows did the distributing and afterwards joined in the bun fight, if any:

John Hill	H. Brown	G. Grigg
Richard Edols	Thomas Tipton	John Jones
Benjamin Jones	William Jones	Richard Jones
Thomas Harrill	T. Flower	Richard Hunt
John Weymouth	William Weymouth	T. Adams, esq
Richard Prescote	John Hurle	James Ireland
John Brown	William Peasley	Charles Hill, esq

[Thomas Tipton amused himself by trying out his signature on the back of this manuscript. "Thos Tipton" he wrote twice, and then, fancifully, "Orlando Tipton"!]

[BRO P/StLB/Ch/7]

1770

February 3

"The house of George Weare of Brislington was broken open and robbed of wearing apparel."

[FFBJ]

May 15

Removal from Brislington of Henry Roberts, Elizabeth his wife, and James, 12, Henry, 5, Elizabeth, 9, their children, to the parish of St George's.

[BRO P/St LB/OP/12e/14]

June 20

"Mary Summerall, with her six children, Ann, 15, Benjamin, 10, Grace, 9, Mary, 7, John, 3 and Henry, 15 months, was apprehended in St Saviour's,

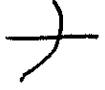
In Aid of the Poor that Bread St. Tho: Day 1763

Jos: Boudigoe
Ann Challender
Bety Pillinger
Mary Willcox
Wester Griffin
Prisilla Lewis
Jos: Elliott
Ann Hicks
Jos: Williams Senior
Sarah Seague
Grace Meason
Mary Plumer
Jos: Caggins
Widow Lacy
Henry Pillinger
Mary Gaines
Rob: Pearley
Mary Davis
Henry Boston Senr
Sarah Ophorne
Mary Watson
Tho: Glines
Elinor Huntiton
Martha Gay
Tho: Bright
Tho: Hawkins
Geo: Millard
Nathell Wilcox
Tho: Willcox
Jonathan Morgan
Daniel White
Bety Hipsley
Ner atty Weeks
Jos: Boston

Merth Lacy
Tho: Shiffell
Wm: Parsons
W: Plaster
Johann Ofrat
John Hill
Mertha Davis
H: Brown
Jos: Pillinger
G: Grigg
Joyce Wodam
Rich: Eds
Jos: Lane
T: Tipton
Tho: Lacy
John Jones
Jos: Smith
Ben: Jones
Sarah Dickweck
Wm: Jones
Grace Paper
Rich: Jones
Francis Robins
J: Barrill
Wm: Curtis
Flower
W: Williams
Rich: Hand
Jos: Williams
John Wymouth
Andrew Robins
Wm: Wymouth
Gabriel Howeling
Adams Esq
Jos: Gammell
Rich: Smith
Jos: Weeks
John Ford
Peter Wymouth
James Snelton
Jos: Moon
John Brown
W: Huntiton
W: Casin
W: Seague
H: Hill Esq
Ann Lewis
Bety James
Jos: Punnell
Geo: Moore
Sarah Phillips
Jos: Peater

100

Southwark as a rogue and vagabond. Mary swore that she was "the wife of Benjamin Summerall, who has run away and left her and that her said husband was bound by indenture, and served his apprenticeship with Mr Harding, a farmer in Brislington, and never gained any subsequent settlement; and that she has six children by her said husband; and the last true settlement of Benjamin, the elder, Mary, and their six children was in the parish of Brislington in the county of Somerset."

The mark of  Mary Summerall

Mary was issued with a pass to travel to St Magnus, London Bridge on 20 June, to St Clement Danes on 21 June with a request that the "within vagrant" be conveyed to Colnbrook in Buckinghamshire and thence to Maidenhead, Berkshire on 23 June, to Charnham Street, Wiltshire on 24 June, on to Bathford on the 26th and Frislington [sic] on the 28th.

[BRO P/St LB/OP/13f/4]

[Benjamin, senior, had been apprenticed to Richard Hardy [sic] in 1740 - see Bulletins 3]

July 9

Sarah Pope was apprehended, also at St Saviour's, in identical circumstances to Mary Summerall, which makes me suppose the two women travelled up to London together. "Sarah, wife of Thomas Pope, run away and left her with two children, Thomas aged 4 and Edward aged 2". Sarah swore that Thomas Pope was born in Brislington where his father was last legally settled. Her pass was endorsed as before, Colnbrook, Maidenhead, Charnham Street, all on 16 July - she must surely have got a lift - then 19 July, at Bathford, arriving Brislington 24 July. She would return to London, and we shall meet her again in 1771.

[BRO P/St LB/OP/13f/5/6]

September 9

It appears that William Leaver [or Laver] was still living in Brislington, and on the parish, but his acknowledgement of almost fourteen years before still held - see 21.12.1756 - and he must make his claim from West Pennard, presumably walking there, despite apparently being ill. A Mr R. Townsend wrote to the Overseers at Brislington, a not unkindly sounding note, "Rec'd your letter by the hands of Laver wherein I find you have reliv'd him with 5s and desire likewise to know how much I shall let him have which is one guinea, out of which I have ordered him to reimburse you and make use of the rest himself if he grows better. I hope this will serve him, if not he must be further reliv'd.

I am gentlemen, your very humble servant."

And off poor William trudged again, back to Brislington with the reply.

[BRO P/St LB/OP/9b/24]

October 19

Marriage licence: Edward Lyne of Castle Precincts, Doctor of Physick, widower, over 21 & Celia Willcocks, widow, over 21. Bondsman Carew Reynell, St Philips, clerk. [see also 1767].

[BRO EP/J/3/3/3]

1771

Rose Cottage for sale: "All that messuage or dwelling house, stable and orchard situate in Brislington and by the Common on most sides and

adjoining Bristol Turnpike Road, formerly in the occupation of William Weeks, deceased, and now of Jonathon Phillips, carpenter, tenant of Joseph Langton, esquire." [BRO P/St LB/HM/1b]

February 3

Quite a long way from home, "Mary Clarke, daughter of James and Mary, belonging to Uxbridge" was christened at St Luke's. [PRStLB]

March 21

Removal to Brislington: Sarah Pritchard, single woman from St Philip & St Jacob. [BRO P/St LB/OP/11d/22]

April 13

"Sunday, died greatly lamented at Aust, Lady Cann, the relict of Sir Robert Cann." [FFBJ]

Lady Cann, the former Ann Churchman, had been a widow since 1765. The baronetcy became extinct on the death of her late husband. For the Cann family connections with Brislington, see the Family Tree, Bulletins 3.

October 8

Bond of Henry Cruger, Merchant and John Lambert, gentleman, in £100 in respect of a bastard child expected by Jone Morgan, spinster.

[BRO P/St LB/OP/14g/12]

This bastardy order must have involved much to-ing and fro-ing and swearing to secrecy. Unlike others in the Brislington parish chest, this one concerned a VIP and the vestrymen were careful not to divulge paternity. While it is possible that John Lambert was the father, I very much doubt it. Henry Cruger, an American, was lampooned as "Pretty Harry" and had a reputation as a ladies' man. He also had political ambitions and in 1774 was elected as one of Bristol's two Members of Parliament. There is no record of the child being baptised at Brislington. Henry Cruger married Ellin Peach at St Augustines, Bristol, on 14 November 1765.

October 16

Removal to Brislington: George Huntingdon, basket maker, Sarah his wife and George their son, 1½, from Hanham. [BRO P/St LB/OP/11d/21]

October 17

Sarah Pope was again apprehended in London for vagrancy, this time at St George, Southwark. Once again, she reiterated the same theme: she was the wife of Thomas Pope, who had gone away and left her; that her said husband was born in Brislington where his father was an inhabitant - but this time she had three children with her: Thomas, now 5, Edward 4, and Ann, aged 1 year. So Sarah must have been pregnant when previously removed. Once again, she and her children set off down the same weary road: conveyed to St Magnus, London Bridge, 17 October, Colebrook and Charnham Street on the 21st, Bathford the 24th and finally Brislington on 25 October.

[BRO P/St LB/OP/13f/5/6]

November 12

Walter Morgan of Stockwood was buried at Keynsham.

[PRK]

Know all Men by these presents that We
Henry Cuger Merchant & John Lambert Gent both of the City of
Bristol are held & firmly bound unto William Bristow, Church-warden
and Richard Jones Overseer of the Poor of the parish of
Bristol in the County of Somerset in the sum of One Hundred
Pounds of good & Lawful Money of Great Britain to be paid to the said
William Bristow and Richard Jones or their certain Attorneys
or Successors for which Payment well truly to be made we bind
ourselves jointly & severally our joint & several Heirs Executors and
administrators jointly by these presents Sealed with our Seals &
Dated the eighth day of October in the Year of our Lord One
thousand seven hundred & Seventy One: —

Whereas Jane Morgan a late of the City of Bristol, Spinster
but at present residing in the said Parish of Bristol is great with Child
and the above named William Bristow & Richard Jones
have applied to her for a Security to them that the Child or Children
wherewith she now goeth, when born, shall not be a burthen on the said
Parish of Bristol, and they the above bound Henry Cuger and John
Lambert have agreed to enter into a Bond to the said William Bristow
and Richard Jones to that Effect: — Now therefore the Condition
of this Obligation is such that if the above bound Henry Cuger & John
Lambert or either of them their or either of their Heirs Executors or
administrators do & shall from time to time, at all times hereafter fully
& clearly acquit, regenerate & discharge or otherwise well & sufficiently
save harmless & keep indemnified the said William Bristow and
Richard Jones and their Successors for the time being.

every of them also the Inhabitants & parishioners of the parish of
Brislington aforesaid which now are or from time to time shall be every of
them or from all call manner of Expenses Damages Costs & Charges &
whatsoever which shall or may in any manner or at any time hereafter
arise happen some grow or be imposed upon them or either or any of them
for or by reason or means of the birth of any such Child or Children whereunto
the said Jane Morgan & now goeth within the parish of Brislington
aforesaid or for or by reason or means of the maintenance Education and
bringing up such Child or Children after her delivery thereof; And also
from all Actions Suits Troubles Charges Damages & Demands &
whatsoever touching or concerning the same Then this Obligation to be
void or else to be & remain in full force and Virtue:

Sealed and delivered
in the Presence of }

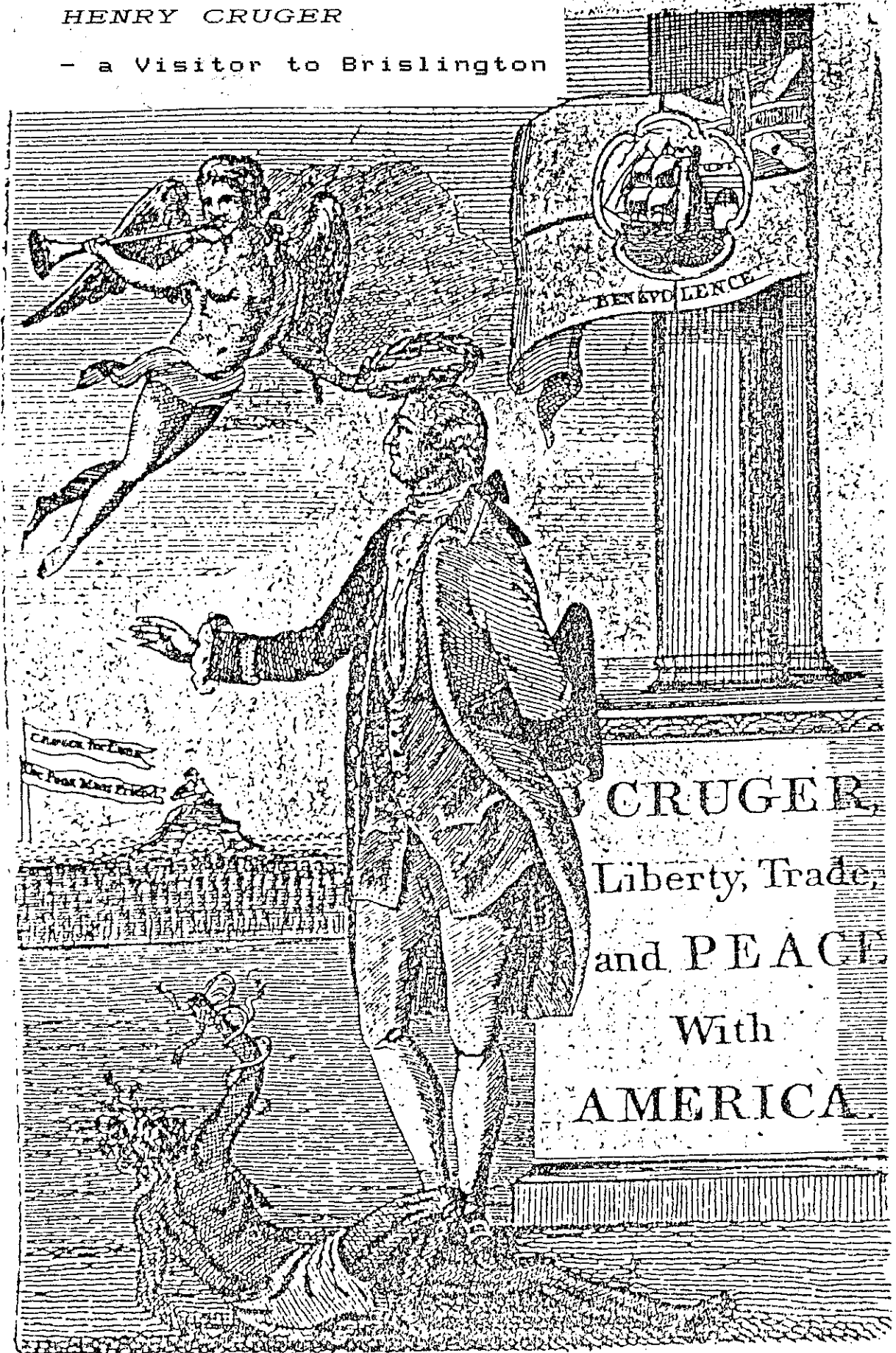
Wm. Lloyd 

Jonathan Phillips, Junr
Richard Edwards

Wm. Lambert 

HENRY CRUGER

- a Visitor to Brislington



HENRY CRUGER,
Liberty, Trade,
and PEACE
With
AMERICA.

100



1772

February 1

Removal to Brislington: Isaac Wadham, labourer, from Temple.

[BRO P/St LB/OP/11d/23]

February 13

John Adams married Mary Braikenridge, the only daughter of Mrs Mary Braikenridge and the late John Braikenridge of Winash, Brislington. The marriage, by licence, took place at St Luke's and was witnessed by William and George Weare, the bride's uncles. An inept reporter forgot to ask the bridegroom's name, and the local press announced: "was married at Brislington ---- Adams, esquire of Keynsham, to Miss Braikenridge, niece of Mr Alderman Weare.

In the same year, George Braikenridge, Mary's brother, now living in Virginia, married Sarah, the daughter of Francis Jerdone.

[PR, FFBJ 22.2.1772, ARL B23360]

February 20

Removal from Brislington: Mary Davis, widow, to Keynsham.

[BRO P/St LB/OP/12e/15]

February 22

Removal to Brislington: Ann Bennett, single woman, from St Thomas.

[BRO P/St LB/OP/11d/24]

March 10

Administration of the goods of Thomas Harrill of Brislington granted to his widow, Mary.

[BRO 26992/9]

March 19

Elizabeth Hawkins, aged about 14 was found begging in the parish of St Andrews, Plymouth. She said, she "was born [as her friends have informed her] in the parish of Buyselton and verily believes she belongs there. That she was never bound apprentice by indenture nor ever served as a covenant servant by the year. Nor hath she ever done any act whereby to gain a settlement since her birth."

She was ordered "to be conveyed back to Brislington."

[BRO P/St LB/OP/13f/8]

same day

John Beesy, widower of Busselton, was granted a licence to marry Rachel Whittock. The wedding took place on March 29, at Keynsham.

[BMLB, PRK]

March 25

Esther Lostcombe, a single woman, was apprehended in Cookham, Surrey, wandering and begging. She made oath that she was born in Brislington where her father was a parishioner. She was given a pass from Maidenhead as before, travelling the prescribed route. 29-31 March.

[BRO P/St LB/OP/13f/7]

Esther Lostcombe

her mark

[the pen had a faulty nib.]

August 13

"a stranger, a man, drowned" was buried.

[PRStLB]

October 8

Mrs Trevena, the wife of the vicar was buried.

[PRStLB]

December 5

"Saturday evening last at about 7 o'clock, a Gentleman walking from this city to Brislington was knocked down between the Turnpike and Arno's Vale by a fellow with a bludgeon. The gentleman got up and pursued him, but he made his escape. The fellow had walked behind him from Temple Gate.

[FFBJ]

December 21, Tuesday

Tenders were invited from masons and carpenters for the building of a parish Poor House which was to be erected "on a piece or peck of land at the rear of the White Hart. Interested parties were to assemble there by 2 o'clock on this day. This People's Palace was subsequently built, with six rooms on the ground floor and six above. Shortly afterwards the overseers were ordered to buy "a peck of old rope to be pick't into oakham to employ the Poor of the Parish." Happy days.

[BRO P/StLB/HM/2, Ganel]

[Mr Edols' orchard belonged to Tom Fuller in 1913.]

1773

In this year, Thomas Master, the grandson of Sir William Cann - see Bulletins 3 - sold off his inheritance.

For Sale "All that capital messuage, land, close of meadow, orchard etc, situate at Bussleton in the occupation of Thomas Flower, a tenant to Thomas Master, esquire, at the yearly sum of £20.

"Also, a dwelling house eastward of the said Mansion House, in the occupation of William Brown, his under-tenant, or lessee

"Also, another dwelling house, westward, with an orchard, closes, etc, in the occupation of Isaac Roach, his under-tenant." [BRO P/StLB/HM/1b]

The mansion was purchased by James Ireland, a wealthy sugar baker and wine merchant, from whom descended the Clayfield-Ireland family. It became known as Brislington Hall and stood on the site of the present B & Q building on the Trading Estate. G.W. Braikenridge relates that his father George, had seen a very large drum and some suits of armour at the house during the Master's time. There were also several suits of armour kept in the belfry at St Luke's - "long since disappeared." [This may have dated from the Civil War, or might have been older still, "the Corslet and Almaines" that the village mustered in 1569 - see Bulletins 11.

A small part of Mr Ireland's new estate was the property of an old woman called Mrs Smith who "resided in a small hovel in the midst of the orchard". In order to get possession, Mr Ireland was obliged "to give her a large piece for it....as she had the right of way to her speck of land through [his] fields in several directions."

[ARL B26068]

This doughty Mrs Smith seems unlikely to be connected with her tragic namesake, the next named...

January 22

Ann Smith, who with her daughter Martha, aged "upwards of one year" was found wandering and begging in the parish of St Nicholas, Bristol, told a pathetic story. She said she was "married at Bedminster in August 1765, to John Smith, mariner, who in a few months left her and went to sea, since when she has never seen nor heard from him, nor doth she know whether he is living or dead, but rather thinks he is dead as she heard some years since that he died in Guy's Hospital. That the place of his last legal settlement was, she has heard and believes, was in Brislington. That she hath two children besides the said Martha, neither of whom are now with her, who were both born before her intermarriage with John Smith, and that since John Smith left her, she hath lived as a servant and when out of service lodged in different places but hath never rented any house in any parish, precinct or place whatsoever."

The mark of

Ann



Smith

On 27 January Ann was ordered to be conveyed to Bedminster and thence to Brislington." [BRO P/St LB/OP/13f/9]

[John Smith married Ann Jones at St John, Bedminster, 19 August 1765.]

March 25

Removal to Brislington: Hannah Deal, single woman from St Philip and St Jacob. [BRO P/St LB/OP/11d/25]

September 12

"Elizabeth Kennedy, a black girl" was baptised at St Luke's. [PR]

[Perhaps Elizabeth "belonged" to Mary Braikenridge of Winash. Her son George, a planter and merchant, was at this time living in Hanover County, Virginia with his American born wife. Baptism of black servants was often insisted upon by white masters and mistresses, and at the same time it was widely believed [erroneously] by black people that baptism bestowed freedom. There was a modest black population in the Bristol area at the time.*]

1774

January 1

"Last Friday eve, two footpads armed, stopped a Post Chaise on Brislington Common in which there was three ladies of this City, from one of which they took a guinea and a half, and a guinea each from the other two. They afterwards stopped a Gentleman on horseback, who had them keep off as he was determined not to be robbed. They thought proper to take his Advice and proceeded on the Road towards Bath. On Sunday two men were apprehended in this City, supposed to be the above two persons and are now confined in our Bridewell." [FFBJ]

* see D.P. Lindegaard, *Black Bristolians*.

[A slightly different version is given in Sarah Farley's Journal of the same date, viz: one of the ladies threw out her purse. The two thieves made off when the gentleman approached. He failed to catch them, but later the chaise driver went with one of the Mayor's officers - there was no police force then - to a little lodging house at the bottom of Pithay, where two men were arrested. They could give no good account of themselves and were taken to Bridewell. "These villains followed the chaise from Keynsham and one of them got up behind it for some time before they committed the robbery."

February 4

The Poultry House belonging to Mr Estridge, at Wick, Brislington, was robbed of turkeys, fowls, ducks and geese. "Two of the geese are very remarkable, being of the Solon breed, with very long necks and black about the head and beak. A remarkable chissel was left behind which may be seen at the Publick House at Arno's Vale."

Mr Estridge offered a ten guineas reward to anyone who could bring the culprits to justice. [SFBJ]

February 19

John Pullin reported a vendetta against him:

"Whereas some person or persons have of late infested the neighbourhood of Wick in the parish of Brislington and been guilty of divers felonies particularly on the evening of 16 December last when they got into the dwelling house of Mr John Pullin and stole sundry linen shirts and other things and on 25 January last his mastiff dog was poisoned and on 7 February part of the new lead was stripped off his greenhouse....." and likewise offered a reward of ten guineas. [SFBJ]

March 5

The crime wave continued: William Bristow of Brislington offered a reward of a guinea for the return of his "Black Mare of the Cart kind, 6 years old, fourteen hands high, with white down her face and a black spot in the middle of her forehead, two white feet behind, the most white in the near foot, and a long tail and mane if not since altered, a few white hairs in the upper part of her tail." Stolen out of a field near Brislington Common. In the same advertisement, Richard Hunt of Knowle called for the return of his brown mare, also stolen. [FFBJ]

March 12

Thomas Humphries was sentenced to death for robbing Miss Daubeny in the post chaise on Brislington Common, "last December". He was later reprieved and transported. [12.3.,9.4.1774,SFBJ]

March 19

An advertisement appeared in Sarah Farley's Bristol Journal: "Wanted a place immediately by a woman that has been well bred and of good family as a Housekeeper or Lady's woman. Enquire of Mrs James of Brislington." This *cri de coeur* was probably forced by Thomas Master's sale of Brislington Hall the previous year. [SFBJ]

May 21

Another advertisement, and another enforced departure for, I believe, the same reason: "T. Flower who for some years has kept the Boarding School for young Gentlemen at Brislington near Bristol, respectfully informs his Friends and the Publick that he shall remove to Corston." Mr Flower offered "English Language, Writing, Arithmetic, Mathematics and other useful Branches of Education", which is presumably what the young gents in Brislington had learned too. As we have seen, Brislington Hall had been used as a school since the 1760's. [SFBJ]

July 2

"Between 9 and 10 o'clock Sunday evening, a post chaise from Bath to Bristol was stopp't by three footpads, near Brislington, and Mr Brunsdon, comedian, was robbed of £3.1s.6d and a silver watch." [SFBJ]

and on the same day

"To be sold by Auction: The ship REEVE, burthen 280 tons, well calculated for the West India and Virginia Trade, now lying in the New Mud Dock with all her materials and stores, as she came from sea."

It maybe that our William Reeve had been literally been waiting for his ship to come home, but too late, and on....

September 15

He was declared bankrupt. The Society of Friends sternly admonished him for bringing it upon himself partly because of "his most extravagant expense in building at Brislington" and expelled him - "it appears the conduct of William Reeve hath been reproachful and inconsistent with our religious principles." [see BB, 43]

On this day, his house at Arno's Vale came up for sale:

To be Sold, 1774

On THURSDAY the 15th Day of September next, between the Hours of One and Two, in the Afternoon, at the EXCHANGE COFFEE-HOUSE, in Bristol,—For the Life of Mr. WILLIAM REEVE,

THE Capital Messuage wherein Mr.

REEVE lately dwelt, situate in the Parish of Bussleton, in the County of Somerset, within a Mile and an half of the City of Bristol, and in full View of the Turnpike-Road leading from Bristol to Bath; and the Stables, Coach-Houses, Granary, Barn, Gardens and Lawns, with all the Trees, Plants, Pines, Flowering-Shrubs, Statues, ornamental and other Things in the Green-House and Hot-House and in the Gardens and Walks belonging thereto. — And likewise about 26 Acres of good Meadow and Pasture Ground to the said Messuage belonging, in which is included Part of the said Gardens and Lawns and the Ground whereon the said Messuage and some of the said Buildings are erected, and lately occupied by the said Mr. REEVE, and particularly described in a Plan thereof, which may be seen at Mr. Adderly's, in the College-Green, Bristol.

* * * The Mansion-House, Buildings, Gardens and Lawns are so well known as not to require any particular Description of their Elegance.

☞ Attendance will be given to shew the Premises until the Time of Sale.

☞ The other Estates of Mr. WM. REEVE will soon be advertised for Sale.

The great tithes were purchased from the trustees of William Reeve by the Gore-Langton family.

October 7 to November 3

There had not been a Parliamentary Election for twenty years. This time the candidates were Cruger [C], Burke [B], Brickdale [Br] and Clare [Cl].

Brislington voted as follows:

John Adams, surgeon [C B]
Jacob Blanning, house-carpenter [C B]
Robert Dinham, gent, [Br Cl]
William Dinham, gent [Br Cl]
Richard Eddols, esq [Br]
Joseph Forrest, baker [Br]
John Haskins, soapmaker [Br]
William Hull, esq [CB]
James Richard, basket maker [C Br]
Richard Jones, yeoman [Br]
William Maberly, butcher [Br]
William Maberly, jun, butcher [Br]
Joseph Parry, yeoman [Br Cl]
John Pullin, leather dresser, [C Br]
George Radford, house carpenter [C B]
John Stokes, joyner [C B]
William Selwood, lighterman [C B]
Edward Swayne, blacksmith [C B]
Josiah Thomas, gent, [C B]
Thomas Vincent, mason [C B]
Robert Wintworth, gent [Br]

December 31

To the Public

"Many Gentlemen having expressed a Desire to have my new Mill at Brislington open to the Poor, I have given orders accordingly. The Mill being now completed, the Poor may have any quantity ground for them at 3d per bushel and in proportion for a greater and smaller quantity. That they not be disappointed, I have appropriated Saturdays entirely to that purpose.

Rice is continued to be dispensed to the Poor at three halfpence per pint or pound and I cannot help strongly recommending it to them as a most cheap and wholesome diet."

[signed] J. Jenkins.

[FFBJ]

BRISLINGTON LANDOWNERS

Much of the following is taken from "The principal landowners in Brislington in 1751" - listed in The Ireland Manuscript, compiled by Mr Clayfield-Ireland [1870] and copied by Edwin Fydell Fox: Landed Families, 1751-1840. It is held at Bristol Record Office under reference P/StLB/HM/1a & 1b. I have made additions in the light of my own research and that of Jonathon Rowe and Diddie Williams as contained in their book "Bygone Brislington". Mr Rowe also supplied the information concerning the whereabouts of the Wharton property for which I am grateful. Incidentally, it has to be remembered that Mr Clayfield-Ireland was not writing contemporaneously and it is by no means certain that all the above named people were actually alive in 1751. For example, John Coysgarne was in the Quaker Burial Ground in 1740!

SIR GEORGE COBB

the widow of Ann Langton, who died 1749, and who held the Langton Court Estate.

JOHN NEWMAN

This estate, formerly White's, at West Town, was part of the Langton estate, and sold to John Newman in 1710, who "devolved the same to his son, or reputed son, John Tender, otherwise, Newman."

[John Newman, a Bristol plumber, was evidently quite wealthy, and also bought Churchill House from the son of Jeremiah Pearce, as well as Hill Cottage, and its surrounding lands, presumably for sentimental reasons, as it had formerly been occupied by his ancestor, William Newman, a blacksmith. John's will, dated 1756 is quoted in the text.]

ELIZABETH CHESTER MASTER

born 1717, was the only child of Sir William Cann, 3rd Baronet, and Elizabeth his wife, the daughter of Thomas Chester, esquire. [See Cann Family Tree, Brislington Bulletins 3]. She married Thomas Master of The Abbey, Cirencester, and by 1751 was widowed. She was presumably dead by 1773, when her son, Thomas Master, junior, sold the estate.

EDWARD POPHAM

The parsonage and rectorial tithes had been in the Popham family since 1635, as a settlement made by Sir Francis Popham upon the marriage of his son Alexander. In 1767, Mr Popham sold all his property [except the patronage of the living] to William Reeve. Upon Reeve's bankruptcy, they were purchased by John Estridge, Henry Tongue and James Ireland.

MRS BLANCH

nee Mary Gleson was the sister of Israel Gleson. She was the widow of Robert Blanch who owned land in Brislington in 1740, which had formerly belonged to Thomas Ithell. Hester Blanch, their daughter, married Edward Lyne of Bristol, MD, and their son, Edward Lyne of Saltford, owned the estate in 1780.

[We know from Joshua Wharton that Robert Blanch in fact owned land in Brislington as early as 1733, when it was rented to Mordecai Lockier. See Bulletins 3.]

JOHN HAWKINS

About 1680, Abraham Saunders sold part of his estate, comprising a house subsequently known as "The Chestnuts" to John, [afterwards Sir John], Hawkins, who eventually purchased the remainder, including the site of Hemplow House, from Abraham's son, Anthony. A John Hawkins signed the vestry minutes during the 1750's.

GILES BAILY & JOHN JACOB

had "Heathcotes" - in 1751 by inheritance. Baily, an Alderman of Bristol, was the son of Robert Baily, an apothecary, and a great-grandson of Thomas Heathcote. Jacob's wife was a great grand daughter of the same Heathcote, who had the land in 1660 from Rowland Lacy, then Lord of the Manor. [See Bulletins 2, p38 & 39]. The land was sold on Alderman Baily's death to William Reeve.

RICHARD GOTLEY

Land belonging to "Mr Gothley" can be seen on the map of 1745/6 [see Bulletins 3] and was probably inherited by John Coryton Gotley, who, in about 1760, sold Gotley Lodge [which is still standing in Water Lane] to a skinner called John Harding. His son afterwards sold it to John Estridge and other parts of the estate to William Reeve.

John Coryton Gotley married Sarah Calaway at St Philip & St Jacob's, Bristol on 28 February 1757, by licence. Both were said to be "of this parish". Other members of the Gotley family also lived in St Philip's at about the same time.

A Richard Gotley of the City of Bristol married Hester Hollister at the Quaker Meeting House at Olveston on 27 October 1670, and the Gotley/Brislington interest may have come through the Hollister family, who were well known Quakers in Brislington in the 17th century. [see Bulletins 2].

ISRAEL GLESON

His land was inherited by Edward Lyne, who was related to Mr Gleason through the Blanch family. The Gleasons were declining gentry. Israel was the last of the line in Brislington: the widow of one of his kinsmen suffered the ignominy of being "removed" to Brislington as a pauper.

[A Family Tree of the earlier Gleasons appears in Bulletins 2.]

SAMUEL SYMONDS

was the only lessee of an estate granted to Thomas Daniel by Rowland Lacy. As Churchwarden, Overseer of the Poor and Surveyor of Highways at various times during the period of this book, he would have been a well known Brislington figure. He was one of the few Brislington electors and voted in 1754. The owner of the estate was Thomas Daniel who left it to his wife Hannah [died c1760] and she sold to a family called Cotterell, "part of the estate called Innox's Brook, the situation shown by a piece of ground called Symmonds Ground Field on the left hand of the brook from Whitchurch

to Brislington". It was purchased before 1770 by Edward Lyne and by 1781 belonged to his son. The remainder of the estate also belonged to Simon and Martin Cotterell.

CHARLES HOLT

Charles Holt had a small estate north of the George Inn, known subsequently as Woodland House. A daughter of Charles Holt married Sydenham Teast, a noted shipbuilder, and the land passed into the Teast family.

JOHN TIPTON

possibly the father of Thomas Tipton who was active in the bread distribution on St Thomas Day, 1769. According to Mr Ireland's list, his land was owned by Abraham James by 1780, and was perhaps formerly Munday's.

[for the Munday family, see Bulletins 2]

ELIZABETH BUSH

Aaron Ithells owned the copyhold of this piece of land in Brislington Hill, which was occupied by Mrs Bush in 1751. Robert Wentworth was of New Sarum [Salisbury] when he married Mary Bush, a widow, at St Luke's in 1770, and perhaps the sister in law of Elizabeth. He evidently stayed on, as Brislington was given as the address of "Robert Wintworth, gent." when he voted in the General Election of 1774, and by 1780, he was "tenant for life" of this property.

HUMPHREY TUCKER

Mrs Gooby, a daughter of Humphrey Tucker owned this estate in 1780. It was formerly Littles.

[The Reverend Humphrey Tucker was in Brislington in 1729. See Bulletins 3]

MARY COYSGARNE & JOHN COYSGARNE

Their lands were in Hengrove and passed by family settlement to people called Denham, or perhaps Dinham - Robert and William Dinham were Brislington voters in 1774.

[For the will of John Coysgarne, 1737, see Bulletins 3]

WILLIAM REEVE

Arno's Court, formerly called Halfway House, belonged in 1660 to the Newton family and was inherited by William Reeve from his maternal grandfather Henry Newton. He added greatly to the property by purchase from Fortunatus Hayley, Jonathon Jones and subsequently from Edward Popham, John Coryton Gotley and the widow of Giles Bally. When he was declared bankrupt, his estate was purchased by Henry Tongue.

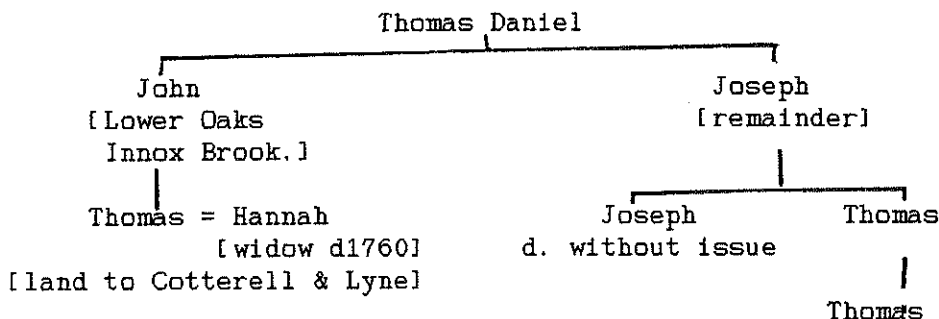
PEREGRINE PALMER

inherited via Mr Longman, his wife's father. On his death the land reverted to her cousin, Edward Stephen Comyn, who sold it to John Pullin, a leather dresser.

[Ezekiel Longman served as Overseer of the Poor in 1726. see Bulletins 3]

THOMAS DANIEL

The Daniel land, consisted of Upper and Lower Oakenhills, Gilton Mead - part of Scotland Farm - Gastons and Innox Brook, had been granted by Rowland Lacy



Thomas sold to William Hull in about 1770, and the remainder, Gastons, to John Hawkins, whose widow and daughters sold it to Richard Prescott & Nehemiah Bartley. Nehemiah Bartley sold it to William Fry. Giltens was purchased by James Ireland after William Reeve's bankruptcy and he also had Oakenhills by c1790.

HENRY BULLOCK

The majority of his property was in Bedminster, but he also owned land in Brislington. His widow married a Mr Baker and their son sold the estate in 1775. A field near Eastwood was known as "Bullock's Paddock".

JOSHUA WHARTON

The Wharton estate, it is believed, was granted by Rowland Lacy to Richard Green [1640] and by 1780 belonged to the Rev'd John Hughes of Glasbury, Radnorshire in the right of his wife, a daughter of the Rev'd Stephens of Clyro, Radnor and his wife Ann Wharton. This daughter, was baptised Ann Wharton on 15 November 1740, a christening attended by the proud grandparents, and noted in Joshua's diary*. Later known as Anna Maria Hughes, she married Thomas Howell, MD, and their son, Thomas Howell, who in 1816 assumed the name Hughes, succeeded to the estates at Glasbury and Brislington. The Farm House with the orchard and field called "Whartons" was purchased by Edward Clayfield-Ireland. This field was situated at the bottom of Gotley Lodge pleasure grounds and was intended for the site of Brislington station. The farm house may have later been known as Woodbine Farm, which stood in Water Lane, and was razed to build the first houses in Gotley Road [1938]. The orchard is marked on the 1846 tithe map - and is now part of Talbot Road Allotments. The name "Whartons" is continued in the name of the block of maisonette flats, built in Callington Road c1960 on the site of the demolished Hillside House.

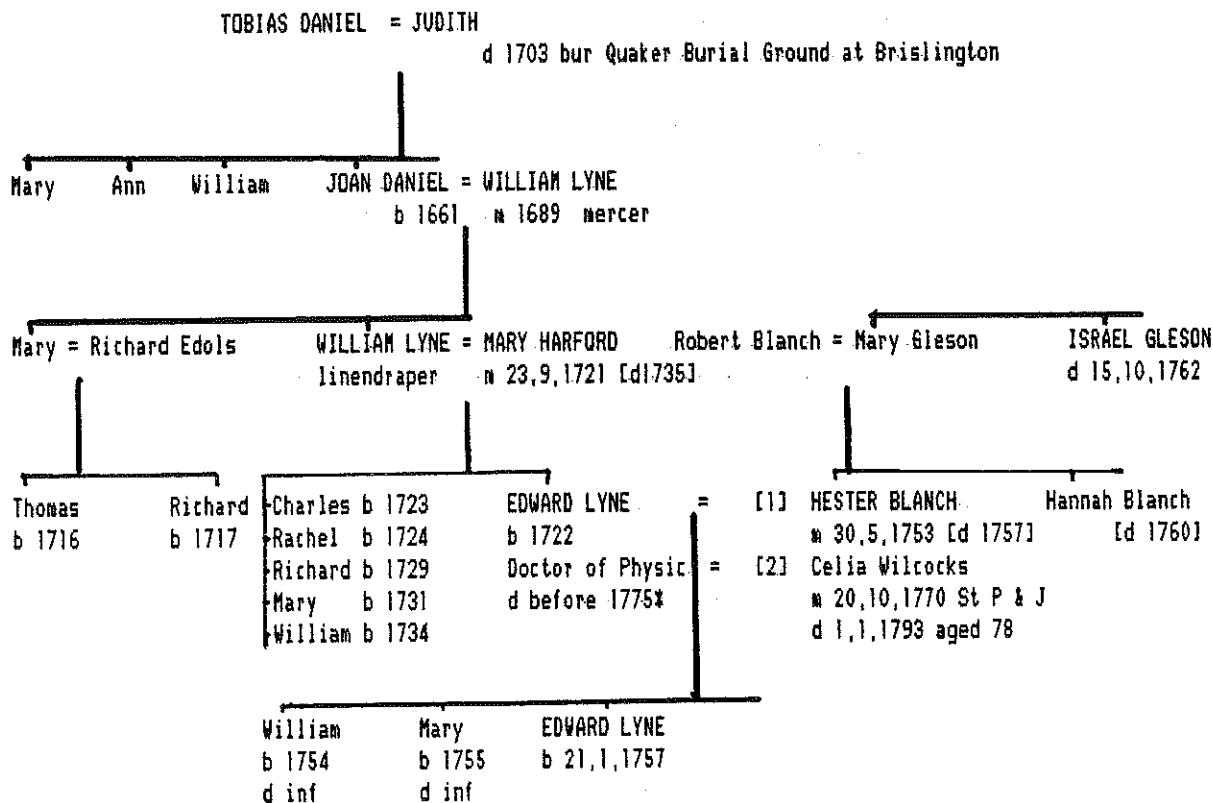
[* Joshua was the star of Bulletins 3.]

JOHN HASKINS

George Feare had this estate in 1640, and it was inherited by his nephew John Haskins of Monmouth, tobacconist. It seems to have become part of the Rookery/Scotland complex belonging to the Daniel family, eventually devolving to Edward Lyne. A John Haskins signed the vestry minutes during

How

EDWARD LYNE, born 1757
succeeded to the Daniel, Lyne and Gleson
property at Brislington



William Lyne made a considerable fortune in the tobacco trade and retired to a house in St Michael's Hill. His son Edward I practised medicine at Castle Green but professional fees were meagre and he lived chiefly on the £200 per annum his father allowed him. A piece of luck befell him when he was asked to treat a citizen of some importance who was suffering from dropsy. The patient recovered and talked to his friends of "the wonderful cure". Dr Lyne thus became famous as a "specialist in dropsy." This treatment remained a secret for years until he was finally persuaded to publish a paper on the subject. The basis of the nostrum was Bristol Milk sherry! He not only prescribed this medicine to others but took it himself. He was a man of regular habits, and never deviated from his routine if he could help it. He dined at 2 o'clock, and never wished to be troubled by patients after this hour. As soon as the meal was ended, in winter he placed himself in an easy chair by the fireside, in summer in an alcove in the garden. He would then light his pipe and draw the cork from his favourite medicine. He invariably finished the bottle himself, but he enjoyed having a friend with him for whom he thoughtfully provided another bottle! He was elected physician to Bristol Infirmary on 23 December 1757. His resignation letter on 25 October 1765 is a masterpiece of brevity:

? EDWARD LYNE = PHOEBE HALY 25-3-1741/2 St James.

? EDWARD LYNE = MARTHA MURSTONE 20 ? 1690 St John, Red man's ter.

"Gentlemen.

"The infirmery interferes so much with my Private affairs that I cannot possibly attend, so I therefore Resign and am,

Gentlemen
Your humble Serv't
Edward Lyne.

Although he was not fond of hard work, and wore a pompous wig, he "was a good tempered, easy going, gentlemanly fellow who never vexed himself about anything."

He died "after a tedious illness at his house in Castle Green" on 22 November 1772.

Edward's widow, as "Ceely Lyne" of 32 Old Market, appears in Sketchley's Bristol Directory of 1775. Celia was the sister of Love Ball, who was married to Nehemiah Champion.

The portrait reproduced below was supposed painted in 1762 although Edward looks a great deal younger than forty.



the 1750's and a John Haskins, soapmaker, was a Brislington elector in 1774.

MARY BECK

Mrs Beck was the widow of Giles Ithell, and afterwards of Stephen Beck of Keynsham. On her death, her land passed to Mrs Robson, daughter of Mary Beck by her second marriage, and thence to Daniel Phelps and his wife Elizabeth for their lives.

[Numerous Ithells will be found in Bulletins 1, 2 & 3. The land may have been the very same where Thomas Ithell dallied in the sheepfold with Maria Greene in 1616. Daniel Phelps married Elizabeth Probert at St Peter's, Bristol on 7 July 1765.]

WILLIAM BARTLEY

Apart from his name, Mr Clayfield-Ireland gives no further details, but a Nehemiah Bartley of Brislington, presumably his son, published an account on the cultivation of buck wheat in 1786.

JOHN BRAIKENRIDGE

in about 1740, purchased land on which he built the house called Winash, from a family called Hall. John died in 1764 and the house was occupied after his death by his widow Mary.

["Young Mr Hall" is mentioned by Joshua Wharton in 1739. See Bulletins 3]

GEORGE BRIDGES

was a member of the Bridges family of Keynsham, and the land passed to their kinsman, the second Duke of Chandos.

WILLIAM LYNE

this land which had been granted by Rowland Lacy to William Payne was sold to Tobias Daniel whose widow Judith in 1689 settled it on their daughter Joan on her marriage to William Lyne, a Bristol mercer. Their grandson Edward left it to his only surviving son, Edward. [See Family Tree.]

MRS WEYMOUTH

An estate called Doncaster was owned by the Weymouth family from Queen Annes's reign.

JAMES MOON

a Quaker, and tanner, married Elizabeth Noble at the Bristol Quaker Meeting House in January 1730. He inherited land in Brislington from his father in law, Enoch Noble. It was later purchased by John Estridge.

WILLIAM LYDIARD

He took a parish apprentice in 1745 - see Bulletins 3, and frequently signed the vestry minutes during the 1750's.

RICHARD EDOLS

related by marriage to the Lyne family, owned land at Scotland [Farm] including the site of the farmhouse, formerly belonging to George Williams. He afterwards purchased property from the Little family, later occupied by

a Mr Birt, which in Victorian times became the site of the National School. Richard Edols, esquire is listed as a Brislington elector in 1774.

GEORGE STOCKER

owned lands in Hengrove inherited by George Adams Stocker.

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More information about Brislington land and people is contained in "Collections for Brislington" compiled by George Weare Braikenridge, filed at Avon County Reference Library under reference BL8FI - B26068.

Mr Braikenridge recalled that "Mr John Glisson lived in a large farm house of what became Rookery Farm, West Town, and who married one of the family of Blanch who resided in the parish and owned some part of the estate. Rookery Farm was sold to the Lyne family who again sold it to Mr William Parsons of Bristol, an uncle of John Hurle, esquire, to whom he bequeathed it.

"In Mr Lyne's time there was a very long and wide Fish Pond and which in hard winters was the resort of persons far and near for the purpose of skating. The celebrated Duchess of Devonshire came one year and displayed great skill in that elegant amusement."

[This "large farmhouse" formerly called Manor Farm stood at the bottom of Sturminster Road, and was believed to date back to the 14th century. It was the original home of the Lords of the Manor of Brislington, the la Warres. It seems appropriate to me that it came to be occupied by the Glisson or Gleson family, who were themselves entitled to bear arms. The Manor House was inexcusably demolished in 1933.]

Mr Braikenridge continues: "The family of Coggins: About 50 years ago, Mr Brown's father engaged a West Countryman of the name of Coggins to drive his team of horses. After living sometime with him at the farm in this capacity, he married a woman of the name of Challenger and by her had nine children, 6 sons and 3 daughters. The sons all married, but three only had families and from them have descended the numerous families of the name here residing, all as labouring people in the parish, none having risen at all above their original station."

Sad to say, Mr Braikenridge was probably right. The minutes of Bedminster Work House for 27 June 1837 record:

"James Coggins, born 1754, Brislington, labourer, widower, wholly disabled; cause of seeking relief: age." and similarly, one of the in-laws, "John Challenger, born 1775, Brislington, not disabled: age."

John Coggins married Ann Challenger in 1747, and for many years I have sought the birth date and place of this "West Countryman" without success.

Mr Braikenridge goes on, without saying a great deal: "The Pillingers are a numerous family in the parish, and have been of long standing. The family of Jones, also."

ELIZABETH d.o. THOMAS & BUZ

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Coggins, born St Stephen, Bristol

19-9-1680

BRISLINGTON MARRIAGES 1751-1774

1751

Jul 22 Richard Goulding of St Saviours, Southwark/Mary Shore of Buselton
 Sep 1 Thomas Daniell/Sarah Bowyer of Castle Precincts
 Sep 29 William Chapman/Sarah Hancum
 Oct 13 John Hedges/Mary Nash

1752

Mar 29 Isaac Challinder/Mary Batman
 Aug 25 John Perfect/Ann Hopkins
 Nov 6 William Mackreth of Markshead, Lancs/Mary Teague
 [* Edward Mackereth, son of William & Mary of Markshead, Lanikishere
 (sic) was baptised at St Luke's on 25 July 1753.]
 Dec 25 John Simes of Combe Hay/Frances Aubrey of Brislington

1753

May 13 Robert Wyatt/Mary Vaughan

1754

Feb 1 Robert Betsy/Mary Smith [1753/4 old style calendar]
 May 12 William x Teague/Lettice x Hughes
 Oct 27 Henry Weeks, carpenter/Dorothy Worlock, widow

1755

Jan 1 Richard Noble, innholder & cordwainer/Hannah x Bindigo
 Aug 21 Philip Jenkins of St James, merchant/Mary Morgan, licence
 Oct 16 Roger x Gaine of Bedminster, husbandman/Ann x Shewring

1756

Feb 8 Evan Abraham of St Mary Redcliffe/Mary x Thorn
 Feb 15 George Millard/Mary Harrill
 Jun 7 Pulteney Shelbery of St James/Sarah Marks, licence
 Aug 15 Thomas Dean/Mary Copper

1757

Aug 11 Henry x Roberts of Bitton/Betty Woodham
 Aug 27 Richard Chaundler Hole of Farington, gentleman/Dorothy Horne
 licence
 Oct 27 John Day, farmer of North Cadbury/Ann Brown, licence

1758

Jun 11 Joseph x Woddam/Elizabeth x Williams
 Sep 4 Richard x Plaister/Betty Wilcox
 Oct 15 Joseph x Elliott/ Betty x Griffin
 Dec 26 William Britton of North Stoke/Mary Harrill

1759

Apr 24 William Jones, husbandman/Ruth x Ballard
 [with parents' consent]
 Jul 30 Samuel Nutt, mason/Elizabeth x Elliott, widow
 Nov 8 William Clements, labourer, of Whitchurch/Elizabeth x Elliott

1760

Jan 6 James Colston, blacksmith/Eleanor x Charley, widow
Jan 20 Thomas Whitlock, grocer, St Thomas/Mary x Hawkins
Apr 24 Thomas x Skenfill, labourer/Margaret x Jones
May 9 George Stone, gentleman/Margaret Roberts, licence
Aug 3 Thore x Hanson/Sarah Carter, licence
Dec 18 John Meredith, pewterer of St Thomas/Hannah Haskins

1761

Jan 18 Sampson Phillips, taylor/Lucy Phillips, widow
Jul 17 Edward Williams/Dionisia Cook, licence
Aug 10 William Bird, mariner, St Mary Redcliffe/Margaret Hawkins
Aug 16 Henry Barton, brickmaker, St Mary Redcliffe/Elizabeth x Gane

1762

Apr 22 Thomas Bush, widower/Mary Allford, licence
May 31 Isaac x Pillinger, farmer/Mary x Smith
Jun 2 Isaac x Jones, widower, labourer/Sarah x Bindigoe
Jun 20 Jonathon x Morgan, labourer/Mary x White
Sep 1 James Lockstone, labourer/Ann Harrill

1763

Jan 30 Joseph Williams, labourer/Margaret x Jones
May 6 Daniel x Weeks/Mary x Wood
Jul 9 James x Davis, sailor/Mary Smith, licence.
Aug 24 James Lander, baker/Ann Pearce of St Philip & St Jacob
Oct 26 Joseph Hart, yeoman/Mary x Williams
Oct 28 Samuel Bush, carpenter of Norton Malreward/Mary x Merewether
Dec 4 Richard x Vigar, yeoman/Jane Huighs
Dec 14 Thomas Harrill, labourer/Mary Dory

1764

Feb 13 James x Peasley, yeoman/Mary x Shewring
May 6 Henry x Pillinger, labourer/Mary Yard
Jun 3 Thomas x Jennings, labourer, St Mary Redcliffe/Joanah x Dimond
Jun 17 John Case, labourer/Elizabeth x Pathen
Aug 12 John x Harris, butcher/Hester Cook, widow
Oct 22 Thomas x Lacy, labourer/Catherine x Davis

1765

Jul 28 Thomas Heamer, farmer/Mary Hill, licence
Jul 31 Richard Edols, junior/Nancy Emery, licence
Sep 2 Richard x Joy, labourer/Jane Bennett
Sep 2 Ambrose x Robins, labourer/Jane x Gane
Nov 3 James x Laver, labourer/Ann x White

1766

Jan 1 Samuel x Budd, labourer/Priscilla Hawkins
Jan 26 James Hill, mason, St Philip & St Jacob/Elizabeth Hawkins
Feb 3 Robert x Llewelin/Ann x Charley of Brockleigh
Feb 9 John Weymouth, labourer/Mary x Merryweather, widow
Apr 13 Samuel x Phillips, labourer, Whitchurch/Mary x Silvester
Apr 13 Edward Langdon, senior, gent/Sarah Radford, licence
Apr 24 John Danvers, schoolmaster/Catherine Bendegast

Jun 1 Walter x Baker, labourer/Elizabeth Briant
Dec 29 John x Kates, labourer/Rachel x Lane

1767

Feb 12 Thomas x Boulton, yeoman/Sarah x Brookman, licence
Mar 22 John x Weymouth, farmer/Griffie Peasley
Dec 13 William x Challinder/Susanna x Pillinger

1768

Nov 3 James Waymouth, farmer/Ann Brown

1769

Jun 29 Peter x Weymouth/Susanna x Smith
Oct 1 Thomas Dyer, labourer, Keynsham/Mary x Laver

1770

Apr 17 Robert Wentworth of St Thomas, New Sarum/Mary Bush, widow, licence

1771

May 27 William Syms, Bampton/Sarah x Pritchard, licence
Jun 22 Benjamin x Davis, labourer/Mary x Bendigoe
Dec 2 Samuel x Briant/Ann Phillips
Dec 15 John x Laver/Martha x Mearn

1772

Feb 15 John Adams, Keynsham/Mary Braikenridge, licence
Mar 6 Thomas Waymouth/Ann Christian Ponsford, Dundry, licence
Apr 19 Jeremiah x Pillinger/Mary x Mearn
Apr 27 Thomas Magbride/Joanna Maggs
Apr 31 Thomas x Huntington/Mary Peasley
Jun 8 -----x Parsons/Elizabeth Bird
Jul 30 Samuel Mudway/Ann x Brain
Aug 16 John Stokes/Martha Hardey
Oct 4 Nathaniel Hull, St James/Sarah x Boyle

1773

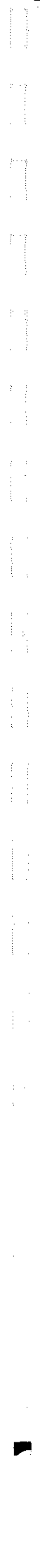
Jul 25 Edward x Barthes, Castle Precincts/Ann x Summerell
Dec 29 John Estridge, esquire, widower/Susanna Whatley, St James, minor
with consent of Edward Whatley, esquire, licence

1774

May 25 James Percy/Elizabeth x Wheller
Oct 2 John Leaker, St Mary Redcliffe/Elizabeth Morton
Oct 17 John x Weymouth/Grace Stevens, widow, Whitchurch.

Marriages were either by the calling of banns in church on three clear Sundays before the proposed nuptials, or by a licence issued by a Bishop for an extra fee. Those who desired haste, wished to avoid the neighbours "knowing their business", or were non-conformists who could not be married in their own chapels might choose to marry by licence. A licence was also considered that little bit smarter, and was therefore preferred by those who were gentry or thought they were. After 1754, couples were required to sign the register. Those who could, did, and others made their mark.

Handwritten scribbles or marks.



The Life of William Reeve of The Black Castle.

William Reeve and Sarah Newton, daughter of Henry Newton, of Stapleton, but descended from the Brislington family of Newton: married Frenchay Meeting House, January 1713.

Sarah Newton Reeve was the main beneficiary of her Father's will, [dated 1705] inheriting property in Brislington.

WILLIAM REEVE, son of William & Sarah born 14 August 1713 at Castle Green, [Quaker meeting].

He had siblings as follows: Newton, born 1714, Sarah, born 1715, both at Castle Green; Elizabeth, born 1719, John, born 1720, Mary, 1721, Ann, born 1723 and Thomas born 1724, all at Castle Ditch.

1734 - William Reeve named in property transaction in Brislington, when aged 21, presumably by then having inherited the Brislington lands from his mother.

1739, December 29, Brislington lands form part of marriage settlement between William Reeve of City of Bristol, merchant and Mary Andrews, daughter of John Andrews, merchant.

1740, March 19, William Reeve & Mary Andrews married in Quaker ceremony.

1740 - W.R. took on William Wickwick, a Brislington parish apprentice.

1741, 25 May, William Reeve, merchant of Bristol made Freeman of the City of Gloucester, "by gift". On same day other noted merchants of Bristol were similarly honoured: Corsley Rogers, Michael Becker, Edward Cooper, Francis Rogers, Henry Franklin, William Swymmer, Cranfield Becker, Henry Casamajor, Henry Swymmer; and William Swymmer of Marshfield.

Children of William & Mary Reeve born as follows, and registered at Quaker Meeting, Bristol.

Andrews, born 7 November 1742 [Old Market]
William, born 19 September 1743 [Old Market]
Sarah, born 29 February 1744 [Old Market]
John, born 2 September 1749 [Old Market]
William, born 31 December 1754 [Old Market]

1745 - W.R. appeared as witness in court: and again in 1747.

1763, 9 May, W.R. signs Vestry Minutes at Brislington.

1765 - W.R. extends mansion at Arno's Vale, formerly Halfway House, builds Black Castle, etc.

1774, 15 September: W.R. bankrupt. His mansion and other property advertised for sale.

To be Sold by Auction,
At the EXCHANGE COFFEE-HOUSE,
This PRESENT SATURDAY, the 2d of JULY,
at One o'Clock punctually,



The Ship REEVE,
Burthen about 280 Tons,
New-England built, a strong burthen-
some Ship, her Dimensions well cal-
culated for the West-India or Virginia
Trade.—Launched about 18 Months
since, now lying in the New Mud-
Dock, with all her Materials and Stores as she came from
Sea.

100

Appendix 1

PARISH APPRENTICES

Those who cared for orphans were paid a subsidy by the parish, though children were expected to work from about seven years old. At the age of about fourteen years, parish allowance ceased, and they were apprenticed at parish charge, ostensibly to learn a craft in exchange for their keep. More often than not, they became unpaid drudges, especially girls, who learned the "Art and Mystery of Housewifery". Until recent times male and female division of labour was considered sacrosanct: around 1915, my mother and her brother, newly orphaned, and aged 9 and 8, were sent to live with elderly relatives. "Your uncle Harry loved it", my mother said. "He went out into the fields with Uncle Tom. I had to stay behind with Aunt Jenny and scrub out the privies." How much worse if this went on for a decade. Parish apprentices were "bound" until 24 years of age, though girls might in some cases be released on marriage.

1750 William Watson to Israel Gleson
 1752 John Elliott to Thomas Harrill, maltster
 1759 Mary Lydyard to Samuel Symmonds
 Joseph Teague to Isaac Roach, yeoman
 John Wilcox to Jonathon Phillips, house carpenter
 John Pope to James Goulstone, blacksmith*
 1761 Hester Lydiard to James Dobbins*
 1765 Daniel Weekes to Thomas Hamar, husbandman
 1766 Sarah Barry to John Weymouth
 1767 John Barry to Thomas Huntington, basketmaker
 1772 Sarah White to Thomas Harrill, husbandman
 Elizabeth Hawkins to Richard Peasley, husbandman
 1773 Thomas Lacey to Rev John Dolman, clerk
 Hannah Woodham to John Hawkins, esquire*
 James Anson to John Pullen, gentleman
 Elizabeth Smith to Thomas Hamers. [BRO P StLB/OP/15h 32-47]

* "apprenticeship not executed". John Pope was found a place with Sarah Robins, a Bristol victualler - see below.

Additionally, between 1750 and 1775, the following young people from Brislington were bound outside the parish:

William Challenger, Hester Champion, Hannah Elliott, William Carter, Philip Lydiard, Hannah Harris, John Pope, Mary Adlam, Ann Young, Elizabeth Pope, William Davis, Susannah Young, Thomas Cains, Martha Challenger, George, James & Mary Hunt, Elizabeth Young, Ann & Leah Weeks, Sarah Woodham.
 [BRO P StLB/OP/15h 86-107]

All were despatched to Bristol, except Philip Lydiard, apprenticed to a vicar at Norton Malreward, and the three young Hunts, mercifully kept together, to Monkton Farleigh. Ann & Leah Weeks went to serve Ann & Mary Milsom, perhaps sisters, glovemakers in the parish of Temple. Other Brislington apprentices will be found in the Bristol Apprentice Rolls at Bristol Record Office.

Appendix 2

Brislington Patients at Infirmary, 1751-63

1751 Richd Hardy	Robt Fisher, 13
1752 Thos Bright, 39	John Brookman, 60
Sarah Carter, 14	Andrew Gay, 53
1753 Richard Hardy [*]	Samuel Cole, 52
John Baker, 30	
1754 Anne Parfitt, 22	James Bendago
1755 Jane Grisman, 50	Abigail Ellett, 43
1756 Mary Gane, 44	William Earle, 37
Margt James, 14	Anna Maria Lee, 27
Mary Jones, 30	
1757 Wm Pearce, 12	Anne Charley, 15
1758 Wm Lever, 46	Martha Moore, 24
Nicholas Mitchell, 35	
1759 Sarah Brookman, 36	John Bartlett, 18
John Mevil, 59	
1760 John Bristol, 25	Sarah Baker, 17
James Gane, 40	Sarah Parker, 20
1761 Anne Lacey, 55	Jane Gane, 19
1762 Sarah Baker, 21 [*]	Joan Phillimore, 57
1763 Sarah Hicks, 20	Jane Gane, 20 [*]

[The BRI Inpatients Register contains details of hundreds of patients from the Bristol area and farther afield. An index published by Bristol & Avon Family History Society is available for £3 plus 40p postage.

Appendix 3

Brislington Epitaphs

"Somerset Epitaphs" were collected by A.S. MacMillan in 1926. These were found in Brislington Churchyard, though unfortunately, he did not record the names. All were evidently young people.

300. Brislington 17--

"Boast not of youth nor strength I pray
Least you like me are snatched away."

382. Brislington 1750

"The Lord was pleased to end my time
When I was young and in my prime
But 'tis a brave exchange obtain'd
When earth is lost and heaven gain'd."

389. Brislington 1759 c

"Young men pray be wise in time
For I was cut off in my prime
For as the flowers doth wither away
So did my life and strength decay."

207. Brislington 1761

"Short was her life, great was her pain
Great was our loss, but greater her gain."

Appendix 4

Burials of Mr Langton's Servants at Newton St Loe.

Thomas Pavet, Mr Langton's footman, buried 22 February 1760.
William Pearson, who fell from Mr Langton's buildings, 22 August 1761.
Thomas Hymens, Mr Langton's groom, 12 July 1767.
Mary Long, cook at Mr Langton's, 22 July 1767.

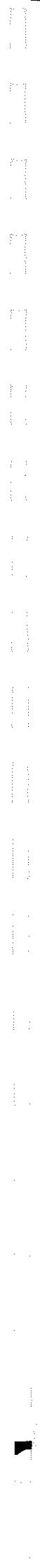
Appendix 5

Brislington Quakers.

It has been noted in the text that a number of Brislington's well to do had connections with the Society of Friends. The Reeves and the Lynes for instance. The following appear in the Quaker burial registers, 1644-1819 with their place of residence given as "Brislington".

1659 Robert Bennett
1662 Margaret Baugh
1663 Isaac Selwood, son of William
1668 Alice Huntington
1668 Sarah Selwood, dau of William & Frances
1669 Sarah Allen, dau of Nicholas & Sarah
1676 John Milkins
1677 Robert Westfield
1678 Sarah Westfield
1692 Mary Cole, wife of William
1695 William Pyott, son of Alexander
1696 Alexander Pyott
1696 Samuel Hollister
1696 Thomas Wilcox
1702 Frances Selwood
1711 Ann Griffin, a child
1713 William Cole
1719 Jane Cole
1726 Abraham Blanch
1740 John Coysgarne
1742 Abraham Gifford
1770 Robert Bullock, son of John
1772 Elizabeth Priest
1812 Edwin Fydell Fox, aged 4½, son of Edward Long Fox
1819 Jane, relict of John Bullock, baker
1823 Francis Curtis of Bristol, interred Brislington
1824 Frances Sophia Fox, aged 2½,
1835 Edward Long Fox, MD, of Brislington House aged about 74.

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Addenda to Brislington Bulletins 2

1. The following is a quotation from "Collections for Brislington" by George Weare Braikenridge and filed under reference BL8FI - B26068 at the County of Avon Reference Library.

"Here lies Nicholas Cowling who died AD 1661.

Let this place be kept continually with a good
Respect to him that lies beneath
This tomb which in his lifetime
Sought Christ's Kingdom
Who ordered that four corals
Should thus be set, therefore let
Us his memory not forget
Therefore the walls and Trees
Be still repaired and by no
Means let them be decayed.

"An inscription found in the garden of the Heath, or Heath Cowlings which is the property of the Duke of Buckingham and Chandos and leased to Doctor Fox who keeps it for some of his patients who are not willing to go into his great establishment.

"A story prevails that this Cowling had two extravagant sons and that to prevent the sale of the property by them at his decease, he determined to be buried in his garden, thinking that out of respect for him they would not sell his bones. But after his death they did sell the estate, reserving the spot of ground that was covered by their father's tomb.

"The real fact was that the Quakers had established themselves in the neighbourhood only about five years before his death, and as there was not then a separate burying ground appointed by the Friends, he fixed on his own garden instead of the parochial churchyard."

[Heath Farm still exists at the back of Heath Court Restaurant. Old Nick's stone has long since disappeared.]

2. Clement Minor and Ann Cook, both of Brislington, were married at Compton Dando, 20 June 1697.

3. Lease between

a. Thomas Langton

b. John King of Brislington, baker. 1 August 1691.

[SRO Gore-Langton Papers

4. 1695. Leases, between 1. Rowland Lacy, esquire, Samuel Clement of City of Bristol, sadler, and Thomas Birkoff, grocer and 2. Nicholas Cowling, Israel Gleson, William Baugh, Beyam Hartwell, Richard Gray, Richard Green, Richard Crabb, Lawrence Bricker, William Paine, John Kinge, Thomas Peaslie, in respect of sundry messuages.

[SRO DD/BR/tb/W67/1.]

Addenda to Brislington Bulletins 3:

1. Licence to marry, 13 July 1704, Richard Milkins of Brislington, a Quaker, blacksmith, & Elizabeth Day, spinster of same, no parents. At the Cathedral, Wells. [Bath & Wells Licences]
2. Lease between
 - a. John Collins of Brislington, coleminer &
 - b. Robert Langton of sameof fish ponds, mines, quarries, footpaths etc in Brislington, 11 October, 1706. [Gore-Langton Papers, SRO]
3. Gravestone in St Luke's Churchyard: Francis Williams of the parish of St Stephens, City of Bristol, mariner, died 6 July 1728. Another mariner called Reece is also buried near the same spot. Monumental Inscriptions for the 18th century are few in the churchyard. Two more will be found in the main text.
4. The following are named in the Keynsham Vestry minutes [transcripts, held by Keynsham Local History Society], as "Intruders into the parish of Keynsham", in 1747.

William Collins, senior, wife and family, Bussleton
William Collins, junior, wife and family, Bussleton



The old Manor House, now called Manor Farm, Brislington.

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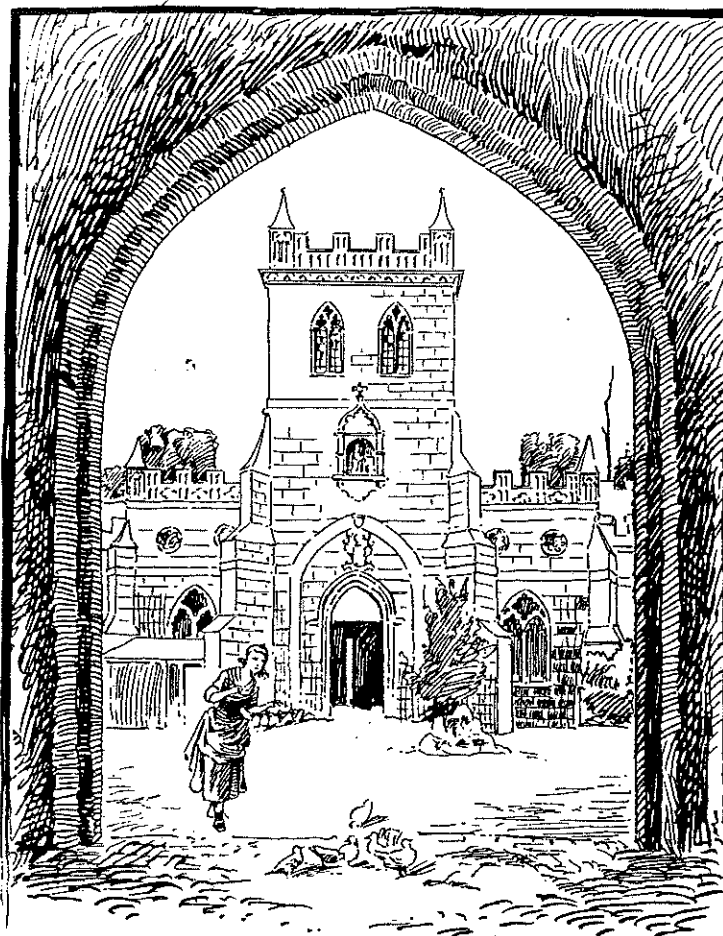
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During this period there were fewer variations in the spelling of our parish, and only three new entries appear here. The favourites now overwhelmingly are Brislington & Bussleton.

W Frislington
D Brislington Bussulton Burtleston
U Brustelyngton Burtleton Brusligton
S Buringtone Burstleton Bussleton
E Bristelington Bristlington
I Bristulton Bristelthon
B Burreston Busselton Bryslyngton
R Bristelton ? Briselton
N Bristellyngton BRISLYNTON Brustlyngton
? Busleton Burleston Bristleton
Bristelton
Brislington Bruslyngton Bursleton
Brislington Bridlington
Brislington Busselton
BRISTELTONE Brisslington
BRISLENT Burslingtown
Brislon Busseton
Brislington Briston Brislent
BRISTLEON BURSLINGTON Bristleington
BUSSENTON

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The Lindegaard List

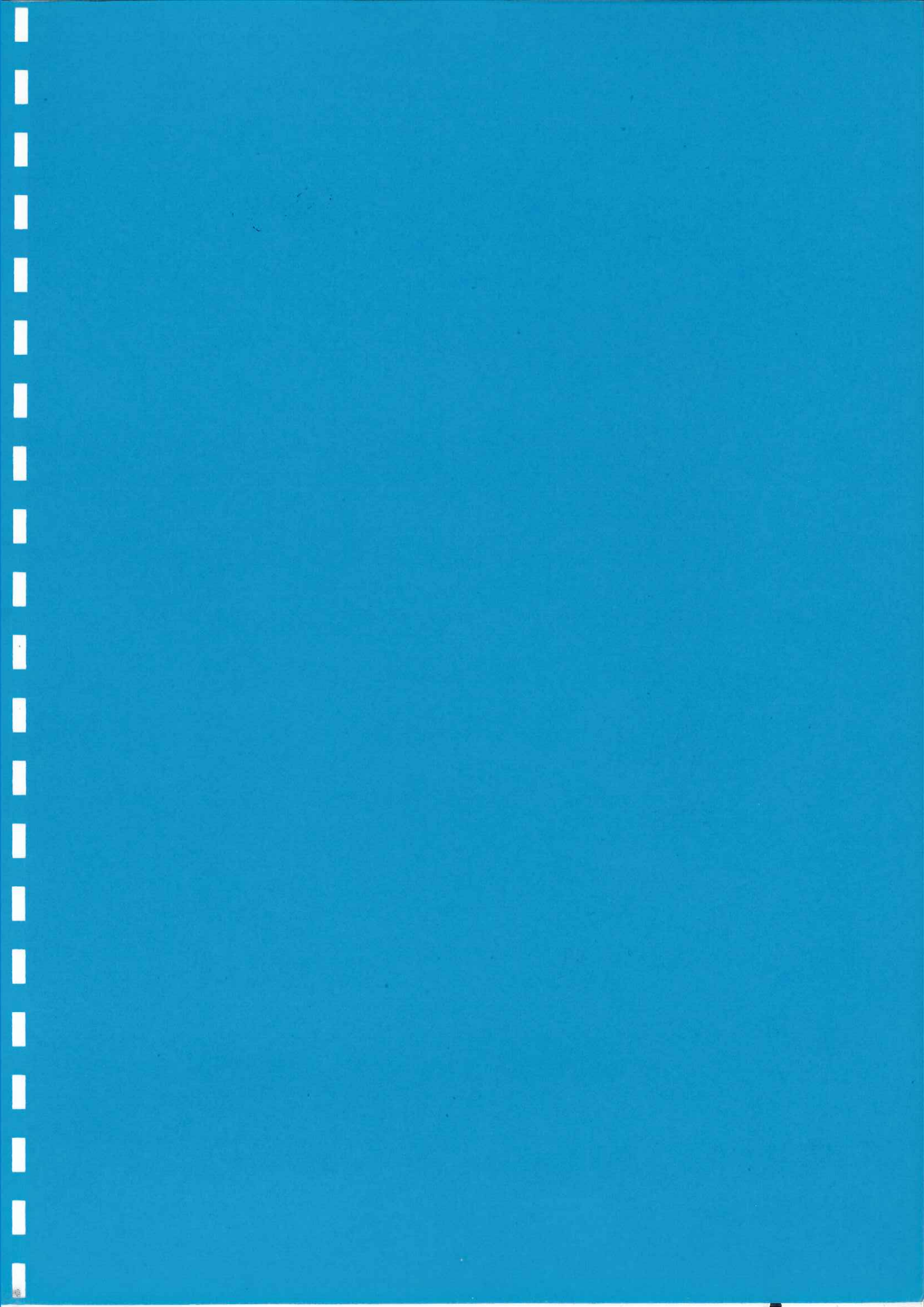
Killed in a Coalpit I	Fatalities in the Kingswood mines
Supplement to Killed in a Coalpit I	Fatalities in the Kingswood mines
Killed in a Coalpit II	Fatalities in the Mendip mines
Killed in a Coalpit III	Fatalities in the Bedminster mines
Annals of Kingswood 1750-1775	A catalogue of events
Annals of Kingswood 1776-1795	A catalogue of events
Black Bristolians	Black residents of Bristol 17/18c
The Budgetts of Kingswood Hill	Story of the famous grocery family
The Simple Annals of the Poor	Family life in 3 parishes, 1550/1650
Brislington Bulletins 1066-1600	A catalogue of events
Brislington Bulletins 1601-1699	A catalogue of events
Brislington Bulletins 1700-1749	A catalogue of events
Brislington Bulletins 1750-1774	A catalogue of events

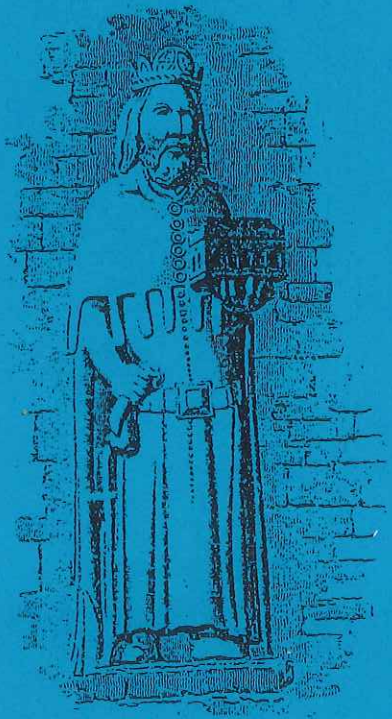
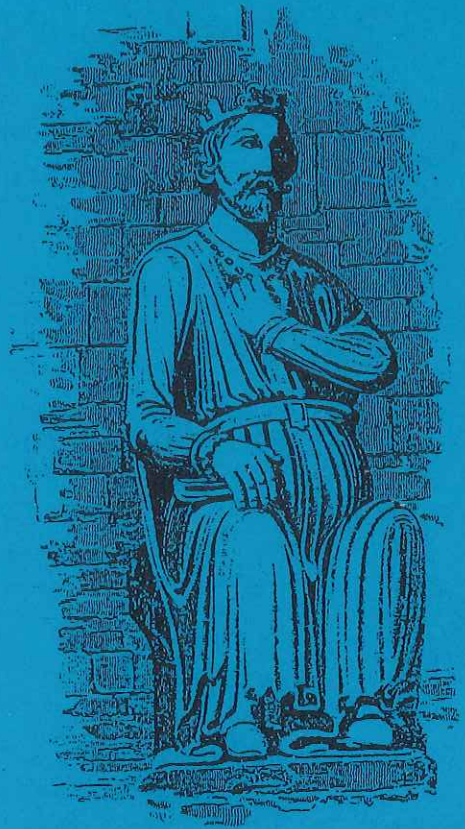
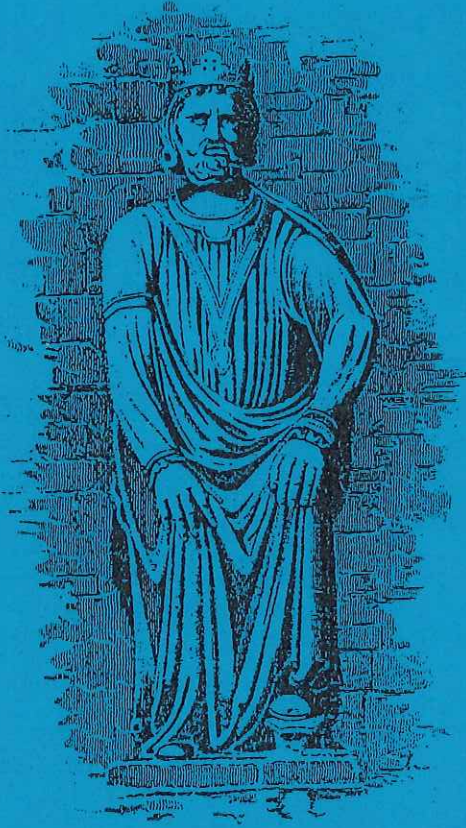
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