



St. Zeno by Franz Gillis from a drawing by Hugh O'Neill.



100

BRISLINGTON BULLETINS

No. 5
1775-99

D.P. LINDEGAARD, BA

Lines on Marriage

"With anxious eye the Universe run o'er
Where shall you such a loving pair explore?
In Damon see the husband's care exprest
And mark the flame that glows in Celia's breast
Both o'er each other hold an equal sway
And both with mutual pleasure strive t'obey."

(Sarah Farley's Bristol Journal, 10 December 1774)

.....and on death as a happy release

"Farewell Vain World
What good in thee is found
Where sickness sorrow
Sin and shame abound
Where tedious paines and
Anxious troubles dwell....."

(Epitaph on St Luke's Churchyard:
The rest lost underground, along with this merry individual.)

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The latest volume in my series Brislington Bulletins covers the years 1775-99, and opens with the bankruptcy of William Reeve, who also died in this period, and closes with the lowly birth of Sephora Rich's daughter. In between there were many other new arrivals, the *nouveau riche* merchants and the labourers who came here to work, and whose lives are so graphically detailed in our collection of "Settlements". It cannot have been so bad a place if so many wanted to live here. We can be thankful for the instinct for bureaucracy in those minor, unpaid, officials who detailed the minutiae of these ordinary lives and for the fact that the papers were never thrown away, eaten by rats, destroyed by fire or flood, or even torn up for use as curling papers which were the various fates suffered by some parish records.

The period of the present volume covers the troubled times of the American and French Revolutions and the very real danger of invasion. A home guard, the Bristol Volunteers was formed to counter the threat from Napoleon. We know the names of our Brislington "Captain Mainwarings" but not alas the "Corporal Jones's" or "Private Pikes", who paraded with mopsticks as pikes for there were no conventional weapons available. *Plus ca change.*

Locally the biggest event must have been the enclosure of the Common and its distribution among major landowners. This however, seems to have had little effect on the petty thieves who made it their haunt, and neither did the threat of capital punishment. Four men were hanged during this period, three of them for crimes committed on Brislington Common.

I am delighted to have been contacted by descendants of the Harrill and Brown families, who are now in Australia. I was fascinated to learn that the Brown who emigrated called his house Brislington, and much more of this in future volumes. Nearer home, I have been pleased to correspond with a descendant of the Eddolls. I hope that the present volume will add to their ancestral knowledge. As for myself, I have to confess an interest in the Pillinger family, for though they are not on my direct line, it was the discovery of their gravestones in the churchyard which led me into a hobby which has now been ongoing for almost half my life!

Each volume so far has thrown up interesting people that I think of as "my pets": this time is no exception and I am very intrigued by the Willoughbys and their adherence to the Catholic faith and by Nehemiah Bartley who grew coriander and wrote pamphlets about horticulture. The little I have discovered about them has simply served to whet my considerable appetite.

Last year I had the privilege of standing on the mosaic floor of Brislington's own Roman Villa. It's at Kingsweston now, where it was relaid in the villa there, and open to the public once a year on Open Doors Day. I found the experience almost overwhelming, and took to musing on the extent to which we all stand on each other's shoulders. Besides which, delving into the past and prying into ancient lives is tremendous fun.

D.P. Lindegaard, May 2000.

Abbreviations & Sources

BRO Bristol Record Office
Bristol Poll Books
FFBJ Felix Farley's Bristol Journal
KPR Keynsham Parish Register
MI Monumental Inscription
PR Parish Register of (StLB) St Luke's Brislington
SFBJ Sarah Farley's Bristol Journal
SRO Somerset Record Office

I am indebted to the following:

Bristol Record Office for permission to reproduce

4550 (79) re William Reeve's bankruptcy
P/St LB/OP/8/6 re Elizabeth Bartlett
P/St LB/OP/10/26 re Thomas Brain
FCP/St LB/OP/6(a) 1 f 37 Brislington Poor Book, 1789
P/StLB/OP/13/13a Susanna Challenger

Somerset Record Office for

"Weekly Pay" 1798

Bristol Library for

FFBJ 25 Oct 1776
The Portrait of Henry Cruger
"Bristol from the Bath Road" from the Braikenridge Collection..

As usual my grateful thanks to the staff at the above establishments for their help, especially to the Bristol Reference Library staff who, owing to "the asbestos in the roof" are doing their best in cramped conditions in the newspaper library. As soon as normal service resumes, I shall be there reading the old newspapers again.

Notes: I have reproduced a small section of the Brislington Enclosure of 1780. A large photocopy of this document was given to me many years ago by my distant relative, the former deputy Lord Mayor, the late Paul Garland, and I do not have any other reference.

To those who would like to know where some of the people mentioned in the text lived, please see "Bygone Brislington" by Jonathan and Diddie Williams

On 15 September 1774, William Reeve, the flamboyant owner of the Black Castle in Brislington was bankrupt and his property was advertised for sale. Now read on

April 19 1775

The problems devolved upon his son, Andrews, who had also been declared bankrupt:

"A Valuation of the effects of Andrews Reeve, a bankrupt, son of William Reeve and his wife Mary Andrews.

The schedule (abbreviated) reads as follows:

	£	s	d
Household goods, plate, linen and table ware	808	9	10
Wine	46	0	0
A Black Mare	10	0	0
The Interest in a Manor House in Brislington (as above) after "the several deceases of William and Mary Reeve his father and mother, by virtue of a settlement made on their marriage	1700	0	0
The like in one third of an estate at Whitchurch devised by the will of Mr John Andrews, let to George Stocker	702	0	0
The like in one third of a messuage in Dowry Square let to Mrs Charlotte Mairez	43	3	4
The like in one third of a messuage in the Old Market Bristol occupied by Mr William Reeve (plus stables and four tenements behind mentioned in Mr Andrews' will)	283	3	4
One third of an estate in Whitchurch and Tythes (sic) belonging (let to George Stocker)	500	0	0
The like in one third of five shares in the Brass Wire Company, each share valued at two hundred and fifty pounds.	283	6	8
	<hr/>		
	4376	10	10

The interest in the estates and shares was mortgaged to William Battersby and others for £700 plus interest of £100. That and the solicitor's bill of £42. 5s. 11d reduced the amount to £3534. 4s. 11d.

Signed and delivered on this day by William Miles, Mark Harford, the younger, Joseph Harford, Richard Champion and John Chivers, all of Bristol, merchants, assignees under a commission of bankruptcy against William Hill, Andrews Reeve and Jeremiah Hill, all of Bristol, aforesaid, merchants, concerning property to be inherited by Andrews Reeve "after the several deceases of William Reeve and Mary his wife", and refers to the sale to John Plumstead of "all that messuage or tenement, stables, coach houses, granary, barns, gardens, lawns and several closes, pieces or parcels of meadow or pasture ground containing by estimation 26 acres....situate in Brislington, Somerset, which for some years have been in occupation of the said William Reeve."

(On the document is written "The Halfway House" which is the name under which this property had previously been known.) [BRO 4550/79]

July 8

Newspaper obituary: "Sunday died in Guinea Street, Mr John Hawkins of Brislington, father of Mr Hawkins, linen draper of High Street." [FFBJ]

July 25

William Reeves' bankruptcy rumbled on. And if anybody can doubt it was a very big affair, read on. He had land all over the place.

On this day a copy was made of a document dated March 1, 1775, concerning Rowles Scudamore and Henry Hobhouse, esquires, and Thomas Symons and Joseph Horwood, gentlemen, all of Bristol, the commissioners applied in the bankruptcy of William Reeve, of Bristol, merchant, to Robert Vigor, merchant and John Cave, druggist, both of Bristol and George Stocker, of Whitchurch, Somerset, esquire, concerning lands in Glastonbury, West Pennard, Meare, Woolverton, Felton alias Whitchurch, and Brislington, all in Somerset; Stapleton, Olveston, Pucklechurch in Gloucestershire; Clifton, Castle Precincts and St Philip & St Jacobs in Bristol. All in trust for the creditors of William Reeve. [BRO 17570]

1776

March 30, newspaper obituary:

"Sunday died Mrs Edols, wife of Mr Edols of Brislington, a lady whose character to those who knew her needs no eulogies. Amongst her friends and acquaintances she lived universally respected and died universally lamented." [FFBJ]

June 24

A conveyance was issued between (1) John Hawkins and (2) Thomas Howell, concerning land at Stump Cross, Brislington.

(The schedule of the deed contains the entire history of this piece of ground with considerable details of genealogical interest, as follows:

February 7, 1660: Indenture between (1) Rowland Lacy, esquire, son and heir of Sir John Lacy, esquire, and (2) Abraham Saunders, soapmaker.

April 29, 1661: Indenture between (1) the said Lacy and (2) Thomas Rycroft & Samuel Clement.

January 2, 1693: Indenture between (1) Anthony Saunders, soapmaker, (eldest son and heir of Abraham Saunders) and Hannah, his wife, and (2) John Hawkins, brewer.

May 17 & 18, 1711: (The land apparently formed part of a marriage settlement): Indenture and lease between the said Hawkins by postscript(?) of Sir John Hawkins, knight, of one part, John Hawkins, brewer, eldest son and heir apparent of beforesaid Sir John Hawkins and Elizabeth Sherborne, spinster of the 2nd part, James Sherborne, Robert Bound, and John Pearce of the the 3rd part.

January 27 & 28, 1740: (Again a marriage settlement?): Indenture between (1) John Hawkins, eldest son and heir of beforesaid John Hawkins and James Hawkins, gentleman, his brother and (2) Amy Carew, spinster and (3) Thomas Carew, John Carew, Matthew Hawkins, esquires.

Chables and Effects And the said William Miles with Harford the younger Joseph Harford Richard
 Champion and John Chivers for themselves severally and respectively and for their several and respective Heirs
 Executors Administrators and Assigns and not the one for the other of them or for the Aels or Heirs of the other
 or others of them Do and each of them Doth Covenant promise and agree to and with the said John Blunstone
 his Heirs Executors Administrators and Assigns by these presents that they the said William Miles Mark
 Harford the younger Joseph Harford Richard Champion and John Chivers or any of them have not
 nor shall at any time hereofore made done or committed or withingly or willingly suffered or Executed
 by any Act Deed matter or thing whatsoever wholly or by means whereof the said several Heirs younger
 Tenements and Hereditaments and parts and Shares of the said Lands Tenements Tythes and
 Hereditaments Goods Chables and Effects herein before respectively mentioned and intended to be hereby
 Bargained Sold Conveyed and Assigned or any part or parcel thereof are or is or can shall
 or may be any way Impached Charged or Incumbered in any manner whatsoever In Witness
 whereof the said parties to these presents have hereunto set their Hands and Seals the day and year first
 above written —

The Schedule mentioned in and referred to by the above written Indenture
 containing a particular and valuation of the Separate Estate and Effects of Andrew
 Arose a Bankrupt

L. J. Q.

The Household Goods Plate Silver and China Ware 208 " 9
 Wine 46 " 7
 of Black Stone 10 " 0

Acres of Land in the Parish of Buxleton in the County of Somerset after the several deceases of William Ascare and Mary Ascare his Father and Mother under and by virtue of a Settlement made in their Marriages

The like in one third of an Estate in the Parish of Whitelureck in the same County devised by the Will of Mr John Andrews deceased in Trust and let to George Stoker 702 .. 0 .. 0

The like in one third of a Mortgage in Dairy Square Devided as above and let to Mr Charles Haring 43 .. 3 .. 4

The like in one third of a Mortgage in the Old Market Parish Devided by Mr William Ascare and of the Shalle Coach House and Garden belonging thereto and of four Mortgages or Tenements lying behind the same let to sundry persons purchased by William Ascare and conveyed by him upon the Trusts mentioned in Mr Andrews Will 283 .. 3 .. 4

The like in one third of an Estate in the Parish of Whitelureck and Tykes belonging thereto purchased by William Ascare and conveyed by him upon the same Trusts and let to Howard George Stoker 500 .. 0 .. 0

The like in one third of five Shares in the Kings Wine Company each Share valued at two hundred and fifty pounds 283 .. 6 .. 8

NOTE The Interest in the above mentioned Estates and Shares is

Mortgages to William Battersby and others for the sum of seven hundred pounds and its Interest which principal and Interest amounts amounting together to Eight hundred pounds are to be deducted out of the above Valuations 800 .. 0 .. 0

Deductions Will of Costs amounting to Forty two pounds five Shillings and eleven pence also to be deducted 42 .. 5 .. 11

The next sum to be Divided 842 .. 5 .. 11

4376 .. 10 .. 10

3534 .. 4 .. 11

and finally

June 1 1776:

Indenture between (1) John Hawkins, wooldraper, eldest son and heir of the last named John Hawkins and Elizabeth his wife, and (2) Matthew Hawkins and Elizabeth his wife, and (3) James Bernard, esquire.)

The land was 1½ acres bounded in the west by William Loull (?), north by John Haskins and south by the Turnpike Road. It was conveyed to Thomas Howell on June 24, as above. [BRO 4550/16]

September 21

Ann Bennett, single woman, had fallen on hard times, and went to the parish officers of St Peter's, Bristol for sustenance. On enquiry it was discovered she belonged to Brislington, and as each parish was responsible for its own poor, she was "removed" to our village on this day. [BRO P/StLB/OP/11/26]

September 24

Thomas Griffiths of St Stephen's and Sarah Freeman were married at Brislington, by licence at St Luke's. A newspaper report appeared on 28 September: "Tuesday, married at Brislington, Mr Griffiths, merchant of Queen Square to Miss Freeman." Thomas appears in Sketchley's Directory of Bristol, 1775, living at No. 50 Queen Square. [PR, FFBJ]

October 5


A sad announcement: "Thursday, died Master Tonge, youngest son of Henry Tonge of Brislington." Henry Tonge and family had recently arrived, but the boy does not appear to have been buried at Brislington. [FFBJ]

October 25

Bound for Corunna and Oporto, the ship *Brislington*, Josiah Moores, Master, was advertised in the local press. She was due to sail within ten days and those wanting freight or passage were asked to apply to G. Maskelyn in Queen's Square, or to the Master. (Mr Maskelyn had connections with Brislington through the Griffiths Family.)

BRISTOL, October 25, 1776.

For CORUNNA and OPORTO,
The Ship BRISLINGTON,
JOSIAH MOORES, Master,
Will positively sail in Ten Days, Wind and
Weather permitting.—For Freight or Passage
apply to G. Maskelyn, in Queen's Square, or
to said Master.



October 29

Conveyance: John Bullock, esquire of Frome Selwood, Somerset, to Henry Tonge, esquire of Brislington, of a parcel of land called Vowles (2 acres), bounded on several sides by land belonging to Paul Methuen, in possession or occupation of Ann Hellicar, a tenant of John Bullocke; a

close formerly called the Moore, (3 acres) and a withy bed bounded by land owned by Tonge himself, the Duke of Chandos and Joseph Langton, esquire, in occupation of William Bristow as tenant. [BRO 4550/18]

October 31

Bond of William Murry of Bristol, gentleman, to indemnify the parish officers, Edward Brice, gentleman, churchwarden, and James Ireland, gentleman, and John Adams, surgeon of Brislington, overseers of the poor, in respect of a bastard child expected by Priscilla Triplett, single woman. [BRO P/StLB/OP/14/14]

(How to keep your misdemeanours secret: send them out of town! And evidently, it was a way for the parish to make a little money. William Murry was a lawyer: described "Notary Public and Master in Chancery" he appears in Sketchley's Directory of 1775 at No. 14, The Exchange. Was he the father or was he acting on behalf of an anonymous client?)

December 21

Conveyance: John Bullocke of Frome Selwood to John Cave, of the City of Bristol, druggist, referring to land by the name of Runny Mead in Brislington in the tenure of ----- Bristowe, left by the will of Henry Bullocke of Lower Knowle. The deed also refers to Samuel Baker and his wife Hannah, William Webley of Chancery Lane, London, gentleman, and Thomas Brookes of the City of Bristol, grocer. [BRO 4550/20]

December 29

John Jones charged the parish 30 shillings (£1.50) for the lying in and 18d (7½p) for the maintenance of "the female bastard child" recently borne by Mary Barrell. [BRO P/StLB/OP/14/13]

December 30

Covenant to produce deeds, John Hugh Smyth esquire of Long Ashton to John Estridge of Brislington, esquire, concerning houses and land in Lower Knowle. [BRO 6098/8]

1777

February 6

A sad tale: "Barbara Llewelin, single woman of St Mary Redcliffe, who on her oath saith that nine months ago she was delivered of a female bastard child in Brislington, Somerset, and that John Bayly, mariner, now at sea in the ship Friendship is the true father of the child and she doth not know what parish, place or precinct he belongs to."

The mark of  Barbara Llewelin

[BRO P/StLB/OP/14/15]

(This was necessary as Barbara and her baby girl were being maintained by the parish. If John Bayly's parish could have been discovered, they were liable to be sent there. Did John ever return?)

February 8

Brislington Common was the haunt of thieves: "On Sunday night, a gentleman was attacked and robbed by two highwaymen on Brislington Common. They likewise stopp'd the post boy from this City to Bath and

obliged him to produce his way bill and letters before they would suffer him to proceed, when they struck at his head, but luckily missed their aim. One of them is a tall man who had on a dark Bath great coat, his hair ty'd, a round hat and rode a bay switch tail horse or mare. The other is a short man in a close-bodied coat and cocked hat and rode a black horse or mare. [FFBJ]

April 10

John Pearse was apprehended as a Rogue & Vagabond in St Pancras, London, and declared his "last legal settlement is in the parish of Brislington as he doth believe he was born there. Never served any apprenticeship and never served as a covenant servant for the space of one year."

The mark of

X

John Pearse

[BRO P/StLB/OP/13/10a, b]

June 26

"at Chilton, near Hungerford, Berkshire, died the Rev. Mr Gifford, MA, Rector of Brislington, near this City." [FFBJ]

(As Walter Trevena was parish priest 1762-1785, perhaps Mr Gifford and later Mr Baker in 1784, were absentee rectors?)

1778

In this year, the "wasteland called Brislington Common" was to be divided and enclosed by Act of George III. [BRO 39624/11 & 2]

Possibly this was all to the good: we already know it was the haunt of thieves and footpads. It is central to the following appalling doggerel found amongst the Braikenridge papers at Bristol Reference Library, William McGonigal at Brislington?:

"Before the enclosure on Brislington Common within the memory of man
Near the pool and poplar trees the Gibbet Post did stand
High in the air, conspicuous as a village steeple
The dread and terror all around to country people
Where Hung the thief after his vile course of life was run
And many years his bones were whitened by the wind and sun
Until a windy, blustrous and tempestuous day
The corroded iron (by which it hung) snap't and gave away
And the Gibbet fell from on high to the ground
With a crashing and a clanking sound.
A gentleman in the morning saw it hanging in the air
And when he returned in the evening the gibbet was there
He rode for curiosity from the road, at the skeleton to have a peep
And when he came there from out the skull's eye a mouse did creep
This to me, sometime since, the late Dr Fox did tell
And told me the gentleman's name was Lunel.
At this time to pass the Common after it was night
Would the heart of the boldest or stoutest man afright
They attacked Nathaniel Brown as bold as Turpin at him did strike
When on his horse and put him in danger of his limbs and life
But he escaped to Eastwood, the residence of his sire
And saved his life by galloping to his horse's girths in quagmire

This statement I believe may be depended upon and correct be found
It was told to me by his brother, the late Henry Brown." [B26068, BRL]

(From "Lines on Brislington Common, 1835". Anonymous - and deserves to be! Nathaniel and Henry Brown were real enough: and resided in Brislington, at Eastwood. Indeed the Brown family had been in Brislington since at least 1650. Dr Fox was also real, of course, but Mr Lunel is unknown to me.)

January 10

By now, Mr Henry Tonge and his wife Ann were living in William Reeve's former house at Arno's Vale. (Mr Tonge also had interests at Tockington, Redwick, Northwick and Olveston.) Their son, William Norris Tonge was Brislington born, and was baptised at St Luke's on this day. [PR]

January 10

Thomas Gubbins & Hester Callard, both of whom marked with an "x" were married at Brislington by Walter Trevena. We shall meet them again soon. [PR].

January 27

John Pullin of North Nibley & Esther Pearce were married by licence on this day and were grand enough to be reported in the paper on the 31st, which as usual, gives a little more information than the parish register: "Thursday was married at Brislington Church, John Pullin esquire to Mrs Pearce, relict of George Pearce, gentleman, of North Nibley, Gloucestershire." [FFBJ]

February 10

There was a blitz on pauper new arrivals. The churchwardens examined:

Elizabeth Cann, now at Brislington. She said she was born in Bedminster, lived with her parents until her father's death nine years ago, moved with her mother to Brislington and resided there with her grandmother for two years. Then she went to Temple in Bristol and lived with Mr Symons for 13 weeks, returned to Bedminster and lived with Mr North for about threequarters of a year. Then hired herself out to one Jones, farrier, for one year, and served that year. She then returned to Brislington where she was taken on for a week's trial by Margaret Creech of the Black Dog, (a public house). That week led to three months work at one shilling a week. She stayed with Mrs Creech threequarters of a year and then worked at St Thomas for Mrs Peyton for one quarter of a year. She then came back to Brislington but Mrs Creech employed her for one week only. "Has for a fortnight past worked with own hands."

[BRO P/StLB/OP/10/6]

and on the same day:

John Bullen, labourer had arrived in Brislington with his wife Hester, and children John, 11, Martha, 9, William, 7, Mary, 6, and Elizabeth, 3. John said he was born at Keynsham, at aged 13 went to Inghishcombe where he hired himself to Mr George Masters for a year and stayed eventually five years. He then went back to Keynsham where he worked for his father, also John Bullen, "who has his own estate there." Afterwards, he worked as a labourer for different persons, and then at Brislington.

[BRO P/StLB/OP/10/7]

(John Bullen married Hester Dande, (sic) "both of this parish" at St Thomas, Bristol, by licence on 3 November 1767. The bride's name is more likely to be Dando or Dandy.)

next.....

Joseph Forrest, labourer, born Whitchurch. At the age of 14 was apprenticed to James Giles at St Thomas, a barber and peruke maker for seven years. When he had served his time, he set up in business for himself in the parish of St Peter and took premises from Mr Thomas Tipton on a lease for seven years at £15 per annum. Regrettably, the business failed after two years. [BRO P/StLB/OP/10/9]

February 20

the examinations resumed:

John Saunders, labourer, was born at Norton Malreward, Somerset and "lived there until three years past, then went to Stockwood in the parish of Keynsham (!). Rented part of a house there consisting of one room below stairs and two rooms above stairs for a year at forty shillings." (This would have been per annum - £2). "was not rated nor did he pay any taxes. Then he went to Brislington where he has worked as a labourer by the day only, until the present time." (Document unsigned.) [BRO P/StLB/OP/10/10]

same day

Samuel Mudway, said he was born at Newland, Gloucestershire, where he lived until he was 26. Was settled there. "Hath now lived and worked in Brislington. Has a wife and three children." (Samuel was married to Ann Brain at St Luke's on 30 July 1772). [BRO P/StLB/OP/10/8]

next

Francis Barrell, labourer, born Compton Dando. Said he rented an estate at Brislington when he was aged 27, from Mr Thomas Phelps at £16 per annum. About 20 years ago, he was widowed with a daughter aged about five and a half. This daughter had then "been out to nurse" for four years with her grandmother at one shilling per week, where she stayed for the next 8 years. He hired himself to Richard Loxton of Stockwood for one year, but "did not think himself at liberty to leave his master in each of the last eight years. Since then has lived at his own hand without obtaining any settlement". He now had a second wife, Hannah, who he married a year and a half after his service ended. He had a son, William, aged 16, living, who had gained a settlement (in Brislington?) independent of his father. [BRO P/StLB/OP/10/11]

and finally

Thomas Woolley, born Whitchurch, where he lived until aged 15. Then he went to Stockwood where he hired himself to Mr James Whipple, served that year and then went to Robert Kelson of Queen Charlton for two years, then returned to Stockwood again, to Widow Whipple; served that year then to Whitchurch to Mr Colstone and then hired himself to Farmer Stephens of Whitchurch. Served there two years and married his present

wife Ann, by whom he has one son, Benjamin, aged about three years. Has resided in Brislington about 6 months. [BRO P/StLB/OP/10/12]

February 28

Newspaper obituary: "died at Brislington, Mrs Wentworth, wife of Mr Wentworth and sister to Mr David, silk mercer of High Street." [FFBJ]

(John David, silk mercer, of 45 High Street, appears in Sketchley's Bristol Directory of 1775.)

March 4

Henry Tonge of Arno's Vale leased land from the Duke of Chandos, adding to his Brislington holding a meadow or pasture ground, lately an osier bed, 5 roods and 20 perches, bonded at the south and north by his own lands, and in the west by the road from Bristol to Bath, where he already had a close called Yole Mead. On the east was land belonging to Joseph Langton where William Jones was tenant. [BRO 4550/23]

June 25

Agreement between William Lyne of the City of Bristol, gentleman & William Maberley of Brislington, butcher, concerning land at Brislington Common, with a yearly rent of £33. [4550/24]
(See also 23 December 1779.)

September 29

Lease for 19 years between Joseph Langton esquire, and Mr William Fry, junior: fine £10, rent 5 shillings. Determinate on the lives of Rebecca, Mary & Elizabeth Fry, daughters of the lessee. [SRO DD/GL/126]

September 17

John Estridge, esquire, was buried at St Luke's. His obituary appeared on 10 October in Felix Farley's Bristol Journal: "Last week, died at Weymouth of the gout in his stomach in the 46th year of his age, John Estridge, of Wick, near this City, one of His Majesty's Council for the Island of St Kitts and in the Commission of the Peace for the County of Somerset. His many excellent virtues endear'd him to all who had the honor and happiness of his acquaintance. Few men have been more sincerely or universally regretted, but as a father and as a friend his death is an irreparable loss. He had a heart without guile and was pious and charitable without the least tincture of ostentation. In the early part of his life he had applied very cleverly and successfully to most branches of polite literature and in a word possessed in an eminent degree every accomplishment essential to the character of a scholar, a gentleman and a christian."

September 26

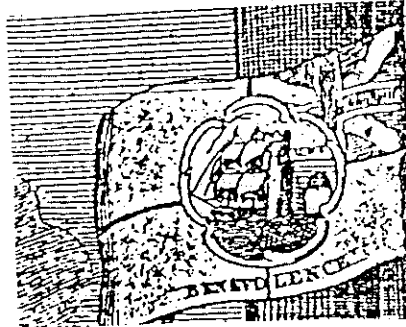
Newspaper obituaries: "died Mrs Watson, wife of Mrs George Watson at Brislington", and on the same day: "Tuesday morning died Mr Reeve, late an eminent merchant of this City and one of the people called Quakers." [FFBJ]

(Poor bankrupt William: there was no eulogy for him.)

October 3

"Yesterday sennight the promotors for apprenticing poor boys and relieving distressed objects (!) within the hundreds of Chew, Chewton and Keynsham, met their president William Weare at the Lamb & Lark at Keynsham and accompanied him to church where the sermon was preached by the Reverend Trevena, and afterwards they returned to dinner. Many gentlemen of distinction were present and the collection amounted to 30L 10s and 6d. Henry Cruger, esquire was chosen president for the year ensuing."

[FFBJ]



CRUGER

December 5

Newspaper report: "Married at St James's church, Rev Sydenham Teast Wylde, AB, of Pembroke College, Oxford & Miss Newman, only daughter of the late John Newman of Brislington."

[FFBJ]

1779

January 30

newspaper obituary: "Yesterday morning died at James Ireland's esquire, Brislington, aged 80, Mrs Norman, whose Christian character is too well known to need encomium."

[FFBJ]

August 14

newspaper announcement: "married at Brislington, Mr William Williams, mariner of this port and Miss McKee of Redcliffe Churchyard."

(There is no notice of this in the St Luke's marriage register, and no wonder for in the next week's paper, 21 August, there is the red faced disclaimer: "the marriage in our last of Mr Williams to Miss McKee is premature.")

August 28

"The Anniversary of the Meeting of the Gentlemen of the Hundreds of Chew, Chewton & Keynsham. An excellent sermon was preached by the Rev. Dr Ireland, from whence they returned to the Lamb & Lark for dinner. Among the gentlemen present were the Sheriffs of Bristol, William Weare senior and William Weare, junior, John Noble, Mr Kirkpatrick, John Cave, P. Farr, G. Maskelyne, Edward Lyne, William Parker, Thomas Lediard, Samuel Day, Peter Coates and Thomas Browning, esquires, &c &c. Francis Adams esquire was chosen president for the ensuing year."

[FFBJ]

(What happened to Henry Cruger?)

December 23

Mortgage between William Lyne, of Bristol, merchant, and William Maberley, of Brislington, butcher, with a bond for £700.

(This bundle contains the history of agreement between the owners of this piece of land as follows:

June 12 1640

Sir John Lacy of Shipton under Wychwood, Oxfordshire & William Payne of Bristol, merchant.

May 8 1657

(1) Rowland Lacy, son & heir of the above Sir John & (2) William Payne.

June 7 1657, Rowland Lacy (1) & (2) Samuel Clement, sadler, and Thomas Peters, grocer, both of Bristol.

April 28 1658

William Payne (1) & (2) Tobias Daniel of Kainsham, *sic* mercer.

May 5 1659

Tobias Daniel (1) & (2) Thomas Godwin, yeoman and James Pearce, clothier.

January 1 1662

Tobias Daniel (1) & (2) John Robins, Robert Loscombe and Richard Showring, of Busleton, coalminers.

July 27 1672

Indenture between Tobias Daniel (1) & (2) Thomas Winpost, coalminer of Busleton.

November 5 1678

Tobias Daniel (1) & (2) Thomas Daniel the elder and Thomas Daniel the younger, both of Busleton, yeomen.

September 27 & 28 1689

Matthew Warren of Bristol (1), Elizabeth Goff of Bristol (2), Judith Daniel of Keynsham, widow. (3)

October 1 & 2 1689

Judith Daniel (1) & (2) Charles Harford, soapboiler, John Scandrett, grocer and Edward Lyne, mercer, all of Bristol.

September 16 1769

Attested copy of the will of William Lyne. (I failed to find this among the bundle).

1BRO 4550/241

WE whose Names are subscribed, Justices of the
County _____
do consent to the putting forth of

By the end of the year the former "wasteland" of Brislington Common was divided up, though not equally, between various landowners. The following names appear on the map:

Langton	Keate	Pullen
Ireland	Wentworth	James
Dolman	Gooby	Vigor & Cave
Cottrell	Mearns	Weymouth
Eddolls	Hull	Sweet
Stocker	Newman	R. Lyne
Bristow	Freeman	Hole, late Teast
Phelps	Chandos	Dr Fox, late Hughes
Haskins		[BRO 30120, 2-3]

("The Rock" where there was a quarry, and where I now live, was allotted to Mr Ireland. There were several cottages, and a Mr Hardy had a small plot.)

1780

February 8

"A strange man, drowned" was buried. [PR]

March 18

Philip Staunton, mariner of St Stephens, and Eleanor Ewing, spinster, were married by licence at St Luke's by Walter Trevena, the vicar. The witnesses were Peter Ewing and William Peasley. A notice was inserted in the newspaper on 25 March "last Saturday was married at Brislington, Captain Staunton of this port to Miss Ewing of that place." [PR, FFBJ]

April 10

We stray a little out of area here, but rest assured that some of our inhabitants would have made the short trip to watch this grisly entertainment:

"Richard Randell was executed at Totterdown pursuant to his sentence at Taunton for robbing Farmer Hunt at Knowle. We cannot add that he faced his fate with firmness for he betrayed evident signs of dread and remained near the fatal Tree for two or three hours, a considerable part of the time with the rope fixed for launching him into eternity." [FFBJ]

May 1

A number of people were examined about their legal place of settlement:

Joseph Williams, born Brislington, gardener, lived with his parents there until he was about 13, when he went to Bedminster and lived there, and then to Dundry, with Samuel Baker, esquire for eight months. He returned to Brislington where he has resided at his own hands ever since. (signed) [BRO P/StLB/OP/10/13a]

Thomas Lock, basketmaker, born Litton, came to Brislington with friends and lived there until he was about 18. He then bound himself apprentice to Jonathon Jones, of St Nicholas in the City of Bristol, basketmaker, for three years, when his master removed to St Thomas, where he finished

his term. He then worked at his own hands for about four years. Sometime in the year 1765, his mother who was possessed of certain premises in Brislington assigned over the remainder of her estate and the interest therein. And that he is now in possession of premises for the life of his mother as his sole property. (signed) [BRO P/StLB/OP/10/13b]

John Follett, blacksmith, born St Ledweles, Exeter, lived with his father at Exeter until aged 15, then lived with his uncle Samuel Follett there for six years, during which time his said uncle found him meat, drink, washing and clothes. Not bound to his uncle. (signed) [BRO P/StLB/OP/10/13c]

Charles Loder, born Kendall Sturton, Dorset, lived there until aged 27, when he married Frances, his late wife. He rented an estate in Kendall Sturton for £37 per year for three years, since then he has resided up and down at several places, but has done no act to gain a settlement other than as above. (signed) [BRO P/StLB/OP/10/13d]

Richard West, born Ash Hill, Somerset. When aged eighteen went to Langport and hired himself to one John Parks, yeoman. Lived with him that year, then went to Ivelchester and worked there at own hands for threequarters of a year when he married Mary, his present wife, by whom he has one child, Orlando, aged about 2 years. [BRO P/StLB/OP/10/13f]

Ann Mudway, whose husband had been examined in 1778, was now a widow. She was "born Hannam (sic), parish of Bitton. Upwards of seven years since was married to Samuel Mudway, her late husband, by whom she has three children, Mary, 6, Richard, 4, and William, 3. Does not know where her husband was last legally settled. (mark). [BRO P/StLB/OP/10/13e]

John Stratton, mason, born Stowey, lived with his parents until aged 12, when he went to Kelson (Kilton ? Kelston ?) where his father had a leasehold estate of £15 per year. He lived there until aged 20, and since then up and down at his own hands. Marked "x". Before Vickery Dickenson and Abra. James. [BRO P/StLB/OP/10/15a]

William Tucker, labourer, born Cutcombe. Lived there until 18 and after up and down in several places, then to Minehead where he lived with James Hensley, yeoman, for 2½ years, and since then at several places by his own hands. [BRO P/StLB/OP/10/15b]

John Phillips, carpenter, born Lanack, Co Monmouth. Lived there and other places until aged 17, then to St Michael, Monmouth, where he lived with John Hughes for one year, then lived up and down, but in no place longer than a year. (Signed with a good signature.) [BRO P/StLB/OP/10/15c]

William Spiller, labourer, born North Petherton, and lived with parents until aged 8 when his father died. Since then up and down at several places by his own hands. Has done nothing to gain a settlement since his birth. [BRO P/StLB/OP/10/15d]

Abraham Goold, carpenter, born Emborow in Ston Easton. Lived there until 10, then apprenticed to John Veale at Keynsham for 10 years by Charity Society. Served his whole term. Since then up and down at several places. (Good signature). [BRO P/StLB/OP/10/15e]

May 3

Several more people had come to the notice of the churchwardens:

Anthony Jones, gardener, born City of Dublin, Kingdom of Ireland and lived up and down in several places in Ireland till he was 38 when he came to London and hired himself for a year to Mr Charleton of the parish of Newington, Middlesex. After threequarters of a year he married Mary his present wife, continued to serve his master for the remainder of the year. Since then has worked up and down in several places. (mark)

[BRO P/StLB/OP/10/14a]

Francis King, born St Mary, Gloucester, lived with his parents until aged 15 when he bound himself apprentice to his father, James King, for 7 years, but served only five when his father died. Then he came to St Philip & St Jacob, Bristol and lived there with his brother for one year for his meat, drink, washing and cloths, then he came to Brislington and hired himself by the week to his brother, Samuel King, and served him by the week, when he married Sarah, his present wife.

[BRO P/StLB/OP/10/14b]

George Hicks, born North Petherton, lived there until aged about 25 when he came to Keynsham and hired himself for a year to Benjamin Veale, served the whole term, then went to Priston, and after living there a quarter of a year married Katherine, his present wife.

[BRO P/StLB/OP/10/14c]

Thomas Harse, born Enmore in Somerset, mason, lived with his parents until 12 when he went to Goathurst and worked by the week with one George Westcott, mason, about three years, then hired himself out for a year to (the same) George Westcott at five shillings per week, finding himself meat, drink, washing and lodging. Then hired himself to Mr Westcott for a further four years, and after serving 1½ left his master and since then has lived up and down at several places by own hands. That about 1½ years since he was married in the Church of St Michael, Bristol to Arabella, his present wife, by whom he has one child, Thomas, aged about one year and a quarter. (signed)

[BRO P/StLB/OP/10/14d]

(I was unable to find an entry of their marriage in the St Michael's register, and presume they went into church and made *ad hoc* arrangements.)

June 1

A grand wedding: William England, clerk of St John's College, Cambridge, to Mary Estridge, by Rev Thomas Ireland, before witnesses Sarah Davis and John Estridge. A newspaper notice appeared 10 June, from which we gather the family was living at Wick House: "Thursday sennight, married at Brislington the Rev. Mr England, son of the late Dr England, physician, of this City, to Miss Estridge, daughter of John Estridge, esquire, at Wick with a fortune of £10,000.

[PR, FFBJ]

(Wick House, one of our few remaining "Great Houses" is now a nursing home for the elderly.)

June 17

"Wednesday night, some rogues broke into the out-offices of Shaw Grisett, esquire of Brislington, but a servant being alarmed, the

villains thought proper to retreat in a hurry and to leave a ladder behind which they had brought for their wicked purposes." [SFBJ]

November 2

Samuel Huntington, basket maker, removed to Brislington from St John's, Bristol. [BRO P/StLB/OP/11/31]

December 5

Robert Gane, labourer, removed from St Peter, Bristol, to Brislington. [BRO/StLB/OP/11/27]

December 29

"A man that was drowned" was buried. [PR]

1781

January 24

Charles Pope, basketmaker, (and "a Rogue and Vagabond"), was apprehended in the parish of St Augustine, and removed to Brislington. (Sorry to say we shall meet him again in even sorrier circumstances.)

[BRO P/StLB/OP/13/11]

January 26

Henry Brown, of Brislington, bachelor, married Betty Harrill, spinster, at Keynsham. [KPR]

January 31 to February 24: General Election:

A list of the electors of Brislington when Messrs Cruger and Daubeny stood for election to Parliament:

John Adams, surgeon
James Baker, accomptant
William Dinham, merchant, at Hengrove
Richard Eddols, esquire, from St James
Joseph Forrest, barber/perukemaker
Richard Jones, yeoman
Abraham James, distiller
Edward Lyne, gent. from Christchurch
William Maberley, butcher
William Maberley, junior, butcher
William Parsons, yeoman
William Squire, mariner
Josiah Thomas, tobacconist, from Redcliffe
John White, gent. from St Philips.

All had one vote, and the majority opted for the Tory, Daubeny, the exceptions being James Baker, Edward Lyne and John White, who chose the Whig, Cruger. It is notable that Joseph Forrest, who had been trained as a wigmaker, but who was working as a labourer in 1778, when he was examined about his settlement, had been allowed to stay in Brislington, and here exercised his right to vote. I hope this means that his fortunes had changed for the better.

February 2

Mrs Ally Daniel of Bristol, buried. [PR]

March 21
"A man that was drowned" was buried. [PR]

March 23
"A child that was found" was buried. [PR]

May 29
Another "Rogue & Vagabond", Amelia Curtis, was apprehended in St Peter's parish. She "saith that her last legal settlement was at Brislington as a covenant servant with John Goulstone."

The mark of  Amelia Curtis

[BRO P/StLB/OP/13/12]

June 23
Conveyance: William Dinham, James Ireland, William Blake, to Henry Godde of a piece of ground in the parish of Busselton. [BRO 4550/25]

August 6
"A man that was drowned" was buried. [PR]

August 25
"Wednesday ended the Assizes at Bridgwater when Martha Mills for the murder of her bastard child and James Sage for stopping and firing a pistol at a man on Brislington Common, received sentence of death. [FFBJ]

September 15
"Wednesday night was executed at Ilchester, James Sage for wilfully shooting at Richard Perry at Brislington." [FFBJ]

October 18
Lucy Ann, the daughter of Henry & Ann Tonge was baptised. [PR]

December 10
Samuel Tyler, removed to Brislington from St Stephen, Bristol. [BRO StLB/OP/11/28]

1782

January 26
"On Monday evening, two ladies of this City returning from Bath in a post chaise were stopped on Brislington Common by a highwayman who robbed them of some silver and pence and then rode off. One of them when taking the money out of her pocket accidentally dropped a guinea in the chaise and luckily preserved it." [FFBJ]

February 23
Obituary: "died suddenly at Brislington, Abraham James, formerly an eminent distiller in this City." [FFBJ]

Abraham evidently remembered Brislington in his will. A notice in the vestibule of St Luke's states: "Abraham James of this parish gave 10 shillings and sixpence to the clerk, charged on his estate called Templemans, for a sermon to be preached in this parish on Good Friday forever."

June 26

"On Tuesday married Mr John Hurle, linen draper to Miss Cary of Paulton." [FFBJ]

November 22

James Lippott, labourer, born Camerton, was examined about his settlement, and removed to Farmborough. [BRO P/StLB/OP/10/16]

1783

February 16

"baptised Hanah, a strange child found at James Gowlestone's (Goulstone) dower." (sic) [PR]

March 23

"a child that was found" probably baby Hanah, above, was buried. [PR]

March 25

On this day, a lease was drawn up between Bridget Langton and the Pillinger family, determinable on the lives of John Pillinger aged about 50, Sarah his wife, and James their son, aged about 26. Rent one shilling. [SRO DD/GL126]

June 18

William Brown died aged 78. (He was buried on 21 June.) His grave also contains "Nathaniel son of William & Sarah Brown of this parish, died 22 October 1768." (Buried 25 October). The foot stone of the memorial also shows the initials JB, BB, DB, 1777, "the first two being infants." Another Brown family grave gives ".....abeth Brown, of this parish....." & "Here lieth the body of John Brown died 26 November 1770". He was buried on the 28 November. [MI,PR]

July 8

Lease between Miss Langton & Mr Samuel King, determinate on the lives of Samuel, and James & Charlotte King, his son and daughter. [SR DD/GL/126]

By now, Joseph Langton was dead. Bridget his only child and heiress would marry William Gore, of Barrow Court, a relative of the Smyths of Ashton Court. The family became Gore-Langton, and remain so to this day. Though long domiciled at Newton Park, they retained their Brislington interests.

November 2

A late christening: Thomas Purnell son of James and Mary, being 28 years old was baptised.

1784

January 10

"Last week the house belonging to Mr Frank, near Brislington, was broke open and a clock, two copper saucepans, two tea kettles, and a number of other articles were stolen therefrom." [FFBJ]

(This is presumably Richard Frank, a well known potter who had premises at Redcliffe Back.)

February 14

"Last week, the Reverend Mr Baker, vicar of Barnett, near Keynsham was presented by Mrs Popham of Houndstreet, to the Vicarage of Brislington, vacated by the death of the last incumbent."
[FFBJ]

(The Popham family owned the Brislington ecclesiastical living, and had done so for very many years.)

March 31

Settlement examinations:

William Stephens, born Kingston, Somerset, lived with his mother and father until about the age of 17-18 years, and then bound himself to one John Coals of Kingston, carpenter, for three years. Served the full time and then moved to Bristol where he worked for one ----- Stevens of St Augustine's Back, carpenter & joiner for about 5-6 weeks, then moved to Brislington and has worked for Jonathon Phillips of Brislington, carpenter, by the week, ever since.
[BRO P/StLB/OP/10/23]

same day

Solomon Manly, born Milverton, and lived there until aged 2, then to Kentisbear in Devon, it being his father's parish until aged 9. Then bound to Isaac Radford, farmer until 24, but only served 2* as his master died. He returned to his father for 3 years, and afterwards to John Saunders of Whimble, Devon by the week. He was married when aged about 22 to Mary Hookway and took a house at 30 shillings, then to Cullompton and took a house at 40 shillings per annum. Not gained any other settlement. Marked "x".
[BRO P/StLB/OP/10/19]

Thomas Bonyon, born Shippon Brachem, lived with parents until 13, then bound apprentice with Edmund Naish of Kiventon St Mary until 21, maker of linnen cloth, served two years then failed and ran away and hired himself to Richard Bullen for a quarter year, then left that place to go to sea and remained at sea 11 years. On his quitting the sea went back to Shippon Brachem for a quarter year, then to Brislington and worked by own hands. Marked "x".
[BRO P/StLB/OP/10/17]

April 2

John Darch, born Old Cleeve, labourer. Lived with father and mother until nine, then bound apprentice by the parish to Charles Grass, farmer until 24. Served the full time, then lived with Charles Grass half a year afterwards then removed to John Roe, esquire, for one year at 6 guineas a year. Served 5½ years, then with William Lee, surgeon for one year for 6 guineas. Then married and worked at the same place by the day. Then removed to Bristol and worked for Francis Papps, butcher for 8 years, then moved to Brislington and worked for Edward Onion of the City of Bristol, maltster and brewer for about one year, then with James Grayham (sic) esquire of Brislington for 12 guineas for the year, then for James Ireland of Brislington by the day.
[BRO P/StLB/OP/10/18]

(John Darch was allowed to stay in Brislington. He died in the village and was buried at St Luke's on 28 June 1786.)



April 3 to May 8

General Election held. The candidates were the Tories Brickdale and Daubeney and the Whigs, Cruger and Peach. Brislington's electors were overwhelmingly Tory. Even James Baker had changed his mind.

John Adams 1B 1D

Charles Penry Bullock, tobacconist, 1B 1D

James Baker 1B 1D

Richard Eddolls (from St James) 1B 1D

Schaw Grosett, esquire 1C

Richard Jones, yeoman, 1B 1D

Thomas Kington, gent., 1B 1D

William Maberley, butcher, 1B 1D

William Maberley, butcher, jun. 1B 1D

John Pullen, leatherdresser, from St Philips, 1B 1D

Edward Tovey Pullen, gent. 1B 1D

William Parsons, yeoman, 1B 1D.

April 12

At the other end of the scale, more settlement examinations:

Edward Treble, born Combe Hay, and lived with his parents until 13, then worked by the day in Bagborough for 2 years, then to Walter Gill of Lawrence Liddiott for 1 year for 50 shillings. Stayed for another 3 years, then removed to John Davis of Bridgwater for half a year, then bargained with Samuel Brewer of Enmore for £5 and stayed one year. Then in several places in Somerset. [BRO P/StLB/OP/10/24]

September 11

At Brislington, Colonel Griffith's gardener was attacked by men with bludgeons. [FFBJ]

October 2

Elizabeth Bartlett's Pass book illustrates graphically the fate that could befall a poor widow and her children. It appears that the little family walked from Winchester to Swansea, which was apparently the place where her late husband belonged. Parishes en route gave minimum relief and they were hurried along to the next place.

"Elizabeth Bartlett, widow of Andrew Bartlett, late a seaman, deceased, with her three small children, namely Ann, John & Andrew peaceably to pass unto Swansea in the County of Glamorgan, that being her husband's legal settlement. From City of Winchester.

enclosed

New Sarum 25 September

Ilminster 2 October relieved

Westbury 2 October relieved

Bradford 4 October relieved

S. Ragnor, Mon. relieved

[BRO/P/StLB/OP/8/6]

November 18

Although Elizabeth had been sent to Swansea, there must have been some dispute about the family's settlement there.

Here is the reply to a letter written by James Barker, one of the churchwardens of Brislington. Mr Barker's letter has not survived, but



City of Winchester

THESSE are to desire you, and every of you, to permit the Bearer hereof Elizabeth Bartlett Widow of Andrew Bartlett late a Seaman deceased with her three small Children namely Ann, John, and Andrew peaceably to pass, unto ^{in Wales} Swansea in the County of Glamorganshire, that being the Place of her Husbands legal Settlement

City New Jersey
Sep 25th 1784
John Wayne Mayor
Highwater Sep 27
Ja^l Adams

Hammerston
Belvidere Oct 2

Parriell

Westbury
Belvidere Oct 2
H. B. Batcher

without any of your Lett, Hindrance, or Molestation whatsoever, they — demeaning themselves — orderly, and not exceeding a reasonable Time from the date hereof, to accomplish their said Journey. and I do recommend them as a small Object of Charity GIVEN under my Hand and Seal (being one of his Majesty's Justices of the Peace for the said County) the 21st Day of September 1784

Board of Agents
4 Oct. 1784

To all Justices of the Peace, Mayors, Sheriffs, Bailiffs, Constables, and other Officers whom these may concern.

County of Wilts

Permitted to pass

Oct 2 1784 Thos. Thresher

James White
Lefty Mayor

John Abbott Bailiff Stockbridge
Sept 23 1784

Handwritten scribbles or marks in the upper left quadrant of the page.

Vertical text or markings along the right edge of the page, possibly from a binding or adjacent page.



it evidently concerned the fate of Elizabeth Bartlett and her children. Were they after all the responsibility of Brislington, or could the parish unload them somewhere else?

"Stonehouse, Nr Plymouth, Nov 18: 84

"Sir, I received your letter that you sent concerning of Andrew Bartlet and his wife as you call her, but as for my part I never new that he had a wife but we heard that he travelled the country with such annother such a vagrant as him self but for a trade I am certain he had none but traveled about like a vagrant he was. The woman was once at Stonehouse and begd of my wife to take the child and Breed her up. My wife desidr her to take the child and carry her from whence shee brought it as it was the wrong stamp for her and for his Father he was a House Carpenter but he have been dead abbout fourteen years and have been ever since travelling the country for we have not heard of him for sum years together so that I cannot Pick out wheare his parish is by anny one hear.

"I am sir, your humble servant

Robert Francis."

"Gentlemen I understood (from) the First Part of your letter that it is my sister but I will convince you that she she is not any kind (sic) to me but she travelled the country with my wife's brother Andrew Bartlett."
[BRO P/StLB/OP/13/16]

(For all we know, Robert Francis may have been a good husband, loving father, fair employer, and regular churchgoer, but all that remains of him is this mean minded letter. And his wife was no better. Andrew Bartlett, her brother's common law wife must have been desperate when she begged Mrs Francis to take "the child", who was in all probability her niece. But she was turned away. She was "not the right stamp"! But it seems several of the children at least stayed in Brislington. In 1787, Ann Bartlett, perhaps the little girl mentioned in the letter, was given as a parish apprentice to William Weymouth, husbandman. In 1793, Andrew Bartlett, perhaps the girl's brother and another child of the unfortunate couple was similarly bound to Charles Hill, esquire.)

December 4

Hester Adams, born St George, Gloucestershire, and lived there until 19, then went to the parish of St Peter's in Bristol and worked for Mrs Brown, ironmonger for 4 years. Since then at own hands. (Mark "x").

[BRO P/StLB/OP/10/20]

Peter Baker, born Bradenedge. At aged 8 bound apprentice to Edward Knight, lived with him 6 years, then left with master for Cullompton for 4 years until 17 years of age. Then ran away and never afterwards returned to master's service. Went to Bradenedge and lived there several years until 22. Married his wife Mary by whom he has Thomas, 13, Mary, 9, and James, 5. That he lived at Bradenedge about 2 miles from Collompton and his master knew he was there having seen him a great number of times. (Mark in shape of two ticks) [BRO P/StLB/OP/10/21]

Thomas Baker, born Broad Hembury. At 18 he went to Pay Hembury and lived with William Dummett for 1 year, then to Plymtree to John Fortescue. He ran away and was absent for six weeks then returned to his master and asked for wages which his master refused to pay unless he would stay out the year. Did so, but with his consent his master deducted the six weeks absence. Since then has worked at own hands. Married. His wife's name is Mary and they have one son, John aged 2. (signed) [BRO P/StLB/OP/10/22]

1785

The Churchwardens in this year were James Ireland & Richard Eddols.

January 1

Settlement Examination, John Bullen, born Keynsham. "Seventeen years ago he had an estate there, and has not done anything to gain a settlement elsewhere." [BRO/P/StLB/OP/10/28]

February 5

Settlement Examination of David Davies, born Langanoyd, Glamorgan. St Mary's, Swansea, tailor. In 1778 and 1779 he rented a house from Thomas Lott of Swansea at £6 per annum and paid taxes. [BRO/P/StLB/OP/10/27]

March 4

Hester Gubbins, alias Guppy and her children were examined. She said that seven years before she was married to Thomas Gubbins alias Guppy at Brislington and they lived in Brislington for about six years until he died. She said that she "heard her husband say he came from Portland, but hath also heard him say he was born on shipboard on the sea. He was a stonecutter. She hath three children, Sarah 6, Thomas, 4, and Ann, 3."

This led to further enquiries, with the result:

Thomas Gubbins, born Portland, Dorset, married Hester, the widow of John Callow of Butleigh, at Brislington. "About three years since, being in consumption and near death, the said Gubbins called for his master, James Goldston, and said he did not expect to live long, and he wanted to tell him that though he was married in the name of Gubbins, his right name was Guppy. That he told him this to prevent disputes about his wife and family if they want relief of the parish. Soon after this, he died, and his wife and family are become chargeable to the parish of Brislington."

This was a knotty problem for the Overseers of the Poor. Did his being married in a fictitious name invalidate the marriage? And if so, were his widow and children entitled to relief at Brislington, or from Portland, or yet from Mrs Gubbins' former abode of Butleigh? They sought legal opinion. [BRO/P/StLB/OP/10/25a, b]

the same day....

Thomas Brain was examined: he said he was born in Bitton and that about 16 years before he had come to Brislington and "was agreed by the week for a year as he believes, with Farmer William Brown, lodged and boarded in the house and lived with him 9 years but never rec'd his wages weekly

County of
Somerset } The Examination of Thomas X. Brown now
residing in the Parish of Bridlington in the
said County taken the 4th March
1785

That upon his Oath saith that he was born in the Parish
of Bilton in the County of Gloucester as he hath heard
believe. That about 16 Years ago he came into
Bridlington aforesaid for a Year as he believes
Farmer William Brown, lodged and boarded in the
House, and lived with him 9 Years but never receiv-
ing Wages weekly but quarterly or half yearly during
that 9 Years. saith that his Father's Settlement
as he believes was in Bilton

x sworn the Day & Year
aforesaid before

The Clerk of
Thomas X. Brown

N.B. When the above named Thomas C. Main was examined he
said that he bargained with the above named Farmer William
Brown by the Week at 1/6 a Week, and also said that he
did not remember ever to have bargained by the Year with his
said Master, nor that his Master or himself said any thing
about it; but Mr. George James, the Justice Clerk, forced him
upon him, by saying "If you don't remember saying ~~any thing~~
about agreeing for a Week, you possibly might, don't you say so."
The Defendant replied "No, he remembered nothing about it, but
he might say so." Whereupon Mr. Justice the Clerk ordered ~~that~~

made a Coroll between the Words
Week and with, in the bargain
and over it inserted — for a Year
as he believes — as in the above
Copy and Peter's Dickson's copy referred to
it

but quarterly or half yearly during those 9 years. Saith that his father's settlement, was as he believes in Bitton."

Sworn the day &
year aforesaid before

Jno Adams

The Mark of
Thomas X Brain

A codicil records more minutiae concerning poor Tom Brain's ordeal, and a disagreement: "When the above Thomas Brain was examined he said that he bargained with above named Farmer William Brown by the week at 1s 6d a week and also said that he did not remember ever to have bargained by the year with his said Master or himself said anything about it, but Mr George James, the Justices Clerk forced it upon him by saying 'If you don't remember saying anything about agreeing for a year, you possibly might, don't you might.'" (The clerk who presumably wrote it, knew what this meant!) "The examinant replied 'No he remembered nothing about it, but he might say so.' Whereupon Mr James made a Caveat between the words week and with in the Examination and over it inverted for a year as he believes as in the above copy and Vickris Dickinson Esq, refused to sign it."
[BRO/P/StLB/OP/10/25]

(In the late Tony Brain's detailed study of the Brain family, two Thomas Brain's are listed as being baptised in Bitton/Hanham/Oldland, 1748-64: Thomas son of Thomas Brain, Oldland, 16 October 1757 and Thomas son of Zacheus & Susanna Brain, Oldland, 19 October 1760)

April 9

Bristol Assizes: James Johnstone and John Williams for robbing James Fisher on the highway were acquitted but sent for trial in Somerset for a robbery on Brislington Common. [SFBJ]

April 20

Parish dole paid to Susannah Challenger 1s.

[BRO FCP/StLB/OP/6(a)1 1785-90]

April 23

Mrs Guest's ordeal: a lucky escape:

"At about 8 or 9 o'clock, the wife of Edward Guest, living near Brislington Common heard a knocking at the door. Someone called out that he had brought a letter for Mr Guest from an Irish gentleman. Mrs Guest opened the door and two men forced their way in. One of them was a thin man, wearing a mask and with something black thrown across his shoulders. The other was stout and thickset, with his hair tucked under a round hat and with light coloured clothes. Both were armed with a pistol. The thin man held his gun against Mrs Guest and said he would kill her if she didn't give them all the money in the house. Eight guineas were in a drawer and a half guinea in a purse which they took and made off across the fields at the back of the house. A boy later brought the letter. He appeared to Mrs Guest from the window to be about 12 or 13. She did not let him in." (And who can blame her?) [SFBJ]

May 24

Parish dole paid for a pair of shoes for Grace Pope, 4s.

[BRO FCP/StLB/OP/6(a)1 1785-90]

May 28

.....and to Rachel Merne in the small pox, 2/6d.

[BRO FCP/StLB/OP/6(a)1 1785-90]

June 5

James Waymouth was buried: his headstone in Brislington churchyard bears the initials "J.W. 1785" and an obituary of which only the following can be discerned.....

"A husband good a Father dear
A neighbour kind lies buried here
Well respected to his....."

.....the rest has disappeared underground.

June 8

Thomas Hunt, labourer, his wife Jane, and children Betty aged 6, Mary, 4, James, 2, and Ann, 1, removed to Brislington from Monkton Farley.

[BRO P/StLB/OP/11/29]

July 7

The vicar, Walter Trevena died and was buried on this day. He had been parish priest since 1762. The booklet "St Luke's Parish Church" incorrectly says he died in 1783, and also, unfairly and snobbishly, without any apparent evidence, adds "Thomas Ireland, Vicar of Christ Church, City, did most of the work. He lived at Langton Court." There would be no resident clergyman until 1797. A Mary Trevena, perhaps his daughter, was buried on 31 August. ("Mrs Trevena" was buried on 8 August 1772, and the couple lost a child in 1766.)

August 18

Parish dole: charges for Bartlet's children, 9/2d. (They must be Elizabeth's children: see 1784).

[BRO FCP/StLB/OP/6(a)1 1785-90]

August 20

Let those who would have a return to capital punishment take notice of the following:

William Jones and Bartholomew O'Neil, both Irishmen, both 27 and said to be of good families were hanged at Ilchester for robbing Job Bennett on Brislington Common. They were in great expectation of a reprieve and thought little of dying until the fatal summons of the hangman's arrival. Six people were hanged on that day. One of them, Thomas Woodham, aged 69, was a former executioner, who had been sentenced for robbing William Wiltshire on the highway of 1/6d (7½p), and another James Pring was only seventeen. Thomas Gommer, aged 48, stole 24 yards of Dowlas cloth, and Thomas Still (46) was a horse thief. The multiple hanging was disgracefully botched. Directly the cart drew away, the halter slipped from Jones' neck and he fell to the ground. Still's halter likewise slipped, and he too fell, to be followed at once by O'Neil. Still and O'Neil were immediately tied up again, but Jones remained on the ground for at least fifteen minutes, "a shocking spectator of his fellow sufferers before he too was executed."

[SFBJ]

(With or without the advantage of a "good" hangman, capital punishment did not deter. Robbery on Brislington Common - even though it had now been parcelled up and enclosed -, as elsewhere, continued unabated.)

October 29

Conveyance of messuages and lands in Brislington by the Reverend Sydenham Teast Wylde and Ann, his wife of Yatton, Somerset to James Ireland, esquire, of Brislington.

The lands "were adjoining the road at Broomhill including what was the infant school and a field adjoining the brook. Also part of Lindon's Farm (Mercers) and the field in front of the Chestnuts (H.M. Robinson), some land south of the Wells Road. A house, supposed to be Churchill House, formerly in the occupation of Colonel Gore, afterwards of Henry Ricketts. Part of Oakenhills Farm, formerly Meredith (now Vowles?)"

Names mentioned are

Robert Wentworth	----- Coghlan	----- Nelmes
----- Liscombe	Abraham James	Richard Eddolls
----- Bullen	----- Garsford	William Bristow
----- Wallis, butcher	John Hawkins, esq.	Mr W. Haskins
	William Weymouth	

and Betty Pillinger, "being in the Southward Rise of the Road from Bristol to Bath, near the White Hart." (The White Hart is still there, of course.)

The deed also contains the valuable genealogical information that Ann Wylde, deceased was the grand-daughter of John Newman. The land was that which John Newman purchased from Captain James Pearce, and was left to his daughter and her heirs. His will, February 19 1756, appears on page 14 of Brislington Bulletins No. 4. (see also 18 July 1794).

[BRO 4550/56]

December 1

William Prosser, esquire, widower and Mrs Sarah Griffiths were married by licence by Thomas Ireland, with witnesses, Susannah Kington and Sarah Randell. A newspaper notice appeared on 10 December, "Married at Busselton, Mr Prosser of Barrow Court to to Mrs Griffiths, relict of Mr Griffiths, merchant of Queen Square." (See 28 September 1776) [PR,SFBJ]

December 4

Bastardy Order: John Darch, labourer, to pay 14d (6½p) towards the cost of the parish of maintaining Mary Slade's female bastard child.

[BRO P/StLB/OP/14/16]

(He had applied for settlement in 1784.)

1786

Nehemiah Bartley had come to live at The Elms, the former home of William Hull. He would become Brislington's "Turnip Townsend" and wrote "An account of an experiment in the cultivation of buckwheat (Fagopyrum) made at Brislington, &c."

His article is preserved in Letters of the Bristol and West of England Society, Volume 3, syo, Bath 1786.") [Bibliography, Bath Ref Lib]

January 26

John Wilton, labourer, and Betty his wife, removed from St Philip & St Jacob, Bristol. "Delivered the above paupers to Mr Weymouth, overseer of Brislington, January 30, 1786." [BRPO P/StLB/OP/11/30a]

February 2

James Kirkup Arich, attorney, responded re the Gubbins/Guppy case. Mr Arich suggested that Mrs Gubbins should be known as Gubbins alias Guppy, (as she had already been styled in her settlement examination.) "I can conceive no question as to the validity of the marriage."

[BRO/P/StLB/OP/10/25a,b]

The Overseers were relieved by the decision which meant that Hester quite lawfully now belonged to her late husband's parish. They drew up a Removal Order to despatch Hester and her children Sarah, Thomas & Ann to Portland, Dorset, and they disappear from our story. [BRO/P/StLB/12/18]

March 11

At 9 o'clock in the evening, Mr James Mills, a musician, was making his way across Brislington Common when he was stopped near Mr Kington's house by two footpads who demanded money. He told them he had only a few ha'pence but they each took him by the collar and drew him to the gate where one drew a knife across his throat and held a pistol to his chest whilst the other held a pistol at his head. He begged them not to murder him, saying again he had no money and that he was on his way to Bath to his wife and family. The man holding the gun to his head withdrew it and the other became angry, saying, "Damn you, what? Won't you fire? Then I will," and discharged the pistol which grazed Mills' neck, scorched the side of his face and took off one of his curls, with which they both ran off. Mills got to Bath "with difficulty" at 12 o'clock. [SFBJ]

March 18

"It is hereby agreed to quash the order upon the above named paupers" (John & Betty Wilton, see above), "at the next quarter sessions. Signed Daniel Pidding, overseer, St Philip & St Jacob." [BRO/P/StLB/OP/11/30b]

March 25

Conveyance

(1) John Cave, esquire, assignee of William Reeve, bankrupt
(2) William Gore Langton of Newton Park, County Somerset, esquire
concerning the tithes of Brislington, value £904. [BRO/P/StLB/OP]

April 22

Newspaper report: "Thursday last, as two young men were returning to Bristol from Bath, they were attacked on Brislington Common by two men and a woman, who, seizing their horses and bridles, robbed them of money and watches and made off." There was some doubt as to the woman. Was she a man "wearing woman's clothes", as stated in another newspaper? Whatever, two of the assailants held the horses whilst the other seized the booty. [FFBJ, SFBJ]

April 29

obituary "died at Brislington, Mrs Whelan, widow of Mr J. Whelan,
formerly a cooper in King Street. [FFBJ]

July 15
and also, "died at Brislington Mrs Smith, widow of the late Mr James
Smith, hosier of this City." [SFBJ]

August 7
James Skinfill (Scanfield) the base born son of Ann was baptised at St
Luke's. (On 4 June 1787, the Poor Rate Book carries the order: "that
John Pillinger be compelled to marry Ann Scanfield or to give security
to the parish for his bastard by the said Scanfield." John and Ann were
married on the following 8 July and went on to have eight more
children.)

Same day:
Deed between (1) William Prosser and John Cave of Brislington, esquires,
(2) Simon Martin Cottrell of Keynsham, gentleman, and (3) Henry Brown of
Keynsham, malster, re lands in Brislington, and mentioning a messuage at
Low Oakenhills, and cottages near the church in occupation of Elizabeth
Priest, James Purnell, Gabriel Llewelling and Richard Merreweather.
[SRO DD BRC 111]

October 7
"Thursday night some persons broke into the house of Mr John Liscombe at
Brislington and stole thereout, six geese and thirteen fowls." [SFBJ]

October 28
"Tuesday night Mr Ireland's coach returning to Brislington with Mrs
Ireland and family between the hours of 7 & 8 was attacked near Mrs
Kington's gate by two footpads one of whom seized the reins of the
bridle and the other after opening the coach doors and demanding money,
fired a pistol at the coachman on his whipping up the horses and driving
off the carriage. [SFBJ]

December 10
The examination of Mary Cox, aged about 19, found wandering in Walcot.
Said she was born in Whitchurch where her father John Cox, labourer and
his wife Rose lived. About 7 years ago, she hired herself as a yearly
servant to James Leaver of Brislington at fifty shillings a year upwards
of one whole year since which time she has not done anything to gain a
legal settlement.

The mark of  Mary Cox

[BRO P/StLB/OP/13/14

December 16
"The examination of Susannah Challenger, widow of William Challenger
deceased, a vagrant apprehended in the parish of St Peter in this City
wandering abroad lodging in the open air and not giving a good account
of herself, with John aged upwards of 10 years and James aged upwards of
8 years, her children. Who saith that her last legal settlement is in
the parish of Brislington in the county of Somerset in which parish her
husband was last legally settled. Taken upon her oath and sworn before
John Daubeny, mayor. [BRO P/StLB/OP/13/13a,bl



(Susannah was the daughter of Jeremiah and Betty Pillinger. Her sons, John and James Challenger were born in Brislington in 1776 and 1778. For the rest of her life she was supported by the parish, and finally received a pauper's burial (cost 10s 6d) on 20 January 1792.)

December 28

The parish paid "for a man in fits", 1s. [FCP/StLB/OP/6(a)1 1785-90]

1787

April 7

The parish paid Mary Purnell for looking after the sick at the Poor House and cleaning the House, etc. 7/6d. [FCP/StLB/OP/6(a)1 1785-90]

August 28

"Paid for a traveller and carrying her off, 3 shillings." [FCP/StLB/OP/6(a)1 1785-90]

(for an analysis of previous unfortunate travellers, see Brislington Bulletins 3.)

September 8

"Paid for laying out Grace Pope and carrying her to the Church, 2s 3d." [FCP/StLB/OP/6(a)1 1785-90]

November 25

A Memorial in St Luke's Church to Stephen Stuart Bridges, died this day aged 46:

"It now avails thee not
To whom related or by whom begot
An heap of Dust alone remains of thee
It's all thou art and all the proud shall be."

The Bridges family were very important in neighbouring Keynsham, and related to the Duke of Chandos. It seems to me possible that Stephen was an illegitimate member of that family who felt, (and had been perhaps cruelly made to feel), his bastardy very keenly. Stephen Bridges was buried on 27 November.

December 5

Gravestone Inscription to Richard Edwards, who died on this day, and also two of his children. Richard was buried on 9 December. The grave also contains the remains of "Elizabeth, wife of Thomas Vowles." The inscription is undated but the parish register states "Elizabeth Vowls, buried 17 September 1770." [MI, PR]

December 21

Release: Joseph Beck, by direction of Nehemiah Bartley to William Fry of land in Brislington Common. [BRO 4550/32]



Neh. Bartley

1788

Nehemiah Bartley writes again: "An account of a series of experiments made by Mr Bartley on his farm near Bristol. Experiment of deep ploughing on turnips, on the culture of flax, on Jerusalem Artichokes, on coriander seed, on brining seed wheat, on spring wheat, on recovering smutty wheat, on canary seed, on anise, on potatoes, on black oats."

His results were recounted in four letters now contained in the Bristol & West of Society, Volume, 4. 8vo Bath, 1788.

[Bibliography, Bath Ref.Lib]

(Jerusalem Artichokes and Coriander Seed! Nehemiah was way ahead of his time. When we first came to Brislington in 1968, I attempted to buy green peppers and was looked at askance by local greengrocers, "No call for that sort of thing round here!", I was told, grim lipped. Whatever would they have made of a demand for coriander?)

February 23

"died at Stockwood near this City, Mr Thomas Papps, accountant, having left a wife and nine children to lament his loss. A short time before, he had the misfortune to lose his hand by the bursting of a gun."

[SFBJ]

March 8

The press announced Sales of Tollgates leases - but "Tolls of the Brislington gate..... not disposed of."

[SFBJ]

March 25

Mr James Golston trustee to Mr William Fry, conveyance of a piece of Ground in Brislington.

[BRO 4550/33]

April 27

Parish Expenses: Paid for a waistcoat and breeches for Jas Wills, by order of Mr Ireland, 13s.6d"

[FCP/StLB/OP/6(a)1]

May 31

"William Ward, John Cole and Thomas Brown, journeyman shoemakers were minutely examined at the White Hart, Brislington for being the people who attacked and robbed Mr Stokes, butcher of Pensford, on Wells Road."

(Despite dismissal of this charge, Ward, "an old offender" was delivered up to Newgate. William Thorn, who witnessed the affray was indicted to the next Somerset Gaol Delivery for not helping Mr Stokes. A coat, slippers and pistol, evidence of the attack, were ordered to be exposed in public houses in Brislington and Bedminster.)

[SFBJ]

September 15

Thomas Flay was convicted by Keynsham magistrates of negligently driving a broad wheeled waggon along the Bath Road at Brislington in so dangerous a manner that several persons riding in a one horse chair were in danger of being crushed to death. Mr Murphy, a Bath tradesman, with great resourcefulness tracked down and prosecuted the offender. The fine paid was donated to the poor and Mr Murphy was highly praised.

"Waggoners, post chaise drivers and coachmen are forbidden to sport with the lives of the traveller", cried the newspaper in dudgeon. [SFBJ]

September 30

Parish Expenses: "Paid for putting Thomas Baker in the ground at night by order of Mr Ireland, 2s.6d." [FCP/StLB/OP/6(a)1]

December 27

A Merry Christmas to all our tenants: "In the parish of Brislington, the principal inhabitants have collected among themselves upwards of £20 which they are now distributing amongst their most indigent neighbours - beef, bread and coals. An example worthy of imitation in the present inclement season." [SFBJ]

1789

January 20

Francis King of Brislington, bricklayer, son of James, late of Gloucester, was granted the Freedom of Gloucester.

[A Calendar of the Registers of the Freeman of the City of Gloucester, 1641-1838. Ed A.R.J. Jurica.]

April 10

Memorial Inscription to Mary, the wife of Richard Jones who died this day. She was buried on 15 April. [MI,PR]

April 13

"Paid to Jonathon Phillips for a new lock and thatch for the Poor House - 11s 9d." [BRO FCP/StLB/OP/6(a)1]

April 16

Date of the will of Simon Martin Cottrell of Keynsham, who amongst other property left estate in Brislington in occupation of Walter Ellis, Joseph Phillips, George Hix, Thomas Butterfield. [SRO DD BRC 11]

July 13

Parish Expenses: "for a Double Jury upon William Curtis and the Coroner's expenses - 19s 3d. Paid the funeral for ditto - 4s 6d. A coffin and wool and carrying to the grave for ditto - 9s 0d. To laying him, striping (sic) him and putting him in the coffin - 2s 6d."

On the same day: "Paid Edward Cary that was whipt by the Justices Order - 1s 0d" [BRO FCP/StLB/OP/6(a)1]

July 14

William Curtis, "parper" (leaving us in no doubt as to the accent of the clerk, and the expenses for whose demise are recorded above), was buried at St Luke's. There was a great deal more to it, as was pointed out by the local press. John James was accused of his wilful murder by mortally wounding him with his scythe. James had been arrested and was in Ilchester Gaol awaiting trial. [PR, SFBJ]

A Page from the Brislington Poor Book for July 1789.

In addition to sorting out the matrimonial arrangements for the unwilling bridegroom William Reynolds (see text), payments were made for

Jemima Hunter in distress. (She was pregnant, but would soon become Mrs William Reynolds, courtesy of the churchwardens: see page 35)

A Waistcoat, shoes and stockings for Anthony's boy

A pair of Breaches for Bartlett's boy

Necessaries for Susan Waymouth on several occasions

Hester Scanfield

John Williams for work done at the Poor House

Mrs Phillips for necessaries for Susan Waymouth and for coal

A Pair of shoes for Gane's child

Garments for old women at the Poor House

Indentures for Benjamin Antenny and John Bartley

It is worth noting that the going rate paid to the better off for taking a parish apprentice was £2 - as paid to "Mr Robertson with his Apprentice" and "Mr Edols with his Apprentice".

The cost of hiring a Chaise to go to Bridgwater (presumably to sort out some complicated settlement and removal arrangements) was £2.16.0d.

July 15

And here's another to do. William Reynolds was examined by the Brislington officers and found guilty. The cost to the parish of this inquisition was 7s 0d. After that they had to pay "two men for siting (sic) up with Reynolds at Brislington, 2s 0d" and again "to expenses for the Gard (of) Reynolds, 2s 0d, and one Constable at Brislington and for three Constables taking him to Bristol, and waiting there six hours, 10s 0d."

You might be forgiven for thinking that like the unhappy John James, Reynolds was being carted off to Gaol. Not a bit of it. He was being married, and was not altogether happy about it. In fact he had shown every likelihood of making a run for it. To get the business over and done with as soon as possible a marriage licence had to be taken out, (cost - not cheap - at £1.12s 0d), with a local worthy "James Smith of Busfelton, yeoman", as bondsman. There was also the cost of "the Minister and Cleark of Temple" who performed the ceremony and wrote up the register for 19s 9d.

At last, William Reynolds "of the parish of Clifton, mariner" took "Jemima Hunter of Temple, otherwise Holy Cross, spinster", as his bride. As neither came from our parish there must surely have been a child who had been unceremoniously dumped here. And Brislington would have none of it. It must have been cheaper in the long run to go to all this expense and trouble. Thus was the way of the World.

[BRO FCP/StLB/OP/6(a)1 f37; BMLB 1789 no.93.]

(NB: The Temple PR has not survived, and this may be just what the descendants of William & Jemima are looking for!)

August 8

A sad announcement: "Tuesday, died of a decline at her father's house in Brislington, Miss Eliza Fry, an amiable young lady in her 17th year."

[SPBJ]

August 22

The trial of John James took place at the Somerset Assizes. The jury agreed it was an accident and he was acquitted.

[SPBJ]

September 5

Enter Dr Edward Long Fox, who would become one of Brislington's most illustrious inhabitants. He had taken an interest in what would later be known as hypnotism. An open letter to him from Milbourne Williams of Brislington was published this day:

"To Dr Fox.

"Sir I beg leave to submit the following queries.

1. Did you not put yourself under the tuition of M. Mainaduc for the purpose of acquiring the art or science of curing disease without medicine?
2. Have you not endeavoured to cure disease by certain motions of the hands and finger?
3. Have you cured one person by these operations?
4. Do you think the wonderful cures said to be performed by the professors of Animal Magnetism such as dissolving the stone in the

- bladder, removing obstructions in the liver, healing ulcers in the lungs, kidneys etc, are real or imaginary? Or that these cures can be affected upon the patient as well absent as present?
5. Does the science in any respect tend to the real involvement or benefit of Mankind?
 6. Have you not been induced to make remarks upon the science with an intention of publishing them?
 7. What means can you assign for not sending them to the printer? Your answers to the above queries will prove highly satisfactory to many, particularly, sir, to your humble servant, Milborne Williams.

[SFBJ]

September 11

From Edward Long Fox, Castle Green

"The address of a certain querist is deemed too impertinent to merit a reply. Without obtruding in the public notice, I shall embrace this opportunity of signifying that the experimental Enquiry called Animal Magnetism was begun by me for the most disinterested motives- viz - entirely with a view to discover the nature of the properties ascribed to its effects. And I ceased the investigation having been unable to ascertain that the power alluded to had any existence."

[SFBJ]

October 10

Williams wrote again demanding to know whether Dr Fox meant Mesmer when he spoke of Animal Magnetism. Should he not encourage or discontinue the practise?

[SFBJ]

October 17

Newspaper obituary: "Last week, Mr King died at the King's Arms, Brislington."

[SFBJ]

1790

This is the date which is carved on a gateway in Hollywood Road. Here stands the Engine House, a reminder that there were once collieries in Brislington. Information about these mines, apart from a few names of individual coalminers of a previous era, is extremely sparse. The supposed date may err on the side of caution, for in a survey of 1791 (see below) the house was already "formerly a fire engine house", and then as now, was a private residence.

From the records of the Parish of Kenton, Devon for this year:

"Settlement Examination of Robert Cotton: born Busselton, Somerset. Never apprenticed, lived with parents there till three, when the family moved to Weston, Somerset where they rented a property at £100 per annum; lived with them there 18 years, then father moved to Kenton and rented property at £50 p.a. for 4 years; then went with father to Dawlish, where he rented at £100 p.a. for 6 years. Robert Cotton then rented a house and orchard in Kenton at £13 p.a."

(Subscribers to Brislington Bulletins No. 4. 1750-1774 will know of my futile search for the Cotton family who left no trace at Brislington and Weston Bath! The case still remains "on the books". Incidentally Robert's father, also called Robert, was said to be aged 106 when he died in 1827. (I take this with a pinch of salt.) These Cottons may have been a connection of Robert Cotton and Elizabeth Ashley, married at

Bedminster on 6 August 1727. This couple had at least two children, Joshua "son of Robert", in March 1733 and Elizabeth, "daughter of Robert & Elizabeth" in January 1736, both baptised at St James, Bristol.)

January 16

"Wednesday last, between the hours of 9 & 10, Mr Ambrose Quarman, auctioneer of Keynsham, was stopp't at Brislington Common by a single footpad, 5 feet 10 inches high and dressed in sailor's clothes, who presented a pistol and with horrid imprecations demanded his money or his life. Mr Quarman, being on horseback struck him several times with a stick when the villain snapped the pistol at his head and drew a cutlass with which he fought for some time, but finding Mr Q. not to be robbed, he decamped. Happily Mr Quarman received no personal injury other than his hat and coat were much cut as were likewise his stick and the horse's bridle." [SFBJ]

February 20

Newspaper obituary: "Sunday, died suddenly, Mr Thomas Prosser, son of William Prosser, esquire, of Brislington." [SFBJ]

February 22

Parish Expenses: to supplying "a spinning wheel for H. Scanfield, 2s.6d." [FCP/StLB/OP/6(a)1]

April 13

The parish supplied Charles Pope "a new apron, a knife and an iron to work with" which cost 3 shillings. [FCP/StLB/OP/6(a)1 1785-90]

May 3

Parish Expenses: "Gave a woman belonging to this parish towards the burying of two children, died at Pill". [FCP/StLB/OP/6(a)1]

July 29

Griffith Maskelyn, who had dined at Keynsham with the great and good of the district in support of distressed objects, and had been involved with the ship "Brislington", was now distressed himself:

".....We, William Prosser of Brislington, gentleman and Sarah his wife, late Sarah Griffiths, widow, relict and administratrix of the goods and chattels of Thomas Griffiths, late of Bristol, merchant, deceased and creditor of Griffith Maskelyn, late of the City of Bristol, merchant in respect of a debt of £11,646. 8s.10d, by us proved under a Commission of Bankruptcy awarded and now in Prosecution against the said Griffith Maskelyn.....appoint John Proctor Anderdon, City of Bristol, gentleman to be our lawful attorney.....for that purpose in the room of Michael Clayfield and John Maskelyn, late assignees of estate of the said bankrupt.

Signed &c William Prosser
Sarah Profser

signed and delivered in the presence of John Williams, Bush Tavern, Corn Street, Bristol.

"In Chancery in the matter of Griffith Maskelyn, a bankrupt.

"John Williams, servant to James Hughes of the City of Bristol, gentleman, maketh oath and sayeth that he was present and did see William Prosser of Brislington, otherwise Buisleton in Somerset, gentleman and Sarah his wife severally sign and seal and respectively deliver the Deed Poll or Instrument in writing hereunder annexed. Sworn in the City of Bristol 30th January 1790 before James Hughes. [BRO 16163]

December 17

Letter from John Saunders to Mr Hall saying he has ordered 20 shillings worth of bread for Munday's Charity and asking that the poor who live near Munday's house be remembered when the list of recipients is drawn up. [BRO/P/StLB/Ch/8]

1791

In this year a Survey was taken of the estates and tenantry of William Gore-Langton by Benjamin Pryce, and describes 504 acres in the North of the Parish lying between the Church and the River. Field names and the church are marked as well as the site of the Poor House and names of boundary owners. The Golstone family, lately bereaved, worked and dwelt in a carpenter's shop, "formerly a fire engine house". (see 1790)

[SRO DD/GLd 4/4d.]

Names also mentioned are

John Hawkins

Sarah Golston - carpenter's shop

Charles Thompson - blacksmith's shop

Jane)

Sarah) Phillips

Dorothy)

Jonathon Phillips - two carpenter's shops

William Fry, esq. - a garden called Bunker's Hill

Executors of James Golston

Thomas James

Thomas Huntington - a small withy bed

Richard Bryant

John Hammer

Mary Bristow

Richard Edols - Little Broomhill

Charles Cook - Fishpools

James Harrill - Fishpools

Sarah Gane

John Cogings (sic)

John Pillinger - a cottage & two small gardens

Samuel Bryant - a withy bed

---- Langshaw

John Stokes

Mary Harrill - considerable property - with many field names.

Robert Willoughby, esquire - a dwelling house & garden, a coach house
a stable, a fuel house, a garden & pleasure
ground, Lower Wood

Henry Brown - St Anne's Mead with Tide Banks, farm house called St
Anne's, various pot houses

Ann Jenkins

John Rawlins

Walter Ellis

----- Puckston
Mary Cottrell
----- Blanning
Jacob Watkins
Thomas Harrill
Sarah Goby
Nehemiah Bartley - Oakenhills
Winifred Lucas
George Millard
William Waymouth

--o0o--

Brislington Farm, Mary Harrill, tenant.

"This is a very compact, convenient and well arranged farm. From these circumstances and the soil being adapted to potatoe (sic) husbandry it may be let for something more than it is valued at. It should not however be forgotten that it now appears to advantage from the dung and soil which the tenant has laid on it from the Bristol Scavengery. This tenant appears to be an industrious good manager. The land in some places is injured by the shade of elm trees in the hedgerows which if judiciously thinned would not only be advantageous to the land but a considerable advantage to the timber also."

(If only we had the elm trees today! You don't know what you've got till it's gone!)

--o0o--

St Anne's Farm, Henry Brown, tenant.

Four acres at Potters Leaze "injured by the smoke and effluence from the copper works on the other side of the river. Nine acres in part of this also injured. At Long Acre there are two roads to this ground which hurt it considerably. Statchells Upper Ground: this ground is exposed to injury from the Copper Works. Eight Acres: this lies upon the Rock and is injured by the Works.

This farm lies compact and it is well managed, but its situation is very undesirable. The Farm House as well as a considerable part of the land is exposed to noxious effulgence from the Copper Works by which the stock is frequently annoyed and the vegetation and the grass, corn and hedges considerably injured. Nor is it well circumstanced with regards to water.....the Landlord should receive recompense made by the masters of the Copper Works, or if the tenant receives it, the money should be added to the rent." [ibid]

June 24

Settlement examination: Simon Warren, born Bullescombe (Biddlecombe?) Devon. When aged 8, bound apprentice to Ann Brain of that parish. Lived with her until 18, then went to Watchet and other places until 21. Then to Kingston, Somerset and served William Cox, one year. Not since gained any settlement. [BRO P/StLB/OP/10/29]

1792

Concerning the Marriage settlement between Henry Tonge and Ann Elizabeth
(?) Sale of Mansion to purchase Old South Sea Annuities. [32 George III
35 1792], Brislington otherwise Busleton.

[Somerset Bibliography at Bath Lib]

(Original not traced).

January 7

Obituary: Died, Mr John Hawkins, woollen draper, deeply, sincerely,
regretted by family and friends. [FFBJ]

January 14

"Rev. Thomas Ireland, DD, Rector of Christchurch collated to the
Prebendary of West Lackington in the Cathedral City of Wells." [FFBJ]

Obituary: Thursday sennight died Miss Gore-Langton, the second daughter
of William Gore-Langton of Newton Park. [FFBJ]

January 28

Conveyance of a close of land by Richard Stratton of the City of
Bristol, esquire, and Nehemiah Bartley of the same City, distiller, to
Charles Hill of Bristol, merchant, re four acres late in possession of
John Basy, but now of the said Charles Hill.....subject to a rent of
one peppercorn. The monies received from the sale by Nehemiah Bartley
was £375.0s.0d. [BRO 4550/56]

August 4

Isaac Pillinger was paid two shillings by the parish for conveying M.
Bullen to the hospital. (The money came in handy, for times were hard
for Isaac. At least it shows he still had a horse and cart.)

[FCP/StLB/OP/6(a)2]

August 11

"Expenses at Mrs King's on a stranger who was hurt and died at her
house, four shillings."

[FCP/StLB/OP/6(a)2]

1793

February 14

Brislington Farm: Lease for 8 years between

(1) William Gore-Langton

(2) Mary Harrill of Brislington, widow

Annual rent £225 plus £10 for every acre of meadow ploughed.

[BRO26992/10]

same day, counterpart of a lease for eight years between William Gore-
Langton and Mr Thomas Harrill, yearly rent, £6.0s.0d. [SRO DD/GL/126]

March 13

Dated this day, signed 25 March, Counterpart of a lease for eight years
between William Gore-Langton esquire and Mr Henry Brown, Yearly rent
£160.0s.0d. [SRO DD/GL/126]

April 15

Bastardy order: Henry Harrill, yeoman, to pay 14d per week towards the
maintainance of his daughter, the child of Mary Gibbs.

[BRO/P/StLB/OP/14/16]

("Nance Gibbs, base born daughter of Mary Gibbs" was baptised at St Luke's, 14 April 1793. Henry Harrill married Leah Harrill on August 2nd 1795.)

April 16

Parish expenses: "A truss for Thomas Pratt, one pound", and on April 23, "a poor man found bad in the fields, 2s and 6d." [FCP/StLB/OP/6(a)2]

May 21

Thomas Edols buried, "in a vault". William Edols was buried 1 June.

[PR]

November 23

Mr John Maxse gave two guineas to a fund "to promote the health and comfort of British Troops at the command of the Duke of York." [FFBJ]

December 6

A sad item in the Parish Register at Newton St Loe, dated this day:

"Bridget Gore-Langton, the wife of William, esquire. She was delivered of a son on the 24th November last at Dean in Oxford and died there at one o'clock in the morning. The melancholy news came by express to Newton Park at 12 o'clock noon today. Buried. Thirty one years and 139 days. There was supposed to be 1,000 people present."

1794

January 22

The poor book contains the following curious entry:

"Paid Mr William Acreman for 3 cwt 0 quarters 22 lbs of old junk @ 8 p.c. - £1.5s.6d and for a horse and cart and man to fetch it, 1s 6d."

[BRO FCP/StLB/OP/6(a)2]

February 2

"Paid for two tubs to store the old junk - 1s 6d."

[BRO FCP/StLB/OP/6(a)2]

(What on earth was it for?)

April 17

The Peasley family had provided Parish Clerks for many generations, and here is the latest: "Paid William Peasley for three funerals - 13s 6d."

[BRO FCP/StLB/OP/6(a)2]

July 16

John Estridge esquire, died at his seat near Weymouth. His remains were conveyed to Brislington where he was interred in the family vault two days later.

[SFBJ]

July 18

Assignment, William Maberley of Brislington, butcher and Mary Bristow of the same, widow, on the one part and James Ireland, esquire, also of Brislington on the other.

"Whereas Charles Cooke and Rebecca, his wife, heretofore Rebecca Newman, spinster, did devise to Joseph Haythorne of Bristol, divers tenements, lands..... etc.... in Brislington, then occupied by Mary Bristow....."

Da^d Davies

...and so on from which it appears that Mary Bristow was indebted to William Maberley and he seized the opportunity to become party to her long lease. Little pieces of this land were sublet to various people including, Joseph White, Thomas James, David Davies, James Scanfield, Susan Curtis, Isaac Jones and ---- Burleigh, butcher. The lot went to James Ireland for £96.15s.0d, and the transaction was endorsed by various people: Thomas James, and James Scanfield who marked, as did Mary Bristow. David Davies signed with a flourish. William Maberley also signed. The witnesses were William Shute and W. Gore. (Rebecca Newman Cooke inherited from her father John: see p14, Brislington Bulletins No. 4. See also 21 December 1787.) [BRO 4550/38]

August 1

"To expenses of the Coroner & Jury on the man drowned, &c - 17s 6d

"To fetching the man from the river - 6s 0d

"To Jonathon Phillips for coffin and wood - 9s 0d

"To funeral for ditto - 4s 6d

"To casing for the grave and fitting the coffin - 2s 0d"

[BRO FCP/StLB/OP/6(a)2]

August 10

"Gave to Ann Llewellyn to go to London."

[BRO FCP/StLB/OP/6(a)2]

(See 1773: was she Barbara Llewellyn's daughter?)

August 23

Obituary: Died, Farmer Jones of Brislington, in his 79th year. "He brought up a large family and secured for himself an easy competency."

[SFBJ]

October 22

"Paid for an examination of Mary Gibs and for a warrant for Joseph Barnard - 2s 0d. For the registering of Mary Gibs boy - 1s 0d."

[BRO FCP/StLB/OP/6(a)2]

(See also 15 April 1793)

December 31

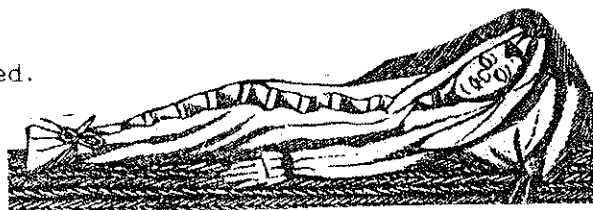
Lease between William Gore-Langton, esquire and Mr Thomas Harrill, determinable on the lives of Henry Harrill, aged about 26, James Harrill, aged about 24 and Mary Harrill aged about 13, the sons and daughter of the lessee. Yearly rent one shilling. [SRO DD/GL/126]

1795

Towards the end of the century, the Pillinger and Coggins families made frequent appearances in the Poor Books. Betty Pillinger, Jeremiah the scavenger's widow, had no other form of support, and neither did John and Sarah Coggins. Isaac Pillinger too was a frequent recipient, though he did the occasional odd job for the parish. Henry Pillinger, who lived in what would become School Road in the house later called "Nelson's Glory, and still inhabited, supplied four sacks of coal for the Poorhouse on 21 February and was paid 5s.0d.

January 14

Thomas Robinson, esquire, buried.



[PR]

For Account of the Weekly Pay to the
 Poor of the Parish of Brighthelm from the
 7 April 1793 to the 29 Sept. 1793.

		L	S	D
Wm. Craggs	25 Weeks a 2	2	10	0
Mary Dabry	25 D ^o	2	10	0
Isaac Pillingers	25 D ^o	2	10	0
John Coggins	25 D ^o	2	10	0
Mary Allen	11 D ^o	1	2	0
Hannah's two Children	11 D ^o a 2	2	4	0
D ^o one Child	14 D ^o a 2	1	8	0
Jean Wilby	25 D ^o a 2	2	10	0
Ann Challenger	25 D ^o a 1/6	1	17	6
Martha Russell	25 D ^o a 1	1	5	0
Martha Haskins	25 D ^o a 2	2	10	0
Betty Haskins	25 D ^o a 1	1	5	0
Anthony Widow	25 D ^o a 2	2	10	0
Sarah Coggins	25 D ^o a 2	2	10	0
John Challenger	25 D ^o a 2	2	10	0
Mary Dabry	25 D ^o a 1/6	1	17	6
Sam. Plaisters 3 Children	25 D ^o a 3	3	15	0
Henry Burtons Fam ^l	3 D ^o a 4	0	12	0
		£ 37 10 0		

Handwritten scribbles or marks in the upper left quadrant of the page.



June 4

"To expenses for a man that was hurt by a coach on the Common - 5 shillings. Paid 6 men to take him to the Infirmary, 6 shillings."

[BRO FCP/StLB/OP/6(a)2]

December 3

Edward Rolle Clayfield of Castle Precincts, Bristol, and Frances Constance Ireland were married by William Tandey at St Luke's, with witnesses James Ireland and Louisa Bale. (Thus emerged the Clayfield-Ireland family. [PR]

1796

February 20

"On Monday, a desperate battle was fought at Bristol between John Jones, junior, a collier, of Brislington, and James Brain, labourer, which continued upwards of two and quarter hours. Jones survived but a few hours, but we hear Brain's life is in extreme danger. Coroner's Inquest verdict on Jones: manslaughter." [FFBJ]

March 25

"Paid a man that went in the supplementary militia for John Pillinger, three weeks, to his wife, 3s 0d." [Briz Poor Books, SRO]

(Those "called up" for the militia were chosen by lot. If you were unlucky in this village lottery, it was often possible to find a substitute, even worse off financially than yourself, to serve, for a reasonable fee, the time for you. This had happened in John Pillinger's case. However, the man's wife was left penniless and the parish had to step in.)

April 10

"Paid in fetching a boy from the River that was drowned, and carrying him to Bristol." [BRO FCP/StLB/OP/6(a)2]

April 21

The Overseers suddenly recalled some old expenses, and put in a rather late bill: "To advertising of John James for murder in the year 1789, 5s 6d." (It must have been a "wanted poster". As we know, John James was acquitted.) [BRO FCP/StLB/OP/6(a)2]

May 27-28

Lease and Release: Samuel Foord, once of Blagdon, now of Keynsham, butcher, and Mary his wife, to Henry Davis the younger, gentleman, concerning two dwelling houses in Brislington, late in tenure of George Hicks, labourer, and afterwards of George Lear, labourer, and Edward Phelps. [BRO 6098 (4) d.e.]

May 31

"To inoculating Abraham Green's three children by order of the Vestry." [BRO FCP/StLB/OP/6(a)3]

.....as Jenner was still experimenting, (his inoculation of a boy with cow pox only in this year), Brislington seems to have been in the *avante garde*. It also shows the extent to which the Vestry could interfere in parishioners' affairs.

Brislington had long been without a regular vicar, and Thomas Ireland had long sought to rectify this scandalous situation.

In June 1796-7 there was

"A Collection for Preaching a lecture sermon in the Parish Church of Brislington, every Sunday throughout the year", and people contributed according to their means and status:

William Gore-Langton, esquire	£2. 2s. 0d
John Bally	1. 1s. 0d
Jacob Wilkinson	1. 1s. 0d
Richard Edols	1. 1s. 0d
John Pullin	1. 1s. 0d
Henry Brown	1. 1s. 0d
James Banwell	1. 1s. 0d
William Parsons	1. 1s. 0d
John Hurle	1. 1s. 0d
Thomas Tipton	1. 1s. 0d
Walter Swayne	1. 1s. 0d
Mr Matthews	1. 1s. 0d
Mr Pearce	1. 1s. 0d
Mr Hill	1. 1s. 0d
Dr Krawter	1. 1s. 0d
John Jones	10s.6d
William Bartlett	10s.6d
Charles Thompson	10s.6d
Jonathon Phillips	5s.3d
Mrs Prichard	5s.0d
Mr Burge	2s.6d
Mrs King	2s.6d

	£19.2s.9d

Alas the collection did not quite reach the required amount, and John Bally, who organised it was slightly out of pocket:

"Paid Rev S. Powell Creech,
 October 23, 1797, £20.0s.0d
 Collected 19.2s.9d.

 17s.3d Due to J. Bally.

[BRO P/StLB/ChW/2]

Samuel Powell Creech was however, installed as "First Lecturer".

July 18

"Paid for apprenticing Samuel Taylor & Mary Taylor to John Denham at London, £8.8s.6d.
 [BRO FCP/StLB/OP/6(a)3]

October 26

"Paid for necessaries for Charles Pope - 6s. 8d."

This entry is immediately followed by another, on 31 October:

"Paid the Constables for taking Pope, 5 shillings." and then

"Paid for whipping of ditto, 5 shillings." [BRO FCP/StLB/OP/6(a)3]

(Which makes me wonder whether he was so malnourished that they had to give him a good meal to make sure he could withstand punishment.)

December 21

Conveyance, John Casmajor by direction of Henry Tonge and John Maxse.

[BRO 4550/40]

1797

January 3

Mr Newman buried.

[PR]

February 23

Charles Baker of West Street, Bristol, seedsman, was bound in the sum of £50 to Henry Brown, gentleman, and Thomas Tipton, esquire, churchwardens and Charles Hill, esquire and Thomas Harrill, yeoman, overseers of the poor, in respect of Elizabeth Cox's female bastard child.

[BRO P/StLB/OP/14/19]

February 24

The Overseers of the Poor Book contains the following curious entry:

"Expenses for the Churchwardens and self to settle the Navy business with Whitchurch - 5 shillings. Expenses for the man for the Navy & what was paid to other parishioners - £20.18.0d."

(Were they trying to rescue a man who had been press-ganged - or was he being sent to the Navy instead of to prison? And why was Whitchurch involved? And such a large sum of money too? [BRO FCP/StLB/OP/6(a)3])

February 26

Benjamin Jones to pay 2 shillings (10p) a week for his daughter born to Mary Podger, widow.

[BRO P/StLB/OP/14/20]

March

There is nothing in local sources thus far to give any indication of the troubled times. The American and French Revolutions must have been discussed in Brislington, but local sources are silent, apart from John Maxse's financial contribution, on these serious matters. By now the country was facing a grave threat from Napoleon, and Yeomanry and Volunteer forces were being raised in Bristol to counter possible invasion by the French. Bristol Past and Present contains a splendid list of these volunteers - at least the officers! - and Brislington names are to be found among them.

In the First Regiment was William Gore, of Brislington, Lieutenant-Colonel, and joint second in command.

(William Gore appears to have been in Brislington with his wife Sarah at least from March 1795 when their daughters Ann (born 1787) and Mary (born 1794) were baptised at St Luke's. These daughters were followed by two girls called Catherine in 1796 & 1799, and a son, George William Molyneaux Gore in 1801. A Mrs Anne Gore was buried "aged 19" in 1806 and

Colonel William Gore "of Clifton, aged 61" was buried at St Luke's in July 1814. (though I suspect a possible connection with the Gore-Langtons, this has not yet been established.)

In the Grenadier Company was George Weare Braikenridge (of Redcliffe Parade), second lieutenant.

Richard Vaughan, junior, of Berkeley Square was captain of the Second Company, with Richard Prescott of Brislington, as first lieutenant.

The Captain of the Third Company was Thomas Cole of Brislington.

Edward Rolle Clayfield (living at Great George Street) was a second lieutenant in the Fourth Company

William Parsons of Brislington was quartermaster of The Bristol Light Horse Volunteers.

The only active service seen by the volunteers was as relief guards over the French prisoners at Stapleton. (When news came that the French had landed at Fishguard, the regulars were marched off to Wales.) There were no arms for the volunteers, but all the mopsticks of the City were bought up and turned into pikes with iron heads. (It was much the same in 1939!) The Bristol volunteers continued as guards at Stapleton, and received the thanks of the king for their sterling service. When the Peace of Amiens was signed they marched with military music and flying colours to the Bush Tavern where they were told the government had no more need of their services and they might go. When war broke out again this cool dismissal was remembered and resented, and few joined the colours, but as the danger increased, once again the gentlemen, merchants and tradesman reverted to arms. The regiment was disbanded in 1814.

(see page 221 of Bristol Past & Present, BRL)

April

Charles Thompson of Brislington, blacksmith, was bound to Henry Brown and John Bally, churchwardens and Thomas Harrill and William Grigg, overseers of the poor, in the sum of £50, in respect of Mary Lovell's female bastard child. Witnessed by John Jones & William Peasley.

[BRO/P/StLB/OP/14/18]

(It seems to have taken the combined ranks of the good men of Brislington some time to catch up with the blacksmith. "Martha Jones Tompson (sic) daughter of Mary Lovell", was baptised at St Luke's 17 November 1794.)



July 12

Conveyance, John Pullin to John Maxse.

[BRO 4550/41]

1798

January 15

Henry Burton, Mary his wife, and their children Henry, 6, and James, 4, removed to Brislington from Walcot.

[BRO/P/StLB/OP/11/32]

May 8

A memorial inscription records the sad death of "John the son of John Maxse, esquire of Arno's Vale and Charlotte, his wife, aged 10 years and six months." The parish register tells us he was "buried in a vault."

May 12

"To expenses attending Henry Burton's being in custody with a guard all night."

[BRO FCP/StLB/OP/6(a)3]

June 12

John Shewring, labourer, found "wandering abroad and begging in St Nicholas" was issued with a pass to Bedminster, via Brislington.

[BRO P/StLB/OP/13/15]

June 30

There was another marriage under duress: "To a special warrant for Peter Baker - 2 shillings. To a licence for his marriage - £2.2s.0d. Paid the Parson & the clerk for the marriage - 15s. 6d, and my expenses for ditto."

[BRO FCP/StLB/OP/6(a)3]

The happy event took place at St Luke's on 1 July: Peter Baker, widower & Mary Gibbs, spinster, by licence, with witnesses William Jones and Philip Protheroe, who I suspect were parish officers. As we know, a Peter Baker applied for settlement, with his wife Mary and three children in 1784. A Peter Baker married Sarah Laver in 1787 and Mary James in 1791. Whether these are the same man or several different men is not clear. Mary Gibbs had been "in trouble" twice before, and the overseers were undoubtedly delighted to see her married.

August 11

Ann Phillips, the daughter of James Phillips, deceased by Mary his wife, but now the wife of Joseph Cobourn, removed to Brislington from Christchurch, Bristol.

[BRO P/StLB/OP/11/33]

1799

January 12

"died at her house in Lodge Street, Mrs Lyne, aged 67. As a real and sincere Christian, her benevolence to the poor and distressed was only equalled by her piety to God."

[FFBJ]

February 2

"Thursday, Martha Scanfield, a poor woman of Brislington who has brought milk for sale in this City a great number of years, already having a large family of children and now in an advanced state of pregnancy, fell down in Clare Street owing to the slipperiness of the pavement and had her thigh broke in a very dangerous manner. She was immediately taken to that best of charities, the Infirmary, where she is certain of

receiving every comfort, but in the meantime, a helpless family is deprived not only of a tender mother's care, but of her labour which materially contributed towards their subsistence. To add to the distress of this poor but honest family the father who usually helps to maintain them by labouring for the masons is now without employment.....If any person reading this account should be humanely disposed to contribute their mite, the printer of this paper will happily accept it."

(In many years of perusing the papers, this is the first time I have ever come across such an appeal for an individual. I suspect Martha was well known to Felix Farley and was perhaps his personal milkmaid. The following week Felix tells us Martha was happily "in a fair way of recovery and that liberal donations had helped alleviate the family's distress." Martha was discharged "cured" by the Infirmary on 30 March.

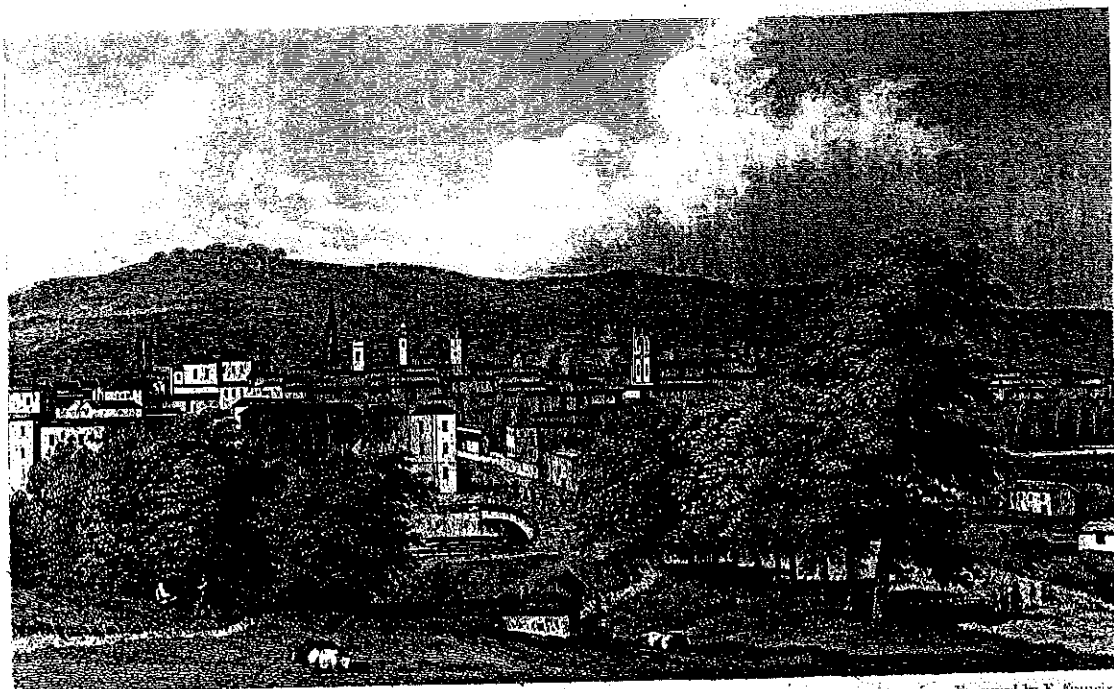
April 10
John Pullin, gentleman, buried.

(PR)

July 25
Stephen Jones, yeoman, to pay 18d (7½p) for his daughter by Sephora Rich, single woman.

[BRO/P/StLB/OP/14/21]

.....and on that rather mundane note we leave them until 1800.....



Drawn by W. Westall A.R.A.

Engraved by E. Francis.

BRISTOL FROM THE BATH ROAD

Published by Charles Tilt, 26, Fleet Street, London, B29.

MARRIAGES at Brislington 1775-1799

1775

Oct 23, John Walker of Wrington/Joice Brown, by Lic

1776

Mar 28, Matthew Scott/Sarah Rawlins(x)

Apr 18, Joseph Rodford/Rebekah Mills

Apr 20, James Lucas, bach, St Thomas, Bristol/Winifred Aston, by Lic

May 26, Richard Huntington(x)/Eliz Keinton(x)

Jun 2, William Peasley/Martha Jones, by Lic.

Sep 24, Thos Griffiths, St Stephens, Bristol/Sarah Freeman, by Lic.

1777

Nov 9, Charles John Mayhurst, St Stephens, Bristol/Margaret Thomson,
by Lic.

Nov 9, William Thorn(x)/Rachel Leaver(x)

Dec 7, William Williams/Ann Farmer of St P & J, Bristol

Dec 11, George Thorn (x)/Ann Leaver(x)

1778

Jan 10, Thomas Gubbins(x)/Hester Callard(x)

Jan 27, John Pullin/Esther Pearce, (W), North Nibley, by Lic.

Feb 22, James Roberts(x)/Jane Evins(x)

Sep 20, Richard Mackey/Alicia Freeman(x)

Oct 5, William Taylor/ Sarah Hathway of Puckley, by Lic

1779

May 10, Henry Barnett/Sarah Cornish

May 23, Francis King/Sarah Guy(x)

Jul 4, Samuel McCollister/Elizabeth Cook(x)

1780

Mar 18, Philip Staunton, mariner, of St Stephens/Eleanor Ewing
spinster, by Lic.

Jun 1, William England, clerk of St John's College, Cambridge/
Mary Estridge, spinster, by Lic

Jun 18, John Brooks(x)/Ann Gay(x)

Aug 19, George Cole of Henbury(x)/Sarah Millard(x) by Lic

1781

Apr 19, Joseph Atkins of Bedminster/Susannah Saunders(x)

1782

Apr 8, James Pillinger(x)/Hannah Ellis(x)

Same day, Henry Pillinger(x)/Eunice Parsons(x)

Apr 15, John Brown, yeoman/Mary Owen, spinster, by Lic

Oct 4, Benjamin Jones, widower of Hemington/Hannah Scanfield(x)

1783

Feb 11, Thomas Butterfield(x)/Sarah Hicks(x)

Mar 3, Thomas Brain(x)/Ann Pillinger(x)

Aug 28, James Dinwiddy of St Philip & St Jacob/Susannah Welch, widow

1784

Mar 25, William Stevens/Christian Dussen(x)

Oct 17, Joseph Phillips/Jane Cornfield (Should this be Scanfield?)

1785

Jan 30, James Laver(x)/Elizabeth Budd(x)

Aug 29, Edward Phelps/Ann Calder(x)

Dec 1, William Prusser, esquire, widower/Mrs Sarah Griffiths, widow

by Lic.

1786

Jul 2, Richard Coggins(x)/Sarah Bevan
Aug 8, John Wright/Hannah Beavan
Aug 8, John Green/Margaret Linley
Aug 15, James Watts/Mary Weymouth
Dec 14, Thomas Bird/Elizabeth Hicks(x) by Lic

1787

Jun 25, James Probets(x)/Elizabeth Hunt(x)
Jul 8, John Pillinger(x)/Ann Scanfield(x)
Sep 23, John Tompkins/Siparia Harrill
Nov 25, John Allen/Mary Weeks
Dec 3, Richard Baxter/Lucy Williams(x)
Dec 25, Peter Baker(x)/Sarah Laver(x)

1788

Mar 4, James Banwell/Elizabeth Watts
Mar 24, Daniel Pickford/Hester Stokes
Jun 26, John Bullen/Jane Humphreys(x)
Aug 27, Bartholomew Casey of Stepney, Middx/Catherine Keep by Lic
Aug 29, David Davies/Mary Howels

1789

Feb 16, Joseph Beake(x)/Ruth Chislett
May 27, John Wyatt, (W), carter of Stapleton/Mary Brown (S) by Lic
Jun 2, Benjamin Jones/Jane Jones
Dec 20, William Coggins(x)/Mary Pillinger(x)
Dec 21, William Jones/Ann Gwyther

1790

Apr 11, Joseph Lear(x)/Elizabeth James(x)
Jun 3, Francis Hemming/Elizabeth Parsons (W) by Lic
Jun 22, Thomas Harrill/Jemima Davies by Lic
Aug 22, Thomas Wise/Mary Harrill

1791

Jun 12, Peter Baker(x)/Mary James(x)
Jun 16, Edward Cassup (W)/Elizabeth Cann
Aug 14, James Vickery/Judith Driscoll(x)
Oct 24, William Godfrey/Rebecca Stevens

1792

Jun 5, James Skinfill(x)/Martha Bullen(x)
May 13, George Glover/Mary Ann Huntley
May 17, Giles Paul(x)/Elizabeth Button
May 20, Charles Mills/Mary Shutt
May 28, Samuel Bevan(x)/Mary Byam
Aug 13, John May/Ann Mathin(x)

1793

Jan 4, James Mondy(W)/Elizabeth Skinfield
May 14, James Davis/Elizabeth Bully(x)
Sep 4, James King/Ann Biggs

1794

Mar 20, Isaac Thorn/Martha Beyer
Apr 24, James Tindall of St Mary le Bone, Middx/Rebecca Bullen by Lic
May 13, William Warner of St James, Bristol (W)/Sarah Goby by Lic
Jun 9, James Tovey(x)/Mary Clements(x)
Jun 23, Robert Willoughby, esq/Lucy Mary Ferrers of Badgley Clinton
Warwicks, by Lic. (Francis Ferrers & Catherine Willoughby)

brother of James Ireland. This obviously explains the remark that he "did most of the work" in the booklet "St Luke's Parish Church".

-o-0-o-

Appendix 1.

BRISLINGTON PATIENTS AT THE INFIRMARY. 1775 - 1795
(Ref BRO/FCH/BRI)

Patient	Age	date	Recommended by	Complaint	result
Richard Edward	37	1775	Mr J. Ireland	Hammerhoids	cured
Joseph Forrest	47	1775	Mr Zeph. Fry	Diarrhea	cured
John Coggins	21	1776	George Weare esq	Contused knee	cured
Thomas Curtis	12	1777	-	Contused wound of head	cured
John Loscombe	55	1778	Mrs Martha Marsh	Rheumatism	-
John Elliott	50	1778		Fever	-
John Liscombe	55	1779	Abram Gadd	Cancerous ulcer of mouth	cured
James Bazley	12	1779	Casualty	Contused head	cured
Mary Curtis	20	1779	Mr George Catcott	Febris	cured
John Phillips	28	1779	Mr James Ireland	Febris	cured
Mary Canfield*	40	1780	Mr James Ireland	Abcess of thigh	cured
(*Should obviously be Scanfield)					
Benjamin Thrasher	28	1780	-	Rheumatic (?)	outpatient
Mary Sims	22	1780	Mr Thomas Woodall	Ulcer'd foot	cured
James Scanfield	40	1780	Mr James Ireland	Asthma	discharged
Grace Pope	62	1780	Mr John Cave	Fractured Arm	cured
Richard Edwards	33	1780	Mr George Stocker	Febris	cured
Joseph Elliot	50	1780	Mr Richard Vaughan	Abcess Toe	cured
George Cole	20	1780	Mr James Ireland	Febris	cured
John Gaisford	16	1780	Mr Thomas Trotwood	Incised wound in leg	cured
Ann Perry	34	1780	Rev Mr Thos Ireland	Febris	cured
Mary Curtis	22	1781	Mr James Trotman	Ulcer'd Leg	cured
James Robbins	30	1781	Mr James Ireland	Febris	cured
Mary Lovell	22	1781	Mr James Ireland	Febris	cured
Samuel Tyler	20	1781	Mr Josiah Thorne	Phthisis	cured
Mary Curtis	22	1781	Mr James Ireland	Ulcer'd Leg	Amputated
(entered 6 August, discharged 28 October)					
Samuel Tyler	20	1781	Mr Joseph Thomas	Phthisis	outpatient
Sarah White	18	1782	Mr Joseph Thomas	Febris	cured
Joseph Wills	70	1782	Mr James Ireland	Febris Catarrhalis	"
Joseph Williams	7	1782	Casualty	Fractured thigh	cured
Edward Bailey	22	1783	Mr James Ireland	Febris	cured
William Harris	15	1783	Mr James Ireland	Diarrhaea	cured
Sarah Williams	16	1783	Mr John J. Baker	Febris	dead
(Sarah was buried at St Luke's on 27 November 1783)					
John Baker	34	1784	Mr James Ireland	Rheumatism	left own request
John Baker	34	1785	Mr James Ireland	Rheumatism	cured
John Morgan	22	1785	Casualty	Lacerated wound of head	cured
Samuel Gain	60	1785	Rev Thomas Ireln	----? drops	cured
Ann Laven	70	1785	Mr M. Clayfield	Ulcer'd foot/leg	cured

Sarah Gane	45	1785	Mr M. Wright	Rheumatism	out patient	
Samuel Gain	63	1785	Rev Dr Ireland	Ulcer'd Leg		cured
Henry Scanfield	25	1786	James Ireland esq	Febris		cured
Sarah Merriweather	19	1786	Mr William Fry	Febris		cured
James Hipsley	53	1786	Casualty	Fractured Thigh		cured
James Room	15	1787	Casualty	Incised Wound of Back		cured
Ann Kingdom	31	1787	Mr P. Protheroe	Febris		cured
John Keates	45	1787	James Ireland esq	Febris		cured
Samuel Peasley	60	1787	James Ireland esq	Hydrocole		cured
Charles Brown	50	1788	Rev Dr Ireland	Hydrops		cured
Ann Lintern	20	1788	Mr M. Yeatman	Luos(?)		cured
Thomas Scanfield	27	1788	James Ireland esq	Ulcer'd Leg		cured
James Greenaway	20	1788	Rev Dr Ireland	Ophthalmia		cured
Henry Scanfield	27	1788	James Ireland esq	Ulcer'd Leg		cured
Thomas Adams	10	1789	Casualty	Lacerated Wound of Face		cured
Walter Anterney	40	1789	James Ireland esq	Paralysis		cured
Ann Hawkins	22	1790	Mr Jno Maxse	Tumor of Ankle		cured
Ann Barton	27	1790	Mr Thomas Ireland	Ulcer'd Leg		cured
William Bradford	40	1791	Mr M. Wright	Febris		cured
Samuel Bartlett	43	1791	Casualty	Fractured Leg		cured
Francis Nickols	17	1792	Mr James Ireland	Incised Wound		
				to the Knee		cured
Henry Ballon	19	1792	Mr James Ireland	Febris		cured
James Challenger	14	1792	Casualty	Capetis Contusiom		cured
Edward Bailey	30	1792	Dr Fox			cured
Mary Hawkins	28	1792	Mr John Maxse	Detritis		cured
Edward Bailey	30	1792	Mr Maxse	Febris		cured
Mary Hawkins	28	1793	Mr Maxse			cured
James Parnell	36	1793	Mr Henry Davies	Rheumatism		cured
Nath'l Baker	45	1793	Mr James Ireland	Sdis (?)		cured
Peggy Scanfield	50	1793	Mr James Ireland	General debility		cured
Mary Dyer	46	1793	Mr James Ireland	Delatitis		cured
Thomas Sobey	28	1793	Mr W. Deighton	Febris		cured
James Webber	23	1794	Casualty			cured
John Sanders	58	1794	Mr James Ireland	Rheumatism		cured
George Chertol(?)	17	1794	Casualty	Fracture		cured
Richard Bryant	26	1794	Dr Fox	Rheumatism		cured
James Wilcox	31	1794	Casualty	Broken		cured
Henry Pillinger	28	1794	Mr James Ireland	Typhus		dead

(NB: The St Luke's Rate Book for 1794 has the following:

"Paid for taking Henry Pillinger to the Infirmary... 2s 0d
 Paid for Funeral of Henry Pillinger ... 4s 4d
 I always understood that typhus was the dreaded "gaol fever" but there is no evidence so far that Henry was in prison. He Henry was buried at St Luke's on July 17.)

James Bryant	11	1794	Mr Matthew Wright		relieved
John Sims	38	1795	Robt Willoughby, esq	Rheumatism	cured
Edward Phillips	39	1795	Mr James Ireland	Phthsis	relieved
James Pillinger	15	1795	Mr James Ireland	Febris	cured
James Tuttle	36	1795	Mr John Maxse		cured
William Birt	27	1796	Mr James Ireland	Earache(?)	cured

Will Birt	20	1796	Mr James Ireland	Lues(?)	cured
Elizabeth Johnson	40	1796	Mr Richd Pierce	Syrosis	cured
Abraham Bevan	60	1796			cured
William Green	17	1796	Casualty		cured
John Hellyer	16	1797	Mr James Ireland	Abrasions	cured
Mary Watts	41	1798	Mr James Ireland	Haemerhoids(?)	cured
James Laver	25	1798	Mr James Ireland		cured
Andrew Bartlet	14	1798	C. Hill, esq	Febris	cured
James Collings	10	1798	Casualty		cured
Martha Scanfield	31	1799	Casualty	Femorus Fracture	cured March 30
Betty Powell	22	1799	Mr James Ireland	Rheumatism	cured
Samuel Paul	40	1799	Mr John Hurle		cured
Nicholas Tabrill	35	1799	Casualty		cured
Mary Wilcox	22	1799	Casualty		cured

With regards to the diseases shown above: please do not take my word for it! I suggest that anyone who spots an ancestor here should go to the Bristol Record Office armed with a magnifying glass and a medical dictionary, preferably one printed in the 18th century and in Latin. If you can also take a handwriting expert with you, so much the better. I have left a blank where I could not make out the complaint at all.

It is a relief to know that the success rate was so high and almost all these conditions were "cured"! Like many of the above, I was also a casualty at the Bristol Royal Infirmary, but in late 1999: I was discharged "cured" but slightly bent, in March 2000. This accounts for the long delay in the production of this book.

Appendix 2

Monumental Inscriptions in St Luke's Churchyard:

MILLARD

Ann daughter of George & Mary Millard of this parish died 1 May 1779 aged 12

also the above George Millard died 26 November 1796 aged 71

also Mary his wife died 13 December 1822 aged 89.

(The transcript of St Luke's burial register omits the words "Ann daughter of" and mistakenly states "George Millard buried 4 May 1779", and then again "George Millard buried 27 November 1796"! I hope some family historian is tracing their Millard family - the valuable record of the MI solves the puzzle of the apparent two Georges.

Appendix 3

Apprentices:

The following children were "bound to apprentice" in Brislington:

1777	Thomas Pope	to Thomas Harrill, husbandman
	Edward Pope	to Isaac Pillinger, husbandman
	John Sommerill	to William Dinham, esquire
	Deborah Huntington	to William James, gentleman

	Henry Sommerill	to John Estridge, esquire
1780	Richard Challenger	to John Weymouth, yeoman
	Jeremiah Pillinger	to William Bristow, yeoman
	James Lacey	to Ann Brown, widow
1781	Ann Challenger	to Susanna Armitage
1782	Abraham Huntington	to John Adams, esquire
	Grace Sommerill	to Thomas Tipton
1784	Susannah Pillinger	to James Ireland, esquire
	Mary Cains	to William Maberley
	Mary Pillinger	to William Jones, yeoman
1785	Richard Sheriff	to William Browne, farmer
	Mary Knight	to Sarah Griffiths
	Mary Scanfield	to Mary Harrill
	George Thorne	to Thomas Young, farmer
1787	Martha Hamilton	to John Hawkins
	Ann Bartlett	to William Weymouth, husbandman
	James Challenger	to Edward Lyne, esquire
1791	Sarah Powell	to William Fry (not executed)
1793	Andrew Bartlett	to Charles Hill, esquire
	Mary Slade	to Thomas Harrill, yeoman
1798	James Allen	to John Pullen, gentleman
	Robert Haines	to William Jones, yeoman
1799	Joseph Mainard	to John Hill, schoolmaster

[BRO P/StLB/OP 15-48]

The following children were "bound to apprentice" outside Brislington:

1784	William Martin	to Isaac Martin of St George, gardener
	Samuel Haynes	to the above
1787	John Keates	to Joseph Abbot of Bristol, tailor
1790	Sarah Anthony	to Samuel Griffin of St George, her uncle
1793	James Haynes	to William Gill of St George, cordwainer
	James Hunt	to John Roberts of Ss Philip & Jacob, shoemaker
	Sarah Huntington	to Samuel Huntington of Christchurch, basketmaker
	Reuben Huntington	to the above
	Matthew Huntington	to James Huntington of St James, basketmaker
	Hannah Huntington	to the above
	Sarah Powell	to John Cole of Temple, victualler
1794	William Haynes	to William Gill of St George, cordwainer
1795	Ann Haskins	to Thomas Taylor of Bitton
	Jane Haskins	to the above

[BRO P/StLB/OP/15, 108-123]

The SOMMERILL (Summerall) family:

John was aged 10 and Henry, 8:

they were the children of Mary Summerall who had been abandoned by her husband Benjamin in 1770. (see 20 June 1770, Brislington Bulletins, 4). There was also a Grace amongst Mary's offspring, but in 1770 she was aged 9. It seems unlikely that the same Grace would have been apprenticed in 1782.

The POPE family:

Edward was aged 9 and Thomas, 11 they were the children of Sarah Pope, whose husband Thomas had likewise left her. (see 9 July 1770, Brislington Bulletins, 4).

The PILLINGER family:

The lack of a safety net is clear. In 1777, Isaac Pillinger took on a parish apprentice. By 1780, he had himself fallen on hard times, and his son was in turn apprenticed by the parish, followed later by his two daughters.

The HUNTINGTON family had made baskets from the withy beds at St Anne's for many years previously. It is interesting that the skilled practitioners of the craft had now gone to Bristol, whilst the trade was still being kept "in the family."

Appendix 4

Burials of Mr Langton's servants at Newton St Loe:

William Ager, Mr Langton's coachman, 2 July 1794
George Swift, under gardener to the family of Langton upwards of 50 years past, aged 73. 2 December 1795.

Appendix 5

The following were buried 1786-94, described as "parper", which leaves no doubting the accent of our Parish Clerk, who kept up the registers. However, bearing in mind that our priests were very irregular, it is commendable that the registers were kept up at all, however misspelt!

Ann Williams, Gay Robins, Thomas Hunt, child, Robert Paw, Christianah Parsons, Mary Stead, Thomas Thorn, Hester Griffin, Grace Pope, Samuel Huntington, Thomas Baker, Abraham Eiles, Eleanor Feer, William Curtis, James Peasley, Josias Wills, Thomas Hunt, Mary & James Purnel, Betty Ellet, Elizabeth & Richard Huntington, Mary Skinfill, Joan Blaning, Hannah Bright.



JOMBSTONE ~ ST LUKES' CHURCHYARD

The Willoughbys - a Catholic Family and a puzzle.

On 14th December 1772, Robert Willoughby, esquire of Yatton, co. Hereford married Barbara Bruin "of this parish" by Licence at St Augustine's, Bristol. Whether this is the same Robert who came to live in Brislington is not yet known. Certainly nothing further is so far known of Barbara Willoughby.

By 1791, we know that a Robert Willoughby was living on William Gore-Langton's estate with "a dwelling house, a garden, a coach house, a stable, a fuel house, a garden and a pleasure ground in Lower Wood." This appears to be Wick House for on 23rd February 1793, the St Luke's register reads:

"At Midday was born at Wick, Robert Lewis Willoughby, the son of Robert and Cecilia Willoughby, baptised 2nd March following, *vide* Register of the Roman Catholic Chapel, Bristol."

They seem to be the first Catholics recorded at Brislington since the Reformation. Sadly, Cecilia Willoughby seems not to have recovered after the birth, and the burial register records that "Mrs Willoughby" was buried 11th May 1793.

Just over a year later, on 23rd June 1794, Robert remarried at St Luke's: The entry states that the marriage was between "Robert Willoughby esquire, widower and Lucy Mary Ferrers, spinster of Badgeley, Clinton, Warwickshire." Francis Ferrers and Catherine Willoughby, who were obviously relatives of the bridal pair, witnessed the marriage.

On 1st May 1797, Ferrers Willoughby, was baptised, the son of Robert and Lucy Willoughby, "*vide* Register of the Roman Catholic Chapel, Bristol", and on 26th January 1802, Madelina the daughter of Robert and Lucy was born. She was baptised a Catholic sometime between the 9th & 16th May 1802.

So far so good, but then on 3rd October 1796 we find Pomeroy Willoughby, son of Robert and Elizabeth Pomeroy McGhie baptised, and on 6th March 1798, Jane Charlotte daughter of Robert and Jane Grammer Willoughby, baptised, both at St Luke's with no mention of Catholic orientation..

Elizabeth Pomeroy McGhie may be a sister of Robert Willoughby, but as Lucy was still alive in 1798, Jane Grammer is another wife of (presumably) another Robert.

Robert Willoughby, esquire, was buried at St Luke's on 29th May 1802.

From the evidence of the first baptism in 1793, Robert was living at Wick House, and it seems his residency may have been between that of Charles Hill and William Withering, as described in "Bygone Brislington." The same book states that the Willoughbys owned "a wild desolate stretch of land" which was sold to the soon to be famous Dr Fox, and that he built his asylum on the spot.

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George Hicks married Katherine Chilcot, at Priston 14 October 1760

Samuel King married Mary Curtis, St James, Bristol, 11 February 1768

Rev. Sydenham Teast Wylde married Ann Newman, St James, Bristol, 28 November 1778.

John Hill was the proprietor of "a boarding school for the sons of gentlemen" at Church Hill House. The house still stands and until recently was St Luke's Vicarage.

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When I began my family history more than 25 years ago, I soon discovered that most of my paternal ancestors worked as coalminers in the Kingswood pits, and several of them were killed at their work. I was both appalled and fascinated and the above series grew from these tragic events.

BLACK History.

"Black Bristolians" - inhabitants of Bristol c1600-1800.

Cost of the above £4 (£1) (£3.50)

When doing other research, I began casually to jot down the names of those black people I was surprised to find mentioned in various sources. I found there was a sizeable minority black population, some slave, some free, living in Bristol. It appeared to me that these Bristolians had been entirely forgotten. The result was this book, written a decade ago, years before Bristol began seriously to address a somewhat ignominious part of its past.

FAMILY Histories

"The **PILLINGER** family of Kingswood" - Part 1 - from Yatton Keynell to Outer Space! 1660-present.

"The **HONOUR** family" - from Oxfordshire to Bristol 1600-1945.

"The **LINDEGAARD** family" - from Denmark to Bristol via Ireland.

"The **BUDGETTS** of **KINGSWOOD HILL**" - Grocers and Philanthropists.

Costs available on request.

In Preparation:

The **PILLINGER** family. I believe all the Pillingers in the World are related. My branch is as above, but I have researched the family in detail in Gloucestershire, Wiltshire and Somerset. Further books to follow.

NAPOLEONIC Wars. Bristol men who served in the Army & Navy.

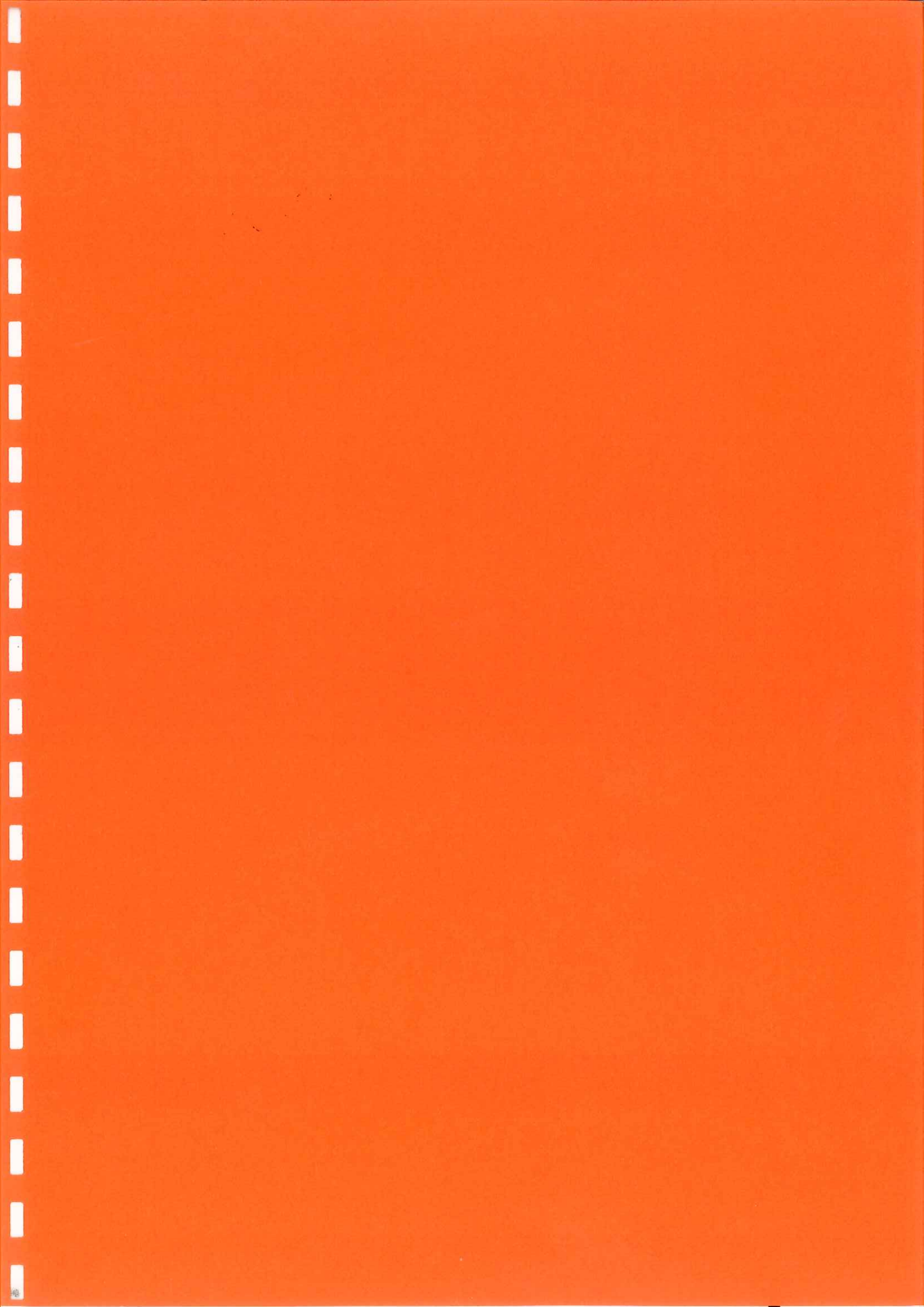
FIRST WORLD WAR. The fallen from Bristol commemorated in memorials in the City and surroundings.

BRISTOL WOMEN. (I know I have neglected them, and most are just as interesting as the men!)

THE KINGSWOOD INDEX:

This is a personal name index which contains many thousands of names with biographical details of people living in the Kingswood (near Bristol) area. (For parishes included, see above, "Kingswood Annals"). The period covered is heavily weighted 1600-1850, but includes some from before and some after. I can look up and list all details of one surname (not exceeding 30 names) for £3 per surname, plus sae or 2 IRCs.

**Patricia Lindegaard, BA
49 Clayfield Rd
Brislington
Bristol
BS4 4NH
ENGLAND.**



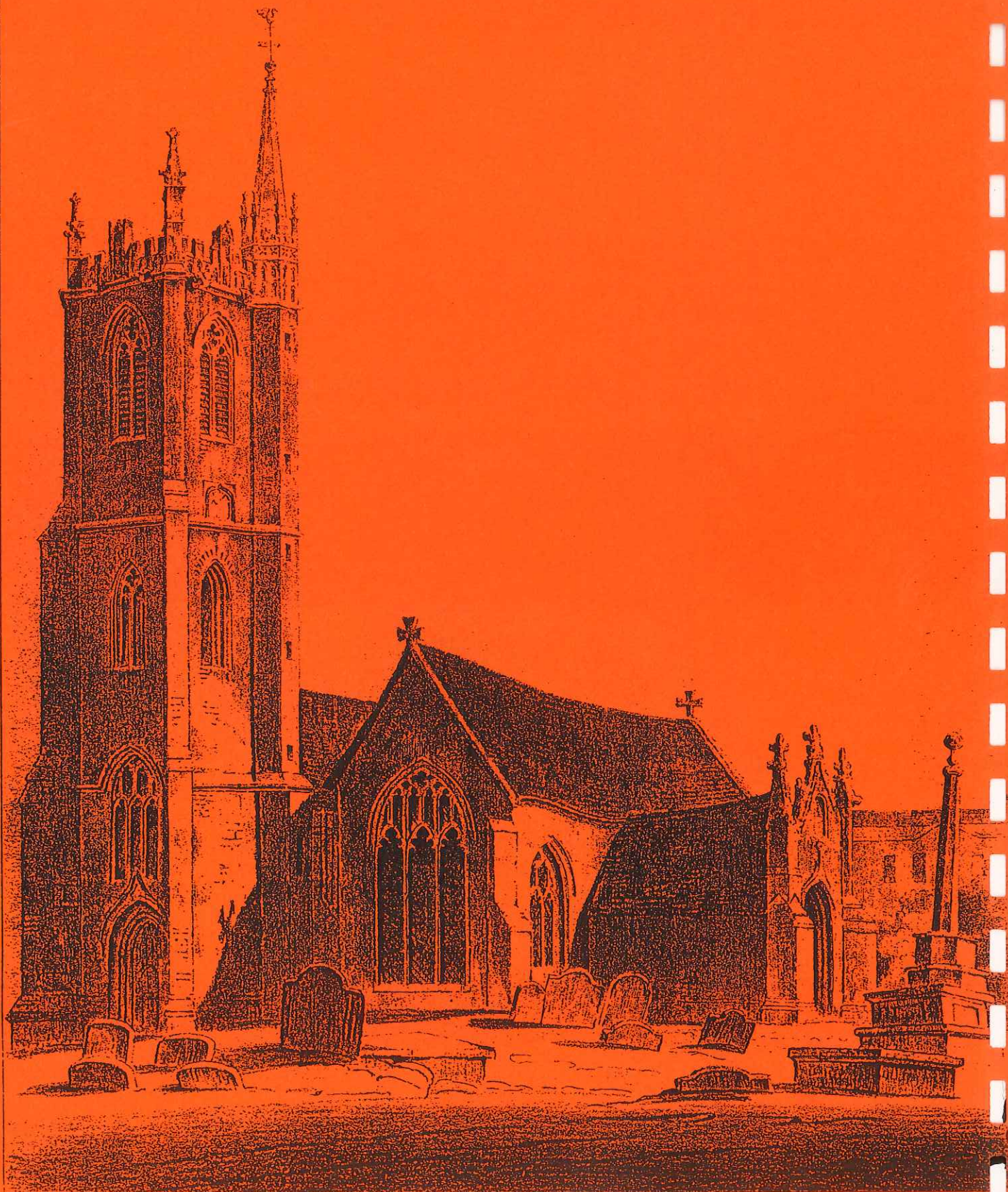


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