

BAHAMAS.

I am indebted to my correspondent at Nassau for the following information and inscriptions in 1921 :—

“ You have the sum of the Christ Church memorials, but there were ‘ lots ’ which apparently were really burial grounds, and with Christ Church date from about the beginning of the eighteenth century, or earlier even. These are alluded to in the Christ Church Registers. But the common burial grounds and earliest were, owing to the hard rock that chiefly composes the mass of these Islands, the sandy sea shores in which hollows were easily scooped out—The ‘ white grounds ’ as they were called.

The ‘ white ground ’ of New Providence, at the East of the town, was one of the chief burial grounds, before the building of St. Matthews, early in the beginning of the nineteenth century, and after the arrival of the Royalists became more used. I have not sent any of the inscriptions from this yard, and many of them have been improved off the face of the earth.

Another of these was one to the West of the Town, below and in front of Fort Charlotte facing North, and was used early.

The Hurricane of 1866, it is said, cleared the rocks of all their superjacent sand deposit, and strewed with bones the shores adjacent to the West.

The Soldiers Burying Ground within the extensive Fort Charlotte grounds, uncovered in a recent turning over of the ground for the purpose of a golf course to amuse Americans, tho’ containing the remains of hundreds of British soldiers bones, showed no memorials.

During one epidemic the Christ Church Registers say that from 5th August, 1790 to 1st January, 1791, the Incumbent buried of the 47th Regiment, 232 men, women and children, and from the last of December, 1790 to 25th December, 1791, a total of 364 men, women and children. Besides the above, people were interred in their own grounds, but the memorials left are now chiefly improved off the face of the earth. . . .

As the result of the American Revolution, it gave us Lord Dunmore as Governor, and a number of Tory Royalists came here from all the Colonies of the Continent, but no doubt the evacuation you have in mind is that of East Florida—not Carolina—in 1785 which had been ceded to Great Britain in 1763, but was handed back to Spain in August, 1784, but the evacuation by the British settlers was not completed until 1785, homes being found for them apparently in the Bahamas.

Long previous to this, indeed from the earliest settling of the New World intercourse was continuous between Bermuda, Carolina, and The Bahamas and the other Colonies. The local records of early date are therefore of great interest to all Britishers, and these records are crying out for quick extraction of their substance. The paper is dropping to pieces with decay, and already much is lost These records begin from the early part of the eighteenth century but chiefly somewhat later. One or two scattered grants of the Lords Proprietors Agents or Governors occur, but the mass of grants and regrants of lands begins with Lord Dunmore’s tenure of office, and are contained in a number of volumes.

One volume of Minutes of the Court of Ordinary contains notes of value of near or about 700 administrations and probates . . . The turning out of the Vice Court of Admiralty records and the dumping of them, or a great heap of them, in the open ground, makes one gasp, though containing no doubt the germs of many a sensational plot of adventure, as they relate to the doings of pirates, privateers, wreckers, slaves, etc. . . .

L. J. K. BRACE."

CHRIST CHURCH CATHEDRAL, NASSAU,
ISLAND OF PROVIDENCE.

The following inscriptions, transcribed by Mr. J. L. K. Brace, of Nassau, were forwarded to me 21st July, 1921, by the Rev. T. C. Dale of 29 Larkhall Rise, London, S. W. 4.

MURAL TABLETS.

1. On south wall :—

WILLIAM MOSS, Esquire, died 9 Dec., 1796, aged 45. Born at Huyton, Lancashire ; for the greater part of 24 years of his life in Georgia, East Florida, and in these Islands. Buried in front of north pulpit.

2. F. A. WETHERALL, died 21 Aug., 1857, aged 44. Lt Col. 1st West India Regt in command here ; eldest son of Lt Gen. Sir G. A. Wetherall, K.C.B. Adj^t Gen^l to the Forces. Erected by the Officers of the Regt

In the account of his father Geo. Augustus in the "D.N.B." this son is not noticed. Gen^l Sir Fred. Augustus the grandfather saw much service in the West Indies.

3. STANLEY BYNG HORNBY, 1st Lt in H.M. Royal Regt of Artillery died 21 Nov., 1843, in his 29th year, leaving a wife and two children. He joined the Service in 1832, arrived in Nassau in command of a detachment of Artillery in 1834, was appointed in 1839 a Stipendiary Magistrate for the Bahamas, and retired on an allowance in 1841, and then returned to England.

He married the second daughter of Joseph Thompson, merchant of Nassau. He was third son of Rev^d Geoffrey Hornby, rector of Bury, Lancashire, and related to the present Lord Stanley. He was buried in Potters' Field. Tablet erected by his Father-in-law. His mother was the Hon. Georgiana Bing. See Hornby of Dalton Hall in *Burke's L.G.*

4. GEORGINA ELIZABETH SWANN died 14 Oct., 1858 in her 18th year. Daughter of the late Cap^t S. B. Hornby, Royal Artillery, and wife of Rev^d Robert Swann. Also their son Robert George Henry who died 29 May, 1859, aged 7½ months. (See 45 for him).

5. ROBERT WEAR ELLIOTT. Born 9 Dec., 1784, a native of Northumberland, sometime Member of the House of Assembly for Harbour Island and Chairman of the Chamber of Commerce, resident here for many years greatly respected; wrecked in a storm off the Cork coast, when returning from the British Islands in his Brig the "Eliza Ann" and lost with all on board 20 Nov., 1830.

His widow Eliza daughter of John McPherson, Esq. died 16 Oct., 1832.

6. ANDREW SETON Esq. died 20 Nov. 1830. Wrecked off the Cork coast when returning here in R. W. Elliott Esquire's Brig "Eliza Ann," with all on board. A Member of Chamber of Commerce in Nov. 1799. His relict Elizabeth died at an advanced age 22 Dec. 1835. Member of firm of John Marsh & Co. dissolved Nov., 1807, was of the firm Seton & Elliott as early as 1816.

(This Monumental Inscription is apparently on Elliott's tablet).

7. FREDERIC CHARLES RICHARDSON, Esq., died 4 March, 1838, aged 22. Lt in 2nd West India Regiment, born at Langford, Fifehead, Somerset; 10 months previous to his death he had married Eliza daughter of the late Lewis Kerr, many years Speaker of the House of Assembly, and subsequently Attorney General of the Bahamas.

8. CHARLES CAULFIELD, D.D., died 4 Sept., 1862, aged 52. First Bishop of Nassau. Consecrated 24 Nov., 1861.

9. ADDINGTON R. P. VENABLES, D.D., died 8 Oct., 1876, aged 49. Bishop of Nassau. Consecrated 30 Nov., 1869, died at Hartford, Connecticut, U.S.A.

Addington Robert Peel Venables eldest son of Thomas of London, Esq., matriculated from Exeter College, Oxford, 23 Jan., 1848, aged 17; B.A. 1848, M.A. 1851, created D.D. 4 Feb. 1864. (*Foster*).

10. MICHAEL ICELY died 23 Jan., 1834, of Pembroke, South Wales. Midshipman, H.M.S. Thunder; drowned with a fellow Midshipman and a Seaman off "The Brothers" rocks near Ragged Island in this Colony, and named after them. Erected by Capt. Owen and their brother officers.

11. JOHN SAWYER LLOYD died 23 Jan., 1834, of Pembroke, South Wales, Midshipman, H.M.S. Thunder; drowned with a fellow Midshipman (etc. as above).

12. WALTER GOULD HINSON LIGHTBOURN died 1 Oct., 1842, aged 45. A native of these Islands, Lt.-Col. of the Bahama Militia, leaving a widow and children.

13. MARIA ADELINE ROBINS, wife of George W. G. Robins, and eldest daughter of Don Cipriana Palacios.

14. MARIA ADELINE PALACIOS died 26 Jan., 1844, in her 37th year. Wife of Don Cipriano Palacios, merchant here. Buried in S^t Matthew's churchyard.

15. FREDERICK CIPRIANO PALACIOS, died 26 Feb., 1851, aged 26. Ensign in the Cape Mounted Rifles, died serving with his Regiment at Port Mare, Cape of Good Hope. Only son of Don Cipriano and Maria Palacios.

16. CIPRIANO PALACIOS, died 26 Nov., 1879. Born at Reynosa Old Castile Spain, 16 Sept., 1789.

1845, Oct. 23. At Nassau, New Providence, Charles Rookes, Lieutenant 2nd West India Regiment to Teresa, second daughter of Don Capician (*sic*) Palacios of Castile Old Spain. (*Gent. Mag.* 1846, p. 86).

17. CLARA CONRAN died 2 March, 1866, on board the S.S. Calabar on her way to Africa. Buried in the Protestant Cemetery, Madeira. Wife of Colonel Conran, 4th West India Regiment, Lieut. Governor of the Gold Coast, West Africa and youngest daughter of Cipriano and Maria Palacios.

18. HELEN ROSS died 14 April, 1815, aged 33. Wife of Lieut.-Colonel J. G. Ross, 2nd West India Regiment. Their infant son William Patrick died 1 June, 1815, aged 1 year 7 months.

19. LOUISE JOHNSON died 6 June, 1856, in her 23rd year. Daughter of W(m) J(ohn) P(etly) Johnson.

20. 1862, Aug. Erected by the Officers and Crew of H.M.S. Peterel to their Shipmates who died of Yellow Fever at Nassau.

Archibald Stevenson, Surgeon, aged 29.

Dunbar, A. Jamison, Assistant Surgeon, aged 26

John Gray, Engineer, aged 32.

Thomas Pigeon, Gunner Royal Marines, aged 23.

Thomas How, Gunroom Steward, aged 25

Thomas Edwards, Boy 1st class, aged 18.

William Brown, Boy 2nd class, aged 16

and died at sea of the same fever :—

John South, Ordinary Seaman, aged 19.

James Steward, A.B., aged 24.

Jeremiah Coffey, A.B., aged 24.

J. H. Murphy, sculpsit, Halifax N.S.

21. Floor stone at West end of Centre Aisle :—

WILLIAM HANNAY died 18 Sept., 1784, aged 33.

22. Floor stone Centre Aisle :—

Hon^{ble} JAMES MOSS died 23 Oct., 1820, aged 61.

23. Floor stone in Aisle :—

THOMAS MICHAEL CARTER died 27 Jan., 1763, in his 17th year. Son of the Rev^d Robert Carter and his wife Jane.

24. Floor stone in Aisle :—

JOHN FALCONER, Merchant, died 3 Nov., 1793, aged 51.

25. Floor stone in Aisle :—

ELIZABETH DIXON, widow, died 18 Sept., 1779, aged 54.

26. Floor stone in Aisle :—

His Excellency JOHN TINKER died 10 July, 1758, aged 58. Eighteen years Governor and Commander-in-Chief over these Islands.

27. Floor stone in aisle :—

Crest :—*An arm embowed grasping a flag (apparently the colours), to right several spears a halbert and gun rammer.*

SIR HENRY MARR, Knight, died 29 Nov., 1793, aged 58. Late Major H.M. 47th Regiment of Foot, 40 years in the Regiment.

This gallant veteran commenced his military career under General Braddock, and was in the action in which that unfortunate officer lost his life. (*Gent. Mag.* for 1794, p. 278).

28. Floor stone in front of Chancel :—

JAMES EDWARD POWELL, Esq., died 5 Feb., 1786, aged 67. Lieut.-Governor and Commander-in-Chief of the Bahama Islands.

29. Floor stone in Aisle :—

WILLIAM MOSS, Esq., died 9 Dec., 1796, aged 45. (See No. 1.)

MURAL TABLETS.*

30. CHARLES MAURICE BODE, died 29 Dec., 1859, aged 59, a native of these Islands, attached for 40 years to the Nassau Field Artillery Company of Militia and at his death Lieut.-Colonel of the Corps, the last surviving son of the late Dr. Charles Bode, surgeon during the American Revolution of the Hessian Grenadiers, who afterwards practised Medicine in this Colony for half a century. Erected by John A. Culhart (?) his friend.

31. EUPHEMIA ELIZABETH ALLEN, died 8 May, 1843 in her 25th year, wife of Major James Allen, 2nd West India Regiment, and daughter of Joseph and Mary E. Thompson.

32. FREDERICK KNIGHT BURNSIDE, born 30 Sept., 1857, died 17 Aug., 1862. Son of Bruce Lockhart Burnside and his wife Mary Elizabeth. Later became Chief Justice of Ceylon.

33. Capt. WILLIAM GILLESPIE, died 3 Oct., 1799, aged 42, at Brixton Place near London, of the Ship "Thomas Gillespie." (At foot of inscription) Capt. John Gillespie. The ship apparently lost in a hurricane. (Inscription very worn).

34. Arms : *A chevron between three crosses botoné a fleur de lis for difference.*
Crest : *A naked right forearm coupéd grasping a short straight sword.*

ELIZABETH JANE ANDERSON, died 1 Oct., 1841, aged 31. Wife of Hon^{ble} George Campbell Anderson, H.M. Attorney-General of the Bahamas. Buried in St. Matthew's Churchyard.

He was later knighted and died when Chief Justice of Ceylon.

35. ANNE AUGUSTA MARRIOTT, died 7 July, 1842, aged 26. Wife of W. G. Marriott, Esq., and daughter of John Pinder, Esq. Buried in St. Mathew's, North-West corner of Burial Ground between her Mother and two infants.

36. MARY ANN and REBECCA J. FARRINGTON, daughters of the late William Farrington, Esq., who perished in returning from America in the S.S. "Leo," burnt at Sea 13 April, 1877. They were benefactors to Christ Church.

* These appear to be in continuation from No. 20.

37. Capt. HENRY HARVEY, died 19 July, 1869, aged 46, at Nassau, New Providence, Senior Officer of the Bahamas Division and Capt. H.M.S. "Eclipse." Died of Yellow Fever. Buried in the present Agricultural Grounds formerly the Eastern Cemetery. Erected by the Officers of the Ship.

38. JOHN EUGENE DILLET, died 9 March, 1826, at Bristol, England. A native of these Islands, and for the last ten years of his life a resident of Sierra Leone.

39. EMMA CLEMENTINA BLATCH, died 16 Oct., 1825 of fever. Buried at Potters' Field Cemetery. A relation of Admiral Barnett.

40. MARY JANE PATTERSON ALLAN, died 24 Oct., 1852, aged 26. Wife of George Allan, Esq., late of H.M. 1st West India Regiment. Also to their infant son Charles Herbert John who died 5 Jan., 1853, aged 11 months.

41. JOSEPH JOHN THOMPSON, died Aug., 1837. Son of Joseph and Mary Thompson of this Island, aged 20 years and 10 months—left here, Nassau, in the Schooner "Hero," 13 Aug., 1837, on the third day after a violent storm arose which is supposed to have caused the loss of the Schooner and all on board. Erected by his parents.

42. JULIUS WILLIAM THOMPSON of the 1st West India Regiment, died 12 Jan., 1851, on his passage to England in the American Ship "Franconia" wrecked off Holyhead. He, the commander and five of the crew perished. Erected by his parents Joseph and Mary E. Thompson to their youngest son born 17 Aug., 1829.

43. EMILY ANN ALLAN, died 24 Jan., 1850, aged 22 years and 8 months, having given birth to a daughter three weeks before. Wife of George Allan, 1st West India Regiment and third daughter of Joseph and Mary E. Thompson of this Island.

44. MARY ELIZABETH THOMPSON, died 9 July, 1860, a native of these Islands, in her 72nd year, wife of Joseph Thompson, merchant of these Islands, leaving a husband, son and daughter and several grandchildren.

45. On North side of Reredos base :

Rev^d ROBERT SWANN for 33 years Rector and Dean of this Cathedral, died at Peterborough 11 Dec., 1899.

46. On North side of base of Reredos :—

Dⁿ FREDERICK DUNCOMBE, churchwarden, etc., died 22 March, 1882.

CHRIST CHURCH CHURCHYARD.

47. On a slab :—

THOMAS and DEBORAH DUNCOME. Erected by their son Robert Duncome, 1802.

48. On a slab :—

RICHARD LAKE, died 3 March, 1769, aged 41.

49. On a slab :—

JOHN SHORLAND, died 4 June, 1781, aged 43.

50. On a slab :—

MARTHA O'HALLORAN, died 4 Oct., 1788, aged 28. Wife of John O'Halloran, Esq.

51. Marble tablet let in the face of an elevated monument :—

NICHOLAS and MARGARET GARNER and their children.

NICHOLAS GARNER died 4 July, 1802, aged 67.

MARGARET his wife, died 8 June, 1744 (*sic*) aged 52, daughter of Parker.

Their children ANN married Aug., 1785, Cap^t HAMILTON, 37th Regiment, and erected the Christ Church Monument.

NICHOLAS, died 24 Oct., 1766, aged 10 months.

FREEMAN, died 7 Sept., 1776, aged 3 years.

MARGARET, died 4 Nov., 1773, aged 1 year, 9 months, 11 days.

52. On a slab :—

Miss MARGARET HANLEY, died 24 Aug., 1773, aged 23 years, 10 months, 11 days. Mrs. Hanley sister to Nicholas Garner arrived from Barbados with her daughter in 1785, and sailed for Charlestown, South Carolina, 1785.

53. On a slab :—

MARGARET FARR, died 19 July, 1778, wife of Peter Farr.

ST. MATHEW'S, NASSAU, NEW PROVIDENCE.

MURAL MONUMENTS.

54. ALEXANDER HOPE PATTISON, Lieut.-Colonel of the 2nd West India Regiment, Commanding the Troops in this Colony, second son of John Pattison of Kelvin, died 11 Jan., 1835, aged 48 (?), buried with impressive ceremonial in St. Mathew's Churchyard, New Providence. He was one of the 3rd Division and served on the Staff of Picton and at Salamanca, etc. His fellow citizens first erected a monument in the Necropolis of Glasgow, and his widow Anna, second daughter of His Honour Judge Robert Johnson erected the stone over his ashes in which also rests his nephew.

(See *Gent. Mag.* for 1835, p. 446).

1847, Dec. 9. At Paisley, J. R. G. Pattison, of 10th Foot, only son of the late Lt.-Col. A. Hope Pattison, K.H., Commander of the Troops in the Bahamas, to Isabella, eldest daughter of William Lowndes, of Arthurlie, N.B. (*Gent. Mag.* for 1848, p. 192).

55. Arms : *Guttée de poix a lion rampant, on a chief three escallop shells.*

Crest : *Out of a ducal coronet a camel's head.*

Motto : TACHE SANS TACHE.

ALEXANDER HOPE PATTISON, Lieut. 2nd West India Regiment, fifth son of John Pattison, Esq. of Glasgow, N.B. and nephew of Lt.-Col. Pattison, K.H., Commanding the Troops in this Colony, died of Yellow Fever at Nassau, 28 Sept., 1834, aged 21. Erected by his brother officers.

56. Arms : *On a bend three escallop shells.*

Motto : TRUE TO THE END.

Honourable WILLIAM WEBB, Esq., died 17 May, 1867, in his 76th year. He entered the Customs, Bahamas in 1801, and continued in it until the Office of Collector was abolished in 1849, when he retired on an allowance. Senior Member of H.M. Executive Council of these Islands.

57. Rev. JOHN WRIGHT, Jesus College, Cambridge, late Rector of this Parish. Born 24 April, 1785, died 10 August, 1821. Erected by friends. He lies inside the Church.

58. ROBERT MILLAR, Esq., died 21 Jan., 1845, aged 58, a native of these Islands, he went at an early age to Scotland, etc. Erected by his sister Ann Millar.

59. ELIZABETH ANN FORBES, wife of Thomas Forbes of Nassau, merchant, died 4 Oct., 1798. Their infant son Thomas Irving Forbes died 17 July, 1797, aged 27 months and 15 days. Buried in the South-West corner of St. Mathew's Churchyard.

60. Crest : *An arm embowed in armour holding a scimitar.*

Motto : PRO PATRIA.

GEORGE BIRRILL, Esq., late Attorney-General of these Islands, and previously for several years Member of Council and Procureur-General of St. Lucia. Eldest son to the late Cap^t George Birrill of the Hon. East India Company Service, died 9 March, 1837, aged 38 at Nassau, New Providence. Buried in St. Mathew's Burial Ground. Erected by his widow. (*See Gent. Mag.*, p. 670.)

61. ELIZABETH S. KEMP, wife of Henry E. Kemp of Nassau, New Providence, Merchant, died 18 May, 1845, aged 32. Buried at the West end of the Church.

62. MARGARET ANN MARSHALL, wife of Charles J. Marshall, Esq., died 26 Oct., 1864, aged 55.

Also Charles J. Marshall only son of Charles J. Marshall and Margaret Ann Marshall died in New York City 13 Sept., 1865. Buried in Greenwood Cemetery.