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## Alexander Baring

### Profile & Legacies Summary

27<sup>th</sup> Oct 1774 - 13<sup>th</sup> May 1848

CLAIMANT OR BENEFICIARY

## Biography

Politician and financier, created 1st Baron Ashburton 10/04/1835. Member of the Privy Council from 1834.

Second son of Sir Francis Baring, 1st Baronet (1740-1810) and of Harriet, daughter of William Herring. His grandfather John Baring (1697–1748) emigrated from Germany and established the family in England.

Brought up in his father's business; became partner at Hope & Co., Amsterdam bank founded c.1720 and with, among other things, important West Indian connections. Marriage in 1796 of Alexander's sister, Dorothy, 3rd daughter of Sir Francis Baring, 1st Baronet (1740-1810) to Pierre Cesar Labouchere, partner in the firm helped to join the two firms of Barings and Hope.

Alexander sent to the USA for various land deals and formed wide connections with American houses. In 1810, by his father's will, he became head of the family firm. In 1811, when Henry Hope died, he merged the London offices of Hope & Co. into Baring Brothers & Co.

Politically: see *Political legacies*

Trustee of the British Museum and of the National Gallery; Privy Councillor; D.C.L. He published, besides several speeches, *An Enquiry into the Causes and Consequences of ... Orders in Council* (1808), and *The Financial and Commercial Crisis Considered* (1847).

Children of Alexander and Anne Louisa Bingham: Hon. Anne Eugenia Baring (died 8 March 1839), married Humphrey St John Mildmay; Hon. Harriet Baring (3 May 1802 – 2 January 1892), married Henry Thynne, 3rd Marquess of Bath; Hon. Louisa Emily Baring (d. 23 March 1888); Hon. Lydia Emily Baring (d. 28 December 1868); Alexander Baring (2 May 1810 – 12 March 1832); Bingham Baring, 2nd Baron Ashburton (1799–1864); Francis Baring, 3rd Baron Ashburton (1800–1868); Hon. Arthur Baring (8 October 1818 – 16 February 1838); Hon. Rev. Frederick Baring (31 January 1806 – 4 June 1868), married on 24 April 1831 Frederica Ashton.

Portrait, a Mezzotint, is by Charles Edward Wagstaff (Engraver, 1808-1850) after Sir Thomas Lawrence, published 1837. From the National Portrait Gallery: NPG D7396

The portrait (c.1810) by Sir Thomas Lawrence which this was based on is in the possession of ING Barings, London and is reproduced in the entry for Baring in the Oxford DNB.

## Sources

T71/887 British Guiana claim no. 2282 (Spring Garden) shows the counterclaim by the then current partners of Barings. Alexander Baring had formally withdrawn from the partnership in 1830. T71/879 St Kitts claim nos. 206, 336 and 724.



([http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Barings\\_Ban](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Barings_Bank)

## Legacies Summary

([/lbs/person/view/-1411131717/#summary](https://www.ucl.ac.uk/lbs/person/view/-1411131717/#summary)).

[Commercial \[2\]](#)

([/lbs/person/view/-1411131717/#commercial-summary](https://www.ucl.ac.uk/lbs/person/view/-1411131717/#commercial-summary)).

[Cultural \[3\]](#)

([/lbs/person/view/-1411131717/#cultural-summary](https://www.ucl.ac.uk/lbs/person/view/-1411131717/#cultural-summary)).

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[Imperial](#)

[Physical](#)

[Political \[2\]](#)

([/lbs/person/view/-1411131717/#political-summary](https://www.ucl.ac.uk/lbs/person/view/-1411131717/#political-summary)).

## Other Information

[Relationships \[8\]](#)

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[Addresses \[2\]](#)

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[Inventories](#)

John Orbell, ‘Baring, Alexander, first Baron Ashburton (1773–1848)’, *Oxford Dictionary of National Biography* (Oxford, Oxford University Press, 2004); online edn, Jan 2008 [Oxford DNB](http://www.oxforddnb.com/view/article/1380) (<http://www.oxforddnb.com/view/article/1380>) accessed 06/08/2012; William D. Rubinstein, *Who were the rich? A biographical dictionary of British wealth-holders Volume Two 1840-1859* (MS) reference 1848/6; D. R. Fisher (ed.), *The House of Commons 1820-1832* (7 vols., Cambridge, Cambridge University Press for the History of Parliament Trust, 2009), vol. 4. Contemporary obituaries include *Gentleman's Magazine* (July 1848), pp. 89-91 though this says nothing of his West India interests or attitudes to slavery.

## Further Information

Absentee?	British/Irish
Spouse	Anne Louisa: daughter of US statesman William Bingham, of Philadelphia, 23 August 1798
Children	William Bingham Baring, 2nd Baron Ashburton (1799-1864), Francis Baring, 3rd Baron Ashburton (1800-1868), Harriet (1802-1892), Louisa Emily (1804-), Frederick (1806-1868), Caroline (1808-),Alexander (1810-1832), Lydia Emily (1814-1868), Arthur (1818-1838)
Wealth at death	£350,000
Occupation	Banker and politician
Rubinstein	1848/6
Oxford DNB Entry	<a href="http://www.oxforddnb.com/public/index.html">Visit Oxford Dictionary of National Biography site</a> ( <a href="http://www.oxforddnb.com/public/index.html">http://www.oxforddnb.com/public/index.html</a> ).

## Associated Claims (4)

<a href="/lbs/claim/view/8556">British Guiana 2282 (Spring Garden)</a>	£3,421 16s 4d	Other association	<a href="#">DETAILS</a> (/LBS/CLAIM/VIEW/8556)
<a href="/lbs/claim/view/23754">St Kitts 336 (Spooners)</a>	£2,243 17s 2d	Beneficiary	<a href="#">DETAILS</a> (/LBS/CLAIM/VIEW/23754)
<a href="/lbs/claim/view/23771">St Kitts 724 (Spooners)</a>	£2,422 14s 5d	Beneficiary	<a href="#">DETAILS</a> (/LBS/CLAIM/VIEW/23771)
<a href="/lbs/claim/view/25677">St Kitts 206 (Priddies Mornes (?))</a>	£2,004 7s 10d	Beneficiary	<a href="#">DETAILS</a> (/LBS/CLAIM/VIEW/25677)

## Legacies Summary

Commercial (2)			
SENIOR PARTNER	<a href="/lbs/firm/view/-1735259225">Baring Brothers</a>	Merchant Banker	<a href="#">DETAILS</a> (/LBS/COMMERCIAL/VIEW/842217432)
	<a href="/lbs/firm/view/2144929235">Hope &amp; Co.</a>	Banker	<a href="#">DETAILS</a> (/LBS/COMMERCIAL/VIEW/2146007499)
Cultural (3)			
TRUSTEE	British Museum.....		<a href="#">DETAILS</a> (/LBS/CULTURAL/VIEW/-134728390)
TRUSTEE	National Gallery.....		<a href="#">DETAILS</a> (/LBS/CULTURAL/VIEW/1123252019)

COUNCIL MEMBER	University of London (University College, London).....	DETAILS (/LBS/CULTURAL/VIEW/-1885092360)
notes →	Statement by the Council of the University of London, Explanatory of the Nature and Objects of the Institution (London, Longman, Rees, Orme, Brown, and Green / John Murray,...	

Political (2)

GOVERNMENT		DETAILS (/LBS/POLITICAL/VIEW/1241243893)
office →	President of the Board of Trade and Master of the Royal Mint Dec 1834 - April 1835	
MP	Whig later Conservative	DETAILS (/LBS/POLITICAL/VIEW/-1640841492)
election →	Taunton Somerset 1806 - 1826	
election →	Callington Cornwall 1826 - 1831	
election →	Thetford Norfolk 1831 - 1832	
election →	Essex Northern Essex 1832 - 1835	

Relationships (8)

Alexander Baring (/lbs/person/view/-1411131717)	FATHER → SON	Francis Baring (/lbs/person/view/1299741814)	DETAILS (/LBS/RELATIONSHIP/VIEW/858133493/-1411131717)
Alexander Baring (/lbs/person/view/-1411131717)	BROTHERS	Henry Baring (/lbs/person/view/-1404878394)	DETAILS (/LBS/RELATIONSHIP/VIEW/947659865/-1411131717)
Alexander Baring (/lbs/person/view/-1411131717)	BROTHERS	Sir Thomas Baring 2nd Bart. (/lbs/person/view/1813221728)	DETAILS (/LBS/RELATIONSHIP/VIEW/1105172332/-1411131717)
Alexander Baring (/lbs/person/view/-1411131717)	FATHER-IN-LAW → SON-IN-LAW	Humphrey St John-Mildmay (/lbs/person/view/832232611)	DETAILS (/LBS/RELATIONSHIP/VIEW/2058759890/-1411131717)
Alexander Baring (/lbs/person/view/-1411131717)	UNCLE → NEPHEW	Thomas Baring (/lbs/person/view/1014723079)	DETAILS (/LBS/RELATIONSHIP/VIEW/2058760725/-1411131717)
Alexander Baring (/lbs/person/view/-1411131717)	UNCLE → NEPHEW	John Baring (/lbs/person/view/-1937716474)	DETAILS (/LBS/RELATIONSHIP/VIEW/2058760731/-1411131717)
Alexander Baring (/lbs/person/view/-1411131717)	SON → FATHER	Sir Francis Baring (/lbs/person/view/2146661913)	DETAILS (/LBS/RELATIONSHIP/VIEW/2058790587/-1411131717)
Alexander Baring (/lbs/person/view/-1411131717)	BUSINESS ASSOCIATES	Henry Hope (/lbs/person/view/2146665491)	DETAILS (/LBS/RELATIONSHIP/VIEW/2058795979/-1411131717)

Addresses (2)

82 Piccadilly, London, Middlesex, London, England	DETAILS (/LBS/ADDRESS/VIEW/2389/-1411131717)
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## People of Interest

[Phillip Thompson \(/lbs/person/view/2146645251/\)](/lbs/person/view/2146645251/)

1805 - ????

Enslaved man brought to England as a domestic servant; his former owner was indicted for the mistreatment of Thompson in 1824.

[Visit the people of interest section \(/lbs/people/\)](/lbs/people/)

## Documents of Interest

[Occupations of enslaved women on Buff Bay Plantation, 1819 \(/lbs/media/view/255/\)](/lbs/media/view/255/)

The Buff Bay plantation was a sugar estate next to the Buff Bay River, south of Charlestown in Jamaica. By 1839, the estate was 840 acres.



[Visit the document of interest section \(/lbs/documents/\)](/lbs/documents/)

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## St Kitts 336 (Spooners)

### *Claim Details, Associated Individuals and Estates*

23<sup>rd</sup> Jan 1836 | 126 Enslaved | £2243 17s 2d

#### CLAIM DETAILS

## Claim Notes

Parliamentary Papers p. 310.

T71/879: claim by Chas. Bosanquet and James William Freshfield junior, as trustees for Sir John Bernard Bosanquet.

T71/1031: claim by Chas. Bosanquet and James William Freshfield the younger, trustees for Sir John Bernard Bosanquet, Alexander Baring, Jeremiah Harman, Sir Edward Hyde East and John Pearse.

See also St Kitts claim nos. 206 and 724.

## Further Information

Colony	St Kitts
Claim No.	336
Estate	Spooners
Contested	Yes

## Associated Individuals (6)

[Jeremiah Harman Governor of the Bank of England](#) Beneficiary

[\(/lbs/person/view/138096897](/lbs/person/view/138096897)  
5)

[Sir John Bernard Bosanquet](#) Beneficiary

[\(/lbs/person/view/130615196](/lbs/person/view/130615196)  
2)

[John Pearse](#) Beneficiary

[\(/lbs/person/view/214664535](/lbs/person/view/214664535)  
7)

[Charles Bosanquet](#) Awardee (Trustee)

[\(/lbs/person/view/214663029](/lbs/person/view/214663029)  
6)

Alexander Baring Beneficiary  
(</lbs/person/view/-1411131717>)

James William Freshfield Awardee (Trustee)  
junior  
(</lbs/person/view/23829>)

## Associated Estates (1)

Spooners Cayon [ St Kitts ] (</lbs/estate/view/4827>)

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## People of Interest

John Stewart (</lbs/person/view/8816>)

1789 - 14<sup>th</sup> Mar 1860

Possibly the first 'ethnic minority' MP to be elected (in 1832) to the House of Commons.

Visit the people of interest section (</lbs/people/>)

## Documents of Interest

Occupations of enslaved women on Buff Bay Plantation, 1819  
(</lbs/media/view/255>)

The Buff Bay plantation was a sugar estate next to the Buff



Bay River, south of Charlestown in Jamaica. By 1839, the estate was 840 acres.

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## St Kitts 724 (Spooners)

### *Claim Details, Associated Individuals and Estates*

23<sup>rd</sup> Feb 1836 | 164 Enslaved | £2422 14s 5d

#### CLAIM DETAILS

## Claim Notes

Parliamentary Papers p. 311.

T71/879: claim by Jas. Wm. Freshfield junior and Chas. Bosanquet, as trustees in fee for John Bernard Bosanquet.

T71/1032: Jas. Wm. Freshfield the younger and Chas. Bosanquet were trustees in fee for John Bernard Bosanquet, Alexander Baring, Jeremiah Harman, Sir Edward Hyde East and John Pearse.

T71/1227: counterclaim from Peter Spooner Shaw, of New Haven, Connecticut, and his attorney Charles Shaw, of Austin Friars. The counterclaim was withdrawn: Peter Spooner Shaw had signed it over to Manning and Anderdon.

See also St Kitts claim nos. 206 and 336.

## Further Information

<b>Colony</b>	St Kitts
<b>Claim No.</b>	724
<b>Estate</b>	Spooners
<b>Contested</b>	Yes

## Associated Individuals (6)

[Jeremiah Harman Governor of the Bank of England](#) Beneficiary  
([/lbs/person/view/138096897](#))  
5)

[John Pearse](#) Beneficiary  
([/lbs/person/view/214664535](#))  
7)

[Charles Bosanquet](#) Awardee (Trustee)  
([/lbs/person/view/214663029](#))  
6)

[Peter Spooner Shaw](#) Unsuccessful claimant (consensual)

[\(/lbs/person/view/214664054](#)

[3\)](#)

[Alexander Baring](#) Beneficiary

[\(/lbs/person/view/-14111317](#)

[17\)](#)

[James William Freshfield](#) Awardee (Trustee)

[junior](#)

[\(/lbs/person/view/23829\)](#)

## Associated Estates (1)

[Spooners Nichola Town \[ St Kitts \]](#) [\(/lbs/estate/view/263\)](#)

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## People of Interest

[Rev. William Marshall Harte](#)  
[\(/lbs/person/view/4650\)](#)

25<sup>th</sup> Nov 1776 - 1851

Resident clergyman, proponent of religious instruction for enslaved people.

[Visit the people of interest section](#) [\(/lbs/people/\)](#)

## Documents of Interest

[Occupations of enslaved women on Buff Bay Plantation, 1819](#)  
[\(/lbs/media/view/255\)](#)

The Buff Bay plantation was a sugar estate next to the Buff Bay River, south of Charlestown in Jamaica. By 1839, the estate was 840 acres.



[Visit the document of interest section](#)  
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## St Kitts 206 (Priddies Mornes (?))

*Claim Details, Associated Individuals and Estates*

23<sup>rd</sup> Jan 1836 | 119 Enslaved | £2004 7s 10d

### CLAIM DETAILS

## Claim Notes

Parliamentary Papers p. 310.

T71/879: claim by Reid and Dixon. James William Freshfield junior counterclaimed for himself and his co-trustee Chas. Bosanquet, as mortgagees in trust for £20,000. Admitted.

See also St Kitts claim nos. 336 and 724.

This is Jeremiah Harman, the ex-Governor of the Bank of England, a different individual from Jeremiah Harman (ID 22518). See also St Kitts claim no. 336.

T71/1224: letter, dated 16/01/1835, from Freshfield & sons, referring to the awards made in each of St Kitts claim nos. 206, 336 and 724, stating, 'Mr Bosanquet has never acted in these trusts and by indenture dated 26 December 1835 now produced has disclaimed wholly the Trust.'

T71/1224: Manning & Anderdon seized and possessed of Mornes, 31/3/1831 assigned Mornes to John Bernard Bosanquet, Alexander Baring & Jeremiah Harman, Sir Edward Hyde East and John Pearse (and Chas. Bosanquet and James William Freshfield as 5th party ) in trust subject to redemption or payment by the said firm of Manning & Anderdon to each of the Alexander Baring, Jeremiah Harman, Edward Hyde East and John Pearse of £5000 each secured by certain bills of exchange and bonds. [There appears no mention of Sir John Bernard Bosanquet except as 2nd party to the 31/3/1831 indenture]. £20,000 was still owed when Manning & Anderdon collapsed. Amounts owing to Sir Edward Hyde East and Jeremiah Harman 'have become vested in the Bank of England'.

## Further Information

Colony	St Kitts
Claim No.	206
Estate	Priddies Mornes (?)
Contested	Yes

## Associated Individuals (5)

<a href="/lbs/person/view/138096897">Jeremiah Harman Governor of the Bank of England</a> ( <a href="/lbs/person/view/138096897">/lbs/person/view/138096897</a> )	Beneficiary
<a href="/lbs/person/view/214664535">John Pearse</a> ( <a href="/lbs/person/view/214664535">/lbs/person/view/214664535</a> )	Beneficiary
<a href="/lbs/person/view/214663029">Charles Bosanquet</a> ( <a href="/lbs/person/view/214663029">/lbs/person/view/214663029</a> )	Awardee (Trustee)
<a href="/lbs/person/view/-14111317">Alexander Baring</a> ( <a href="/lbs/person/view/-14111317">/lbs/person/view/-14111317</a> )	Beneficiary
<a href="/lbs/person/view/23829">James William Freshfield junior</a> ( <a href="/lbs/person/view/23829">/lbs/person/view/23829</a> )	Awardee (Trustee)

## Associated Estates (1)

[Priddies Mornes \(?\) \[ St Kitts \]](/lbs/estate/view/3449) (</lbs/estate/view/3449>)

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## People of Interest

[Colin Campbell Lloyd \(née Baillie\)](/lbs/person/view/2146630757)  
(</lbs/person/view/2146630757>)

1781 - 1830

Member of the Baillie of Dochfour family who had numerous mercantile connections in the West Indies. The compensation for Baillie's Bacolet in Grenada was awarded to the trustees of her marriage settlement. Grand-daughter of Colin Roy Campbell of Glenmure. Apparently a victim of the quack doctor John St John Lang of Harley Street in 1830.

[Visit the people of interest section](/lbs/people/) (</lbs/people/>)

## Documents of Interest

[Occupations of enslaved women on Buff Bay Plantation, 1819](/lbs/media/view/255)  
(</lbs/media/view/255>)



The Buff Bay plantation was a sugar estate next to the Buff Bay River, south of Charlestown in Jamaica. By 1839, the estate was 840 acres.

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## [Alexander Baring \(/lbs/person/view/-1411131717\)](/lbs/person/view/-1411131717)

### *Commercial Legacy Details*

PARTNERSHIP ROLE

## [Baring Brothers \(/lbs/firm/view/-1735259225\)](/lbs/firm/view/-1735259225)

### *Senior partner*

Merchant Banker

No notes

### Firm Notes

1. Partners in mid-1830s = Thomas Baring (grandson of Sir Francis); Humphrey St John Mildmay was the 'over-cautious' son-in-law of Alexander Baring; Joshua Bates; John and Francis Baring. One of 'the City's two dominant merchant banks.'

### Firm Sources

1. Kynaston City of London I, pp 92-3 for Bates; pp. 115-6 for 'Tom' Baring and Mildmay: p. 117 for role with Rothschilds.

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## People of Interest

### [Judith Philip \(/lbs/person/view/11042\)](/lbs/person/view/11042)

???? - 1848

Successful planter in British Guiana and Grenada; part of a close-knit mixed-race family with numerous business interests.

[Visit the people of interest section \(/lbs/people/\)](/lbs/people/)

## Documents of Interest

### [Occupations of enslaved women on Buff Bay Plantation, 1819 \(/lbs/media/view/255\)](/lbs/media/view/255)

The Buff Bay plantation was a sugar estate next to the Buff Bay River, south of Charlestown in Jamaica. By 1839, the estate was 840 acres.



[Visit the document of interest section \(/lbs/documents/\)](/lbs/documents/)

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## [Alexander Baring \(/lbs/person/view/-1411131717\)](#)

### *Commercial Legacy Details*

PARTNERSHIP ROLE

## [Hope & Co. \(/lbs/firm/view/2144929235\)](#)

**Banker** (Banking)

No notes

### [Firm Notes](#)

Amsterdam bankers, merging with Barings in 1811

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## People of Interest

### [Coco Sandiford](#)

[\(/lbs/person/view/2146666915\)](#)

1810 - ????

Enslaved young woman in St Peter, Barbados.

Manumitted on the eve of Emancipation. Married a butcher in Speightstown.

[Visit the people of interest section \(/lbs/people/\)](#)

## Documents of Interest

### [Occupations of enslaved women on](#)

[Buff Bay Plantation, 1819](#)

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The Buff Bay

plantation

was a sugar

estate next

to the Buff

Bay River,

south of Charlestown in Jamaica. By 1839, the estate was 840 acres.



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## [Alexander Baring \(/lbs/person/view/-1411131717\)](#)

### *Political Legacy Details*

GOVERNMENT

### *Offices Held*

#### **President of the Board of Trade and Master of the Royal Mint**

Dec 1834 - April 1835

In Peel's minority government.

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### **People of Interest**

#### [Phillip Thompson \(/lbs/person/view/2146645251\)](#)

1805 - ????

Enslaved man brought to England as a domestic servant; his former owner was indicted for the mistreatment of Thompson in 1824.

[Visit the people of interest section \(/lbs/people/\)](#)

### **Documents of Interest**

#### [Occupations of enslaved women on Buff Bay Plantation, 1819 \(/lbs/media/view/255\)](#)

The Buff Bay plantation was a sugar estate next to the Buff Bay River,



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south of Charlestown in Jamaica. By 1839, the estate was 840 acres.

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## [Alexander Baring \(/lbs/person/view/-1411131717/\)](/lbs/person/view/-1411131717/)

### *Political Legacy Details*

MP (WHIG LATER CONSERVATIVE)

### Notes

Opposed the orders-in-council for 'the restrictions on trade with the United States in 1812'.

Though an important influence on the formation of Peel's free trade principles in the pre-1832 period, Baring became progressively more conservative. Absolutely opposed to parliamentary reform: this led him to ending any Whig affiliation and becoming tory. May 1832 agreed to serve as chancellor of the exchequer in the abortive tory ministry which Wellington formed to block reform and, "in opposing reform, he voted against his brother, his two sons, and his three nephews on the whig benches".

Served in Peel's ministry 1834-1835, as president of the Board of Trade and master of the Royal Mint

Subsequently opposed tory free-trade reform (including Bank Charter Act, 1844). 'To the entire removal of all protection from domestic industry', he advised Peel, 'I have an insuperable objection' (BL, Add. MS 40576, fol. 41; cited by John Orbell, entry for Baring in *Oxford DNB*).

Defended the planters and generally opposed to rapid abolition of slavery. For example:

House of Commons: 15 May 1823: debate on Fowell Buxton's abolition motion: stressed that he had no business interests in the West Indies, but dwelt on the practical difficulties and maintained that the sufferings of the negroes had been greatly exaggerated; their condition was 'in many respects, superior to that of most of the European peasantry'. D. R. Fisher (ed.), *The House of Commons 1820-1832* (7 vols., Cambridge, Cambridge University Press for the History of Parliament Trust, 2009), vol. IV.

In 1842 went to America and concluded the *Webster-Ashburton Treaty* (negotiated by Baring and Daniel Webster):

Treaty between the USA and Great Britain which established:

the northeastern boundary of the USA provided for Anglo-U.S. cooperation in the suppression of the slave trade. Each state agreed to maintain a squadron of at least eighty guns on the coast of Africa for the suppression of the slave trade, and the two governments agreed to unite in an effort to persuade other powers to close all slave markets within their territories. established boundary between Maine and New Brunswick granted the USA navigation rights on the St. John River provided for extradition in enumerated nonpolitical criminal cases

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### *Elections/Constituencies*

**Taunton Somerset** 1806 - 1826

**Callington Cornwall** 1826 - 1831

**Thetford Norfolk** 1831 - 1832

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## People of Interest

[Ann Harris](#)  
[\(/lbs/person/view/2146645293\)](#)

1791 - 1862

Free woman of colour; left Demerara in 1812 as a young woman and settled in Starthforth, Yorkshire, where she died in 1862.

[Visit the people of interest section \(/lbs/people/\)](#)

## Documents of Interest

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