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Centre for the Study of the Legacies of British Slavery



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Robert Cooper Lee

Profile & Legacies Summary

1735 - 1794



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Legacies Summary (/lbs/person/view/2146645287/#legacies-summary)

Commercial
Cultural
Historical
Imperial
Physical
Political

Biography

Slave-owner and Crown Solicitor in Jamaica, then an 'agent' in the City of London, dying in London in 1794. Father of Richard Lee (q.v.), Frances Lee (q.v.) and Favell Bevan, and father-in-law of David Bevan (q.v.). His grandson and namesake Robert Cooper Lee Bevan was influential in the development of Barclays Bank in the 19th century.

1.

Will of Robert Cooper Lee of Bloomsbury proved 10/04/1794. Under the will he left an annuity of £500 p.a. to his wife Priscilla and amounts of £2000 and £3000 to his daughter Frances Lee ('now living with me'), and £3000-4000 each to his sons Robert, Richard and Scudamore Cooper Lee. He left his Jamaican estates in trust to secure the annuities and legacies and left half the surplus to Robert and Richard Lee and half to his other children.

2.

In January 1777, the House of Lords 'took into consideration' a private act obtained in Jamaica by Robert Cooper Lee in December 1776 to authorise and enable him to settle and dispose of his estates, a necessary step for the benefit of his children given that Priscilla Kelly, their mother and later his wife, was of colour.

3.

Robert Cooper Lee and John Allen [of Inchmartine] were sequential signatories of an address [undated but from contextual evidence 1781] to King George III appealing for more military support for the West India colonies.

Relationships [14]

(/lbs/person/view/2146645287/#relationships)
Addresses [1]

(/lbs/person/view/2146645287/#addresses)
Inventories

Sources

Anne M. Powers, *A Parcel of Ribbons - The Lee Family Letters* (Privately printed, 2012) traces the rise of Robert Cooper Lee; there is more material at <http://aparcelofribbons.co.uk> (<http://aparcelofribbons.co.uk>) [accessed 21/06/2018].

1.

PROB 11/1244/100.

2.

Journals of the Board of Trade and Plantations: Volume 14, January 1776 - May 1782, June 1777 Vol. 84 pp. 92-99, <https://www.british-history.ac.uk/jrnl-trade-plantations/vol14/pp92-99> (<https://www.british-history.ac.uk/jrnl-trade-plantations/vol14/pp92-99>) [accessed 29/06/2020].

3.

Remembrancer or Impartial Repository of Public Events for the Year 1782 Petition of the West India Merchants and Planters to the King' pp. 89-92.

Further Information

Absentee?

Transatlantic

Spouse

Priscila Kelly

Associated Estates (2)

The dates listed below have different categories as denoted by the letters in the brackets following each date. Here is a key to explain those letter codes:

- **SD** - Association Start Date
- **SY** - Association Start Year
- **EA** - Earliest Known Association
- **ED** - Association End Date
- **EY** - Association End Year
- **LA** - Latest Known Association

1787 [EA] - 1788 [LA] → MORTGAGEE-IN-POSSESSION

[Rose Hall Estate \[Jamaica | St Thomas-in-the-Vale \] \(/lbs/estate/view/2532\)](#)

1789 [EA] - 1794 [LA] → JOINT OWNER

[Rose Hall Estate \[Jamaica | St Thomas-in-the-Vale \] \(/lbs/estate/view/2532\)](#)

Relationships (14)

Robert Cooper Lee (/lbs/person/view/214664528 Z)	BUSINESS ASSOCIATES	John Allen of Inchmartine (/lbs/person/view/2146665305).	DETAILS (/LBS/RELATIONSHIP/VIEW/2058795305/2146645287)
Robert Cooper Lee (/lbs/person/view/214664528 Z)	TRUSTEE → TESTATOR	Leeson Blackwood (/lbs/person/view/2146664683).	DETAILS (/LBS/RELATIONSHIP/VIEW/2058794027/2146645287)
Robert Cooper Lee (/lbs/person/view/214664528 Z)	EXECUTOR → TESTATOR	Elizabeth Bouffan then Delap (/lbs/person/view/2146661351).	DETAILS (/LBS/RELATIONSHIP/VIEW/2058790145/2146645287)
Robert Cooper Lee (/lbs/person/view/214664528 Z)	TRUSTEE → TESTATOR	John Cruikshank (/lbs/person/view/2146635655).	DETAILS (/LBS/RELATIONSHIP/VIEW/2058793283/2146645287)
Robert Cooper Lee (/lbs/person/view/214664528 Z)	EXECUTOR → TESTATOR	Alexander Dellap or Delap (/lbs/person/view/2146661349).	DETAILS (/LBS/RELATIONSHIP/VIEW/2058790135/2146645287)
Robert Cooper Lee (/lbs/person/view/214664528 Z)	FATHER → SON	Richard Lee (/lbs/person/view/15138).	DETAILS (/LBS/RELATIONSHIP/VIEW/2058772467/2146645287)
Robert Cooper Lee (/lbs/person/view/214664528 Z)	FATHER → DAUGHTER	Frances Lee (/lbs/person/view/24509).	DETAILS (/LBS/RELATIONSHIP/VIEW/2058772469/2146645287)
Robert Cooper Lee (/lbs/person/view/214664528 Z)	FATHER-IN-LAW → SON-IN-LAW	David Bevan (/lbs/person/view/2146654029).	DETAILS (/LBS/RELATIONSHIP/VIEW/2058783975/2146645287)
Robert Cooper Lee (/lbs/person/view/214664528 Z)	GRANDFATHER → GRANDSON	Robert Cooper Lee Bevan (/lbs/person/view/2146664813).	DETAILS (/LBS/RELATIONSHIP/VIEW/2058794203/2146645287)

Robert Cooper Lee (/lbs/person/view/214664528 Z)	BROTHERS	Joseph Lee (/lbs/person/view/2146665303).	DETAILS (/LBS/RELATIONSHIP/VIEW/2058795301/2146645287)
Robert Cooper Lee (/lbs/person/view/214664528 Z)	FATHER → DAUGHTER	Favell Bevan (née Lee) (/lbs/person/view/2146665889).	DETAILS (/LBS/RELATIONSHIP/VIEW/2058796797/2146645287)
Robert Cooper Lee (/lbs/person/view/214664528 Z)	EXECUTOR → TESTATOR	James Ridge (/lbs/person/view/2146650573).	DETAILS (/LBS/RELATIONSHIP/VIEW/2058795273/2146645287)
Robert Cooper Lee (/lbs/person/view/214664528 Z)	EXECUTOR → TESTATOR	Samuel Smith of St Catherine (/lbs/person/view/2146661995).	DETAILS (/LBS/RELATIONSHIP/VIEW/2058790625/2146645287)
Robert Cooper Lee (/lbs/person/view/214664528 Z)	LEGATEE → TESTATOR	Scudamore Winde (/lbs/person/view/2146660205).	DETAILS (/LBS/RELATIONSHIP/VIEW/2058788041/2146645287)
<p>Notes → Robert Cooper Lee was left Scudamore Winde's estate in Herefordshire, and Thomas Wynter, Robert Cooper Lee and Joseph Mayo of Craven Street were co-residuary legatees under Scudamore Winde's will. ...</p>			

Addresses (1)

30 Bedford Square, London, Middlesex, London, England

[DETAILS](#)
(</LBS/ADDRESS/VIEW/2145441669/2146645287>)

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People of Interest

[Elizabeth Metcalfe](#)
(</lbs/person/view/41944>)

1785 - 4th Jan 1846

Yorkshire-born wife of the Acting Governor of
Dominica in the 1800s.

[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 \(/lbs/documents/\)](#)

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Robert Cooper Lee (/lbs/person/view/2146645287) - Relationship Detail [Legacies Summary \(/lbs/person/view/2146645287/#1summary\)](#)

This Relationship

Robert Cooper Lee (/lbs/person/view/2146645287)	BUSINESS ASSOCIATES	John Allen of Inchmartine (/lbs/person/view/2146665305)
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Commercial
Cultural
Historical
Imperial
Physical
Political

Other Information

Other Relationships of John Allen of Inchmartine

John Allen of Inchmartine (/lbs/person/view/2146665305)	BUSINESS PARTNERS	Joseph Lee (/lbs/person/view/2146665303)
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[Addresses \[1\]](#)
[\(/lbs/person/view/2146645287/#addresses\)](#)
[Inventories](#)

Other Relationships of Robert Cooper Lee

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Robert Cooper Lee (/lbs/person/view/2146645287)	EXECUTOR → TESTATOR	Elizabeth Bouffan then Delap (/lbs/person/view/2146661351)	DETAILS (/LBS/RELATIONSHIP/VIEW/2058790145/2146645287)
Robert Cooper Lee (/lbs/person/view/2146645287)	TRUSTEE → TESTATOR	John Cruikshank (/lbs/person/view/2146635655)	DETAILS (/LBS/RELATIONSHIP/VIEW/2058793283/2146645287)
Robert Cooper Lee (/lbs/person/view/2146645287)	EXECUTOR → TESTATOR	Alexander Dellap or Delap (/lbs/person/view/2146661349)	DETAILS (/LBS/RELATIONSHIP/VIEW/2058790135/2146645287)
Robert Cooper Lee (/lbs/person/view/2146645287)	FATHER → SON	Richard Lee (/lbs/person/view/15138)	DETAILS (/LBS/RELATIONSHIP/VIEW/2058772467/2146645287)
Robert Cooper Lee (/lbs/person/view/2146645287)	FATHER → DAUGHTER	Frances Lee (/lbs/person/view/24509)	DETAILS (/LBS/RELATIONSHIP/VIEW/2058772469/2146645287)
Robert Cooper Lee (/lbs/person/view/2146645287)	FATHER-IN-LAW → SON-IN-LAW	David Bevan (/lbs/person/view/2146654029)	DETAILS (/LBS/RELATIONSHIP/VIEW/2058783975/2146645287)

Robert Cooper Lee (/lbs/person/view/214664528) Z)	GRANDFATHER → GRANDSON	Robert Cooper Lee Bevan (/lbs/person/view/2146664813))	DETAILS (/lbs/relationship/view/2058794203/2146645287)
Robert Cooper Lee (/lbs/person/view/214664528) Z)	BROTHERS	Joseph Lee (/lbs/person/view/2146665303))	DETAILS (/lbs/relationship/view/2058795301/2146645287)
Robert Cooper Lee (/lbs/person/view/214664528) Z)	FATHER → DAUGHTER	Favell Bevan (née Lee) (/lbs/person/view/2146665889))	DETAILS (/lbs/relationship/view/2058796797/2146645287)
Robert Cooper Lee (/lbs/person/view/214664528) Z)	EXECUTOR → TESTATOR	James Ridge (/lbs/person/view/2146650573))	DETAILS (/lbs/relationship/view/2058795273/2146645287)
Robert Cooper Lee (/lbs/person/view/214664528) Z)	EXECUTOR → TESTATOR	Samuel Smith of St Catherine (/lbs/person/view/2146661995))	DETAILS (/lbs/relationship/view/2058790625/2146645287)
Robert Cooper Lee (/lbs/person/view/214664528) Z)	LEGATEE → TESTATOR	Scudamore Winde (/lbs/person/view/2146660205))	DETAILS (/lbs/relationship/view/2058788041/2146645287)

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People of Interest

[Anna Meighan](#)
[\(/lbs/person/view/11590\)](/lbs/person/view/11590)

???? - 1848

Widow of prominent mahogany merchant and landowner

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

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.



[\(/lbs/media/view/255\)](/lbs/media/view/255)

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Robert Cooper Lee (/lbs/person/view/2146645287) - Relationship Detail

[Legacies Summary \(/lbs/person/view/2146645287/#legacies-summary\)](#)

This Relationship

Robert Cooper Lee (/lbs/person/view/2146645287)	TRUSTEE → TESTATOR	Leeson Blackwood (/lbs/person/view/2146664683)
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Commercial
Cultural
Historical
Imperial
Physical
Political

Other Information

Other Relationships of Leeson Blackwood

Leeson Blackwood (/lbs/person/view/2146664683)	UNCLE → NEPHEW	James Stevenson Blackwood 2nd Baron Dufferin and Claneboye (/lbs/person/view/2146644593)
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[Addresses \[1\] \(/lbs/person/view/2146645287/#addresses\)](#)
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Leeson Blackwood (/lbs/person/view/2146664683)	UNCLE → NEPHEW	Capt. Leeson Blackwood (/lbs/person/view/2146664681)
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[DETAILS \(/LBS/RELATIONSHIP/VIEW/2058794025/2146664683\)](#)

Leeson Blackwood (/lbs/person/view/2146664683)	TESTATOR → TRUSTEE	Beeston Long junior (/lbs/person/view/2146644617)
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[DETAILS \(/LBS/RELATIONSHIP/VIEW/2058794029/2146664683\)](#)

Leeson Blackwood (/lbs/person/view/2146664683)	TESTATOR → TRUSTEE	Beeston Long senior (/lbs/person/view/2146644619)
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[DETAILS \(/LBS/RELATIONSHIP/VIEW/2058794031/2146664683\)](#)

Other Relationships of Robert Cooper Lee

Robert Cooper Lee (/lbs/person/view/2146645287)	BUSINESS ASSOCIATES	John Allen of Inchmartine (/lbs/person/view/2146665305)
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[DETAILS \(/LBS/RELATIONSHIP/VIEW/2058795305/2146645287\)](#)

Robert Cooper Lee (/lbs/person/view/2146645287)	EXECUTOR → TESTATOR	Elizabeth Bouffan then Delap (/lbs/person/view/2146661351)
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[DETAILS \(/LBS/RELATIONSHIP/VIEW/2058790145/2146645287\)](#)

Robert Cooper Lee (/lbs/person/view/2146645287)	TRUSTEE → TESTATOR	John Cruikshank (/lbs/person/view/2146635655)
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[DETAILS \(/LBS/RELATIONSHIP/VIEW/2058793283/2146645287\)](#)

Robert Cooper Lee (/lbs/person/view/214664528)	EXECUTOR → TESTATOR	Alexander Dellap or Delap (/lbs/person/view/2146661349)	DETAILS (/LBS/RELATIONSHIP/VIEW/2058790135/2146645287)
Robert Cooper Lee (/lbs/person/view/214664528)	FATHER → SON	Richard Lee (/lbs/person/view/15138)	DETAILS (/LBS/RELATIONSHIP/VIEW/2058772467/2146645287)
Robert Cooper Lee (/lbs/person/view/214664528)	FATHER → DAUGHTER	Frances Lee (/lbs/person/view/24509)	DETAILS (/LBS/RELATIONSHIP/VIEW/2058772469/2146645287)
Robert Cooper Lee (/lbs/person/view/214664528)	FATHER-IN-LAW → SON-IN-LAW	David Bevan (/lbs/person/view/2146654029)	DETAILS (/LBS/RELATIONSHIP/VIEW/2058783975/2146645287)
Robert Cooper Lee (/lbs/person/view/214664528)	GRANDFATHER → GRANDSON	Robert Cooper Lee Bevan (/lbs/person/view/2146664813)	DETAILS (/LBS/RELATIONSHIP/VIEW/2058794203/2146645287)
Robert Cooper Lee (/lbs/person/view/214664528)	BROTHERS	Joseph Lee (/lbs/person/view/2146665303)	DETAILS (/LBS/RELATIONSHIP/VIEW/2058795301/2146645287)
Robert Cooper Lee (/lbs/person/view/214664528)	FATHER → DAUGHTER	Favell Bevan (née Lee) (/lbs/person/view/2146665889)	DETAILS (/LBS/RELATIONSHIP/VIEW/2058796797/2146645287)
Robert Cooper Lee (/lbs/person/view/214664528)	EXECUTOR → TESTATOR	James Ridge (/lbs/person/view/2146650573)	DETAILS (/LBS/RELATIONSHIP/VIEW/2058795273/2146645287)
Robert Cooper Lee (/lbs/person/view/214664528)	EXECUTOR → TESTATOR	Samuel Smith of St Catherine (/lbs/person/view/2146661995)	DETAILS (/LBS/RELATIONSHIP/VIEW/2058790625/2146645287)
Robert Cooper Lee (/lbs/person/view/214664528)	LEGATEE → TESTATOR	Scudamore Winde (/lbs/person/view/2146660205)	DETAILS (/LBS/RELATIONSHIP/VIEW/2058788041/2146645287)

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People of Interest

[Anna Meighan](/lbs/person/view/11590)
[\(/lbs/person/view/11590\)](/lbs/person/view/11590)

???? - 1848

Widow of prominent mahogany merchant and landowner

[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)
[\(/lbs/media/view/255\)](/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.



[\(/lbs/media/view/255\)](/lbs/media/view/255)

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Robert Cooper Lee (/lbs/person/view/214664528)	EXECUTOR → TESTATOR	Alexander Dellap or Delap (/lbs/person/view/2146661349)	DETAILS (/LBS/RELATIONSHIP/VIEW/2058790135/2146645287)
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Robert Cooper Lee (/lbs/person/view/214664528)	EXECUTOR → TESTATOR	Samuel Smith of St Catherine (/lbs/person/view/2146661995)	DETAILS (/LBS/RELATIONSHIP/VIEW/2058790625/2146645287)
Robert Cooper Lee (/lbs/person/view/214664528)	LEGATEE → TESTATOR	Scudamore Winde (/lbs/person/view/2146660205)	DETAILS (/LBS/RELATIONSHIP/VIEW/2058788041/2146645287)

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Widow of prominent mahogany merchant and landowner

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[.\(http://hutchinscenter.fas.harvard.edu\)](http://hutchinscenter.fas.harvard.edu)

BRITISH HISTORY ONLINE

Journal, June 1777: Volume 84

Pages 92-99

Journals of the Board of Trade and Plantations: Volume 14, January 1776 - May 1782 (/jrn1-trade-plantations/vol14). Originally published by His Majesty's Stationery Office, London, 1938.

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'Journal, June 1777: Volume 84', in *Journals of the Board of Trade and Plantations: Volume 14, January 1776 - May 1782*, ed. K H Ledward (London, 1938), pp. 92-99. *British History Online* <http://www.british-history.ac.uk/jrn1-trade-plantations/vol14/pp92-99> [accessed 3 July 2021].

Keyword highlight

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Journal, June 1777

Tuesday, June 3rd. Present:—Mr. Jenyns, Mr. Gascoyne, Lord Robert Spencer, Mr. Keene, Mr. Greville, Mr. Eden.

Lord George Germain, one of his Majesty's principal Secretaries of State, attends.

Grenada.

fo. 127.

The Secretary acquainted the Board, that Mr. Drummond desired leave to have copies of the following papers relative to lands in Grenada, the said papers being necessary in a cause which is to be heard before the Privy Council, vizt.,

Letter from the Earl of Halifax to the Board, dated September 27th, 1763, inclosing,

The case of Mr. Roger Smith.

Extract from a letter from Governor Scott to the Earl of Egremont, dated July 23rd, 1763.

Report of the Attorney and Advocate General of the 25th of January, 1764.

Ordered, that copies of the said papers be made for Mr. Drummond, agreeable to his request.

Jamaica.

Their lordships took into consideration two private Acts passed in the Island of Jamaica in December, 1776, intituled,

fo. 128.

1. *An Act to authorize and enable Robert Cooper Lee, late of the Island of Jamaica, but now of the kingdom of Great Britain, esquire, to settle and dispose of his estates, both real and personal in this island, by deed or will as he shall think proper, notwithstanding an Act of the Governor, Council and Assembly of this island, intituled, an Act to prevent inconveniences arising from exorbitant grants and devises made by white persons and the issue of negroes and to restrain and limit such grants and devises.*

fo. 129.

2. *An Act to intitle Sarah Walters Bolt, a free quadroon woman, and Edward Strudwick and Theodosia Strudwick, the reputed children of Henry Strudwick, esquire, deceased, by the said Sarah Walters Bolt; and Samuel Richard Lewis, Susannah Lewis, Elizabeth Lewis and Louisa Ann Lewis, the reputed children of James Lewis, esquire, by the said Sarah Walters Bolt, to the same rights and privileges with English subjects under certain restrictions*, and their lordships having also considered Mr. Jackson's report thereupon, together with two memorials of Mr. Stephen Fuller, agent for the Island of Jamaica, praying that the said two Acts may be recommended for confirmation, it was ordered, that the draught of a representation to his Majesty be prepared, proposing the confirmation thereof; and the draught of a representation having been prepared accordingly, was approved, transcribed and signed.

Read a letter from Mr. Knox to Mr. Cumberland, dated May 31st, 1777, transmitting,

Copy and extract of two letters from Sir Basil Keith to Lord George Germain, dated Jamaica, March the 30th, and April the 13th, 1777, acquainting his Lordship with the death of Mr. Foord, one of the members of his Majesty's Council for that island, and recommending Mr. Beckford to be a councillor, in the room of Mr. Foord.

Leeward Islands, Virgin Islands.

fo. 130.

Their lordships took into their consideration an Act passed in the Virgin Islands in October, 1776, intituled, *an Act for appointing an agent to negotiate the affairs of these islands in Great Britain, fixing a salary and settling methods for the duly executing that trust.*

Ordered, that the draught of a representation to his Majesty be prepared, proposing the confirmation of the abovementioned Act: which draught having been prepared accordingly, was approved, transcribed and signed.

West Florida.

fo. 131.

The Secretary laid before the Board a paper signed by Lieutenant Colonel Stephen Douglas, dated the 19th of May last, containing his resignation of ten thousand acres of land granted to him in the Province of East Florida, upon condition, that his Majesty should be pleased to give him a grant of the like quantity of land in the Province of West Florida, agreeable to the memorial he presented to the Board on the 13th of

May; upon which their lordships resumed the consideration of the said memorial, and having examined the records of the Office relative to the case of the memorialist, they were of opinion, that a representation to his Majesty should be prepared, recommending the prayer of the said memorial: and the draught of a representation having been prepared accordingly, was approved, transcribed and signed.

fo. 132.

Read a memorial of Captain Thomas Hutchins of his Majesty's 60th Regiment of Foot, to Lord George Germain, setting forth, that having many relations and friends desirous of retiring from the Provinces of New Jersey and Pennsylvania, and settling in West Florida, he applied to the Governor and Council of that province for a tract of land to be reserved to him and his associates, until he should be able to introduce settlers to occupy the same; and by a minute of Council of the said province of the 2nd of June, 1773, copy of which is annexed to the memorial, the said Governor and Council did advise that a tract of twenty five thousand acres should be reserved to him and his associates for twelve months from that date: but that in consequence of his Majesty's late instructions, the Governor is restrained from granting lands, and praying therefore, that in consideration of his services, directions may be given to the Governor of West Florida, to pass a grant to the memorialist and his associates of the lands so reserved, or an equal quantity in any other part of the said province.

Africa.

fo. 133.

Mr. Caruthers with other merchants of Bristol and Liverpoole attended to return thanks to their lordships, for the care and attention they had shewn to the African trade, and expressed their wish, that a proper person might be appointed to receive the money granted by Parliament for the support of the forts and settlements on the coast of Africa, and apply it on the coast; and to survey the forts, and report their state and condition: by which a true and impartial state of the trade, and of the administration of the publick money might be known.

Trade.

fo. 134.

Their lordships took into further consideration the memorial of Messieurs Clark and Berkenhout, mentioned in the preceding minutes, and Mr. Berkenhout, one of the memorialists, attending, presented to the Board samples of cotton, dyed by their method, in scarlet and crimson: and also two certificates from Dr. William Saunders, teacher of chemistry, and Mr. Ambrose Godfrey, chemist, whereby those gentlemen certify, that they have tryed such samples of cotton, dyed in scarlet and crimson, as were produced to them by Mr. Berkenhout, agreeable to the directions of Mr. Helot, and that they appear to be true grained colours; their lordships had also some further discourse with Mr. Berkenhout on the subject matter of the said memorial; and he being withdrawn, it was ordered, that the draught of a representation to his Majesty thereupon, should be prepared.

Read an Order of the Lords of the Privy Council, dated May 30th, 1777, referring to this Board the petition of Peter Thellusson and Company, for leave to export to St. Malo by way of Guernsey, on board the ship *New London*, sundry military stores therein mentioned, to be sent to the coast of Africa by the ship *Marquis de Braneas*.

fo. 135.

Read an Order of the Lords of the Privy Council, dated May 30th, 1777, referring to this Board the petition of James Baril, for leave to export to Havre de Grace by way of Campveer Ostend or Rotterdam, on board the ship *Amiable Henrietta*, sundry military stores therein mentioned, for the use of the French ship *La Vicomtesse de Castellanne*, trading to Africa.

Read an Order of the Lords of the Privy Council, dated May 30th, 1777, referring to this Board the petition of William Todd and Company, for leave to export to Grenada, on board the ship *Antigua Planter*, sundry military stores therein specified, for the use of a plantation in that island.

fo. 136.

Their lordships, upon consideration of the three foregoing petitions, were of opinion that the exportation prayed for should be allowed; and the draughts of three reports to the Lords of the Privy Council thereupon having been prepared accordingly, were approved, transcribed and signed.

Read an Order of the Lords of the Privy Council, dated May 30th, 1777, referring to this Board the petition of Gill Slater, praying leave to export from Liverpoole to the Island of St. Vincent, on board the ship *Bess*, sundry ordnance and military stores therein specified, for arming and defending the petitioner's vessels belonging to that island, and for the private use of gentlemen there.

Their lordships, upon consideration of the above petition, were of opinion, that as the petitioner has not set forth in what manner the vessel which is to take on board the said ordnance, etc., is intended to be armed, that it would be no ways adviseable to recommend the exportation of so important a cargo.

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fo. 137.

Tuesday, June 10th. Present:—Mr. Jenyns, Lord Robert Spencer, Mr. Greville, Mr. Eden.

Lord George Germain, one of his Majesty's principal Secretaries of State, attends.

Trade.

Read an Order of the Lords of the Privy Council, dated June the 4th, 1777, referring the petition of Alexander Bartlett, for leave to export to the Island of Grenada sundry military stores therein mentioned, on board the ship *Antigua Planter*, for the defence of the Bay of Hillsborough, and of a sloop belonging to the petitioner.

Their lordships, upon consideration of the above petition, were of opinion, the exportation prayed for should be allowed; and the draught of a report to the Lords of the Privy Council thereupon having been prepared accordingly, was approved, transcribed and signed.

fo. 138.

The draught of a representation to his Majesty upon the memorial of Thomas Clark and James Berkenhout, mentioned in the minutes of the 27th of May, and the 3rd instant, having been prepared according to order, was approved, transcribed and signed.

Nova Scotia.

Read a memorial of Martin Haulback in behalf of himself and others the settlers in the township of Lunenburg in Nova Scotia, praying, that they may have a grant of their township confirmed to them, with a remission of fees.

Ordered, that a letter be written to Lieutenant Governor Arbuthnot, transmitting a copy of the said petition, and recommending him to enquire into the merits thereof.

Jamaica.**fo. 139.**

Read a memorial of Stephen Fuller, esquire, agent for the Island of Jamaica, praying the Board to recommend it to his Majesty to permit the Governor of that island to give his assent to an Act of Assembly, *for disposing of the dwelling house and appurtenances of Philip Pinnock by a raffle.*

East Florida.

Read a letter from (fn. 1) Robert Knox, esquire, agent for the Province of East Florida, to Mr. Cumberland, dated June the 4th, 1777, requesting, that he will obtain the directions of the Board, respecting the payment of a bill of £179. 9. 0 drawn on him by the Reverend John Forbes, for his salary as officiating Chief Justice of that province, from the 13th of February to the 24th of June, 1776; and stating, that he had, by order of the Secretary of State, paid William Drayton, esquire, the full salary as Chief Justice of the said province for last year.

fo. 140.

Upon reading the above letter, their lordships were of opinion, that Mr. Drayton's salary having been issued to him in obedience to his Majesty's commands signified by the Secretary of State, the agent will be warranted in appropriating so much of the contingent fund, as shall serve to discharge one moiety of the salary, being the proportion due to the acting Chief Justice, during the period of Mr. Drayton's absence.

West Florida.

Read a memorial of William Roberts, in behalf of himself and his associate Samuel Fontenelle, setting forth, their having purchased two Orders of Council, for twelve thousand acres of land in East Florida, and praying the Board to recommend to his Majesty, that they may be permitted to exchange the said lands for a like quantity in West Florida, on surrendering the said two Orders in Council and their assignments.

fo. 141.

Ordered, that the draught of a representation to his Majesty, upon the memorial of William Roberts, be prepared.

Barbados.

Their lordships took into their consideration an Act passed in the Island of Barbados in March, 1776, intituled *an Act to render more effectual the Act to empower the Commissioners appointed by the Act for cleansing and maintaining the Mole, to take up and borrow money on the credit of the Island, together with the way and means to be taken thereupon*

Ordered, that the draught of a letter to the Governor of the Island of Barbados, on the subject of the said Act, be prepared.

Nova Scotia.**fo. 142.****Georgia.****East Florida.****West Florida.****St. John's.****Senegambia.****Plantations General.**

Read six memorials of the agents of Nova Scotia, Georgia, East Florida, West Florida, St. John's and Senegambia; also three memorials of the agents for general surveys, to the Lords of the Treasury, praying that the money granted by Parliament for the support of the civil establishment of the said colonies, and for general surveys for the year 1777, may be issued as usual into their hands; and the Secretary was directed to certify their lordships' approbation of the said memorials being presented accordingly.

The Secretary laid before the Board the following publick papers, vizt.,

Grenada.

Minutes of Council of the Island of Grenada, commencing the 27th of July, and ending the 26th of October, 1776.

Minutes of Assembly of the Island of Grenada, commencing the 25th of July, and ending the 28th of October, 1776.

fo. 143.**Dominica.**

Ordered, that the draught of a representation to his Majesty should be prepared, recommending Alexander Henderson, esquire, to be of the Council for the Island of Dominica.

Thursday, June 12th. Present:—Mr. Jenyns, Mr. Gascoyne, Mr. Greville, Mr. Eden.

Lord George Germain, one of his Majesty's principal Secretaries of State, attends.

West Florida, Nova Scotia, Dominica.**fo. 144.**

The draught of a representation to his Majesty, upon the memorial of William Roberts for an exchange of lands, having been prepared pursuant to the minute of the 10th instant, was approved, transcribed and signed; as was also a letter to Lieutenant Governor Arbuthnot, transmitting him a copy of the memorial of the settlers of the township of Lunenburg in Nova Scotia, and a representation to his Majesty, recommending Alexander Henderson, esquire, to be of the Council for the Island of Dominica.

Nova Scotia.**fo. 145.**

His Majesty having been pleased, by his warrant of the 3rd of December, 1776, to the Governor of Nova Scotia, to direct that Bryan Finucane, esquire, should be appointed to succeed the late Jonathan Belcher, esquire, as Chief Justice of that province, the agent requested their lordships' directions, as to the distribution of the salary granted by Parliament to that officer; whereupon their lordships were pleased to order, that one moiety of the said salary should be issued to the said Mr. Finucane from the date of his Majesty's warrant, and the other moiety to the person executing that office until the arrival of Mr. Finucane.

Thursday, June 19th. Present:—Mr. Gascoyne, Mr. Greville, Mr. Eden.

Lord George Germain, one of his Majesty's principal Secretaries of State, attends.

Jamaica.**fo. 146.**

Their lordships took into consideration an Act passed in the Island of Jamaica, intituled, *an Act to entitle Mary Powell, a free ~~black~~ mulatto woman, and John Brown, information about how you can contact your browser cookies is available on our privacy page (for more british history and archives)* and privileges with English subjects under certain restrictions, together with Mr. Packer's report on the petition, and it was ordered, that the draught of a representation to his Majesty be prepared, proposing the confirmation of the said Act: which draught having been prepared accordingly, was approved, transcribed and signed.

Trade.

Read an Order of the Lords of the Privy Council, dated June 13th, 1777, referring the petition of Messrs. Graham, Johnston and Company, for leave to export to West Florida, for trade there, certain military stores therein specified, on board the ship *Susannah*.

Their lordships, on consideration of the foregoing petition, were of opinion, that it would not be proper to recommend the exportation prayed for, the said ship not being sufficiently armed.

fo. 147.

Friday, June 27th. Present:—Mr. Gascoyne, Mr. Eden.

Lord George Germain, one of his Majesty's principal Secretaries of State, attends.

Senegambia.

Read a letter from Mr. Robinson, Secretary to the Lords of the Treasury, to Mr. Cumberland, dated June 24th, 1777, transmitting, for the opinion of this Board,

Copy of the memorial of Thomas Bullock, esquire, agent for the Province of Senegambia, to the Lords of the Treasury, praying that the money granted by Parliament for the civil establishment of that province for the present year, may be issued to him.

fo. 148.

Ordered, that the Secretary do write to Mr. Robinson, to acquaint him for the information of the Lords of the Treasury, that this Board has no objection, under the present circumstances of that province, to the grant of Parliament for the present year being issued to the agent, agreeable to the prayer of his memorial.

Trade.

The following Orders in Council were read, vizt.,

Order of the Lords of the Privy Council, dated June 24th, 1777, referring to this Board the petition of James Montgomery, praying leave to export to West Florida, sundry military stores therein mentioned, on board the ship *Rebecca*, for trade in the said province.

Order of the Lords of the Privy Council, dated June 24th, 1777, referring to this Board the petition of Gill Slater, praying leave to export from Liverpool to the Island of St. Vincent, sundry military stores therein mentioned, on board the ship *Bess*, for arming and defending the petitioner's vessels trading at that island.

fo. 149.

Their lordships, upon consideration of the two foregoing petitions, were of opinion, that the exportation prayed for should be allowed; and draughts of reports to the Lords of the Privy Council thereupon having been prepared accordingly, were approved, transcribed and signed.

Dominica.

Read a letter from Thomas Shirley, esquire, Governor of Dominica, dated March 7th, 1777, relative to the Council of that island, and transmitting,

Return of the state of his Majesty's Council for the Island of Dominica, dated 7th March, 1777.

Minutes of Council from the 25th of September to the 29th of November, 1776.

Journal of Assembly from the 25th of September to the 29th of November, 1776.

Three Acts passed in October and November, 1776.

Ordered, that the abovementioned Acts be sent to Mr. Jackson, for his opinion in point of law.

Footnotes

1. Called William on p. 66.



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A Parcel of Ribbons

Eighteenth century Jamaica viewed through family stories and documents



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Hidden black identities

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On or about the thirtieth Day of December 1756 were baptized James March, vulgarly called Quaw, and Francis Dyer, vulgarly called Neptune, two Adult Negroes, Servants to Maynard Clarke Esqr. of Birchanger in the County of Essex, in the Presence of the said Maynard Clarke, Mrs Susanna Clarke his Mother, Miss Susanna Maynard Clarke and Miss Catherine Clarke, his two daughters, Mr Evans a Linnen Draper in Bondstreet London, and Mrs Ann Blucke. N.B. It was done at their own Request, and that of their Master Maynard Clarke Esqr.
Mattw Blucke Rectr.

From the parish register of Hunsden, Hertfordshire
[https:// www.findmypast.co.uk](https://www.findmypast.co.uk): accessed 28 January 2019

Much work has been done recently demonstrating the presence of people of African origin in the UK for far longer than had previously been thought, notably Miranda Kaufman's book *Black Tudors* (https://www.amazon.co.uk/Black-Tudors-Untold-Miranda-Kaufmann/dp/178607396X/ref=sr_1_1?ie=UTF8&qid=1548676222&sr=8-1&keywords=black+tudors+miranda+kaufmann).

I recently came across the extract above in the parish register of Hunsden in Hertfordshire which highlights two more people whose origins would otherwise be unknown.

I have found no further record of who James March and Francis Dyer were, but their pre-baptism names suggest that James had retained his birth name and may have been a first generation slave, whereas Francis had been re-named by his owner. Possibly he may have been born in Jamaica to an already enslaved mother. Whether the names they chose at baptism were in any way connected with their parentage is not known.

However, we do know quite a lot about Maynard Clarke. He was the son of John Clarke and Susanna Maynard and was born in Jamaica in about November 1717. He was baptised in the parish of St Andrew on 25 November 1717, and his father died in about July 1720. Maynard was apprenticed in England to two attorneys and traded in partnership with various others with Jamaica. He married Jane Wood at Twineham in Sussex in 1739, and their daughter Susanna was baptised in London in 1743. Henrietta who died as an infant was baptised in Little Hadham, Hertfordshire in 1744. I have found no record of Catherine's birth. A mis-transcription on FindMyPast has confused her with the record above.

Nearly twenty years after his father's death Maynard took out a case in the Court of Chancery alleging that he had been defrauded of income from his estates. It seems likely that John Clarke had married Susanna, who owned property in Brixton in Devon and Sible Hedingham in Essex, hoping to improve his Jamaican affairs through his marriage settlement. He owned extensive properties and plantations in Jamaica, but must have been in debt, since shortly before his death, he had mortgaged some of it hoping to repay the debts out of the profits of his plantations.

Maynard Clarke's first wife Jane Wood having died, he re-married in 1757 to Elizabeth Thompson and it seems that, despite a long time spent in England, he soon returned to Jamaica, for he died there about two years later aged about forty-one. Did James March and Francis Dyer return with him? Were they still enslaved or had they been freed?

The *Legacies of British Slave-ownership* (<https://www.ucl.ac.uk/lbs/person/view/2146650835>) website lists Maynard's property in Jamaica when his Will was probated there in 1761. "Slave-ownership at probate: 211 of whom 113 were listed as male and 98 as female. 64 were listed as boys, girls or children. Total value of estate at probate: £12,680.77 Jamaican currency of which £8,855.75 currency was the value of enslaved people." I don't have access to this document so don't know if James and Francis were listed there.

After Maynard's death, the Chancery Hall estate in St Andrew, once known as Clarke's, became the property of Samuel Walter and later of his son of the same name. He left a life interest in it to his only daughter Mary Ann Walter, and thereafter it became the property of his great grandson Richard Lacy.

I have found no further record of Maynard's daughter Catherine, but Susanna Maynard Clarke was buried on the 16 August 1772 in Hammersmith. She left all her property in England and Jamaica to her 'only two friends' – Mrs Ann Musgrave, a widow who ran the school in Hammersmith where Susanna died aged twenty-nine, and Miss Rebecca Thompson, Ann Musgrave's niece.

Ann Musgrave made her Will the day before Susanna's funeral, on 15 August 1772 leaving everything to Rebecca Thompson and died a year later. Rebecca lived till 1816, having remained unmarried, and left a substantial inheritance to her god-daughter Rebecca Flower.

All of which sadly demonstrates how much easier it is to find out about those who kept people enslaved than about the slaves themselves. However, if descendants of James March, alias Quaw, or Francis Pryor, formerly Neptune, are searching for them this may just help in that search.

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THE FEMALE INFIDEL

THE VINDICATION OF FANNY DASHWOOD



ANNE M POWERS

<http://aparcelfribbons.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2018/10/FRONT-COVER-resized-640.jpg>

Regular readers of this website will be familiar with its origins in the letters of the Lee family sent from Jamaica to England. This new book carries on their history to the next generation with the story of Fanny Dashwood who eloped with Matthew Allen Lee. When I found an extensive collection of her papers at the National Archives in Kew, I knew that her story deserved to be better known.


Born to great wealth, but illegitimate, she lost her much loved father Sir Francis Dashwood (he of the Hell-Fire Club) when a small child. Educated in France with princesses, aristocrats and the daughters of Thomas Jefferson, future President of America, she was forced to abandon the studies she loved and return to England at the outbreak of revolution.

Once there she became embroiled in a series of teenage scrapes involving young men, which culminated eventually in elopement, furious rows and separation. Several years later she was abducted and raped, forced to attend a trial that destroyed her reputation and failed to deliver justice. It led Thomas De Quincey to name her as the 'Female Infidel'.

There are very modern echoes in her persecution by the media, vilification by cartoonists and sufferings at the hands of stalkers. Despite all this she continued her studies and published her *Essay on Government*, which might have had greater success had she not already achieved notoriety. She is now remembered, if at all, for all the wrong reasons.

History has not been kind to her. I hope this book will help to redress the balance.

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Data privacy and GDPR

(<http://aparcelofribbons.co.uk/2018/04/data-privacy-and-gdpr/>)

🕒 [APRIL 30, 2018 \(HTTP://APARCELOFRIBBONS.CO.UK/2018/04/DATA-PRIVACY-AND-GDPR/\)](http://aparcelofribbons.co.uk/2018/04/data-privacy-and-gdpr/) 👤 [ANNE M POWERS \(HTTP://APARCELOFRIBBONS.CO.UK/AUTHOR/ANNEP/\)](http://aparcelofribbons.co.uk/author/annep/)

You may be aware that data privacy has been much in the news lately. Not only in relation to the mis-use of data gathered via Facebook, but also because on 25 May 2018 new General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR for short) come into force across Europe and by extension across the world. You can read more about GDPR [here](https://ico.org.uk/for-organisations/guide-to-the-general-data-protection-regulation-gdpr/). (<https://ico.org.uk/for-organisations/guide-to-the-general-data-protection-regulation-gdpr/>)

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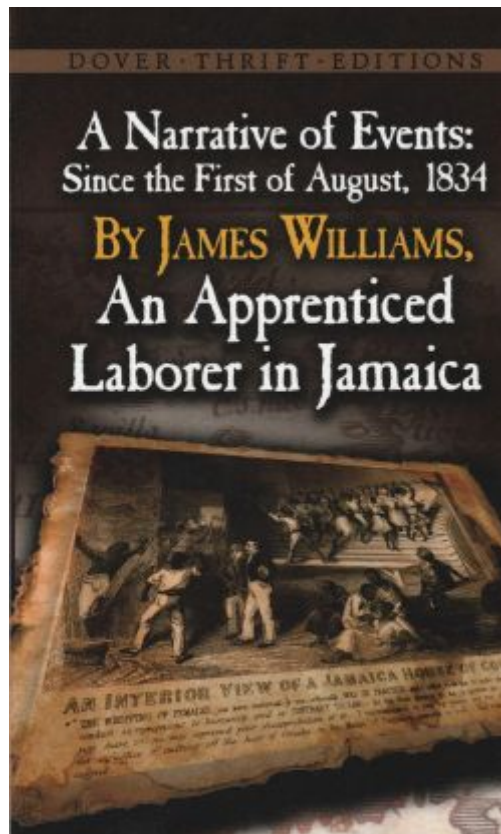
Anne M Powers

30 April 2018

[BIOGRAPHIES \(HTTP://APARCELOFRIBBONS.CO.UK/CATEGORY/BIOGRAPHIES/\)](http://aparcelofribbons.co.uk/category/biographies/), [GENERAL INTEREST \(HTTP://APARCELOFRIBBONS.CO.UK/CATEGORY/GENERAL-INTEREST/\)](http://aparcelofribbons.co.uk/category/general-interest/), [JAMAICAN LIFE \(HTTP://APARCELOFRIBBONS.CO.UK/CATEGORY/JAMAICAN-LIFE/\)](http://aparcelofribbons.co.uk/category/jamaican-life/).

The Iniquities of Apprenticeship (<http://aparcelofribbons.co.uk/2018/02/the-iniquities-of-apprenticeship/>)

© FEBRUARY 14, 2018 ([HTTP://APARCELOFRIBBONS.CO.UK/2018/02/THE-INIQUITIES-OF-APPRENTICESHIP/](http://aparcelofribbons.co.uk/2018/02/the-iniquities-of-apprenticeship/)),  [ANNE M POWERS \(HTTP://APARCELOFRIBBONS.CO.UK/AUTHOR/ANNEP/\)](http://aparcelofribbons.co.uk/author/annep/)



(<http://aparcelfribbons.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2018/02/James-Williams-resized-250.jpg>).

If anyone was ever in any doubt about the iniquities of the Apprenticeship scheme that followed the apparent abolition of slavery in the British colonies this little book lays out in graphic detail just how much more dreadful things became for those who had been enslaved.

I say 'apparent abolition' because although no-one was now legally a slave, the apprenticeship scheme left the formerly enslaved suffering the worst of both worlds. They were still tied to their former owners and required to work for them, and they had lost what minimal legal protection they had previously had.

Nowhere was this more clearly illustrated than in the testimony of young James Williams, formerly enslaved at Penshurst in the parish of St Ann. With the connivance of a corrupt local law enforcement, his previous owners, a Mr Senior and his sister, inflicted terrible punishments on young James and many of his fellow former slaves. James was about eighteen when he gave his testimony in 1837 and his resilient character shines through it.

When first published in Great Britain it caused an outcry and helped in the final abolition of slavery in all its forms throughout the British colonies. In case any should doubt his account, it was backed up by testimony recorded by a formal Commission of Enquiry.

This little book, which is a gripping and horrifying read, was republished in 2014 by [Dover publications](http://store.doverpublications.com/) (<http://store.doverpublications.com/>), unabridged from the original edition of 1838. It is also available as an ebook (<http://store.doverpublications.com/0486800679.html>), from Dover and other sources.

Williams, James. (2015) *A Narrative of Events: Since the 1st of August, 1834, by James Williams, an Apprenticed Laborer in Jamaica*. Mineola, New York: Dover Publications Inc.

◆ [abolition](http://aparcelofribbons.co.uk/tag/abolition/) (<http://aparcelofribbons.co.uk/tag/abolition/>), [apprenticeship](http://aparcelofribbons.co.uk/tag/apprenticeship/) (<http://aparcelofribbons.co.uk/tag/apprenticeship/>), [Jamaica](http://aparcelofribbons.co.uk/tag/jamaica/) (<http://aparcelofribbons.co.uk/tag/jamaica/>), [James Williams](http://aparcelofribbons.co.uk/tag/james-williams/) (<http://aparcelofribbons.co.uk/tag/james-williams/>), [Penshurst](http://aparcelofribbons.co.uk/tag/penshurst/) (<http://aparcelofribbons.co.uk/tag/penshurst/>), [slavery](http://aparcelofribbons.co.uk/tag/slavery/) (<http://aparcelofribbons.co.uk/tag/slavery/>), [St Ann's](http://aparcelofribbons.co.uk/tag/st-anns/) (<http://aparcelofribbons.co.uk/tag/st-anns/>).

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Robert Cooper Lee – The Lost Miniature (<http://aparcelofribbons.co.uk/2017/04/robert-cooper-lee-the-lost-miniature/>)

🕒 APRIL 8, 2017 ([HTTP://APARCELOFRIBBONS.CO.UK/2017/04/ROBERT-COOPER-LEE-THE-LOST-MINIATURE/](http://aparcelofribbons.co.uk/2017/04/robert-cooper-lee-the-lost-miniature/)) 👤 ANNE M POWERS ([HTTP://APARCELOFRIBBONS.CO.UK/AUTHOR/ANNEP/](http://aparcelofribbons.co.uk/author/annep/))





60

(<http://aparclofribbons.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2017/04/RCL-e1491667337394.png>).

I owe a debt to Michael Hardy who kindly obtained this much better copy of the image of Robert Cooper Lee from the Christie's sale catalogue of 27 March 1979.

When I call this a 'lost' miniature I am sure the owner knows they have it! and I hope they still know who it is – too often miniatures end up being described simply as 'portrait of an unknown man' (or woman).

The miniature sold for £60 in 1979. The sale description was:

^

ROBERT COOPER LEE, *English School, circa 1780*, facing left in blue coat, white waistcoat and cravat, powdered hair – oval, 2 5/8in. (66mm) high – gold frame, plaited hair panel within blue glass border (damaged)

Robert (1735-1794), son of Joseph and Frances Lee, married Priscilla, daughter of Dennis Kelly and Favell Bourke.

All of which is correct except that the mother of Priscilla Kelly was *not* Favell Bourke. If you'd like to know more, it's all in the book! (<http://aparcelofribbons.co.uk/a-parcel-ribbons-the-book/>).

I do wish the catalogue had said what colour his eyes were, and what colour the plaited hair was. Was it some of his own hair, or perhaps some of Priscilla's?

It would be lovely to know who now has the miniature, and whether they have any idea of the family history that goes with it.

✦ [Christies](http://aparcelofribbons.co.uk/tag/christies/) (<http://aparcelofribbons.co.uk/tag/christies/>), [Jamaica](http://aparcelofribbons.co.uk/tag/jamaica/) (<http://aparcelofribbons.co.uk/tag/jamaica/>), [miniature](http://aparcelofribbons.co.uk/tag/miniature/) (<http://aparcelofribbons.co.uk/tag/miniature/>), [Robert Cooper Lee](http://aparcelofribbons.co.uk/tag/robert-cooper-lee/) (<http://aparcelofribbons.co.uk/tag/robert-cooper-lee/>).

[GENEALOGY](http://aparcelofribbons.co.uk/category/genealogy/) ([HTTP://APARCELOFRIBBONS.CO.UK/CATEGORY/GENEALOGY/](http://aparcelofribbons.co.uk/category/genealogy/)), [GENERAL INTEREST](http://aparcelofribbons.co.uk/category/general-interest/) ([HTTP://APARCELOFRIBBONS.CO.UK/CATEGORY/GENERAL-INTEREST/](http://aparcelofribbons.co.uk/category/general-interest/)).

Family Trees undergoing revision (<http://aparcelofribbons.co.uk/2017/03/family-trees-undergoing-revision/>)

🕒 MARCH 29, 2017 ([HTTP://APARCELOFRIBBONS.CO.UK/2017/03/FAMILY-TREES-UNDERGOING-REVISION/](http://aparcelofribbons.co.uk/2017/03/family-trees-undergoing-revision/)). 👤 ANNE M POWERS ([HTTP://APARCELOFRIBBONS.CO.UK/AUTHOR/ANNEP/](http://aparcelofribbons.co.uk/author/annep/)).



(<http://aparcelofribbons.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2017/03/168992.gif>).

Some readers will be aware that I am currently studying for a post graduate Diploma in Genealogical, Palaeographic and Heraldic Studies

(<https://www.strath.ac.uk/courses/postgraduatetaught/genealogicalpalaeographicheraldicstudies/>), with the University of Strathclyde. I am hugely enjoying the course, but one of the things I have learned is the inadequacy of the way in which, in the past, I have recorded the sources of the information for the family trees I have posted on this website.

Pending being able to revise them and bring them up to an acceptable standard I have removed the links from here. Meanwhile if anyone has a specific query relating to any of the following families please feel free to get in touch (<http://aparcelofribbons.co.uk/contact/>), and I will do my best to provide an answer.

Allen

Blankett

Dehany

Halhed

Herring

Kelly

Lee

Long

Rose

Ross

^

Scott

Serocold

Welch

Winde


Wynter

Anne M Powers

29 March 2017

[GENERAL INTEREST \(HTTP://APARCELOFRIBBONS.CO.UK/CATEGORY/GENERAL-INTEREST/\)](http://aparcelofribbons.co.uk/category/general-interest/)

Crowdfunding before the internet (<http://aparcelofribbons.co.uk/2016/12/crowdfunding-before-the-internet/>)

© DECEMBER 25, 2016 ([HTTP://APARCELOFRIBBONS.CO.UK/2016/12/CROWDFUNDING-BEFORE-THE-INTERNET/](http://aparcelofribbons.co.uk/2016/12/crowdfunding-before-the-internet/)).  [ANNE M POWERS \(HTTP://APARCELOFRIBBONS.CO.UK/AUTHOR/ANNEP/\)](http://aparcelofribbons.co.uk/author/anne-powers/)



(http://aparclofribbons.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2016/12/3workhouse_i1_0.jpg).

A Victorian Workhouse (<http://www.open.edu/>)

We think of crowdfunding as a modern phenomenon. When a family loses everything due to a fire in their home just before Christmas, thousands of people respond to an appeal by their friends on the internet, donating toys, clothes and money. One family were so overwhelmed by the response (<http://www.derbytelegraph.co.uk/borrowash-family-overwhelmed-by-support-after-losing-home-in-fire/story-30006194-detail/story.html>) that they were able to donate a huge number of duplicate toys, wrongly sized clothes and excess food to local charities.

For the eighteenth or nineteenth century family suffering such a disaster the prospects were potentially disastrous. Death of a breadwinner meant that the workhouse loomed.

While researching something else a few days ago in the wonderful British Newspaper Archive (<http://www.britishnewspaperarchive.co.uk/viewer/bl/0001255/18190322/010/0001>), I came across a sad tale, made bearable by the generosity of friends. The *Public Ledger and Daily Advertiser* for Monday 22 March 1819 carried an advertisement inserted by the friends of a 'Widow and Ten Children'. Her husband had been a Captain in the West India Service, and formerly a Master in the Royal Navy. Once the Napoleonic

Wars ended of course there was no further need for the large numbers of soldiers and sailors who had fought, and many became destitute. A former Naval Captain would probably have been pensioned on half pay, but as the article does not name him we cannot know if this was the case.

Wanting to provide for his family this former Navy man set himself up to trade, but he suffered 'severe losses at sea', trade was generally depressed and he became bankrupt.

He had many good friends however, and they set him up with a new ship and he began once again trading with the West Indies, hoping to repay the debts and to be able to support his wife and ten children. One of the children, a boy of six, was described in the newspaper as being 'an idiot', the general description at the time for any form of mental handicap. This child was said to be 'quite incapable of taking the least care of himself'.

Then disaster struck again. The captain fell 'victim to the fever at Jamaica' and died. Those familiar with the dangers of yellow fever, malaria, smallpox, dysentery and the like at the time will know it is a sadly familiar story. (<http://aparcelofribbons.co.uk/2012/01/death-and-disease-in-jamaica/>).

Step up Messers Godfree, Greensill, Harmer, Salter, Wilson and Wallis, all at various London addresses, who were advertised as being willing to authenticate the story and receive subscriptions on behalf of the poor widow and her children.

Calling for subscriptions in this way had been facilitated by the rise of a mass market press. Indeed the terrible hurricanes of the 1780s that destroyed plantations and caused huge loss of life in Jamaica, and the reaction to them back in England, had spawned what was probably the first ever mass campaign for donations in the face of a natural disaster.

Let us hope that the readers of the *Public Ledger and Daily Advertiser* were as generous as those who had responded to the hurricanes and the people who now respond to appeals on social media to help those who have suffered loss and disaster. Sadly, since the widow is not named we will never know what happened to her and her many children, but I think there is a very good chance that she and they were able to avoid Christmas Day in the workhouse.

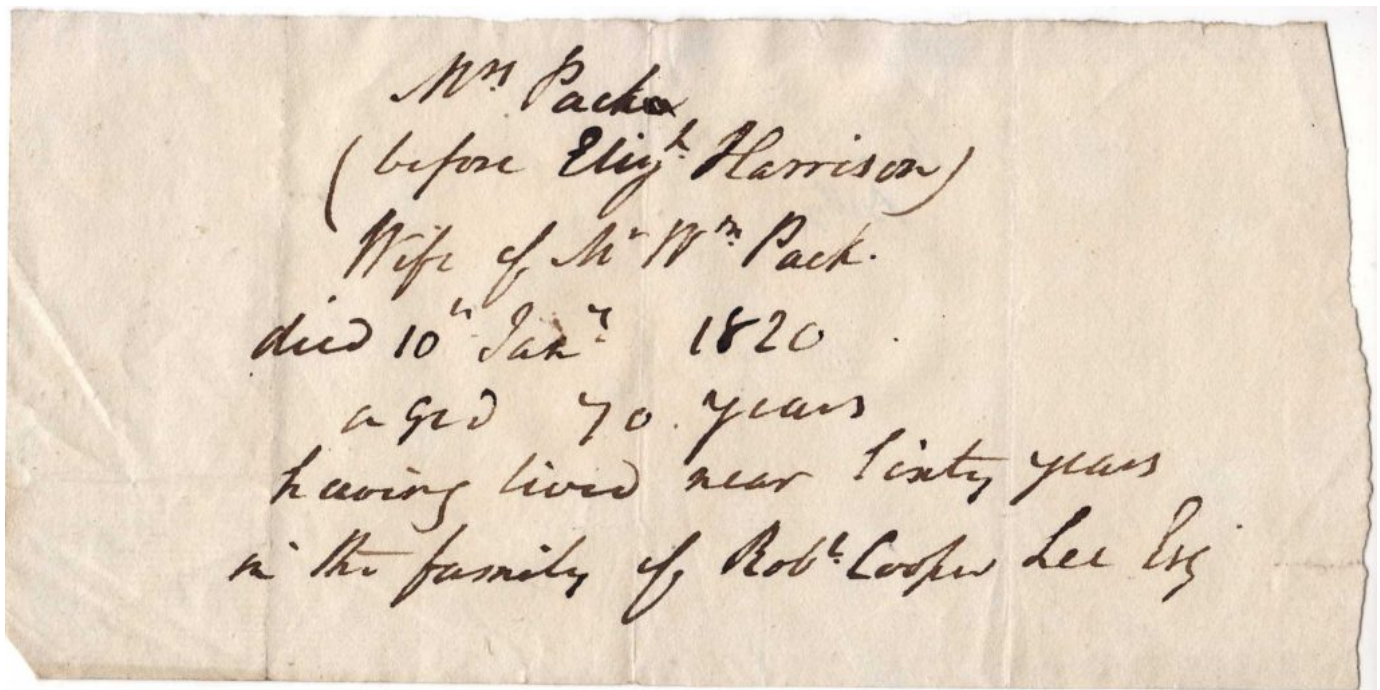
♦ [bankrupt \(http://aparcelofribbons.co.uk/tag/bankrupt/\)](http://aparcelofribbons.co.uk/tag/bankrupt/), [crowdfunding \(http://aparcelofribbons.co.uk/tag/crowdfunding/\)](http://aparcelofribbons.co.uk/tag/crowdfunding/), [disaster \(http://aparcelofribbons.co.uk/tag/disaster/\)](http://aparcelofribbons.co.uk/tag/disaster/), [hurricane \(http://aparcelofribbons.co.uk/tag/hurricane/\)](http://aparcelofribbons.co.uk/tag/hurricane/), [internet \(http://aparcelofribbons.co.uk/tag/internet/\)](http://aparcelofribbons.co.uk/tag/internet/), [Jamaica \(http://aparcelofribbons.co.uk/tag/jamaica/\)](http://aparcelofribbons.co.uk/tag/jamaica/), [widow \(http://aparcelofribbons.co.uk/tag/widow/\)](http://aparcelofribbons.co.uk/tag/widow/), [workhouse \(http://aparcelofribbons.co.uk/tag/workhouse/\)](http://aparcelofribbons.co.uk/tag/workhouse/).

[BIOGRAPHIES \(HTTP://APARCELOFRIBBONS.CO.UK/CATEGORY/BIOGRAPHIES/\)](http://aparcelofribbons.co.uk/category/biographies/), [GENEALOGY \(HTTP://APARCELOFRIBBONS.CO.UK/CATEGORY/GENEALOGY/\)](http://aparcelofribbons.co.uk/category/genealogy/), [GENERAL INTEREST \(HTTP://APARCELOFRIBBONS.CO.UK/CATEGORY/GENERAL-INTEREST/\)](http://aparcelofribbons.co.uk/category/general-interest/)

Invisible Black British History

(<http://aparcelofribbons.co.uk/2016/10/invisible-black-british-history/>)

© OCTOBER 5, 2016 ([HTTP://APARCELOFRIBBONS.CO.UK/2016/10/INVISIBLE-BLACK-BRITISH-HISTORY/](http://aparcelofribbons.co.uk/2016/10/invisible-black-british-history/)) ■ ANNE M POWERS ([HTTP://APARCELOFRIBBONS.CO.UK/AUTHOR/ANNEP/](http://aparcelofribbons.co.uk/author/annep/))



(<http://aparcelofribbons.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2016/10/1820-Death-of-Betty-Harrison.jpg>)

Only relatively recently have many people in Britain become aware that the presence of black and mixed race people did not begin with the arrival of the *Windrush* in 1948. Indeed we also forget that the ship was called the *Empire Windrush* reflecting a heritage that was already on the wane.

Most people are still unaware of a black presence that goes back to Roman times and that increased in numbers during the eighteenth century. There are sometimes protests when a black or mixed race actor is cast in a historical drama by those who do not realise that this is an accurate portrayal of society at the time.

BBC Radio 4 is currently broadcasting a series of short talks on [Britain's Black Past](http://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/b07ws0f2)

(<http://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/b07ws0f2>) and this reminded me of Betty Harrison, servant of the Lee family for nearly sixty years. ^

Had it not been for the note on a scrap of paper, shown above, I would never have known when she died or how old she was, let alone that she had married.

For those who have not read A Parcel of Ribbons (<http://aparcelofribbons.co.uk/a-parcel-ribbons-the-book/>). I should explain that Betty Harrison travelled to England from Jamaica with the Lee family in 1771 and lived with them until her death in 1820. The entry for her burial at St Mary's Barnes, alongside members of the Lee family who had been buried there since 1732, gave her age as 70 and her parish of residence as St Marylebone, but made no reference to her origins. Like many other black British residents her colour was invisible, and yet in the 1920s the family biographer Audrey Gamble referred to her as the Lee's 'black mammy' and she was so much a part of the family as to merit burial with them rather than in London.

Elizabeth Harrison was born in Jamaica about 1750 and must have joined the Lee family at about the age of ten, probably as nursemaid to their eldest child Frances. It is impossible to be certain of her birth, but there is a baptism on 13 March 1758 in the parish of St Catherine for Thomas and Elizabeth, the children of Elizabeth Harrison a mulatto woman. There is no record of whether Betty was free or enslaved, but it seems probable that she was free.

The Lee children maintained an affectionate relationship with Betty all their lives, referring to her in their letters and bringing back presents for her from trips abroad. Robert Cooper Lee left her a life-time legacy of £20 a year, equivalent to an income of about £40,000 a year now (source: www.measuringworth.com). She had saved enough to be able to lend £30 to a Lee family member in 1804 so her circumstances were prosperous for a servant.

After the deaths of Robert Cooper Lee and his wife Priscilla their house in Bedford Square was sold and their children all set up separate homes. Betty Harrison stayed with Frances Lee who moved to Devonshire Street in Marylebone and it was probably there that Betty died in 1820.

The real mystery to me, and one I have yet to solve, is who was Mr William Pack, and when did Betty marry him? There was no mention of him in any of the Lee correspondence that I have seen and without the scrap of paper shown above (probably written by Frances Lee) I would never have known he existed.

Was he also a Lee servant? Were they married in England? When and where was he born and when did he die? And was he also of African origin? To date I have found none of the answers, but as more and more records come online I hope to one day.

Meanwhile a huge amount of work is now being done on the British people whose African origins have so far been invisible. You can read about Black British History Month [here](http://www.blackhistorymonth.org.uk/article/section/bhm-intros/black-history-month-chi-onwurah-) (<http://www.blackhistorymonth.org.uk/article/section/bhm-intros/black-history-month-chi-onwurah->



[mp/](#)), and if you are in London you can visit [Black Chronicles: Photographic Portraits 1862-1948](#) (<http://www.npg.org.uk/whatson/blackchronicles/events.php>). There are also many regional events taking place helping to raise awareness of history that should be better known.

◆ [Black British History](http://aparcelofribbons.co.uk/tag/black-british-history/) (<http://aparcelofribbons.co.uk/tag/black-british-history/>), [Jamaica](http://aparcelofribbons.co.uk/tag/jamaica/) (<http://aparcelofribbons.co.uk/tag/jamaica/>), [London](http://aparcelofribbons.co.uk/tag/london/) (<http://aparcelofribbons.co.uk/tag/london/>), [Marylebone](http://aparcelofribbons.co.uk/tag/marylebone/) (<http://aparcelofribbons.co.uk/tag/marylebone/>), [St Catherine](http://aparcelofribbons.co.uk/tag/st-catherine/) (<http://aparcelofribbons.co.uk/tag/st-catherine/>), [St Mary Barnes](http://aparcelofribbons.co.uk/tag/st-mary-barnes/) (<http://aparcelofribbons.co.uk/tag/st-mary-barnes/>), [William Pack](http://aparcelofribbons.co.uk/tag/william-pack/) (<http://aparcelofribbons.co.uk/tag/william-pack/>).

[GENEALOGY](http://aparcelofribbons.co.uk/category/genealogy/) ([HTTP://APARCELOFRIBBONS.CO.UK/CATEGORY/GENEALOGY/](http://aparcelofribbons.co.uk/category/genealogy/)), [GENERAL INTEREST](http://aparcelofribbons.co.uk/category/general-interest/) ([HTTP://APARCELOFRIBBONS.CO.UK/CATEGORY/GENERAL-INTEREST/](http://aparcelofribbons.co.uk/category/general-interest/)).

New Slave Ownership and Estate records (<http://aparcelofribbons.co.uk/2016/09/new-slave-ownership-estate-records/>)

🕒 [SEPTEMBER 27, 2016](http://aparcelofribbons.co.uk/2016/09/new-slave-ownership-estate-records/) ([HTTP://APARCELOFRIBBONS.CO.UK/2016/09/NEW-SLAVE-OWNERSHIP-ESTATE-RECORDS/](http://aparcelofribbons.co.uk/2016/09/new-slave-ownership-estate-records/)) 👤 [ANNE M POWERS](http://aparcelofribbons.co.uk/author/anne-powers/) ([HTTP://APARCELOFRIBBONS.CO.UK/AUTHOR/ANNEP/](http://aparcelofribbons.co.uk/author/anne-powers/)).



(<http://aparcelofribbons.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2016/09/Slave-ship-resized-900.jpg>).

This is just a quick post about the new records available at the Legacies of British Slave-ownership website (<http://www.ucl.ac.uk/lbs/>). Newly added to the existing records of the slave owners who received compensation at the time of abolition are records of 8000 of the estates they owned together with maps of Britain, Jamaica, Barbados and Grenada showing the location of the estates and of places in Britain associated with them. It is a work in progress but a hugely valuable resource.

Moreover tomorrow, 28 September 2016, will see the launch at UCL of the new *Centre for the Study of the Legacies of British Slave-ownership at UCL*. You can find more details of the event here (<http://www.ucl.ac.uk/lbs/project/centrelaunch/>). It is free to attend but booking is required.

A useful additional resource is the website on the Trans-Atlantic Slave Trade (<http://www.slavevoyages.org/>).

♦ Barbados (<http://aparcelofribbons.co.uk/tag/barbados/>), compensation (<http://aparcelofribbons.co.uk/tag/compensation/>), estate (<http://aparcelofribbons.co.uk/tag/estate/>), Grenada (<http://aparcelofribbons.co.uk/tag/grenada/>), Jamaica (<http://aparcelofribbons.co.uk/tag/jamaica/>), slave (<http://aparcelofribbons.co.uk/tag/slave/>), slavery (<http://aparcelofribbons.co.uk/tag/slavery/>).

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All roads lead to Jamaica

(<http://aparcelofribbons.co.uk/2016/07/roads-lead-jamaica/>)

© JULY 29, 2016 ([HTTP://APARCELOFRIBBONS.CO.UK/2016/07/ROADS-LEAD-JAMAICA/](http://aparcelofribbons.co.uk/2016/07/roads-lead-jamaica/)) 🧑 ANNE M POWERS ([HTTP://APARCELOFRIBBONS.CO.UK/AUTHOR/ANNEP/](http://aparcelofribbons.co.uk/author/annep/))



(<http://aparcelofribbons.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2016/07/Bamboo-Avenue-postcard-resized-350.jpg>)

Bamboo Avenue, Jamaica – early coloured postcard

Well, genealogically speaking, it sometimes feels like they do !

Having finished my postgraduate studies until September I was asked to look into the origins of Dr Benjamin Bates (1737-1828) who was a member of the Hellfire Club, a friend of Erasmus Darwin and of the painter [Joseph Wright of Derby](http://www.derbymuseums.org/joseph-wright-paintings-return-home/#.V5mvrbgrKM9) (<http://www.derbymuseums.org/joseph-wright-paintings-return-home/#.V5mvrbgrKM9>), among others. Bizarrely his Wikipedia entry appears to combine the life stories of three quite different people – and if you were to believe it he was commanding a ship of the line in his eighties while simultaneously being a successful merchant in America and a physician in Buckinghamshire !

Only the last is true of the man I am looking at.

Not much was known of his origins in Nottinghamshire, but he married twice, lived to over ninety, and had one surviving daughter Lydia Bates who died unmarried in 1843. Having found her Will I was faced with the genealogist's greatest challenge – a lovely collection of legatees but almost all female, some widowed, and ^

some referred to as cousins but with no easy way of connecting them into the family tree.

If your cousin is the daughter of your father's married sister who then herself married (perhaps more than once) there will have been at least two changes of surname from the main tree. Add in a few common surnames such as Smith and it's no wonder these puzzles are often called brick walls. If your ancestors hail from Scotland you may fare better since Scottish baptism records usually name both parents and include the mother's maiden name.

My help in this case came from a couple of unusual names and the wonderful 1851 Census, which has so often come to my rescue since, in England, it was the first time people had been asked to say exactly where they were born.

For my own family it was a huge surprise to discover Richard Lee who was born in Jamaica in the mid-eighteenth century but lived into his nineties and was present in the 1851 census – leading ultimately to the creation of this website and my book [A Parcel of Ribbons](http://aparclofribbons.co.uk/a-parcel-ribbons-the-book/) (<http://aparclofribbons.co.uk/a-parcel-ribbons-the-book/>).

So it was the 1851 census that came to my rescue with the Bates family connections via a man called Leigh Churchill Smyth who lived to be 83. He was born in Jamaica and baptised on the 25th June 1801 in St Catherine's parish to Ann Eleanor Lague, recorded in the baptism records of her children as a free quadroon. There were five children, all baptised there as Smith, but with no father named. This suggests that he acknowledged the children to the extent of giving them his name, but not of having his full name recorded as their father. Jane Beazle Smith was baptised in 1790, Ann Frances in 1796, Leigh Churchill in 1801, Penelope Sophia in 1804 and Henry Shepherd in 1807.

Some time in the latter part of the eighteenth century the family went upmarket in the spelling of their name and Smith became Smyth.

Henry, who wrote his middle name as Sheppard, later recorded his place of birth as Kingston so it's possible that Ann Eleanor took her children from there to be baptised in Spanish Town. Ann Eleanor herself was baptised there in 1775. She was the daughter of Ester Beazle or Beazley who was born in 1745 and recorded as a free mulatto when she was baptised with her son Stephen Adolphus Beazle in 1768.

Little Ann Frances Smith died of fever before her first birthday, but in the 1841 census Leigh, Penelope and Henry were all living with Matilda Eleanor Archer Smyth in London and Jane was living in Buckingham with Penelope Box (who was another widowed cousin mentioned by Lydia Bates). At first I assumed Matilda was their mother, but it seems possible she was their unmarried aunt.



Matilda had four brothers any one of whom might have been the children's father. I can only find a record of the death of two of these brothers in England – Samuel Chester Smyth who died in Blackfriars schoolhouse in 1813, and Thomas William Anthony Smyth who killed himself on board his ship *HMS Duncan* in 1830.

As the Jamaican parish burial registers are not yet indexed on-line, the only way to find out if one of the two remaining brothers died there is to page through the images in the parish registers. For a name as common as Smith and a register with as many deaths as Kingston this is a lengthy task which I will undertake when I have time.

There is another possibility. Just as I was about to post this story I came across reference in an early 20th century book of pedigrees to Henry Sheppard Smyth being the son of Charles Smyth of Spanish Town and grandson of Sir Richard Smyth, a one time Sheriff of Buckinghamshire. This puts a gloss of legitimacy on his birth and pedigree which was obviously important in enhancing his social status as a 'Gentleman at Arms'. It also fits with the Smyth family associations with Buckingham. But I have been unable to verify it, though while searching I came across both a Leigh Smyth and a Churchill Smyth and a number of Penelope Smyths.

Leigh Churchill Smyth married and was a successful solicitor, perhaps with a wealthy wife, for at his death in 1884 he was worth over £36,000. His wife died a few months later worth even more, and there appear to have been no surviving children. His spinster sister Penelope who had been a governess had an estate valued at under £300 at her death. Jane was also unmarried and left what she had to her brother Leigh. Henry married late and had two children who were still very young when he died in 1866 leaving his wife less than £300. She died in 1870 leaving less than £600 and their children seem to disappear from the record.

So I wonder if there remain any descendants of Ann Eleanor Lague, and if so do they know of their Jamaican heritage? Will they, like me, make the surprising discovery of how often British middle and upper class families had enslaved ancestors, and will they find the road to Jamaica?

◆ Beazle (<http://aparcelofribbons.co.uk/tag/beazle/>), Blackfriars (<http://aparcelofribbons.co.uk/tag/blackfriars/>), Buckingham (<http://aparcelofribbons.co.uk/tag/buckingham/>), Churchill (<http://aparcelofribbons.co.uk/tag/churchill/>), enslaved (<http://aparcelofribbons.co.uk/tag/enslaved/>), free quadroon (<http://aparcelofribbons.co.uk/tag/free-quadroon/>), HMS Duncan

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