

FRANCIS CLAYTON

OF

CHISWICK

AND HIS DESCENDANTS

WITH

SOME ACCOUNT OF

HIS ANCESTORS IN GLOUCESTERSHIRE

North American 1917 from F. C. Clayton

Chuefma, 1892.

Authors.

from the

J. E. and M. A. Clayton

FRANCIS CLAYTON

1739—1774

OF

CHISWICK

AND HIS DESCENDANTS

With some Account of his Ancestors in Gloucestershire

BY

F. & E. CLAYTON

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1892

JOHN BELLONS, GLOUCESTER 176907

REFERENCE TO AUTHORITIES AND DOCUMENTS CONSULTED

The spelling of the documents quoted is the same as in the originals.

Dumbleton, Wormington, Sedgeberrow, Chiswick and Mickleton Registers, and Tombstones in the churchyards.

Transcripts of above Registers at Gloucester.

Wills at Gloucester.

Bigland's Collection relating to County of Gloucester (Tombstones in churchyards.) Some of these are copied incorrectly.

A general examination in the British Museum Library for the name of Clayton. The information is endless, but throws no light on our known ancestors.

Minutes of Thaxted Monthly Meeting.

"The Clayton Family of Thelwall, co. Chester," by J. P. Rylands.—*Liverpool*, Brakell, 1880.

Three original letters to R. Clayton's family, written in the last century.

Marriage Certificates, Wills and correspondence still preserved in our own branch of the family.

PLATINOTYPES AND LITHOGRAPHS

Marriage Certificate of Hollis and Mary Clayton (a)	Frontispiece
Dumbleton Church	To face p. 8
The two oldest Tombstones in Dumbleton Churchyard	" " 10
Mural Tablets in the Church	" " 10
Facsimile of a School Exercise by John Clayton (b)	" " 18
Platinotypes of Susannah, Mary, and Sarah Clayton (c)	" " 22

a. b. Originals in possession of F. C. Clayton.

c. Original in possession of S. E. Clayton.

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INTRODUCTORY

In the year 1826 Hollis and Mary Clayton (our grandparents), with their two sons Francis and Charles, made a trip into Wales, calling at Dumbleton in Gloucestershire, where members of the family had for many years resided. (Extracts from the diary kept by Francis on this journey are printed at pp. 29 and 30).

In 1864 I went over the same ground in Gloucestershire, collected some information about our ancestors both there and elsewhere, and as opportunity offered have pursued the subject at intervals ever since. It seems a pity that an epitome of this information should not be printed before it is lost, and with this view I have, with a large amount of assistance from my cousin Ellen Clayton, got together the following pages in the hope it may prove of interest to other members of the family, and it may save them from going over the ground again when the past shall have become more dim.

FRANCIS CORDER CLAYTON.

Birmingham, 1892.

EARLY REFERENCES TO THE NAME OF CLAYTON

Mr Marshall, in the preface to the *Genealogists' Guide*, says:—"It is not asserting too much to say that most pedigrees are to some extent false: nor is this to be wondered at when one considers that the object of their compilers is too often to gratify the vanity and flatter the pride of the ignorant and the purse-proud. The critical reader will be enabled, by consulting these references, to see almost at a glance how new men have been 'joined on' to old families."

In compiling this account, I will just refer to the old families, but shall make no attempt to "join on" to them. There are numerous books in which is to be found the earliest known history of the name. Burke's *History of the Landed Gentry* (B. M. 2119 a) says:—"Robert de Clayton, who came to England with William the Conqueror, and had the manor of Clayton conferred upon him for his military services, and remained in their possession till conveyed by the sole heiress Dorothy to George Leycester, Esq., of Toft, Cheshire;" and again, *Notes from Index to Heralds' Visitation* (B. M. 1437 fo. 45). A pedigree of the Claytons, commencing with Geralde de Clayton down to the 17th generation, John; and again, (B.M. 1468 fo. 77) a pedigree goes back from William to Gerard, and (1549) 19 generations, commencing with Gerard and ending with Gerard. I might give a list of books which I have examined at the British Museum, but I can trace no relationship to any of the worthies therein named. Suffice it to say that the Christian names John and Richard, names of known relationship to us, frequently occur.

The Cheshire Claytons migrated to Ireland in the 16th century, and for the reasons given below I was induced to make further investigations concerning them.

It will be observed from the list of Tombstones and Registers that there were probably four persons of the name of Laurence Clayton living at or near Dumbleton about the years 1670—1720, viz.:—

The two that are referred to on the tombstone at Dumbleton and the deaths recorded in the transcript of the Dumbleton Registers at Gloucester and in the Wormington Registers, viz.:

Laurence Clayton, buried 1680.

Laurence Clayton, buried 1760 (probably our great great grandfather.)

Although the transcript of the Registers go back to 1599 at Dumbleton, and 1620 at Wormington, these are the only four persons named Laurence, and it is therefore reasonable to assume that there was

some special cause for the name of Laurence at this time, as it does not occur later on, although our great great grandfather, Laurence Clayton, had eight sons, yet none of them or any of his grandchildren were named Laurence. In the *Genealogists' Guide*, by George William Marshall, page 136, occurs numerous references to "Clayton." The first one is some account of the Clayton family of Thelwall, by J. Paul Ryland, F.S.A., Liverpool, 1880, 8vo.

On applying to Mr Ryland he kindly supplied me with a copy of this paper, together with some additional notes from information which he had obtained since his publication. Here one is struck with the fact that there was a Lawrence Clayton born about 1600, and a second Laurence Clayton born about 1650.

In addition there is a Martha Clayton, who, judging from the time at which her brothers and sisters died, probably herself died between 1690 and 1700. She had a sister Margaret, whose will was made in 1686, and proved in the Court of Probate in Dublin in 1696. According to the transcript of the Registers at Gloucester there was a Martha Clayton died at Wormington in 1696. There is nothing whatever to show her relationship with any other member of the family, and as there was a tradition that the family, before settling in Gloucestershire, came from Ireland, this seemed a possible clue to a discovery. Further, a Margaret Clayton (46) was born at Dumbleton in 1696.

I have made a careful examination at least of a dozen wills in the Probate Court in Dublin. I have been to Mallow, in the county of Cork, and to the adjoining parish of Doneraile, where the Claytons of Thelwall, after leaving England, lived, but there is not a trace of them to be found anywhere: no tombstones in the churchyard, or names in the Register; and I only give this as a fair example of the wild goose chase one may run in trying to make up a pedigree.

Laurence and Lawrence appear to be used indifferently, but the word is generally spelt with a *u*.

I have been frequently asked—Are we any relation to Sir Oscar Clayton, who died at the beginning of the present year? From a letter I received in 1867 I was induced to call on him, and found he was much interested in my researches. His grandfather (he told me) lies buried at Mickleton, about 10 miles from Dumbleton, and his father was born there. I saw the tombstone at Mickleton in 1867 and in 1891—"In memory of Hazelwood Clayton, &c., 1788, aged 32 years." I am of the opinion, after an examination of the Registers, that there has been no relationship for at least 200 years.

Our Uncle Hollis was acquainted with the Rev. George Clayton, who with his father, the Rev. John Clayton, and two brothers John and William were noted Nonconformist Ministers between the years 1780 and 1865, and with them no relationship could be established. They belonged to the Lancashire Claytons. [See *Memorials of the Clayton Family*, by Aveling. London: Jackson, Walford, and Hodder, 1867, 4to.]

Lastly, Richard Clayton, of Broad Marston (see p. 14) wrote me in 1865:—"About 36 years ago I was in South Wales, within eight miles of Swansea, a gentleman's seat was pointed out, the then residence of Sir William Clayton. Now, as I have always understood we were a Welsh family, may not this be our ancestor?" On seeing R. C. in 1867 I was unable to obtain any further information. Finding that a Clayton had at one time resided or had a seat at Llangyndeyrn, near Carmarthen, I went there in 1887. The Clergyman of the village was aware of the fact, but assured me that the property only came to Mr Clayton by marriage, and that it was sold about 30 years afterwards, and that he never resided there for any length of time. I examined the Parish Registers from 1730 (the earliest) for 25 years, but never once found the name.

DUMBLETON AND WORMINGTON

We now come to historical times, and the first positive knowledge we have is around Dumbleton and Wormington, two small villages within a short distance of the branch line of the Midland Railway running from Evesham to Ashchurch, and on the following pages I give a complete list of the names I have found after searching the Registers, including some additional ones at Gloucester. The Registers at Dumbleton are very imperfect. According to a parchment at Gloucester, and sent there in 1812, the Registers dated as far back as 1538.

According to a memorandum in the Dumbleton Registers made by S. E. Garrard, the Curate, in 1818, there were none older than 1738 remaining in that year, so that they were lost between 1812 and 1818. I advertised for them some years ago in a Gloucestershire paper, offering a reward for the recovery, but, as may be supposed, with no results.

The Registers at Wormington go back to 1719, and this agrees with the statement deposited at Gloucester, dated 1812. As already stated, the transcripts from Dumbleton go back to 1599, but are missing from 1638 to 1660, and the earliest entry in them of a Clayton is 1670, from which it may be reasonably inferred they came to the village in the latter half of the 16th century.

The following is a list of the "Clayton" entries down to the present time, and also a list of the tombstones, classified as under :—

1. WORMINGTON.

Copies of Registers.

Copies of Transcripts at Gloucester down to 1775.

Tombstones.

2. DUMBLETON.

Copies of Registers.

Copies of Transcripts at Gloucester down to 1770.

Tombstones and Mural Tablets.

The consecutive numbers placed against each name are for the purpose of identifying them in the text of the book. The names on the tombstones, etc., where duplicates, are generally marked with a dagger (†)—and in addition 1 and 17, 4 and 20, 11 and 19, 25 and 28, 40 and 54, 44 and 55, and 53 and 58 are doubtless the same persons. Those marked with an asterisk (*) are in the Transcripts at Gloucester.

WORMINGTON

BAPTISMS

1	*	Sarah	daughter of Henry and Ann	.....	.....	Oct. 13, 1721
2	*	Richard	son " "	.....	.....	April 6, 1724
3	*	Henry	" Laurence and Ann	.....	.....	May 10, 1726
4	*	John	" " "	.....	.....	Jan. 16, 1727
5	*	Charles	" " "	.....	.....	Dec. 29, 1728
6	*	John	" " "	.....	.....	May 26, 1731
7	*	James	" " "	.....	.....	Jany. 6, 1732
8	*	Richard	" " "	.....	.....	July 21, 1734
9	*	Benjamin	" " "	.....	.....	Oct. 17, 1736
10	*	FRANCIS	" " "	.....	.....	Aug. 19, 1739
11	*	Sukey	dr. Henry and Christiana	.....	.....	July 7, 1751
12	*	George	son James and Ann	.....	.....	Nov. 20, 1760

Additional at Gloucester—

13		ANN TONEY	dr. of Charles Toney and Mary his wife	Jan. 16, 1695
----	--	-----------	--	---------------

MARRIAGES

14	*	LAWRENCE CLAYTON	and	}	.....	.....	July 22, 1725
15		ANN TONEY		}	.....	.....

Additional at Gloucester—

16		Moses Smith and	}	.....	.....	April 27, 1742
17		Sarah Clayton	}	.....	.....
18		Joseph Stephens and	}	.....	.....	May 4, 1774
19		Sukey Clayton (by License)	}	.....	.....

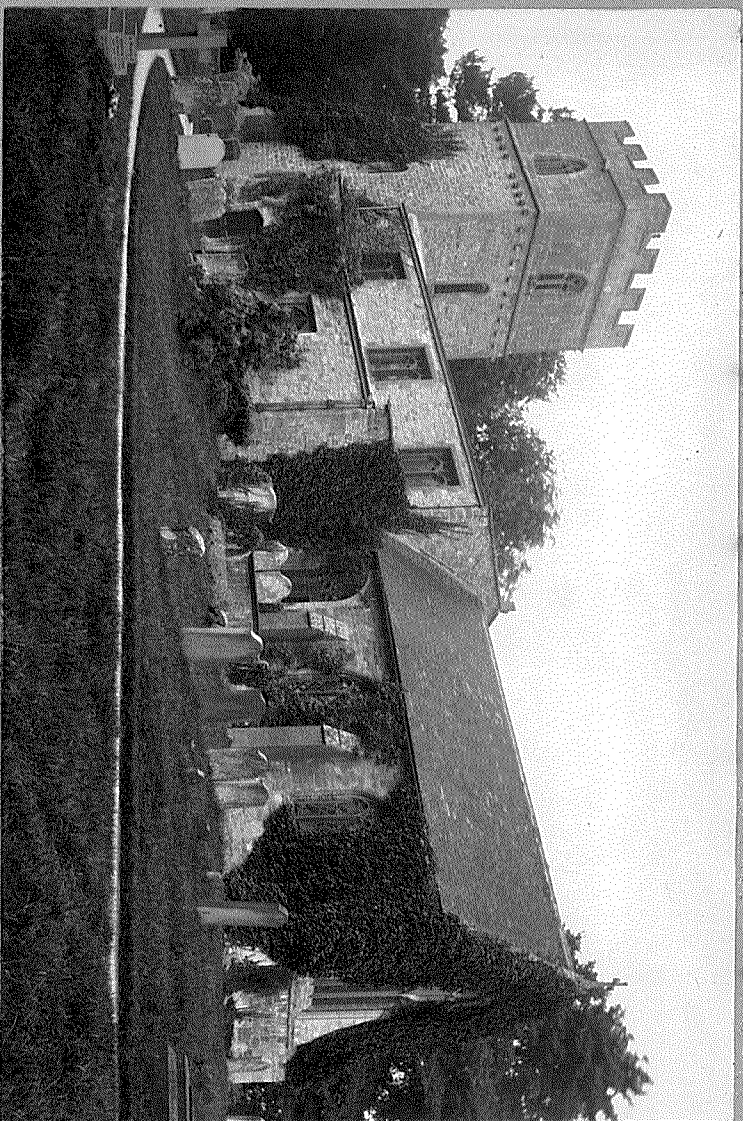
BURIALS

					AGED	
20	*	John (buried in woollen)	.....	.....		Jany 23, 1728
21	*	Laurence	.....	.....		Sep. 3, 1760
22	*	Henry	.....	.....		Jan. 19, 1769
23	*	Ann (a widow)	.....	.....		Feb. 5, 1774
24		Henry	.....	.....		Aug. 25, 1783
25		Christiana	.....	.....		Oct. 6, 1792
26		Caroline	.....	.....	82 years	Feb. 18, 1849
27		Frederick	.....	.....	44 "	Nov. 17, 1849

TOMBSTONES

[3]	†	Henry Clayton	.....	.....	57 years	Aug. 25, 1788
					(Also an inscription.)	
28	†	Christian Clayton	.....	.....	76 "	Oct. 6, 1792
					(Wife of H. C. and an inscription.)	

In 1864 these tombstones were standing in a bed of nettles. In 1891 they formed part of the pathway near the church door. A new steeple to Wormington Church has recently been erected in the place of the old one, which was much taller.



DUMBLETON

BAPTISMS

29	*	John, son of Ann	.....	.....	May	29, 1757
30		Richard, son of Richard and Hester	.....	.....	Aug.	18, 1770
31		John and Oliff do. do.	.....	.....	Dec.	17, 1771
32		Ann dr. " "	.....	.....	Aug.	17, 1773
33		James son " "	.....	.....	Nov.	13, 1774
34		Charles " " "	.....	.....	June	28, 1778
35		Richard, son of Richard and Elizabeth	.....	.....	Dec.	8, 1793
36		Elizabeth, dr. " "	.....	.....	Jan.	7, 1796
37		Ann Oliver " " "	.....	.....	Sep.	17, 1797
38		Hester " " "	.....	.....	April	5, 1799

Additional at Gloucester—

39		Sarah, dr. of Laurence and Sarah	.....	.....	July	16, 1690
40		Laurence, son " "	.....	.....	Sep.	13, 1691
41		Susanna, dr. of John and Ann	.....	.....	April	3, 1692
42		Henry, son of Laurence and Sarah	.....	.....	Nov.	13, 1692
43		Mary, dr. of John and Ann	.....	.....	Jany.	24, 1694
44		Richard, son of Laurence and Sarah	.....	.....	Dec.	16, 1694
45		John, son of John and Ann	.....	.....	Oct.	13, 1695
46		Margaret, dr. of Laurence and Sarah	.....	.....	Dec.	29, 1696
47		Henry, son of Henry and Ann	.....	.....	Aug.	23, 1719
48		Elizabeth, dr. of Thomas and Mary	.....	.....	May	28, 1738

Additional at Gloucester—

BURIALS

49		Mary Clayton	.....	.....	April	5, 1670
50		Laurence Clayton (Carpenter)	.....	.....	March	21, 1680
51		Martha Clayton	.....	.....	Feb.	25, 1696
52		John Clayton	.....	.....	July	19, 1720

MARRIAGES

[8]	†	Richard Clayton and	}	May 25, 1768, by License, in the presence of Henry Clayton and John Cullabine		
53		Esther Cullabine				

BURIALS

54		Laurence Clayton (Weaver)	.....	.....	AGED	Oct.	23, 1741
55		Richard Clayton	.....	.....		Jan.	23, 1742
55 a		Henry	.....	.....		Jan.	26, 1744
56		Thomas	.....	.....		Aug.	16, 1744
57		Holles	.....	.....		Mar.	4, 1779
[32]	†	Ann	.....	.....		June	14, 1779
58		Hester	.....	.....		July	3, 1792
[8]	†	Richard	.....	.....		July	5, 1793
[30]	†	Richard	.....	.....		Jany.	26, 1801
[36]	†	Elizabeth	.....	.....	14	Mar.	24, 1810
59		Elizabeth	.....	.....	38	Aug.	7, 1810

TOMBSTONES

			AGED		
[44]	60	{ Elizabeth, wife of Laurence	30	Sep.	1, 1729
[39]	†	(also Richard and Sarah, children)			
	[40]	† Laurence, son of Laurence and Sarah	50	Oct.	23, 1741
	[42]	† Henry	52	Jan.	27, 1743
	61	Ann, wife of Henry	62	Dec.	1, 1753
	62	{ Hollis	{ 7	March	22, 1779
[32]	†	{ Ann	{ 5	June	12, 1779
		children of Richard and Hester			
	[58]	† Hester, wife of Richard	44	June	30, 1792
	[8]	† Richard	59	July	2, 1793
	[34]	† Charles		April	4, 1815
	63	Sarah		Effaced	

Charles and Sarah Clayton are buried under a square tomb, enclosed with iron railings. In 1864 the names and the dates were partially decipherable. In 1891 all the plaster and inscriptions were gone, and the tomb was much out of the upright.

MURAL TABLETS

			AGED		
[30]	†	Richard Clayton	30	Jan.	23, 1801
	64	{ Elizabeth, wife of Richard	39	Aug.	2, 1810
[36]	†	{ also of Elizabeth, daughter	14	Mar.	21, 1810

All the Tombstones and Tablets have Epitaphs, except the two oldest. They are not worth copying, except of No. 36. It is—

“Praises on Tombs are ^{very} ~~vanity~~ spent.
A good name is a monument.”

and it may have a special reference to a long and fulsome epitaph placed just opposite to it, enumerating the virtues of a lady to whose memory the Tablet is erected!

The entry (No. 10) at Wormington is that of the baptism of our great grandfather Francis Clayton, and as his parents' names are Lawrence and Ann, (Nos. 14, 15) is the entry of their marriage, and probably the entries Nos. 21, 23 are those of their respective burials. I cannot identify any others further back with certainty as to their exact relationship with our great great grandparents Lawrence and Ann.

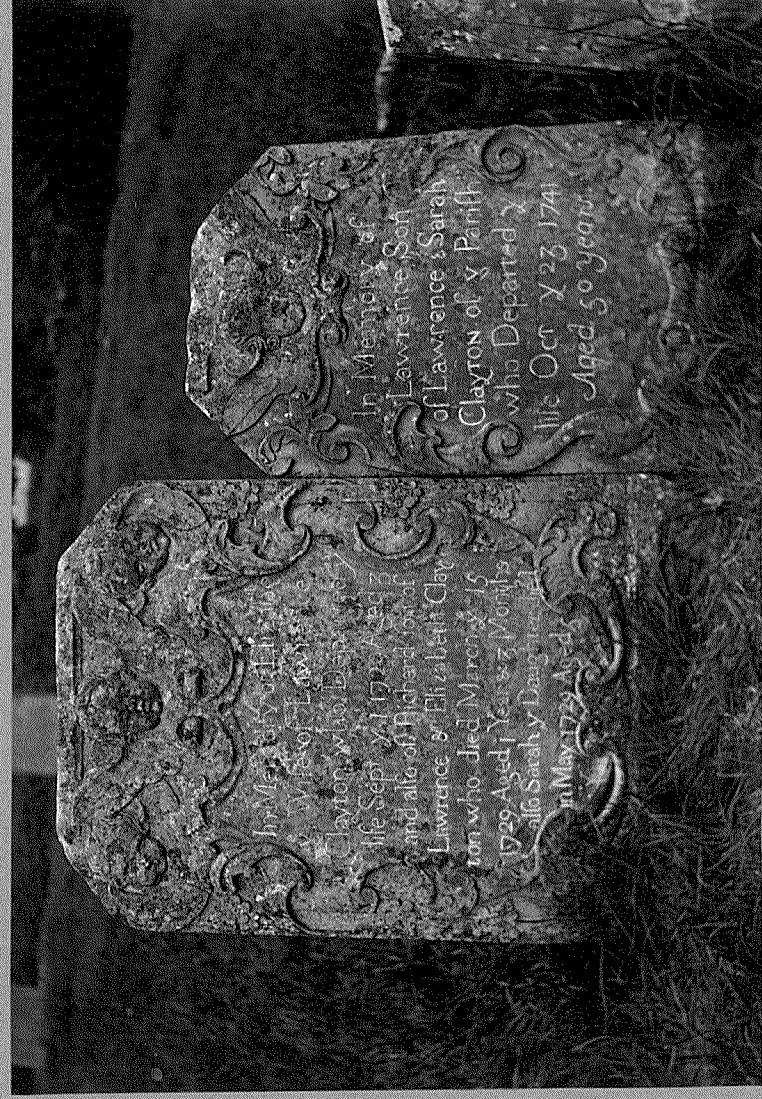
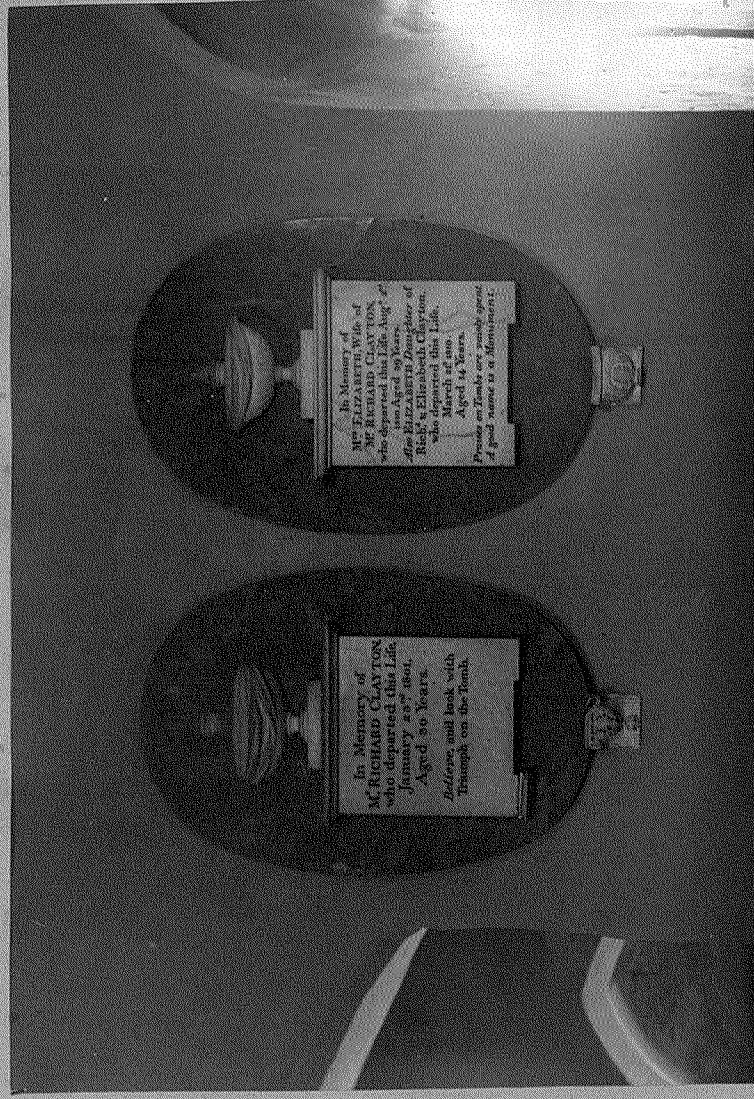
It is possible that the Dumbleton and Wormington families were separate. At Dumbleton we get back to a Lawrence and Sarah Clayton, who had five children, viz. :—

Sarah	born 1690	(No. 39)
Lawrence	“ 1691	(No. 40)
Henry	“ 1692	(No. 42)
Richard	“ 1694	(No. 44)
Margaret	“ 1696	(No. 46)

and from the Tombstone (No. 54)—

Lawrence, who died in 1741

was the son of the above-named L. and S.



The adjoining tombstone (No. 60) of Elizabeth Clayton was that of his wife. Platinotypes of these stones are given between pp. 10 and 11. I had them re-cut in 1879.

The relationship gets still more complicated after reading the will of Richard Clayton (probably No. 55) of Dumbleton, which is as follows:—

IN THE NAME OF GOD, AMEN !—I Richard Clayton of Dumbleton in the county of Gloucester Widower do make ordain my last Will and Testament in manner and form following First I bequeath my Soul to God hoping by the merits of my Redeemer Jesus Christ to receive pardon for all my sins and next I bequeath my Body to the ground to be decently buried at the charge and discretion of my Executors whom I shall hereafter mention Item I give to my Brother Henry Clayton of Wormington 20 shillings Item I give to my Kinsman Laurence Clayton 5 pounds Item I give to my Kinsman William Clayton 5 pounds, which said 10 pounds I give them out of the towels and the bed Item I give to my Kinsman William Harding 5 pounds Item I give to my Kinswoman Mary Hardin 5 pounds Item I give to my Kinsman Thomas Hardin one Silver Spoon mark T H and 20 shillings Item I give to my Kinswoman Mary Hardin a Silver Spoon mark M H and a Silver Snuff Box and a Silver Curle with bells and everything else that in the box at Mr Mereys except the book thats in Item I give to my Kinsman William Hardin a Silver Spoon mark W H Item I give to my two Kinsmen Henry Clayton and Richard Clayton each of them a white wascote Item I give to my Kinswoman Elizabeth Walford all the Silver Spoons and Strainers Item I give to my Kinsman William Clayton my best mettall button cote and wascote Item I give to my Kinsman William Clayton my best buck-skin breeches and all my shirts Item I give to Joseph Vardy a pair of Buck-skin Breeches Item I give to my Kinswoman Mary Hardin all the clothes that was her mothers and all the boxes that her mothers close be in and the press of drawers in my house Item 16 pound that is due me on bond I give to Thomas Walford in order to put William Hardin to Prentice And I do make the said Thomas Walford and John Timbrill Joint Executors to this my last Will and Testament revoking all former wills wheresoever they shall be found.

RICHARD CLAYTON

Signed sealed and delivered in the presence of

THOMAS WALFORD

WILLIAM BAYLIS

ELIZABETH WALFORD

Proved at Gloucester the 26th day of March 1744 by Thomas Walford one of the Executors.

He refers to his brother Henry Clayton of Wormington [No. 22 ?] and also his Kinsmen Lawrence, Henry, Richard, and William Clayton. I have in vain endeavoured to construct a Genealogical Tree, so far as relates to any one previous to those whose names are contained in the next chapter, from this very considerable mass of material. The name William referred to in the will is the only occasion on which it occurs during the last century in Gloucestershire.

LAURENCE CLAYTON

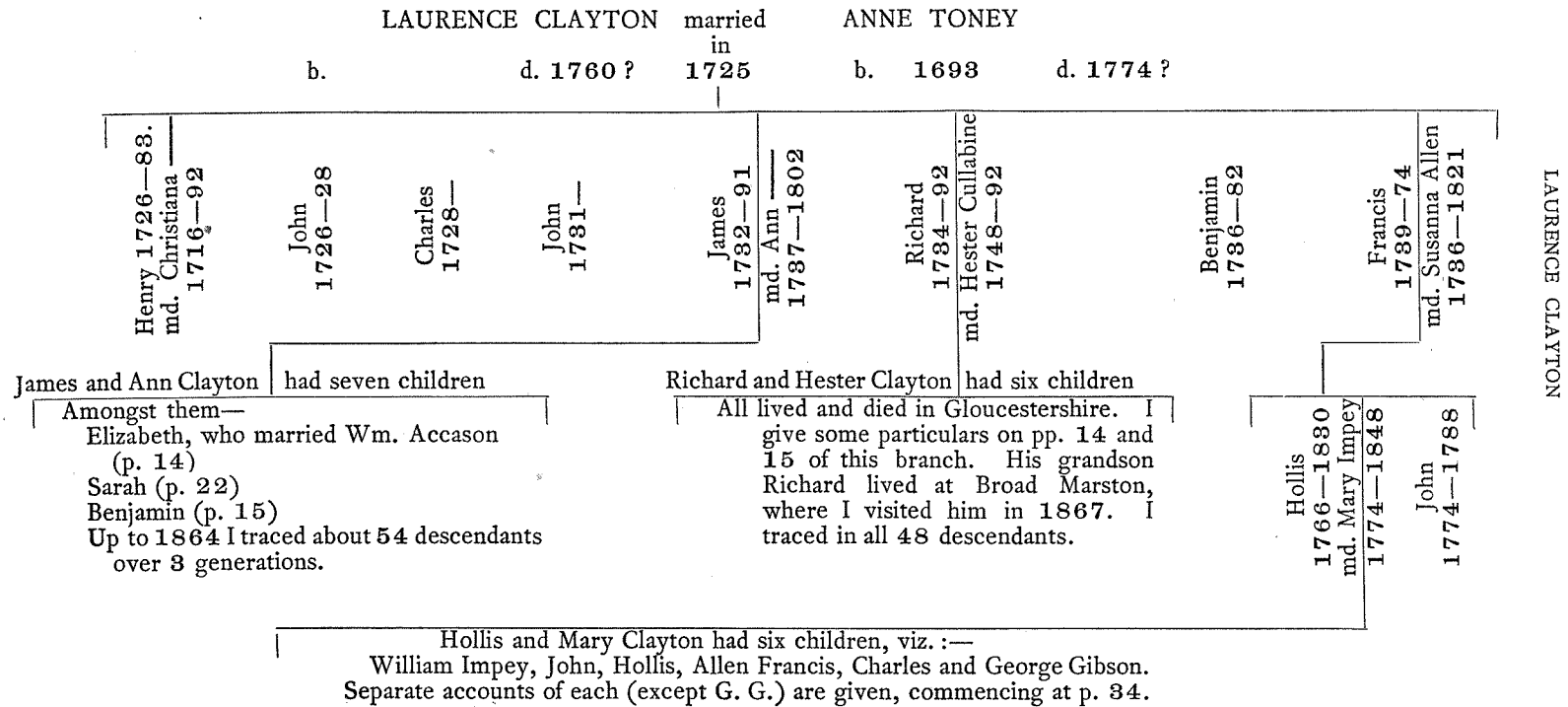
In order to be on perfectly safe ground we commence with Lawrence and Ann Clayton, who were married at Wormington in 1725. Ann Clayton was the daughter of Charles and Anne Toney, and was born in 1693. I cannot trace Lawrence Clayton's birth; and of this worthy couple I can get no information whatever. Our Uncles never heard their father speak of his grandfather, R. C. of the Gloucestershire branch of the family (p. 15)—never heard of him, and though an old woman who was born at Dumbleton in 1778, and whom I saw in 1864, had *heard* her mother talk of the Claytons, and especially of old Mr Richard Clayton (our great grandfather's brother) she was quite taken aback when I asked her if she hadn't *heard* her mother speak of the said R. C.'s father. As to the name of Toney, no one in the neighbourhood had ever heard of it.

Our great great grandparents had eight sons, viz. :—

Henry	James
John	Richard
Charles	Benjamin
John	Francis (our great grandfather)

To make the relationship plain, I append an outline of a Family Tree.

OUTLINES OF A FAMILY TREE



As Francis was the youngest, I may here say a few words of the other branches of the family, some of whom I slightly knew 20 years ago.*

- 1 Henry (No. 3), married Christiana — (No. 28). One daughter Sukey (No. 11) married Moses Smith, of Bicklehampton (No. 16).
- 2 John (Nos. 4-20) born 1726, died 1728.
- 3 Charles (No. 5) born 1728. No trace.
- 4 John (No. 6) born 1731. No trace.
- 5 James (No. 7) born 1732, died at Barnet, Middlesex. Our grandfather and his son Benjamin kept up a correspondence. Some amusing tales of James Clayton's dread of thunder storms are told. I was fortunate enough to obtain a letter his wife wrote to her husband's Gloucestershire relatives, and which is as follows:—

† May 14th, Barnett

Dear Nephew,—I am sorry to hear the unhappy news your fathers being So ill and hope by this time he is Better and Shall be unhappy till I hear from you and I hope I shall have the pleasure of hearing as he is in a fair way of recovery. my Dear Nephew I pray for your poor father recovery being senseable of the great Trial it might be to you all as having so lately met with so great a Shock in losing the best of Mothers, but I hope devine providence will rise him again. Your poor Aunt at Chichwick has been dangerous ill but I hope is now Better her poor son is almost in Despair for fear of losing her.

I hope this will find you all well as it leaves me and all your cozens

From your loving Aunt

ANN CLAYTON

Shall be glad to see any of you when convenient.

James Clayton's daughter Sarah is referred to at pp. 22 and 23. There was also a daughter Elizabeth who lived at Dunmow, with whom our grandmother Mary Clayton was intimate, and from what her daughter-in-law (Mrs Accason of Barnet, 1864) said was attended in a long illness by her.

- 6 Richard (No. 8) married in 1768 Hester Cullabine (No. 53) and it is to his grandson whom I visited in 1867 I am indebted for a good deal of information.

R. C. had 6 children.

- 6a Richard (No. 30) 1770-1801, and Elizabeth Oliver, 1771-1810, whose mural tablets are in Dumbleton Church, and platinotypes of them are shewn between pp. 8 and 9. This Richard Clayton bought for George the Third's breeding farm. In 1800 he obtained a Silver Cup at the West of England Agricultural Show, held at Bath (which I saw); rode same night to Windsor, caught a cold from which he never recovered. He was in the Yeomanry, and his son remembered his being buried with military honours. I fancy there must have been a considerable sum of money in this branch of the family at the beginning of the century, if his younger brother John could start in life with £8000 (see below). From what I could understand on my visit in 1867, there was a heavy lawsuit between this man's children and their Uncle Charles'

* Ann Clayton had four brothers named John, Charles, Henry, and Francis, which explains the reason for the names of five out of eight of her children.

† The reference to the mother's death and the father's illness fixes the year as 1792.

family, which pretty well ruined Richard's children. One part of it was quite affecting. Richard Clayton (Tertius) said to me:—"I didn't know what to do. "As I walked down the street in Gloucester during the Assizes, I noticed a benevolent "looking barrister with his wig on, trotting down the street, and I followed him into "his rooms, and when he asked me what I wanted, I was so overcome I burst out "crying. He waited till I had quieted a bit, and then I told him all about my "troubles, and when he explained to me what the law was I was much easier. "He wouldn't take any fee." My host was too old to stand much of a cross-examination, and all I could gather was that it arose out of a trusteeship. He added—"but they (his uncle Charles' family) never prospered afterwards." R. C. died a few months later, and I have never been able to obtain further information.

6b John (No. 31) married Frances Greening, and was a miller at the adjoining village of Sedgeberrow. He started life with £8000, which he soon lost, and shortly afterwards left the neighbourhood.

6c Hollis and Ann (No. — No. 32).

These children are buried at Dumbleton, and on their tombstone, below four lines of poetry, are these words—(Desired—that these children's bones may not be removed).

6d James Clayton (No. 33). (See reference to Welsh journey, p. 29).

6e Charles Clayton (No. 34)

Iron railed tombstone in Dumbleton church. The plaster, with the names on, is now entirely gone. In 1864 I could read a part of the inscription. At the time of his death he was living at Broad Marston Farm.

7 Benjamin (No. 9)

died a bachelor and was buried at Ridge, Hertfordshire, 1782.

8 Francis (No. 10) our great grandfather.

FRANCIS CLAYTON

Francis Clayton was married at Chiswick Church on October 9th, 1764, to Susanna Allen ("both of this parish") and the witnesses who signed the Registers were Thomas Gibson and Sarah Montifis. There was a tradition in our uncles' lifetime that his son Hollis was so named out of respect to a friend of his mother's at Court, and that Francis Clayton was employed in some capacity there. Except this tradition, and that he and his wife were accounted a very handsome couple; 2ndly, the reminiscences given on pp. 17 and 18; and 3rdly, his will (p. 18), we know but little more of him than of his father. He was buried in Chiswick churchyard 27th March, 1774, 2 feet east of the south-east corner of Cripp's Tomb. The exact spot was pointed out to me some years ago by the Curate. I have one silver dessert spoon marked ^F_C in my possession.

His wife Susanna Allen, was the daughter of John Allen and Elizabeth [Wildsmith], who were married at Thorpe Salvin, Yorkshire, in 1724. (E. W. came of a Catholic family.)

They had issue—Thomas, John, William, Elizabeth, Susanna and Job.

Elizabeth Allen married — Prior, and is referred to at p. 18.

Job Allen was father of the great philanthropist William Allen.

William Allen, who migrated to London, and established a Brewery at Westminster, became a Friend through the instrumentality of Ann Birkhead who, in distributing notices of Friends' Meetings at the Savoy, went into the brewhouse yard, and gave one to her future husband, who went to the meeting in question, and was convinced of Friends' principles.

[This information about the Allens has been kindly supplied me by William Allen, of Dorking, great nephew of Susanna Clayton.]

Susanna Clayton remained at Chiswick after her husband's death in 1774, until, it is believed, about 1797, when she removed to Dunmow to be near her son, and died in 1821, at the ripe age of 86 years. The letter given on p. 28 contains all that is known of her last illness, but Mary Clayton made the following entry in her diary concerning S. C.'s death:—"On the ———— our dear Mother Susanna Clayton died, after about a week's indisposition. She was a valuable woman, and I doubt not has found acceptance with her Maker, and has entered into everlasting Rest."

My cousin Maria (Clayton) Smith, of Chelmsford, had for some years after her marriage an aged friend living next door to her, who, shortly before her death, sent for M. S., and said :—" Maria, I have been thinking a great deal lately about thy great grandmother Clayton, and wish thee to write down what I recollect." The following are extracts from the original memorandum :—

S. KNIGHT'S REMINISCENCES OF OUR GREAT GRANDMOTHER SUSANNAH CLAYTON

" I wish to endeavour, if I can, to give thee a few reminiscences of thy great grandmother, as I have been thinking much of her the last two or three days, and I apprehend there is no one now living, except myself, who remembers her. Perhaps thou art aware that she lived at Chiswick, and my mother used occasionally to go to see her there, and whenever she went I accompanied her, being then between 5 and 10 years of age ; our visit was generally paid in the spring of the year—I hardly think we went every year, but that I cannot exactly remember ; however, it was always looked forward to by me with real delight.

I have a very clear recollection of Aunt Clayton (as we always called her)—my mother's aunt, sister to my grandfather Allen. She was very intelligent, and had a very interesting countenance, not positively good looking (as she had an insignificant nose, which spoiled the symmetry of her features). According to the fashion of those days, she wore a lace cap with a full quilted border close round her face—there was something dignified in her manner which reminded one of a Duchess of the olden time. Neither she nor her husband were Friends, and thou mayest be aware that thy grandfather was a convinced Friend. Our Uncle Clayton suffered from water on the chest, and he died suddenly at last, although he had been ill for a long time, and not able to lie down for many weeks from the oppression of his breathing. I have heard my mother relate the particulars of his decease, as she was staying with them at the time : he had been about as usual, when he surprised them all by expressing a wish to lie down (which he had not done for so long) ; it was as if he could sit up no longer, and he, all at once, lay down upon the floor and went to sleep. They brought pillows and placed under his head, and they were watching by him, when he all at once awoke and groaned several times. The water had evidently touched the heart, and in a few minutes he was no more.

Thus was Aunt Clayton deprived of her husband, and left to maintain herself and her two little boys, Hollis and John. This she did by keeping a small shop at Chiswick : I think they were principally groceries that she sold, and she had an old servant named Betty, quite a factotum of hers—I fancy she was somewhat of the style of my Hannah. I remember the parlour was behind the shop—Betty generally attended to the customers—and I have heard my mother say that aunt had everything in such beautiful order—she was quite a model in her time—and it was very touching to see her in her widow's cap nursing her little baby-son John.

My Grandfather and his family used every now and then to pay her a visit, and my Mother used to remark especially upon the snow-white Damask cloth she always had on the table at dinner—she often wondered why my Grandfather didn't place a £5 note in her hands, as he could so well have afforded it, and she was a widow with slender means. I have said that I always looked forward to my visits to Chiswick as a great treat : one particular charm to me was the River Thames, for there was only the road and a little green sward, say twenty feet between it and Aunt Clayton's house, and I used to love to watch its smooth waters, as still as midnight, upon which the barges glided past with their one sail of dusky grey. On the bank of the river grew great quantities of weeds, and the little birds which lived amongst them (a kind of reed sparrow) made a peculiar noise ; this muttering my Uncle Allen could exactly imitate, and he frequently amused us by doing so. We enjoyed the pleasant walks in the neighbourhood, and I well remember my Mother's favourite ramble—it was down a beautiful green lane shaded by fine trees, and it was called the Duke of Devonshire's lane, as it led past his grounds, and since his death the Duchess of Sutherland has resided there. Hollis Clayton became a Friend, probably introduced into the Society by his Uncles Allen, who had become Friends. His brother lived to manhood (? F. C. C.) and died at an early age of consumption. He never did any work, and his mother used frequently to point to his white hands with a gentle rebuke, saying they did not look like the hands of a worker.

But at length Betty, the factotum of my Aunt, took it into her head to get married, and then Hollis Clayton thought it right to send for his mother to Dunmow, where she lived the remainder of her life in a little house on the Green, facing the town. My mother went to see her at Dunmow, she had such a high regard for her, but I do not remember going, probably because she was very aged and not able to bear much.

I do not remember visiting at Dunmow much, but my other sisters and Cos. Hannah Allen would visit there together. Cousin Hollis C. being a very jocular man, would often laugh and joke with them to their mutual amusement.

I remember Hollis Clayton's cousin Sarah, who lived with them, well. She was a very pleasing person, had a florid complexion, much more ruddy than any of you, and she had a beaming smile. But to return to my Aunt Clayton. I should have said she was one of two sisters—the other was Eliza Pryor, a Friend; she was the very reverse of Aunt—what might be termed a regular old-fashioned Scold, and we noticed it the more being in such striking contrast to Aunt's mild, gentle, dignified manner. She was also left a widow early in life, and afterwards kept my Grandfather Allen's house.

Appended is

FRANCIS CLAYTON'S WILL

IN THE NAME OF GOD AMEN—I FRANCIS CLAYTON of Chiswick in the County of Middlesex Shop keeper being of perfect mind and memory make this my last Will and Testament My Temporal Estate I bequeath & dispose of in the following manner Imprimis to Mr Timothy Newman of Chiswick I bequeath one Guinea to buy a Ring The Residue and Remainder of my Estate money in the Stocks Stock in Trade Goods and Chattels with all other properties of what kind soever to me appertaining I give and bequeath to my loving wife Susannah Clayton thereby to enable her the better to maintain my Children and pay for their Education I also Nominate and Appoint Mr Timothy Newman and my wife Susannah Clayton to be Executor and Executrix of this my last Will and Testament And I do hereby make void all former Wills and Legacies by me in any wise left or made declaring & confirming this and no other to be my last Will and Testament In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and Seal this ninth day of february 1774.—FRANCIS CLAYTON (L S)—Signed Sealed and Declared by the above named Testator to be his last Will and Testament in presence of us

Ex JOHN SHUSCROFT — JOHN COTTON

Francis and Susanna Clayton had 2 children:—

Hollis our grandfather, born in 1766, and John, born 1774.

As John's short life was spent at Chiswick, the few words I have to say about him will best come in here. According to the "S. Knight's reminiscences" he was a delicate boy. It is believed that he died of consumption, and he was buried, according to the Parish Register, on May 8th, 1788. An interesting School exercise when at William Rickman's at Boley Hill, Rochester, is inserted between pp. 18 and 19. This is the more interesting as having been written at a Friends' School, and at about the same time as our grandfather went into a Friend's family.

Boarding School

Boley Hill

Rochester

Honorable Parents

Learning and good Education are
better than riches

Mark the perfect man, and behold the up-
right, for the end of that man is peace.

John Clayton scripsit.

th
15 of 5 Mo- 1787 aged 13 Years

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HOLLIS CLAYTON, 1766—1830

Our grandfather HOLLIS CLAYTON was born on the 21st November 1766, and was baptized in the parish church of Chiswick, on the 17th December, in the same year. Nothing is known as to where he was educated, and the only relic of his early days is a Gazetteer, now in our possession, inscribed in gilt letters on the cover: "Hollis Clayton, Chiswick, 1776." He was afterwards apprenticed to a person of the name of Cooper, a draper, in the city of London, of whom he always spoke in after life with great respect, and, as a proof of this, he left by his will the sum of two hundred pounds to his representatives. Considerable difficulty took place in finding the rightful claimants, forty years later, as they were at that time residing in North America.

At the end of his apprenticeship he went to reside with the firm of Day and Grover, general shopkeepers, at Stanstead, in Essex, in order to learn the trade of a grocer. The fact of Hollis Clayton's mother being the sister of Job Allen, a well-known member of the Society of Friends, serves to explain H. C.'s taking a situation in a Friend's family. We are, therefore, not surprised to find a few years later the following minutes in the books of the Thaxted Monthly Meeting:—

3 mo. 29 1791

The following application to be received into membership was made in writing to this meeting by Hollis Clayton, viz. :—

"Dear Friends,—Having been desirous of being united to you in religious fellowship, and having solidly considered the same, take this method of submitting my request to your weighty consideration, and remain

Your affectionate friend

"Stanstead, 3 mo. 29 1791.

HOLLIS CLAYTON

And the following friends are appointed to pay him a visit thereupon, and report to our next meeting :—George Gibson, Thomas Day, R. C. Sims, Joseph Taylor.

4 mo. 26

George Gibson reports that himself and the other friends appointed have had an opportunity with Hollis Clayton to a good degree of satisfaction, he appearing to be fully convinced of our religious principles. The further consideration of his case is referred to a future meeting.

5 mo. 26

The case of Hollis Clayton coming again weightily before friends at this meeting, it is agreed that he be admitted a member of our religious society, and George Gibson and William Grover are desired to take an opportunity with him and inform him thereof.

6 mo. 28

George Gibson informs this Meeting that the appointment relative to Hollis Clayton has been complied with.

Two letters written to his relatives in Gloucestershire about this time show not only his outward position in life, but give considerable insight into the workings of his mind, so that we give them at length.

Stansted, Mo. ft. the 6th of 2nd Month 1792

Dear Uncle,—Perhaps thou mayst be surprised at this Letter from one who is an entire Stranger unto thee except as far as relates to the ties of Relationship & without giving thee any farther cause of surprise may inform thee I am the eldest Son of thy deceased Brother Francis Clayton of Chiswick.

I have often lamented the Great distance I am at from my Father's Relations in Gloucestershire as it thereby prevents my paying that Regard and Respect which I have always had for them & have frequently wish'd for an opportunity of paying my personal Respects to thyself, Aunt & Cousins, for I can assure you all that I respect & love you as near & dear Relations, altho I never see any of you, since I arriv'd to Years of discretion. But should certainly have wrote to thee before this time, had I known how to have directed so as the Letter would have found thee out.

Mee thinks, I hear my Uncle say, upon reading this Letter, why my Nephew is a Quaker by writing thee, how is this his Father & Mother are not, To which let me answer in a few words that I followed my Father and Mother Profession of Religion untill I arriv'd at Years of Understanding, & then found no Peace in that part in me that must never die. I mean the immortal Soul. I say my dear Uncle I found no Peace in the Profession of the Church of England & therefore left it, altho against my Interest, & Joined profession with the poor despised Quakers, & hope to be a follower in some Measure of Jesus Christ, who Came not to do his own will but the Will of his Father that sent him & I believe it remains to be a Truth now, as well as formerly, that whoever will be his Disciple must take up his Cross daily, & follow him, in the way of his leadings, they must deny the pomps and Vanities of this Sinful World & all things that hinders their acceptance with God. I have no design to fill thy ears with a deal of talk about Religion but if thou art a serious Man thou must know it is the work of one's whole Life and of the greatest Importance of anything in this World, therefore I was willing just to hint my Profession to thee.

I am situated at present as a Journeyman at a large shop in the County of Essex about 43 Miles from my dear Mother & was to see her last week. She is in Health & desires her dear Love to all her Friends in Gloucestershire & and particularly to thee; her Brother.

I shall be pleased to hear from thee as soon as Convenient, either by thy writing, or my Cousin John, & hope thou & myself, as also my Cousins may keep up a Correspondence whilst we are in this World. Please accept my dear Love to thy own self & give the same to Aunt, Cousins &c. From Thy affectionate and loving Nephew.

HOLLIS CLAYTON.

Please to direct to me thus—

Hollis Clayton at
Stansted Mount fitchet
Essex

Stansted Mount Fitchet

the 2d of 9th Mo Septem 1792

Dear Cousin

Richard Clayton

Altho thou art personally unknown to me, yet being nearly related to each other by the ties of Nature, I doubt not were we nearer to each other we might be united to each other in the Bonds of Love and Affection, notwithstanding our difference in Religious Sentiments—it may be proper to inform thee I am the Son of Francis Clayton who was own Brother to thy Father, & tho I never had the pleasure of seeing any of you since I came to the years of understanding, yet It has not been for want of desire but of Opportunity tho I firmly believe if providence spares my Life, I shall someday pay my Relations in Gloucestershire a visit—but I must honestly confess I was much disappointed in not receiving an answer from a Letter I wrote my Uncle Richard near Twelvemonths ago. Yet I cannot but be under the pleasing prospect of receiving a few lines from thee as soon as convenient which may thereby open a Correspondence to mutual Satisfaction, altho thy Mother was unknown to me, I was Concerned to hear of your loss in losing her. May thou, my dear Cousin & the rest of thy Brothers & Sisters deeply Consider therefrom the Certainty of your great and awful Change, which sooner or Later must come upon us all, and if we are not ready we are lost for ever. It is an important Concern and of lasting Moment. We are whilst on Earth Candidates for a

glorious Inheritance, what pity is it then we should sell our Birthright for a Mess of Pottage, I mean the perishing Gratifications & allurements of a Bewitching apostazizing Age.

Please to give my Dear Love to my Uncle and thy Brothers & Sisters and believe me with affectionate Regard
Thy loving Cousin

H. CLAYTON

Please direct to me as under—

Hollis Clayton at
Day & Grovers
Stansted Mt fitchet
Essex

And I do earnestly request thou would'st not be long before thou writes me.

From this period onward we have no certain information as to his movements for several years, but he purchased his shop property at Dunmow in 1796, and we have a stencil billhead dated 1st mo., 5th, 1798. The bill itself is interesting, as showing the difference in price of many articles from that of our own day, the most notable being loaf sugar at 1/2 a pound.

In the year 1799, Hollis Clayton was married to Mary daughter of William and Anna Impey, both of whom had died previously, and at the time of the marriage she was living with her Uncle and Aunt Gibson, at Saffron Walden. We have again to turn to the minutes of Thaxted Monthly Meeting for details of the marriage arrangements.

2 Minute of Mo. M. held at Walden 29 1st mo. 1799

At this Meeting Hollis Clayton, of Great Dunmow in the County of Essex, Shopkeeper, son of Francis Clayton, late of Chiswick in Middlesex, deceased, & Susanna his wife surviving, and Mary Impey of Saffron Walden in the County of Essex, daughter of William Impey, late of same place & Anna his wife, both deceased separately declared their intention of taking each other in marriage (if the Lord permit.) The said Hollis Clayton producing a Certificate of his Mother's consent properly witnessing. This Meeting appoints William Grover and Josh Smith to make enquiry respecting their clearness, & to take care that notice of the said intention of Marriage be given at the close of a First day Meeting at Dunmow & at Walden.

Under date 26th 2nd in 1799

2nd Minute. At this Meeting Hollis Clayton & Mary Impey separately declared the continuation of their intention of taking each other in marriage (if the Lord permit) and their clearness from all others. The Friends appointed to enquire respecting their clearness, report that there appears no obstruction to their proceeding & that notice was given agreeable to direction of last meeting—this Meeting therefore leaves them at Liberty to solemnise their Marriage at a Meeting within the compass of this Mo. M. William Grover and Joseph Smith are appointed to see that good order be preserved on the day of marriage and report to next Meeting.

Under date 26 3 Mo 1799

2nd Minute. William Grover reports on behalf of himself & Jos Smith that the marriage of Hollis Clayton and Mary Impey was solemnized at Walden on the 27th of 2nd month and that it was conducted in an orderly manner.

It may interest our younger readers to know that "passing the meeting," as it was technically called, was quite a formidable affair in those days, second only to the wedding itself. The young couple had to appear before both the men's and women's Monthly Meetings on two separate occasions and declare their intention of taking each other in marriage; they were accompanied by two of their friends, and new dresses were generally worn on the occasion.

A fac-simile of the wedding certificate is placed opposite the title-page of this book.

Mary Clayton was a person of retiring disposition, much interested in the welfare of her poorer neighbours, who had great confidence in her skill in administering simple medicines. She was much in the habit of copying extensively from the journals of deceased Friends, and there are still extant several volumes in her neat, clear handwriting.

The following letter was written by H. C. in 1803. It only refers to two of his children; Hollis, the third, was born in 1804, and the reference to Samuel Allen's marriage enables the date to be fixed.

H. C. TO SUSANNAH CLAYTON. ELIZTH. DEAN, CHISWICK, MIDDLESEX

The receipt of my dear Mother's letter was very acceptable to us as we were desirous to know how she was in Health & I hope these lines will meet her the better for her journey. We are all favoured to be pretty bravely. My Me & the children have little complaints but none of any consequence the late weather has been very hot & makes John touchy but not *talk*. He seems bravely—as also Wm. It must be very agreeable for thee for Uncle to take thee to Chiswick where we hope thou wilt stay as long as thou art easy to do altho we shall be glad to see thee home again but as thou art there dont hurry—shall expect a few lines in a week or two to hear how thy health is unless thou art not so well & then hope thou wilt write before. Aunt Margt stopp'd with us on & off for near a week—is now at Hoemills where I guess she is making preparations to receive her other daughter as Sammy* began last Monthly Meeting & may end in two months if nothing unforeseen prevents. We have had an American frd in our neighbourhood (Joseph Cloud) about a week. I was with him at Storfod, Bardfield & Felsted & my Me & self went with him to Chelmsford last 3d day he is to be at Kelvedon this Evening had very few public Meetgs. The French & Invasion are all the talk but I am of opinion they know better. As I have nothing particular to add must conclude with our united dear Love to thee in which Cousin and the children unite.

Thy affectionate Son

H. CLAYTON

Remember us to Betty & any inquirers. We have heard of no suitable tenant for thy house as yet—perhaps thou mayest whilst out.

We may briefly refer to H. C.'s first cousin Sarah Clayton. A billhead of 1806 runs thus:—
“Bot. of H. & S. Clayton, Drapery, Hosiery, and Muslin Warehouse.”

Sarah Clayton was the daughter of James and Ann Clayton, of Barnet, in Middlesex, and was a few years the junior of H. Clayton. The drapery department was entirely managed by her. She was a woman of great ability, and much beloved in the town and neighbourhood. We append the minutes of the Thaxted Monthly Meeting in reference to S. C.'s admission into the Society of Friends.

26th 7th Mo 1803

9th Minute. The following application from Sarah Clayton having been received Wm. Grover and Atkinson Francis Gibson are appointed to unite with women Friends in paying her a visit & to report to a future Meeting, viz :

To Friends of Thaxted Mo Meeting.

Dear Friends,

Having attended Meetings for some time and feeling desirous of being rec'd into membership, submit my request to your solid consideration.

I am your friend

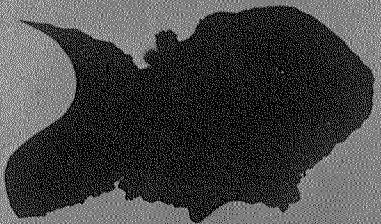
S. CLAYTON.

30th 8th Mo 1803

Min. 3. The following report is bro't in from the Friends on the application of Sarah Clayton :—

“Three of your Committee appointed to visit Sarah Clayton, on her application to be admitted into membership with us, report that we have had a solid opportunity with her. We believe the state of her mind to be tender and that she is under conviction of our religious principles and that her case claims the sympathy of friends. In the course of our sitting she expressed that she had no desire for the Mo M to come to a hasty determination & we think it right to leave the matter under your further weighty consideration.” The Committee is continued to make further report as their way may open.

* Sammy [Samuel Allen] was the father of the late Stafford Allen, of London, and was first cousin to H. C.



Susanna Clayton



Alamy Clayton



Sarah Clayton

27. 9 mo 1803

4 Min. The Com appointed on S. Claytons application to be rec'd into membership with us are continued to report further as circumstances may require.

25th 10 mo 1803

4th Min. The Com on the application of S. C. having no report to make at this Meeting are continued.

29 11th 1803

The Com on the application of S. C. &c. is continued.

27. 12. 1803

4 Min. The Com on the application of S. C. is continued.

31st 1st mo 1804

The Com on the application of S. C. &c. is continued.

28. 2nd 1804

The Committee on the application of S. C. &c. is continued.

27th 8th mo. 1804

4 Min. The following report is brot in:—

Three of the friends appointed to visit S. Clayton on her application to be rec'd into membership paid her a visit, since last meeting, in which they had the company of George Gibson & Isabel Grover. The visit was solid and comfortable: and it is submitted to the Mo M whether it may not be seasonable to acknowledge her a member of our religious Socy., in a hope that such a step may not lessen her attention to her own individual standing, but that she may be preserved in Gratefulness, humility & fear and in a steady dependence upon the alone sure source of strength & preservation, remembering the truth of the saying:—"As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself except it abide in the vine, no more can ye except ye abide in Me." This Meeting in concurrence with the view contained in said report, hereby acknowledges Sarah Clayton a member of our Society—and George Gibson is appointed to hand her a copy of this minute.

All the sons of Hollis Clayton had a lively remembrance of her, and used to speak of her as "Aunt Sarah." She died in 1813, at the age of 44 years, or thereabouts, after a month's illness, of malignant typhus fever, taken from a poor woman at the door, whose wants she was generously supplying.

The extraordinary amount of medicine administered to patients in those days is exemplified by the doctor's bill, which seems worth reproducing. In those days the Doctor was paid for the Physic—behold the result! It will be observed that, with the exception of the first three items, the bill extends over one month only. No wonder the bill from J. Taylor formed a complement to it!

THE LATE MISS CLAYTON

To J. B. LYNCH

1813				s	d	1813				s	d
May	5	Bleeding	.....	2	6	Oct.	2	A Powder	.....	0	6
	13	A Mixture	.....	3	6			A dose of Pills	.....	1	0
	16	Do.	.....	3	6		3	6 Draughts	.....	7	6
Sep.	29	4 Saline Draughts	.....	5	0			Do.	.....	7	6
	30	Do.	.....	5	0			A dose of Pills	.....	1	0
Oct.	1	5 Do.	.....	6	3		4	6 Draughts	.....	7	6
	2	An Emetic Draught	.....	1	6						
		A Saline do.	.....	1	3			Carried forward		£ 2 13	6

1813			s	d
Brought forward			2	13 6
Oct. 4	6	Powders	3	0
	2	Draughts	2	6
		The Pills	1	0
5	A	Blister	2	6
	6	Draughts	7	6
	6	Powders	3	0
	6	Draughts	7	6
6	6	Draughts	7	6
	6	Powders	3	0
		Ointment	1	0
7	6	Draughts	7	6
	3	Do.	3	9
	3	Powders	1	6
		A Leech	2	6
8	A	large blister	2	6
9	6	Draughts	7	6
		Ointment	1	0
10	2	Draughts	2	6
11	6	Do.	7	6
	6	Powders	3	0
		A Draught	1	3
		A Gargle	2	6
12	3	Draughts	3	9
	3	Powders	1	6
	3	Draughts	3	9
	4	Powders	2	0
13	Do.		2	0
	3	Draughts	3	9
		Ointment	1	0
14	4	Powders	2	0
	3	Draughts	3	9
16	3	Draughts	3	9
	3	Powders	1	6
17	4	Draughts	5	0
	4	Draughts	5	0
18	1	Draught	1	3
		A Mixture	3	6
	6	Draughts	7	6
		A Box of Pills	1	6
		A mixture $\frac{3}{4}$ ss	2	0
19	The	Pills	1	6
20	An	aperient Draught	1	6
Carried forward			9	12 6

1813			s	d
Brought forward			9	12 6
Oct. 20	4	Draughts	5	0
21	4	Draughts	5	0
		A Bolus	1	0
		A box of pills	1	6
		An Embrocation $\frac{3}{4}$ viii	4	0
	4	Draughts	5	0
22	Do.		5	0
	6	pints of Fomentation	6	0
		A Powder	0	6
		Tincture of Opium $\frac{3}{4}$ ss	2	0
	2	Blisters	5	0
23	A	Draught	1	6
	6	Draughts	7	6
		The Fomentation	6	0
		Ointment	1	0
24	6	Draughts	7	6
25	A	Powder	0	6
	3	Draughts	3	9
26	A	Powder	0	6
	6	Draughts	7	6
27	A	large Blister	5	0
		A Draught	1	6
	6	Draughts	7	6
28	The	Embrocation	4	0
	4	Boluses	2	0
	3	Draughts	3	9
			<u>£ 14</u>	<u>12 0</u>

Cr. in his account.

Also

H. CLAYTON to J. TAYLOR

1813			s	d
11 mo. 1.	Superfine flanel shrowd			
	Sheet Matters pillow			
	flox and making	3	10	0
	A Sett Lifting Coffen Brass			
	Handles and 5 doz.			
	Screws	1	5	0
			<u>£ 4</u>	<u>15 0</u>

1814
2 — 8 Pd.

H. C.

Our grandmother made this entry in her journal regarding S. C.'s death:—

In the 10th month 1813 our dear S. C. departed after about 6 weeks indisposition, it was a memorable time wherein I trust we were found with a full belief that she had entered into everlasting Rest, having expressed an assurance that all past commissions and omissions were passed by and forgiven her. What a mercy.

In connection with H. C.'s business, we have a number of letters from General Henniker, clergymen, and other persons of standing in the neighbourhood. In these he is generally addressed as Friend Clayton, or Neighbour Clayton, or Worthy Clayton. Sarah Clayton is referred to thus: "hope Cousin is better."

The contents of these letters, in addition to mere business requirements, shew that H. C. was consulted as a friend on many other matters.

General Henniker in one authorizes him to arrange lines for the discharge of a bailiff (presumably) who had cheated him; in another he gives him an account of his travellings to Ventnor and Bath; in a third a very special sort of nightcap is ordered; and one runs thus:

"Friend Clayton,—I wish thee would lend me the book Friend Toke and I saw this day.—I will keep it sacred and safe.

B. HENNIKER."

When Stephen Grellet was visiting Dunmow, General Henniker expressed a wish to see him, as they had formerly served together in the army abroad. Grandfather invited the General to meet him over a social cup of tea; he readily accepted, and a pleasant, quiet evening was thus passed together.

During a time of war, many were the conversations held between General Henniker and grandfather on the subject of peace; and when victories were announced, and public decorations the order of the day in the quiet little town of Dunmow, our grandfather was conspicuous by his firm resolve not to join in the universal rejoicings. At last peace was proclaimed, and the county gentleman came to the country shopkeeper with the query—"Surely you will not refuse to illuminate to-night?" But the Friend held unflinchingly to his principles, and heard with some surprise the following morning that his premises had been guarded during the night by the worthy General in person, lest any harm should accrue to his property.

We append two of the General's letters:—

Worthy Clayton,—I have been thinking much of what passed between us as to Alderton. I think he is more to be pitied than blamed. I will have no objection to clearing his Debts, under the proviso that he manages better in future—that he has notice to leave my service, & I will give him until Midsummer to leave me, if in the Interim I find him acting differently and that he curtails his expenses & never gives me reason *to know what a bill of his is perhaps* (but a perhaps I do not hold myself bound to) I may continue him at a very different rate it must be. His house rent is *extreme* & it will be better for him to look for a situation. I do not like his Grey hairs to feel anything uncomfortable, but I *do wish to know* where *such expenditure* is to end not to be as it is with him an *uncertain* expense. I wish if you have half an hour you would say "*So it shall be*" & so let it be, & whatever the *final* is I shall feel more comfortable that it is settled. He may sell his dogs. I would buy one of his Guns (but that I would not urge) in short anything to put money in his pocket & place him above penury.

I send the Bill of the Men & 5*£* for John Samuels. Be so good as to pay it. The Amts of the latter *Samuels* I must submit to you some day. I wish to settle with all but the deception, the deceit, the roguery, &c., &c., &c., I have met with would astonish you. I do not allude to the above but the bills I have paid twice or thrice would astonish you.

No Parcel this night pray send it in the morning.

Your friend

B. H.

I sincerely wish you could fix with Alderton.

Newton Hall, Thursday.

Frd Clayton,—I cannot find your memorandum on looking for it, I see the enclosed & send them. Be so good as to settle the business the best way you can—the first loss will be the best, & if I thought it would not be throwing the man out of his bread I would willingly part with him & give him a small sum of money—such as ten pounds or so—you will I doubt not be so good as to talk to him & *sift* him—he must know I have very little use for him. He might sell his dogs. He knows about the £4 6s od. He does not say I gave him the Pork—say 4/- a stone for the Pork.

Pray be so good as to sponge the whole and wipe it off my mind.

Yr friend

B. HENNIKER.

On another occasion our grandfather paid the General's Taxes for him, and this is the account, and it is interesting as shewing the heavy taxation which was current during the Napoleonic wars.

GENERAL HENNIKER

$\frac{1}{2}$ Yr Taxes due Lady-day 1810

55 Windows	18	13	
25£ House	1	8	1 $\frac{1}{2}$
7 Servants	11	8	6
2 Carriages	12	7	
4 Horses	10	4	
5 Husbandry Do.	1	15	
3 Dogs		17	3
Armorial bearings	1	4	
Hair Powder	1	3	6
	<hr/>		
	£ 59	0	4 $\frac{1}{2}$

After General Henniker's death, H. C. rendered a good deal of assistance in settling up his affairs, and a Silver Sugar Basin, now owned by M. S. Marriage, and inscribed—"The Gift of Lady Brydges Henniker to H. & M. C."—is a lasting reminiscence of many years' friendship.

The Rev. Richardson, Vicar of Dunmow at that time, appears to have been so intimate with him as to write thus:—"If you mistake the pattern (of floor carpet), Mrs R. will certainly hang you." On the other hand, H. C. was an equal adept in expressing himself freely. When sending out an invoice to a customer, he adds the following suggestive foot note:—"H. C. knew a draper that once caught a shop-lifter in the very act, and took no notice; but when he made the bill, added some articles thereto that had been lifted off before. The woman, surprised at her bill, began —— but the draper took her into another room, and after a few words, the woman paid all he charg'd. We lately lost a piece of cambric, but have not charg'd it."

Next in order of time we give extracts from a Diary of a Journey to Sussex and Kent:—

1817—9—1. A fine sunshiny morning but cool—left home at $\frac{1}{2}$ p 8 with son John, rode by way of Storrord on acct of calling at the wharf to Epping by $\frac{1}{4}$ to 12, where stopd & joined by Hollis—dined at I Payne & left Epping $\frac{1}{2}$ past 2, in London abt 5—put horse at the Bull & fed him, went for an hour to Cornhill &c. wrote a few lines home & left Bull at 6—over London Bridge by way of Newington Tooting & Mitcham to Sutton $\frac{1}{2}$ past 8, where we had coffee & a comfortable lodging. There was a prodigious quantity of wheat cut between Dunmow & Epping, which was particular grateful to see, as it appeared so ripe & fine & little or no injury to have arisen from the late Rains. We had not much opportunity to observe the face of the country riding to Sutton as it grew dusk before we reached Mitcham where our olfactory nerves were sensible of the peppermint manufactory.

Our approach to Brighton was eagerly longed for by my fellow travellers both of whom beheld the sea (for the first time) with astonishment. We took up our Quarters at the Old Ship ordered our Dinner at 5—then walked to the shore which appeared to unfold many Beauties in the View of my sons—as well as myself. Met Tho Catchpool wife and sister also Jos. Forster—walked on the Steyne, saw the Libraries & the Sea rolling in; retired to our Inn, took Coffee & went to bed.

3rd. A most beautiful Clear Sunshiny morning without a Cloud on the Horizon—walk'd & enjoyed the Sea Breezes till $\frac{1}{2}$ past 8 when b'ksted. We were all in order for it & partook of Rolls Shrimps &c. after rec'd a Letter from W. C. which was very pleasant. We then all bathed, we then wrote & walked & orderd Dinner at 2, & perhaps eat too much all of us but we were hungry from the Sea Breezes & after Dining indulged over a Glass of Wine reading & writing then walked on the beach—it was very beautiful warm, we then took tea with M. Glaisyer & Sons, but the Heat of his Rooms took away all the pleasure.

4th. Rose at 6, walked on the Shore till 8, which produced a good appetite after Bkfst rec'd a satisfactory letter from W. C. & then left Brighton without bathing for Rottingdean, a most lovely warm day & picturesque ride—the Hills Cliffs Coast &c. make this a charming prospect for an Inlander. The Sea Breezes were cooling. We stopped at Seaford, baited our Horses, took some Brawn & went forward to Eastbourne—the coast here beautiful but the ride exceeds for beauty of prospect anything we have seen. The summit of the Dinn from which Beachy Head emanates affords such a prospect of Beauty on our left, which is an amazing dale richly covered with the bounteous provision of our Great Benefactor & divers of the labourers employed some cutg others cartg stacking Housing &c. these produced considerations not to be described by pen—the Sea Scenery is truly grand the promontory makes a quiet harbour for the Bathers & the place was overdone with Company owing to the fine weather. We called on the Old Boat Builder that used to be employed by the Genl & also on A. Wood Father & Mother whose hospitality was soon manifest.

5th day. rose by 6 & walked on the beach a fine cool breeze. we all had a charming immersion in Father Jones my two fellow travellers enjoyed themselves & dipped manfully this occupied us till 7. half an hour after we left Hastings & the ride was intermixed with so many enchantments that I don't know how to designate each with its proportion. However a fine Hop Grd near Winchelsea was very grateful to my feelings as I saw some as luxuriant as can be produced. This after the alarm (?) was most comfortable.

Dover we entered $\frac{1}{4}$ to 7 & found the post closed & the Mail Coach almost directly passed for London which was cause for great regret, as I had a Letter finished for home, & being 6th day night if not put in the London post tomorrow Even would cause a great disappointment to them at home. after securing good Beds at the Antwerp Tavern we walked down to the Pier, where was all bustle and action, for altho dusk they were busy shipping Luggage and Carriages on board the packets for Calais. After calling on W. H. & walking till fatigued we went to our Inn had coffee & went to bed thoroughly tired.

Seventh Day the 6th rose at $\frac{1}{2}$ past 5 for to endeavour to get my Letter to Town by a Coach Passenger, which I did, & hope it would be in Time for the London post this Eveng. After, we walked down to the Beach, a most beautiful fine morning, had a Charming Bathe, my two Boys enjoying the Machine here better than on the Sussex Coast. I never had a more comfortable dip. After dressing we walkd on the Beach enjoying the breezes of the Sea & admiring the wonderful works of Nature as abundantly manifested by the white Cliffs here, & were not insensible to those of Art which were conspicuous in the Castle which overlooks & protects the Town & port, abt $\frac{1}{2}$ past 8 we went to W. Horsnaill to breakfast according to last night's appointment. His wife being ill, we had the company of his sister Mary Baker and after breakfast on a chapter being read there was a calm to be experienced that tended to solemnize the Mind. I could not refrain from wishing it was our practice at home. We then walked to the pier & being a fine calm sunshiny morning we enjoyed it, went on board a packet & two other ships with which my 2 Boys were delighted. We then called at a friends & went to an Inn orderg our Horse & abt $\frac{1}{2}$ past 11 left Dover, the Hill on which the Castle stands is a long pull for the Horse, but when you are on the Summit the Views are Grand, the Sea the Heights the Castle & the Town in such a hole are indeed picturesque. Our Ride to Deal was pleasant, as it was among Cornfields & the Sea out of sight great part of the way, but we were prevented the gratification that results the approach to Deal of a full view of the Downs & the Shipping therein, owing to a thick Mist almost like a Fog. Deal is large and busy. . . . After stopping $1\frac{1}{2}$ hour we proceeded for Ramsgate, where we arrived between 5 & 6, fed our Horse & walked down to the Pier, one of the most stupendous works of Man that I ever saw, my two Boys were amazed at the workmanship & asked more Questions than I could solve. We then proceeded for Margate our ride to which was thro many fields that were Cleared & others were busy Housing the bountiful produce of a kind providence. we arrived at Margate abt 7 & put up at the White Hart, got good beds &c, after seeing our Horses well cared for we walked on the New pier which is assuredly a great Improvement to the place & likewise to the comfort & benefit of the visitors with whom we promenaded & by the Libraries till near ten, then retired to our Inn much fatigued took coffee &c. & retired to rest. my Companions having so exerted themselves in this days adventure as to be glad to get between the sheets.

First Day. morn'g 7th. Up at 6 walked on the pier I had a Charming Immersion in the sea. my 2 Boys so delighted with it that it required authority to get them out we then got a good bkfst & left Margate 10 m p 8 for Canterbury, where we attended meeting—we were dull and languid, altho' they held a very short Mtg., not exceeding 1½ Hr. Our Rides now began to Change, & we gradually left the Sea for Land, prospects here & there, seeing the mouth of the river & Shipping sailing to & from the Metropolis. I forgot mentioning we went on board a most Elegant Steam packet this morning before we left Margate with which we were much delighted although I could not divest my mind of fear. I mean such fear as would prevent my going with it to London.

I am under the impression I once heard Uncle Charles say that his father took Hollis and him to France. I should not have mentioned this, but Charles Edward, Uncle Hollis' son, says he well recollects as a child his father telling him that when in France he saw a wood in which there were wolves. No reference can be found amongst the papers now in existence, neither can any other member of the family remember ever to have heard of this visit.

The following letters come next in order of date. The first contains many allusions which we have no knowledge of; the second announces Susanna Clayton's death.

H. C. TO M. C. AT JOSEPH ALLEN'S, DALSTON, NEAR KINGSLAND

Dunmow, 11 mo 13 1817

My dear Mary,

Thinking the expense of 7d would not so much injure my Pocket; as it would gratify thy mind to hear of my welfare I thought would just drop a few lines to inform thee I had a very pleasant ride to Epping & after with my Lamps *not* an unpleasant one to Dunmow, when I arrived safe at 9 both Horses knew they were homeward bound or found the difference in the weight from thine and luggage absent, they were not overdone yesterday William had ordered gruel for supper, complaining of cold but seems bravely today. I had a very good night which finely recovered me & I early began to prepare for the avocations of the day which began with cutting several Black Sarsnet Dresses & altering the prices of others from what I learn yesterday in the fountain of information. It is now near five & we have all of us been pretty fully engaged, tho' not in so much hurry as 2nd day. John has now to go to Banbridge's & had I been from Home it must have been seriously inconvenient. I have thought about which kind of Teeth is best for thee & *should not* in the least mind what *anyone* said but consult my own Fancy. Hudson is much the same I sent today. Badeley says he is better I need not say I shall be pleased to hear of thy movements, suppose they will be confined & that they would be still more so if as great an absence of Tongue as T——h Both thy sons unite me in dear Love & thou wilt receive a large share thereof from

Thine affecty,

H. CLAYTON

My dear love to Brothers & Sisters. I had almost forgot to say I send by Garrat this morning directed for J. A. 32 ——— st. a Hare and a Goose the latter appears yg & I hope both will prove good if the former is old I shall suppose they have a preference for Butcher or the Carvg of Bro Josh.

Dunmow 6 mo 11th 1821

My dear Children,

My letter written last 5th Day & sent by Post would prepare you for the account left by Peter Taylor on 7th Day morning.

Your dear Grandmother kept getting gradually weaker & about 6 on 5th day Even'g went to sleep until between 2 & 3 on 6th day morn'g when she awoke & quietly breathed her last without sigh, groan, or struggle and I have no doubt gone to a glorious Inheritance, for which she many times expressed her desire that it might please the Almighty to prepare her for & receive her into.

We have concluded to have her remains interred on First Day next, and intend your Brother William shall come with the Chaise on 6th day for you.

We are all favoured to be bravely. Your Mother has a cold but I hope will soon be better—she unites with your Brother & myself in Dear Love to you.

Your affectionate Father

H. CLAYTON

In 1826, Hollis and Mary Clayton with their sons, Francis and Charles, made an extended tour into Wales, posting in a hired carriage from London, through Gloucestershire and the Principality, returning by Coalbrookdale and Birmingham. We append a few extracts from the diary of their son Francis.

1826. 8 mo. 7. Father, Mother, Charles & myself left Dunmow per Regulator Coach and reached London about 1, dined at P. Bedford's, left about 3 o'clock in a carriage hired for the journey, took tea at Uxbridge & proceeded to High Wycombe Bucks, lodged there. 8th. We took breakfast, called on T. Edmonds, Charles and myself went over his paper mill, with which we were well pleased. left about 4 o'clock. The Country thickly wooded, ascended a very steep hill, changed horses at Teftworth. arrived at Oxford, lodged there, got up about 7 o'clock, went to see the colleges and stood under a Bell called Great Tom, breakfasted, went to see Ratcliff's Library, where there are a great many books; afterwards to see Friends Meeting house which is but small, the meeting being held there only once in the year, left about 12 o'clock, had an agreeable ride to Witney, where is a manufacture of Baize, dined, & left about 3 o'clock, there are a great many stone Walls hereabouts, changed horses at North Leach distance 16 miles. . . . Arrived at Cheltenham between 7 & 8 o'clock. . . . Left about 12 o'clock for Dumbleton, here we saw the Cotswold Hills as we travelled along, went into the Church and Yard, where is interred 10 of the Clayton family who reside at Dumbleton. James Clayton we understood lived at Wormington Grange, distance about 1 mile, stopped at the Hob Nails Inn on the road, had some bread & cheese &c., took tea at Tewkesbury, and arrived at Gloucester in the evening about 8 o'clock. . . . drove thro' Newnham and Chepstow to Cardiff. It was market day & the women in their hats looked strange to us, changed horses at Cowbridge & had a beautiful ride to the Pyle Inn, 13 miles, lodged there, it is very pleasantly situated, had good accommodations, good horses & a pleasant ride to Neath through Aberavon the road hilly, 2 houses on the road, 13 miles, went to Meeting, dined at the Inn, went to see E. Warring & his Wife. Neath is a good sized place, there are Iron rail roads in this part of the country, had an agreeable ride till within about 2 miles of Swansea, when one of the horses fell on his side. But no particular damage done except to the harness, which made us later at meeting 9 miles distant, took a walk to the sea, had Coffee & went to bed. 14. Went to the Potteries this morning, bought some E'ware. . . . then to Tenby, Carmarthen, and Aberystwith. . . . 22nd. We went today to the Devils bridge, which for scenery was as beautiful a ride as I think I ever had, we went down to the bottom to see the bridge, situate in a romantic situation, and the water falls added much to the scene 13 miles distant, dined at the Inn, returned and took Tea with T. & E. Evans two friends who were stopping here for a little while, went to see the remains of the castle, there are a number of small pieces of ruin, but nothing I think much worth seeing, took coffee, and went to bed. 23rd. Aberystwith is a bold sea, there is a row of good houses fronting the sea, we were well accommodated at the Gogerddan Arms, left about 7½ o'clock this morning with 4 horses to Mecklynith, distant 18 miles, a very hilly tho' interesting ride, it rained I think the whole of the way. had a most delightful ride to Dolgella, a seventeen mile stage, left at 12 and arrived at 4 o'clock, the road part of it very narrow, very hilly, and a very bad road, the mountains on each side, and rocks, the falls of water from the mountains were wonderful indeed, were obliged to have 4 horses, dined and called on a friend of the name of Owen who is retired from business. 24th. We took a walk this morning with friend Owen, dined about 2 o'clock, took a walk towards Cader Idris, but did not arrive at the foot of it where people commonly ascend, were obliged to stop here to-day, as there were no horses for us to proceed with, took Tea with friend Owen, who I think is an agreeable old man, Dolgella is a very poor place, but the country round it very beautiful, there are some water-falls within a few miles of this place, one of which we were informed was a fall of an hundred feet perpendicular, but did not go to see them, we were pretty well accommodated at the Ship, but were obliged to have 4 horses this morning the 25th. Left at 7¼ o'clock to Tanybwllch, there are a great many stone hedges in this part of the country, had an agreeable ride, when we were obliged to rest our horses and proceed to Bythgillert—a beautiful ride, good horses; it rained today, no horses till about 6 o'clock when we left with 4 horses passing a lake and a great many mountains on each side, arrived at Canarvon about 9, had good accommodations at the Uxbridge Arms. 26th. Took a walk this morning to see the Castle, which is in a pretty good state of preservation, and must have been a large one. There are some good shops in Canarvon. Left about 11 o'clock with a pair of good horses, had an agreeable though windy & showery ride, left our carriage and went on the Suspension bridge over the Straits of Menia, but it was so windy that the bridge quite rocked, there were several carriages there, and a great many people there; indeed it is a wonderful piece of architecture, returned to our carriage. Drove to the Penrhyn Arms, a noble Inn, capital accommodations, but very full; we bespoke a bedroom for a Dutch gentleman & his wife whom we had met at Swansea, and who were just behind, but so full that we took them into our sitting room spent the evening very agreeably. Charles & myself walked to the bridge this afternoon, it rained, we got in a return post chaise, but when we got to Bangor one of the four wheels came off, but no farther accident. . . . 27th. Left the Penrhyn Arms this morning, had a pretty tho cool and showery ride between the mountains, dined at Capel-curig left and had a pretty ride

to Cerniogemawr where we were comfortably accommodated for the night. 28th. . . . The road is very good and must have been a great undertaking to cut through the mountains, had a pretty ride to Corwin, a beautiful romantic spot. . . it is a poor place, changed horses, and proceeded to Llangollan, which is a beautiful romantic situation among rocks, mountains, woods and torrents, it has a good bridge of 4 arches over the river Dee built on a rock. . . it is a good-sized place, Dined and went to see the grounds of Lady Eleanor Butler, and Miss, two old ladies who have retired here for upwards of 40 years, it is curious house, & the grounds were tastefully laid out. Saw them at one of the windows and conversed with them agreeably for a short time. We were informed that they were very kind to the poor. . . . thence thro' Chester and Shrewsbury to Colebrooke Dale 14 miles distant, took coffee, went to Barnard Dickinson's, lodged there. 31. Charles & myself went to see the Iron-Works afterwards went to the top of the Wrekin, which is about $1\frac{1}{2}$ Mile from where we began to ascend, from the top of which may be seen a beautiful view of the surrounding country, took a walk in the evening and called on a few friends, spent the day very agreeably, and left this morning the 1/9 mo. about half-past nine, passed through Shifnall, dined at Wolverhampton 20 miles distant, and left about 3 o'clock. It is a large town and good shops in it; here are a great many Steam-Engines, arrived at Birmingham about $\frac{1}{4}$ past 5 o'clock, took a walk about the town which is a very large one, called on R. Cadbury who was not at home, went to the show rooms, took coffee and went to bed. 2nd. Took a walk about the town, which must be a place of great trade, market day. . . . then through Warwick, Banbury, Aylesbury, Amersham, and arrived in London 20 miles distant at about half-past two o'clock, lodged at Stamford Hill, attended their meeting at Devonshire house, left about 3 o'clock by the Regulator Coach, and arrived at Dunmow about eight o'clock after an absence of four weeks & two days.

A diary kept by Hollis Clayton during the last year of his life (1830) is now before us, from which we give a few entries:—

- *Jan. 1st Many desires prevalent for repentance, too much given to lightness.
- „ 3rd A meeting of feeling but disobedient—lost the impression.
- „ 15th Not busy in business, but the enemy busy and successful.
- „ 16th A Penitent to-day; may it be sincere.
- *July 31st An unguarded day—may it be the last.
- Aug. 1st Morning Meeting very dull, evening instructive.
- „ 14th Evening busy. He is a roaring lion.
- „ 18th Both Meetings times of instruction, but succeeded by unwatchfulness.
- Sep. 1st Week-day Meeting a dull one, hurt by being unguarded, to my regret.
- Oct. 13th Meeting wandering indeed, and too much levity after.
- „ 17th Two Meetings were times of anxious exercise resulting from past failings.

H. C.'s death occurred very unexpectedly, and we give two memoranda made by his widow, and also an entry made by my father in a pocket book.

On the 26th of 11th month 1830, my beloved husband Hollis Clayton departed in a fit of apoplexy, he had been unwell about a month, but not so as to excite our alarm of any sudden removal that the event was a truly *awful one*, *Ah never to be forgotten night* had not divine support been mercifully extended I think nature could not have sustained the shock. May I under this deeply humbling dispensation be in submission to that divine power who has seen meet to take from me a most kind, tender and affectionate husband and endeavour to be prepared should such a sudden event in his providence be my portion is my earnest desire and prayer to the God of my life.

On the 26th of 11 mo. 1830, my dearly beloved H. C. breathed his last as in a moment awful indeed was the shock Ah! never to be forgotten and may I never forget the feeling vouchsafed at that awful moment had not divine support been vouchsafed to my poor distressed mind I think I could not have supported the shock, may I never forget the feeling vouchsafed at that awful moment—Oh the eternal God, continue I humbly beseech thee to be over me and mine and take not thy holy presence from us, Oh condescend I humbly beseech thee to be with us the remainder of our days and enable us to trust in thy never-failing arm of power who alone can support under this deeply trying affliction.

* These are extracts from a diary with printed headings which explains "January, &c."

My dear Father had not been quite well for some time, and had been under the doctor's care, and had complained of his head at times, but not so much that we apprehended anything serious or the Doctor, he had been to his farm before dinner, and in his garden, eat a good dinner, was with the Vicar John Smith after, and another person of the name of Wickins, took a comfortable tea, went into his counting house was writing a letter, my brother Charles had seen him within about ten minutes or less he heard a noise in the counting house, went directly, and my dear father had fallen from his seat in a fit of apoplexy, our two doctors Pearson and Grice were there directly almost, but he was beyond human aid. W. I. C. was not returned from Chelmsford, I was at tea. The scene I witnessed on returning, I will not attempt here to describe, nor do I think it will ever be erased from my memory. It was very sudden, unexpected and strikingly awful, to see the spirit fled as in the twinkling of an eye to its long home.

FROM THE "ANNUAL MONITOR."

He had been indisposed and under medical care for about a month, and had expressed much on the uncertainty of time; but his complaints had not excited apprehension of any speedy change. He was out for some hours in the day, and took tea with his family as usual, and thought himself better. Soon afterwards, whilst writing, he was seized with apoplexy, and instantly expired. His removal was truly affecting, and affords a striking lesson of the uncertainty of life, and the great importance of our so living, that when the awful mandate shall arrive, we may be prepared, through the mercy of God in Christ Jesus, to enter into everlasting rest.

In the year 1812, a branch of the British and Foreign Bible Society was established at Dunmow, and H. C. was appointed the first treasurer, which office he continued to hold during the remainder of his life. After his death, the committee recorded a resolution in the following terms:—

"The Committee of the Dunmow Branch Bible Society cannot proceed to the consideration of the business of this meeting without first recording on their minutes the very sudden and unexpected manner in which they have been deprived of the services of their late respected Treasurer, who died on the 26th of November last. They reflect with satisfaction on the active part he took in the formation of this Branch Society in 1812, and the pleasure he expressed in the prosperity of the Institution; and they sincerely sympathise with his family and friends in the loss they have sustained by his lamented decease."

It is interesting to record that this office was subsequently filled by *his* son, William Impey, till his death in 1855, when *his* son William occupied the same post till his death in 1881; and thus the office of Treasurer to the Dunmow Branch was continuously held by members of the Clayton family during the long period of 69 years—"One generation shall praise Thy works to another."—*Psalms cxlv. 4*).

His remains were interred in the Friends' Burial Ground at Dunmow, and in accordance with the prevailing custom of the day, the coffin was carried into the Meeting House, where the meeting was held previous to the interment.

His widow survived him 18 years, living with two of her sons, Hollis and Charles, at the residence formerly belonging to Dr Sims, which H. C. had purchased some years previously. She was more or less of an invalid during the last few winters of her life, but her last illness was of a short duration, an attack of paralysis occurred on the fourth-day, the 7th of 6th month, 1848, and she died the first-day following.

At this distance of time, with none of our grandfather's immediate descendants living, it is somewhat difficult accurately to portray his character. In the early part of the present century the calling of a general shopkeeper in a small country town had its peculiar responsibilities, especially when, as in the case of our grandfather, he was a member of the Society of Friends. The inhabitants looked to him almost habitually for advice and counsel, both church and dissent feeling that if his judgment was somewhat stern, it was probably unbiased.

H. C. had a great aversion to the too frequent visits of commercial travellers, in proof of which the following amusing anecdote is told. One of these indefatigable gentlemen calling upon him one morning to solicit orders, H. C. quickly rejoined, "Yes, I will give thee an order, and be sure to execute it promptly." The commercial's face brightened, and he readily promised; "Then I order thee out of my shop instantly," was the somewhat unexpected rejoinder, which was, however, immediately carried out. On the following visit, the traveller walked boldly into the office, asking for custom with this plea: "Did I not promptly execute your last order, sir?" His unruffled behaviour and courtesy so won upon grandfather that he at once gave him the best order he had taken during his whole round.

On the other hand, the letters acquainting his relatives that he had joined the Society of Friends indicate his sincere attachment to Friends' principles; whilst his letters to his children prove his paternal solicitude. As a man of business, the impression conveyed by remarks of some who remember him give the idea that he was too much absorbed in the acquisition of wealth; his own memoranda, lamenting this tendency, are frequently to be found in the pages of his dairy, shewing that he was conscious of this temptation. One good anecdote told by his son Hollis is given on the authority of *his* son in the following words:—

A story is told of Hollis Clayton, which, if not true, is at any rate well invented, to the effect that calling one day on a woman friend whose house was near the river, and who was notorious for her stinginess, he was offered a glass of her home-brewed ale. The beverage when brought proved to be very small beer indeed, but the friend came fussing round her visitor as he drank, rubbing her hands and repeating, "Do thee taste the hop, Hollis Clayton, do thee taste the hop?" "Yes," Sarah Jones, (the name is mythical) "I do," said the guest, finishing the watery mixture, "and if thee had given it one hop more it would have hopped into the river!"—[C. E. C.]

Hollis and Mary Clayton had six children, *viz.*—

WILLIAM IMPEY,	born 1800
JOHN,	born 1801
HOLLIS,	born 1804
ALLEN FRANCIS,	born 1806
CHARLES,	born 1809
GEORGE GIBSON,	born 1815, died an infant.

EXTRACTS FROM THE WILL OF HOLLIS CLAYTON

EXTRACTED FROM THE PRINCIPAL REGISTRY OF HER MAJESTY'S COURT OF PROBATE
IN THE PREROGATIVE COURT OF CANTERBURY

THIS IS THE LAST WILL and TESTAMENT of me HOLLIS CLAYTON of Great Dunmow in the County of Essex Grocer and Draper (that is to say) I do hereby ratify and confirm the settlement made previously to my marriage with Mary my beloved wife and I do make and appoint the said Mary my wife and my sons William Impey Clayton and Charles Clayton EXECUTRIX and EXECUTORS of this my last Will and testament I give devise and bequeath unto the said Mary my wife all and every my messuages farms lands tenements and hereditis to hold the same unto the said Mary my wife and her assigns for and during the term of her natural life and from and immediately after her decease I give and devise unto my said son William Impey Clayton all that my messuage or tenement and farm called Copt Hall and also that all my messuage in the Town of Great Dunmow aforesaid. now in the occupation of the said William Impey Clayton and also all that field in Great Dunmow called Dovehouse Croft now in my own occupation and also all that my freehold close in Great Dunmow known by the name of Elin Millers now in my own occupation to hold the

same (subject to the life interest hereinbefore devised to the said Mary my wife therein) unto my said son William Impey Clayton charged nevertheless with the payment to my son Hollis Clayton of the sum of two hundred pounds to be paid to him within twelve calendar months next after the decease of my said wife I give and devise unto my said son Hollis Clayton from and immediately after the decease of my said wife all that my messuage or tenement situate in the Town of Chelmsford in the said County of Essex and now in the occupation of my said son Hollis Clayton (and also all that my messuage or tenement) situate in Great Dunmow aforesaid and now in the occupation of Henry Wilton Collar Maker unto my said son Hollis Clayton his heirs and assigns absolutely and for ever I give and devise unto my son Allen Francis Clayton all that close or piece of land called Sparrows field containing by estimation six acres and also all that freehold messuage or tenement in Great Dunmow aforesaid and now in the occupation of Sarah Giblin and Mary Ann Giblin and also all that freehold messuage or tenement in Great Dunmow aforesaid near the White Horse Public House in the occupation of William Pye and also all that messuage or tenement in Great Dunmow now in the several occupations of Green and her sister and George Saville and Richard Kent Hart unto my said son Allen Francis Clayton his heirs and assigns absolutely and for ever and I give and devise unto my said son Charles Clayton all that my messuage and farm now commonly called Stags in Great Dunmow aforesaid and now in my occupation unto my said son Charles Clayton his heirs and assigns absolutely and for ever I give and bequeath unto the said Mary my wife all my household goods and furniture plate linen china glass wines liquors and other household effects (not being part of my stock in trade or articles used therein) to and for her own proper use and benefit and I also give and bequeath to her the sum of two hundred pounds of lawful money and it is my desire that from and after my decease my said son Charles Clayton should become the partner of my said son William Impey Clayton in the profits and gains of carrying on the trade or business of a Grocer and Draper and General Shopkeeper now carried on by me in partnership with my said son William Impey Clayton but that my share in the stock in trade spirituous liquors goods effects and things which at the time of my decease shall be in and about the shops and warehouses in which the said trade is carried on or belonging to or generally used or employed in carrying on the said trade or business and also my share of all book and other debts of the said partnership due and owing at the time of my decease which after paying my proportion of the sums due and owing from the said partnership and any expenses of carrying on the said business up to the time of my decease shall be deemed and taken as part of the residue of my personal estate I give and bequeath to each of my said sons Allen Francis Clayton and Charles Clayton the sum of five hundred pounds of like lawful money to be paid to them respectively within twelve calendar months next after my decease I give and bequeath unto Mary the wife of Blakey (daughter of the late William Cooper of London) and resident in North America the sum of one hundred pounds of like lawful money I give and bequeath to John Cooper now resident in North America and who is the brother of the said Mary Blakey the sum of one hundred pounds of like lawful money and as to all the rest and residue of my monies securities for money cattle corn farming stock implements and utensils of husbandry and all and singular other my goods chattels and personal estate whatsoever and wheresoever not hereinbefore by me otherwise disposed of and including my share of the stock in trade and book debts aforesaid (after payment of all my just debts the aforesaid legacies and my funeral and testamentary expenses) I give and bequeath the same and every part thereof unto my said four sons William Impey Clayton Hollis Clayton Allen Francis Clayton and Charles Clayton their respive executors administrators or assigns equally to be divided between them share and share alike In witness whereof I have to this my last Will and Testament contained in five sheets of paper set my hand and seal (that is to say) to the first four sheets thereof my hand and to this fifth and last sheet my hand and seal the fifteenth day of June in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and thirty

HOLLIS CLAYTON

Proved at London 21st July 1831 before the Worshipful Jesse Addams Doctor of Laws and Surrogate by Mary Clayton Widow the Relict and William Impey Clayton and Charles Clayton the sons the Executors to whom Admn was granted they having first made a solemn and sincere declaration or affirmation according to Act of Parliament duly to administer.

Effects sworn under £12,000.

[NOTE.—We have not succeeded in finding* the Marriage Settlement referred to in the above Will.]

WILLIAM IMPEY CLAYTON

The eldest son, was born on the 11th of 1st month, 1800. He was sent at an early age to a school at Compton, in Dorsetshire, kept by Thomas Thompson. The following extract from his father's diary on taking him to school is interesting:—

“* We had a charming ride through a beautiful country to Sherborne, and all of us had good appetites. Sherborne is a large place, the Exeter mail runs through the top of the town, there are many good shops and other trades in the place which is clean and quiet, but the buildings very old-fashioned and being made of rough stone look dismal. The lower class of people are employed in knitting and seem industrious.

The ride from Sherborne to Compton is pleasant, and the latter village although made up mostly of poor and mean stone cottages has abundance of romantic prospects, the schoolhouse is pleasant and modern, the gardens behind and orchards joining are very pleasant, and from the hills that surround it form an amphitheatre, they must be warm in winter. T. T.'s farmyard and matting, with his sons manufactory of English Dowlas and Bed Ticks made a respectable show as well as employ many of the poor belonging to the village. We saw some of the women weaving and found they could earn 20d. to 2/- per day, which must be very comfortable. T. T. seems desirous of increasing his manufactory, and from its present appearance I think his goods will be saleable, he grows then bleaches it and weaves the same into goods. The other and elder son is the farmer and they both appear good natured young men, indeed the whole family appeared very pleasant. The 21st of the 8th month was very pleasant, but the prospects of leaving my dear boy overcame me and I was quite unmand. I well knew he would feel it and I could not muster resolution to set him a better example. Nature could find no relief in me but by tears, and this poor fellow added to his own distress, for I could not think of taking my parting kiss in the presence of anyone, and the sensibility he evinced on seeing my attachment increased (if possible) my regard for him, not that I love him beyond any other of my dear children, far from it, but his sensibility and age together with the prospect of his speedily being likely to enter into the concerns of life often very often deeply interests my mind on his account. Earnest very earnest are my wishes and desires that he may be preserved from all and everything that may rob him of his present precious state of innocence, that I believe him now to be possessed of, and it is with a view of putting a guarded and preserved hedge round him that I first viewed sending him to Compton. May! best help and preservation be for ever near him.”

[A sketch of T. T.'s schoolhouse may be seen in the “Friends' Portrait Gallery” at the Friends' Institute, London.—F.C.C.]

In those days it was not deemed advisable for boys to remain so long at school as now, and at the age of 14 he entered into the daily routine of business at Dunmow, being formally apprenticed to his father for the full term of seven years. His daughter C. W. still has the indentures.

He has often related how strong was his desire to study the science of medicine; this was fostered by the friendship of his parents with Dr Sims,† a skilful practitioner in the town, many of whose

* Year not entered in diary.

† Dr Sims was an M.D., a Friend, and died in 1812 at the advanced age of 93.

medical works came into Hollis Clayton's possession, and William was frequently found by his father, late at night, studying these works; he would quietly walk up to the candle and blow it out, leaving William to find his way up to bed as well as he could.

From various sources we find that whilst yet a young man he "sought first the Kingdom of God and His righteousness," and although he never became a rich man, he found the promise fulfilled in his experience—"all things needful shall be added thereunto."

One striking trait in William's character, which though it shone most brightly in his later life, may be traced even at this early period, was that of *self-denial*. In a conversation with the late Lord Maynard on war, the Viscount said: "I cannot understand your advocating non-resistance; 'self-preservation is the first law of nature.'" W. I. C. quietly replied: "Yes, but Lord Maynard will remember that 'self-denial is the first law of grace.'"

William was of a very lively disposition, genial and social in his manner, with a great love of fun, and he has been heard to remark that if people only knew what he *kept in*, they would not wonder at the droll things he *let out*. He was a great favourite with young people, and had a remarkable faculty for looking at the bright side of things, and often can his children recollect the characteristic remark: "There's a bright side to everything, if we only turn it round." This sunshiny disposition gave him a deal of influence, he had a large-hearted sympathy for all, irrespective of sects and parties, and of this a striking proof may be given in the words of the Rev. H. L. Majendie, the high-church clergyman of Dunmow, who, when calling upon his widow just after his death, said: "Mrs Clayton, what *shall* we do without your husband? he kept us all together." He had quite a gift for letter-writing, evinced by the lively and amusing letters still treasured by his children.

He married in the year 1832, Maria, only surviving daughter of William and Mary Marriage, of Broomfield Mill, near Chelmsford. The latter, *née* Hutchinson, was one of a Yorkshire family, who lived at the country village of Helmsley.

The spirit in which this union was entered upon may be best explained by an extract from W. I. C.'s diary.

6th month 9, 1832.—After having been for more than a week much in my Maria's company, all seems dull and insipid without her. I trust she will ere long be mine, that I shall be united to her, not only in the nearest and dearest of earthly ties, but in the best of bonds, that our union will be approved by the Most High, and that we shall be enabled to dwell in His holy fear all the days of our lives.

A further extract under date 7th month, 4th, of the same year, and the subsequent days, gives a graphic account of a honeymoon more than 50 years ago.

7th month 4th.—I think I may truly say that thankfulness is the covering of my mind at the close of this day, wherein my dearest friend and myself were solemnly and publicly united, and I do believe the Power of an endless life presided on the occasion,

"7th month 5th.—Left Broomfield with my bride, in a post-chaise, soon after 7, in London about 11, thence by Nelson's Coach about 3, through Staines, Bagshot, Basingstoke, Ilchester, &c., to Exeter, where we arrived safe and well about 12 on July 6."

During the following week he writes:—

"Bathed, and walked for miles on the beautiful and picturesque coast of Teignmouth. In the evening, sailed up the Teign, which we enjoyed. In a retrospect of the last week I do indeed feel that I have much, very much, to be thankful for. The language has not unfrequently arisen in my heart what can I render unto Thee, Oh! my God, for thy rich and unmerited mercies! All Thou asks for in return is I believe the sacrifice of an obedient heart. Oh! then, I pray Thee, for the Saviour's sake, forgive all my transgressions, and enable me to be just what Thou would'st have me to be.

"7th month 21st.—Enjoyed a walk on the banks of the Avon for some time this morning, which was very fine indeed. Left Clifton, and reached Bath safe and well in evening. Soon after leaving Bristol we passed one of the coaches overturned; some of the passengers seemed much bruised. We do indeed feel thankful unto our Creator and Preserver for the manifold blessings we are partakers of.

"23rd.—Left Bath at 7, and arrived safe and well in London soon after 6, by Nelson's Coach, through Marlboro', Newbury, Reading, &c. Saw several fields of wheat cut, although some persons had not yet finished hay-making. We found the cholera much worse in London than when we left. I pray that we may strive to live near the Source of all good, then we need fear no ill."

In 8th mo., 1846, W. I. C. accompanied Lindley Murray Hoag for about a week in visiting the meetings of Friends in Essex and Suffolk. He records his thankfulness for this opportunity, adding, "The retrospect of it affords me real satisfaction."

Towards the close of the year 1852 W. I. and M. C. accompanied Wm. Forster and Wm. Holmes in part of a religious visit to France and Switzerland. On crossing from Dover to Calais, they arrived late at night on the French Coast, and were detained at the Custom House with many questions relative to the number of books in Wm. Forster's luggage. W. I. C. described the scene as a very striking one, when the lamp light fell on the commanding form of W. F. attired in his broad-brimmed hat and long travelling cloak, the Custom House Officer turned to him enquiring what destination he could possibly have for such a quantity of literature on the continent. "I am taking them," was the quiet reply "to my friends in the Valley of Piedmont." "Then Monsieur," returned the official with a profound bow, "I presume that you are an Archbishop."

In the autumn of 1855, W. I. and M. C. and their two elder daughters spent several weeks in Germany and Switzerland. This was scarcely three months before the death of W. I. C., and the enjoyment and satisfaction of this visit will long be remembered. Conversations on war and peace and other kindred subjects, which W. I. C. so thoroughly enjoyed, with foreign officers and other travelling companions, have left a lasting memory in the minds of his daughters, whose privilege it was to translate for their father into French and German. At Heidelberg, his peculiar Friend's hat attracted the attention of a merry group of students, and one of them exclaimed in English, "There goes a Quaker." W. I. C., without the least hesitation, replied, "Yes, he is, and not ashamed of it either." The young man dropped the arm of his companion, and with a warm shake of the hand to W. I. C., rejoined, "And you are quite right, too, sir." This was the beginning of a long and attractive conversation, during which the Irish student, for such he proved, expressed the great pleasure it was to him to meet an Englishman, for he had been only a few weeks away from home, and surrounded by strangers, he had often longed for the sight of a British fellow-countryman. He spent the evening with W. I. C. and his party, shewing them the places of interest in and around Heidelberg.

W. I. Clayton died very suddenly, whilst dressing one morning, on sixth-day, the 23rd of 11th mo., 1855. He had a fall about four weeks previously, and sprained his wrist; he seemed to think nothing of it himself, but the doctor said after his death it was probably a slight apoplectic seizure. Of him it might be said, "He had fought a good fight, and had finished his work."

W. I. and M. Clayton had six children, viz. :—

1. A son born 1834, died two days old, unnamed.

2. William born 1835, died 1881, married in 1871 Louisa Goff, (born 1835) had 5 children, viz. :—

1. William, born 1872
2. John, born 1873, died 1881
3. Louisa Maria, born 1875
4. Janet born 1878
5. Hollis born 1880

3. Maria, born 1837, married in 1864 Joseph Alfred Smith (born 1831, died 1888), had 9 children :—

1. William Clayton, born 1865
2. Alfred Bernard born 1868
3. Lewis Albert born 1869
4. Lawrence born 1870
5. Richenda Maria born 1872
6. Howard born 1873
7. Percy born 1874
8. Stanley born 1876, Nov. 11th, died 24th
9. Florence Mabel born 1878

4. Charlotte, born 1839, married in 1882 James Whitehead (born 1842).

5. Mary Sophia, born 1840, married in 1865 Henry Marriage (born 1835) had 9 children :—

1. Henry, born 1866
2. Wilfred, born 1868
3. Helena Sophia, born 1870, March, died in July
4. Mary Ellen, born 1871
5. Susanna Maria, born 1872
6. Constance, born 1874
7. Eustace, born 1875
8. Montague William, born 1876
9. Llewellyn, born 1879

6. Ellen, born 1842

JOHN CLAYTON, 1801-1827

John, the second son, was educated at Isaac Payne's, at Epping. My late friend, John Cadbury, of Birmingham, was a contemporary, and said he was not a bright boy like his brothers. Uncle Hollis spoke of him in much the same way.

The only memorandums left concerning him are three which I append :—

I.—Extract from diary of Mary Clayton.

II.—An abridged account of his last illness by his brother Hollis, and initialled by his mother.

III.—Notes of a sermon at his funeral, by Sarah Grubb, and written by A. F. C.

I.

On the 11th of 2nd month, 1827, our dear John Clayton died after about 8 days illness, of Irrisipelas, most of which time he was insensible ; but we had a firm belief he was safely landed, which was very consoling, for it was very affecting to see him in that state, he was in his 27th year, and was a youth preserved in much innocence.

II.

[PORTION OF] A MEMORANDUM RESPECTING MY DEAR BROTHER JOHN,
WHO DIED 11/2.27

[SIGNED M. C.]

On the 1st of 2nd mo. he was first taken unwell, with what was apparently a cold. The Doctor visited him, and thought he would soon be better ; next day he complained of his throat ; a chamomile poultice was applied, which seemed to relieve it ; symptoms of Erisipilas came on, the face was much swelled. Next morning the eyes were nearly closed. He got up about 4 a.m., took some refreshment, and did not appear worse, but had a very restless night, and rambled much. About noon the next day he was evidently not so well, and much worse late in the evening, retiring to bed at 8 o'clock. At about 10 he became restless, and passed a very trying night, only sensible at intervals.

In the fore part of the following day he slept much, but was at times very restless, and appeared in a kind of stupor.

He became more seriously ill ; the head much affected. The Doctor ordered some hair to be taken off, and supplied a lotion which however seemed of little service, he became very restless and quite insensible to what was passing around him. I sat with him until 2 in the morning. After this we had a nurse. The unfavourable symptoms increasing and the face turning purple, Dr Roberts, of Stortford, was called in, and a blister was applied to the head, and mustard poultices to the feet, and although these applications made little apparent difference, the next day the physician called about noon, and thought him rather better. But later on in the day he was much worse, and although I frequently spoke to him, he appeared quite unconscious. The sight of him in this state much affected me, and it was the prayer of my heart, that if Infinite Wisdom saw fit to remove him, an interval of reason might be granted previous to the final close. On taking my leave of him about 12 p.m. I kissed his hand and bade him farewell. His entire unconsciousness deeply affected me ; about half-past 2 he took a little port wine with apparent ease, after which he breathed shorter and shorter, and expired without a sigh or the least struggle.

There was a sweet smile on his countenance which looked serene and beautiful, and I felt as though I dared not doubt his admission into the mansions of Rest.

[The Memorandum concludes with remarks on the delicate constitution of the dear departed, the short period which elapsed between the time of his being taken, and his removal, and the awful and instructive lesson which it is calculated to convey ; also expressions of deep thankfulness for the overshadowings of Heavenly love and mercy, both on the occasion, and also the funeral, at which time dear Sarah Grubb was largely engaged, and which was a solemn and favoured opportunity.]

III.

Wherein dear S. G. had to express that it was sealed on her Mind that the Spirit of the dear Departed, who left us with so much sweetness, had winged its way to the Regions of Light and Life, that there was no cause to mourn on his account, and she believed if the Dispensation was patiently abode under, it would prove a blessing, that the Almighty stood graciously disposed to be near to the younger part of the family, and that it was His will to dignify them, and make them honourable and useful in His house and amongst His family, and that they would be made as princes in their day, if they would yield to the manifestations of what may be made known.

Oh ! that this may be verified in their experience when we may be removed beyond the reach of trouble. Ah ! be pleased to make us fit to join the Spirits of those who are arrived but little before us.

5/3 mo., 1827.

HOLLIS CLAYTON, 1804-1876

Hollis, the third son, was born on the 30th of January, 1804. He was a healthy and intelligent curly-headed boy, much petted by his nurse Abby, who allowed him to have his own way more than is good for a child.

One day his father overheard him as he sat on the stairs, addressing the long-suffering "Abby" thus: "not one step will I stir Abby, till thee give me that stick." Hollis Clayton, senr. was hardly the man to overlook such youthful independence, and his prompt interference soon altered the aspect of affairs. "Abby" was a valuable woman, and it was a great grief to her to part from little Hollis when he went to Epping School in 1809 (?), a pocket book she then gave him being still preserved. She eventually married Richard Clarence, a Friend living in London.

Hollis was fond of fun as a boy. Francis told him one day he had a loose tooth. "Oh," he said, "I'll take it out for thee: stand still there." He tied a string round the tooth, fastening the other end to a hook on the window frame; he then went out of the room, got a bowl of water, and dashed it on the outside of the window. Francis started back, and the operation was performed! Like his brothers, he became a pupil of Isaac Payne's, who said he never knew four brothers so quick at Arithmetic. John was a delicate boy, apt to be teased by his schoolfellows, but Hollis was always his champion and protector.

On leaving school, he much wished to follow the medical profession, pursuing a course of study accordingly; but delicacy manifesting itself, the family doctor told his father that though he had previously encouraged Hollis's wishes, he believed he would not have physical strength to go through the "seasoning," and Hollis felt reluctantly compelled to renounce his hopes.

He then assisted his father in his business, eventually commencing on his own account in Chelmsford, where he remained for a few years doing well, but his health broke down, and he had to give up work, and by the doctor's orders take plenty of horse exercise, and live an out-of-door life. This prescription was certainly not distasteful in one respect, for in common with his brothers Charles and William, Hollis was very fond of horses, and indeed of most animals.

His children, in after years, were entertained with many stories of his terrier "Vic," with recollections of coaching adventures, the most exciting perhaps being an experience in the way of driving the mail, when the coachman, who had supped well rather than wisely, could not hold the reins, and was glad to give them to the passenger on the box seat.

In his last illness (presently to be referred to) it was often pathetic to see his eyes moisten with excitement at the sight of a fine pair of horses, and a little mongrel dog, bearing the name of, although unlike in all other particulars to, his old pet, was a great favourite.

While in business at Chelmsford he thought it right to close his premises so that he and his assistants might all go together to the mid-week meeting. After he married, his wife met four of these Friends, all older than himself, who told her how highly they valued his example, and his care of them.

He was a very active member of his M. M., acting as clerk to the then large meeting, making the way easy for Friends travelling in the ministry, &c. He accompanied Joshua Trefry, for example, in his visits to the meetings and families of Friends in Norfolk and Suffolk.

On giving up business, he lived with his mother (who was then a widow) and his brother Charles, in the old-fashioned house with its lovely garden at Dunmow, frequently visiting Hydropathic establishments, employing himself in Temperance, Bible Society, and School work, and attending to the wants and wishes of Joseph Allen, whose wife was his mother's sister.

Mary Clayton died in 1848, and in 1850 Hollis married Sarah Elizabeth Bond, at Peel Meeting House, and proved a most devoted and tender husband, but he was more or less of an invalid during the latter part of their union.

Wishing to increase his income, he took an agency for the "Friends" and "National Provident Institutions," which also gave him out-of-door employment, and he removed to Brighton in 1853.

He was first attacked by paralysis in 1868, when reading as usual after breakfast, and while fully aware of the serious nature of his illness, he was able in humility and trust to bear his affliction cheerfully. It was his custom when—as was often the case—occupied with serious thoughts, to express himself in verse, and these verses, although they have slight claims to poetic merit, well illustrate his habitual attitude of quiet confidence. During the eight years of gradually increasing weakness which followed his seizure he was not once heard to murmur at the portion allotted him. He died on the 10th of eleventh month, 1876, in his 73rd year, and was buried at the Black Rock Burial Ground, near Brighton.

H. and S. E. Clayton had two children, viz:—

1. Mary Anna, born 1851
2. Charles Edward born 1854 married in 1878 Alice Glaisyer (born 1851) had 5 children:—
 1. Alice Mary, born 1879
 2. Sarah Margaret, born 1880
 3. Phoebe Janet, born 1882
 4. Phyllis Anne, born 1884
 5. Joyce Eleanor, born 1887

ALLEN FRANCIS CLAYTON, 1806-1855

[My dear Father died on the eve of my twelfth birthday, and although I can well recollect many things about him, yet the extraordinary early age at which I was sent to Boarding School, viz. : 6 years and 4 months, makes it very difficult to write much. As will be seen, I have been considerably assisted from other sources.—F. C. C.]

He was first sent to Boarding School at William Impey's, at Earls Colne, and afterwards to Isaac Payne's, at Epping. From the former school he addressed a letter to his parents when eleven years old, of a very superior penmanship to that of the fashion of the present day, when writing is almost a lost art. The School Bills are probably of sufficient interest, and also the letter, together with one from his father, to warrant their being inserted here.

Dunmow, 8 mo., 23d, 1817

My dear Francis,

I am well pleased to hear by Wm. Tawell of thy welfare and hope thou art nearly settled comfortably into thy new situation. I don't doubt it has been a trial to thee for to leave us, as it has been to us to part with *you* both, but thou art now old enough to know it is intended for thy comfort, and I hope will make thy mind up to be comfortable, pursue thy learning with cheerfulness, endeavouring all in thy power to make every progress therein, and paying due attention to the instructions given thee, as thereby thou wilt gain their esteem, and then thy time will pass cheerfully, as well as usefully. I came from London last Even, slept two nights at Dalston, thy Uncle and Aunt came home from the Kentish Coast on third day, Cousin Wm. Allen was to cross from Calais to Dover on the fifth day with Hannah Field and Elizt. Barker—these two Friends were going to visit Friends in Kent before they came to London.

I called on Hollis yesterday, and stopped Tea at Isaac Payne's. He was bravely and very comfortably settled in, it was a pleasure to see how cheerfully and brisk he conducted himself, he desired me to give his dear love to thee, and he intended writing one of you soon, he will send us the Letter for us to forward. Thy Mother and Brother Wm. and John unite with me in dear love.

I remain thy affec. Father,

H. CLAYTON.

Earl's Colne, 28th of 8th mo., 1817

Dear Parents,

As I have not written to you yet, I thought I would embrace the present opportunity of sending you a few lines. I may inform you we are pretty well settled at School, and like Earl's Colne quite as well as we expected. We are both in good health, and were pleased to hear you were enjoying the same. We shall be very glad to see Brother William at Colne. Please to give our dear love to Grandmother and Brothers.

I remain,

Your affectionate Son,

FRANCIS CLAYTON.

Earl's Colne, 24th of 6th mo., 1818

HOLLIS CLAYTON Dr. to William Impey.

	£	s	d
To ½ Year's Board and Instruction to son Francis	18	0	0
The use of Globes, with the delineation of Maps			
Weekly allowance 4/4, clothes mending 3/8, do. 5d.		8	5
Writing Books 1/-, Ciphering do. 4/-		5	0
Shoe bill 7/-, Hair cutting 6d.		7	6
Carriage of Parcels. Postage			
Medicine 8d., Cedar Pencils, &c. 6d.		1	2
History 4/-, Grammar 4/-		8	0
English Reader 4/6, Arts and Sciences 3/6		8	0
Murray's Exercise 2/6, Giles Parsing 2/6		5	0
Catechism 6d., Box repaired 1/9		2	3
Broholland 18d., Paper 6d.		2	0
	<u>15</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>4</u>

Earl's Colne,

24 of 6 mo., 1818

HOLLIS CLAYTON

Dr. to William Impey.

	£	s	d
To ½ Year's Board and Instruction to son Charles	18	0	0
To use of the Globes, with the delineation of Maps			
Weekly allowance 4/4, Clothes mending 3/10		8	2
Writing Books 2/-, Ciphering do. 4/-		6	0
Shoe bill 9/3, Hair cutting 6d.		9	9
Carriage of parcels. Postage			
Medicine 3/-, Cedar Pencils, &c. 6d.		3	6
Catechism 6d., Rule 9d., Rubber 9d.		2	0
Broholland		1	4
	<u>£14</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>9</u>
Francis' Acct.	15	7	4
	<u>£29</u>	<u>18</u>	<u>1</u>

HOLLIS CLAYTON

Dr. to Isaac Payne

							£	s	d
From	½ year's board and Education for								
26 12 mo.	sons Francis and Charles	----	----	----	----	----	42	0	0
1819	French	----	----	----	----	----			
To	Latin	----	----	----	----	----			
26 6 mo.	Books	----	----	----	----	----	1	6	6
1820	Shoe bill	----	----	----	----	----		11	8
	Tailor's do.	----	----	----	----	----		8	5
	Week's money	----	----	----	----	----		13	0
	Postage	----	----	----	----	----			
	Fare	----	----	----	----	----			
	Apothecary's bill	----	----	----	----	----		3	6
							<u>£45</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>1</u>

In 1834, A. F. C. succeeded his Uncle William Impey in his business of General Shopkeeper at Kelvedon. In turning over a number of family papers, only a few weeks since, I came across receipts for £1,214 18 9, paid by my father to W. I. for the purchase of the business, household furniture, &c. About this time his mother addressed him the following interesting letter:—

Dunmow, 7th Month 31st, 1834

My Dear Francis

Thy acceptable letter received yesterday was very welcome to thy Mother, who has thought very much of thee since leaving thy Maternal Abode, where thou hast for so many Years claimed her Constant Care & Solitude, and now that thou art removed from this Sheltered Spot, my desires for thee have been frequent and earnest, that thou mayest in thy setting out in Life be very careful & watchful over thyself, that thou dost not suffer the cares of this Life so to engross thy Attention, as in any Way to lose ground in the best *Sense*, remember the surest Way to be happy, both here and hereafter, is to seek first the Blessing of thy Heavenly Father, who will undoubtedly be near to thy Support, as thou art concerned to seek unto him for Counsel and Direction. I was much pleased thou canst give such a pleasant account of thyself, and that thou felt comfortable & satisfied in the Step thou hast taken, which I trust will continue to be the Case.

When thou hast the House to thyself, thou wilt be able to judge what furniture, &c., will be wanting, if thou should want a pair of Drawers, I have *a nice pair* I can spare thee as well as some other things, which will spare thy buying at present, I mentioned to Hollis thy getting thy Aunt to get thee a few pair of common Sheets which thou must have made, ready against when they are wanted, and much as it may appear desirable for thee to have the House to thyself, I do hope great Care will be taken that thy Uncle & Aunt dont go into their house till it is *thoroughly* dry, as we should all very much regret their taking Cold. I am glad to find thy Uncle got thro' with as little excitement as might be expected.

Our Neighbour Frances Beaumont died yesterday Afternoon, after a time of severe suffering, happy release, I trust to her, her Husband is much to be felt for. With respect to myself I am I think daily getting a little stronger, I have not yet been out farther than the garden, but hope if not wet I shall be able to get out on first day.

Thou wilt accept my very dear love

Which concludes me

Thy affectionate Mother

MARY CLAYTON

I intend to make thee some Tea Cloths, &c., and bring when I am able to come & see thee.

Our friend, Robert Harding, of Ipswich, who entered my father's service in 1838, has been asked for some reminiscences, and Mr Silas Seabrook, of Kelvedon, who was with R. H., and who eventually purchased the business has also helped us, and from these sources especially we have been able to compile the following:—

He was exceedingly careful of the reputation of others, and he was never heard to speak of, or reveal a fault in another, even when he had been injured. He was not a man of business, scarcely making any money in it, as he was too confiding in others.

During the Anti-Corn Law Agitation, a capital customer (a rank Tory farmer) brought a petition for his signature, against repeal, but A. F. C. did not agree and declined to sign it, when the furious man replied, "As Wellington said, Up! Guards! and at them," "send in my bill at once will you Mr C., you may depend upon it; the Corn Laws will never be repealed without bloodshed." The simple reply was "very well if thee wish Friend Langley." The account was sent in and the custom for a time lost. A. F. C. was held in high esteem as a man of unbending integrity and truthfulness, but he never would take office in the Society of Friends, though often requested to do so. He was very reticent on religious subjects, and had a humble opinion of his attainments. He was Overseer of the Poor, soon after the new Poor Laws came into operation, and on one occasion, when he was relieving a suspicious-looking woman, one of the by-standers questioned: "Does she deserve it," "Deserve," he rejoined, "What do thee and I deserve?"

He was an impressive reader of the Scriptures, also of poetry, and could give ready quotations from Pollock's Course of Time, and Milton, which were his favourites. A. F. C. was not easily turned from his opinions, and always unwillingly yielded. He had great control of his temper, even under provocation, and when scolded over the counter he would say, "well neighbour if thee are displeased, thee had better go home, and get pleasant again." Very retiring in his manners, he had contracted some peculiarities, and from an over sensitive truthfulness, it was difficult to obtain a direct answer from him, but if he did not agree, would conclude by asking "whether it was really not so?" [R.H. S.S.]

A. F. C. married Emmaretta Corder in 1839. Mr S. has often told me how my father, who kept a banking account at Coggeshall, where my mother was then residing, used to say, "Silas, I think I will just walk over to Coggeshall this afternoon to pay some money in," until this or a similar remark was made so frequently that an explanation had to be sought for elsewhere!

W. I. C. makes the following entry in his diary with regard to the wedding:—

"11 mo. 28th, 1839. Attended with my dear M. C. the marriage of brother A. F. Clayton with Emma Corder, a favoured and very quiet meeting—the day altogether very satisfactory."

My earliest recollections go back to 1847, and I can see quite plainly whilst I am writing my grandmother Clayton stepping out of her carriage at our house in Kelvedon.

In 1852 my father's health first shewed signs of breaking up. He was weakened by violent and repeated attacks of perspiration, and though I never realised his state, on returning from School at York, on a Friday in June, my brother and I were cautioned to be quiet in the house on account of his health. I soon saw how ill he was, and he died on the following Monday. That morning he came down to breakfast where my mother, brother and I were sitting round the table. He put out his hand to steady himself, mother got up quickly from the table and laid him on the sofa. Before she could do this, he recovered from his attack of faintness. At eleven o'clock another attack came on, and he was never sensible afterwards, and died shortly before midnight.

What terrible things funerals were in those days! In the first place, it did not take place for a week. On the morning of the funeral, guests began to arrive about half-past 9, and an hour later, a short meeting, perhaps for a quarter of an hour, was held round the coffin in one of the parlours. A long time we stood before the open grave, the meeting was crammed to suffocation—hot summer weather—about 30 visitors sat down to dinner at two o'clock, most of them stopped to tea, and I remember one or two who had not left at seven o'clock in the evening.

My mother's cousin, Sarah Hicks, was present, and I well remember taking her upstairs after dinner, and how earnestly she addressed a few words of comfort to my mother, concluding with, "I will never leave thee or forsake thee."

My dear mother continued to reside at Kelvedon till 1879, when with advancing years, she decided to relinquish housekeeping, and came to live with me at Birmingham, where she died in 1887, and was interred next my father in the Friends' Burial Ground at Kelvedon.

My father and mother had two children :—

1. Francis Corder, born 1843
2. Philip, born in 1845, died 1874

CHARLES CLAYTON, 1809-1878

Charles was born on the 23rd of 1st month, 1809, and was educated, like Francis, partly at Earl's Colne, and partly at Epping.

After his father's death, he was for a short time a partner with his brother William, in the old family business.

The following extract from his diary refers to the dissolution of partnership :—

12 mo. 30 1837. We have this day dissolved partnership, which I trust I may say has been for 7 years carried on to mutual satisfaction. Earnest are my desires that in our future steppings along we may know Him "Who is all in all" to guide all our movements that whether our time be short, or protracted to advanced age, we may be favoured at last to arrive at that Haven of rest and peace—"Where the wicked cease from troubling and the weary are at rest." I can scarcely close this memorandum without adding—Oh! that it may please our Heavenly Father still to unite our hearts in the brotherly affections that, although outwardly parted in business, we may still feel much for each other's welfare both temporally and spiritually. May I do what I can to those with whom my future life may be spent to help in every way.

He lived with his mother (until her death in 1848) and brother Hollis, "over the way." What a delightful place it was to be sure! My cousins at Dunmow, who were older than I, can well recollect the house during our grandmother's lifetime. Although I was there too at that period, I cannot clearly recollect a visit till 1850. The beautiful garden so wonderfully kept, Uncle Hollis and his dog "Vic.," the Bath which our Uncles used to bathe in, with the ice in winter inches thick, the well, are all as fresh as yesterday. The only drawback was getting from Kelvedon to Dunmow. My father had an old dun-coloured pony named "Fanny," and a low four-wheeled chaise, and I think the eighteen miles were never accomplished under four hours. To us children, the drive seemed as if it would never end.

The farm his father left him was nominally in his occupation, a man and woman residing at the farm house, and he went daily and overlooked it, but did not trouble much about it. It was sold about 1862.

C. C. lived at the old house at Dunmow till 1852, when he went to Brighton, and in reference thereto I again quote from his diary :—

1852 7 mo. 3. I have for some time had under consideration the propriety of engaging in some occupation, and after I trust mature deliberation, it appears to me right to leave Dunmow, and probably act as Agent for the N. P. L. Office. I can, I think, truly say it feels a matter of serious importance, but having been fav'd at times, to feel an earnest desire to do what is right, a hope is raised that best Help will be afforded. If it be not the right place for me to settle, I desire that I may be shown as much. I do not desire any great things, but believe that I am at liberty to endeavour after some employment, and Oh! may I witness preservation on this and every hand. May I daily meditate on best things, and know the all important work of the soul, to keep pace with the day. This is at times my earnest desire.

1853 1 mo. 23. I feel satisfied in being situated in B. & hope ere long I may be favoured to look either to this or some other place as my future settled abode.

He soon retired from the work of Agent above referred to, and he gave up for years an immense amount of time to the work of Primary Education; not only in the British School, Dunmow, but in the much larger sphere of an amateur inspector in close (but not official) connexion with the British and Foreign School Society, his services were most valuable, and in a lesser degree he advocated the cause of Temperance.

S. E. C. says that "Charles went in for Education, and Temperance in a much less degree, and her husband for Temperance first, and Education in a lesser degree."

Kind and sympathetic, and willing to help wherever his services could be of use, he was a real Clayton, restless to a degree. I remember when at School at Epping, his coming to see me—he took the whole School a walk, called on his old Schoolmistress Sarah Payne, inspected and thoroughly examined the boys in the British School, came to tea with us at the School House, and gave me half-a-crown, and was anxious the whole time to be off to Ireland on School work the following day.

On my Father's and Uncle William's death in 1855, he rendered very valuable services in arranging many business details, and in my mother's case took the whole of the work off her hands. I remember we had a neighbour who owed £80, and my mother remarking, "Charles, thee will never get it." "But I am going to have it, the business accounts must be closed." The money was paid in a few weeks. Later on he made all the arrangements in placing my brother and myself out as apprentices, on our leaving School, a difficult undertaking as it proved, for it involved in both cases a large amount of correspondence before satisfactory places could be found for us.

His dress at this period was very spick and span, and we all regretted his abandoning his "Friend's Coat" and satin waistcoat later in life. In 1857 he married Lydia, widow of Wm. Manley, and for five years they resided at that delightful village in Bedfordshire, Aspley Guise. Business cares in a few years necessitated their removal to London, and unfortunately his first venture in forming a company for the manufacture of Oxygenated Water and some subsequent commercial undertakings were not successful, and I fear his later years were somewhat clouded with these troubles. Still, to the last, he was always to me the same kind and affectionate Uncle as he had been thirty years before, and the seven nephews and nieces who are still living will always have a kindly recollection of "Uncle Charles." In the spring of 1878 Charles Clayton was attacked with severe illness, after having for some time showed signs of failing health. A disastrous flood which occurred at Tottenham made many of the houses extremely damp, and among those affected was the house at that time occupied by our Uncle and his family. This seemed to be the immediate cause of the acute rheumatism with which his illness commenced; he also had suffered from a painful affection of the foot. He died 7th mo. 8th, 1878, after a suffering illness of about thirteen weeks, during which his faith and patience never failed. He was buried in the Friends' Burial Ground at Stoke Newington.

C. and L. M. C. had four children:—

1. Mary Mabel, born 1858
2. Charles, born 1859, married in 1888 Katherine Lucy Black, (born 1866):—
 1. Douglas Impey, born 1889
3. Edward Allen, born 1860, died 1864
4. Sarah Mildred, born 1862

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