

John Kingston 1736-1820

of 52 Lower Grosvenor Street Middx and Oak Hill, East Barnet Herts

Lymington 16 Dec 1802 - July 1814

b. 1736 son of Paul Kingston of Cork

m1. 1 January 1771 at Oporto Katherine nee Gardner of Oporto

m2. 18 May 1778 Jane dau of Valentine Knightley of Fawsley Park, Northants

Dir. Sierra Leone Co. 1791-1812. Albion Insurance 1805-d.

his Barnet estate purchased in 1790 for \$7,350 was sold in two lots in 1808 for \$12,350 and in 1810 for \$18,900.

he referred to a small plantation of his in Demerara In his will dated 24 Jan 1820 proved 8 Feb 1821,

Joseph Farington was told in 1809 that Kingston an Irishman had gone to Portugal with the army as a surgeon's mate in 1762, remained there as a surgeon and apothecary and married a Miss Gardner 'who had some money'. Being employed as an agent there for an English Oporto merchant, he gave up his practice, but returned to England after the death of his wife. By another account he went out to join his brother Benjamin, 'physician to the factory house'.

At any rate the established Oporto firm of Lambert became Lambert, Kingston & Co in 1772 and the Kingstons were regarded later on as one of 'the grand names in the vinous history of Oporto'.

In 1780 the firm of **Kingston and Crump**, wine merchants, appeared at **Queen Square**, Bloomsbury, afterwards **Kingston, Crump and Adamson** of 6 New Broad Street.

Kingston's brother Robert 1748-1796 was associated with him, and afterwards his sons in law in new branches from 1805. At the time of his death 1820 the firm was called Kingston, Lambert and Egan, the latter being also an Oporto Irish firm. Kingston signed the London merchants' loyal declaration to Pitt in 1795 and subscribed \$10,000 to the loyalty loan for 1797, his firm another \$10,000 and his brother Robert \$5,000. He was one of the first directors of the Sierra Leone Company in 1791 and two letters he wrote to John Clarkson, governor of the colony. were couched in the language of the 'Saints'.

By 1802 it was his ambition to be in Parliament. He and another London wine merchant canvassed Newcastle under Lyme but withdrew when it became clear that they had become liable for a treating offence: their substitutes did not succeed. Before the year was out he found a more secure berth, coming in for Lymington on the Burrard interest, probably as a paying guest. His brother in law John Willis Fleming's association with the Burrards doubtless helped. He renewed his lease of the seat until his retirement in 1814.

Kingston had nothing to say in the House and was well disposed to successive administrations; at least he is not known to have voted against any of them. When Pitt returned to power in 1804 he was listed 'doubtful etc' and later that year a supporter, with a query. He was in the government minority on Melville's conduct 8 April 1805 (and balloted for the committee on the 11th naval report on 27 May) but was listed 'doubtful Pitt' in July. This may have been because of his respect for Lord Sidmouth. When the latter was in office under Lord Grenville, he voted for the repeal of Pitt's Additional Force Act 30 April 1806, and on 9 July Sidmouth's brother informed the premier that Kingston was a warm friend to government' who had considerable influence with many of the Irish Members'. He was among the 'staunch friends' of the abolition of the slave trade.

On 24 April 1807 Kingston informed Sidmouth that he and his Irish friends approved his opposition to any attempt to force Catholic relief on the King and hoped that he would be included in the Portland ministry. Sidmouth was not, but Kingston did not change his tack. In March 1810 however he was described as one of Lord Sidmouth's friends' anxious to promote his inclusion in Perceval's ministry which after a long and recent interview', he thought might be procured. Meanwhile he rallied to ministers on the address and the Scheldt inquiry 23. 26 Jan. 30 March 1810 and was listed 'Government' by the Whigs. He opposed the discharge of the radical Gale Jones 16 April and voted against sinecure reform 17 May. He was in the government minority on the Regency 1 Jan 1811. He was a member of the Portuguese relief committee formed in April 1811. In the session of 1812 he again opposed sinecure reform 4 May and voted against a remodelling of the ministry in which Sidmouth was by then included 21 May. Kingston was listed a Treasury supporter after the election of 1812. He voted against Catholic relief 2 March and 24 May 1813 and in favour of Christian missions in India 12 July. He went out of Parliament early next session.

Proceedings old Bailey

22 June 1826

WILLIAM COUSINS . I am an officer. I had information of this robbery, and apprehended the prisoner at Mr. Barclay's, **No. 381, Strand**, at work; I said I must search him, and asked if he had any money; he said "No, only a few halfpence;" I searched him and found no money, but he had no coat or waistcoat on; I asked him where his halfpence were - he said in his waistcoat pocket; he went to a cupboard and gave me his waistcoat, in which I found some halfpence; he was then fumbling about his coat pocket, in the cupboard, with his back turned towards me, and putting something into his trousers' pocket; he then gave me his coat - I found nothing in it; I said "What have you got inside your shirt?" and I there found this handkerchief, in which was a purse with three sovereigns; I said I thought he had no money - he made no answer; I took the money, and he said "Ar'n't you going to give me the money?" I said No; he said "I will soon make you return it;" I took him out - he knocked me down and ran away - I followed him to the corner of Bow-street, where a patrol stopped him. The King's Head is in the parish of St. Martin's-in-the-fields.

Proceedings old Bailey

THOMAS ISMAN, Theft > grand larceny, 5th December 1804.

See original 17. THOMAS ISMAN was indicted for feloniously stealing, on the 26th of November, a quart of wine, value 2 s. 6 d. the property of John Scott, Christopher Idle, John Idle, George Idle, Thomas Coates, and William Haynes.

WILLIAM HAYNES sworn. - I am a partner in the house of Mr. Scott, wine-merchant, No. 181, in the Strand.

Q. What are your partners names? - A. John Scott, Christopher Idle, John Idle, George Idle, Thomas Coates, and William Haynes; it was in one of our vaults the theft was committed; I know nothing of the facts myself.

- M'DONALD sworn. - I was attending the letting out of wines on the 26th of November, at the bonded cellars in Leadenhall-street; the Excise-surveyor mentioned it to me from what he had found.

Q. They might come and tell their own story - what did you observe yourself? - A. He called me down into the vault; I found a cask leaking from a spile, by a hole being made by a gimlet; the can, which had the wine, was held in the breast-plate of the prisoner; I examined the wine in the can with the wine in the pipe, and it exactly seemed to me to be the same as that in the pipe.

Q. How many casks had you there? - A. Upwards of two hundred.

Q. You do not know any thing about that yourself? - A. I do not.

Court. Q. All that you know when you were down in the cellar, you saw a cask leaking, and wine in the can, which exactly corresponded to the best of your knowledge? - A. Yes.

Q. There were spiles in other casks besides that you have mentioned? - A. Yes, there were in all five.

Cross-examined by Mr. Knapp. Q. There were many vintners' porters and Excise-officers there, as well as the prisoner - how many soldiers were there? - A. I cannot say exactly.

JAMES CUDWORTH sworn. - I am an officer in the Excise: On the 26th of November, they were letting out wines from the bonded cellar of Messrs. Scott and Idle, in Leadenhall-street; it was my part to go down and regage the casks, and to examine the bond; when I came there, I found several casks ready to gage, and pull up; there were several vintners' porters, and soldiers, there at work, bringing the casks forward for the officers to gage at the foot of the stairs; I was there about ten minutes; the master of the vintners ordered all their men up, in order to pull these casks out of the cellar; I observed, about 7 yards further up the cellar, a light with two men, who did not seem to come forward; I got over the casks with the light in my hand to them, and their light went out; whether they blew it out, I cannot say; I turned round, and saw one of the casks leaking very fast from a spile; the prisoner at the bar had his leather apron and buckle on; I asked him what they had been about, and putting my hand between his leather apron and frock, I took out a tin can

filled full with wine, (the can produced;) it is a can belonging to the army; I called the officer that was there, and shewed him the can; the cask was then leaking.

Cross-examined by Mr. Knapp. Q. Were you very hard at work that day? - A. I believe there was a deal of wine pulled out that day.

Q. When there is a very hard day's work, they give them a glass of wine in the vaults? - A. I can say before this Court I never heard of such a thing; I saw the prisoner with the can, and took it from him.

Q. You saw him very drunk? - A. I did not make any observations upon it.

Q. You are an Exciseman, and make no observations at all; there were many soldiers there? - A. There were, and I found nothing upon them.

Q. There were several casks with spiles in them - you have heard of such a thing as leaking; who put in the spiles there? - A. I suppose Mr. Scott's clerk.

Q. How much was there in the can? - A. Full a quart.

Court. Q. How near was the prisoner to this cask? - A. Not five feet from it; he was close by the cask when I took him, it was running very fast.

JAMES GABERDESS sworn. - I am a constable; I took the prisoner in my care; this is the same can, I made a mark on it.

Cross-examined by Mr. Knapp. Q. Was the prisoner drunk or sober? - A. He was sober, to the best of my judgment.

Q. You were very sober, I take it for granted? - A. I was as sober as I am now.

The prisoner left his defence to his Counsel, and called four witnesses, who gave him a good character.
NOT GUILTY . London Jury, before Mr. Recorder.

National Archives

Christopher Idle of the Strand, Middlesex, Wine merchant William Timson the younger of Water Lane Tower St. wine merchant Joseph Marryat of London, merchant

Assignment of a lease by way of mortgage. BRA747/23 24 July 1813

1. Christopher Idle of the Strand, Middlesex, Wine merchant William Timson the younger of Water Lane Tower St. wine merchant Joseph Marryat of London, merchant

2. Rev. William Boldero, Woodford, Essex;

3. Johanna Whitmell, West Grinstead, Sussex;

4. Chas. Boldero, West Grinstead.

5. Sir Stephen Shairp of Russell Place, Fitzroy Sq. Kt.

Land on the south side of the New Sq. lately planned intended to be called Fitzroy Sq. in parish of St. Pancras, formerly part of the Homefields, bounded by land leased to Thomas Bent, Richard Perry, etc. and by land to be made into a mews called Conway Mews.

Fire insurance policy (Royal Exchange Assurance) issued to John Idle of Kentish Town, esq.

ACC/0953/013 29 Sept. 1808-29 Sept. 1809

"Two Thousand Five Hundred Pounds on a House situate in Hornsey Lane. . . . in the occupation of Christopher Idle, Esq. One Hundred and Fifty Pounds on the Stable and Hen house adjoining near, and Fifty Pounds on the Double Coachhouse near. All Brick Built, Tiled and Slated".

Endorsed: "Policy of Insurance from Fire on my House in Hornsey late in the occupation of C. Idle Esq. from 29 Sepr 1808 to 29 Sepr 1809 for £2700. Jno Idle".

Christopher Idle

National Archives

Cutten Mss/D/1/4/3-4 1798-1879

On Madame Amelia Idle, nee Collins, of Shopwyke (1798-1879), wife of George Idle, second son of Christopher Idle, wine perchant and Weymouth MP. with copy of will and brief pedigree

The National Archives | Access to Archives

Insured: Joseph Reynolds 6 Idol Lane, Tower Street wine merchant.

Insured: John Jackson 14 George Street, York Buildings Strand gent

Insured: Christopher Idle, Brothers and Co, Princes Street Bank, merchants ...

The Sun Fire Office originated in a business established by Charles Povey in 1708 and known as the Exchange House Fire Office. This office used the Sun symbol as its firemark and became commonly known as the Sun Fire Office. The business was taken over by the Company of London Insurers in 1710 and formally constituted as a partnership known as the Sun Fire Office.

The company has had a number of addresses within the City of London. Initially the business of the new company was conducted from a room in Causey's coffee house in St Paul's Churchyard, moving to an office in Sweetings Rents near the Royal Exchange in 1711. The city office subsequently moved to Threadneedle street (1727 - 1763), Cornhill (1763 - 1766), Bank Street (1766 - 1843 and Bartholomew Street (1843 onwards). In 1726, the Craig's Court branch in Charing Cross was opened to deal with business in the west of London. In 1793 a separate department was set up at headquarters to deal with country policies. Some of the records reflect these divisions. The company set up its first foreign agency in 1836 and its first major overseas market was in Germany. It expanded its business outside Europe with the setting up of an agency at Smyrna in Turkey in 1863. Business also expanded to include India, the Far East, China, Australasia, the United States, South Africa, the West Indies, South America and Canada. In 1891, the office changed its name to Sun Insurance Office Ltd. It merged with the Alliance Insurance Company in 1959 to become part of the Sun Alliance Group. Since 1996 has been part of the Royal and Sun Alliance Group plc.

The collection consists of administrative and constitutional records, minutes of the committees overseeing business, policy registers, records of business transacted with overseas agents and some records of fire brigades.

21 November 1810

Insured: Christopher Idle, Brothers and Co, Princes Street Bank, merchants

Googles

Parishes - East Barnet | British History Online

From 'Parishes - East Barnet', pp.337-342,

He in 1806 surrendered it to Christopher Idle, who in 1818 sold it to George Idle

THE HOUSE OF COMMONS CONSTITUENCIES BEGINNING WITH "W"
WEYMOUTH & MELCOMBE REGIS (DORSET

9 Jun 1813 Christopher Idle to 1818 b. 3 Jun 1771 d. 8 Mar 1819 aged 47

Salisbury, Journal

MONDAY, MARCH 15, 1819.

On Monday last died at North Frith, new Tonbridge, Christopher Idle, Esq., aged 48, late M.P. for Weymouth, and formerly in a most extensive business, and during his whole life a man of active benevolence and strict integrity.

Kent People in British Newspapers

Saturday, 20 March 1819 Obit

At North Frith, near Tunbridge, Christopher **IDLE**, Esq, aged 48, late M.P. for Weymouth.

The Gentleman's magazine - Google Books Result

1819 At North Frith, near Tonbridge, aged 48, Christopher Idle, esq. late MP for Weymouth

Book Searches

Papers presented to the House of Commons on the 7th May 1804, respecting the ... - Page 65

Great Britain. Parliament. House of Commons - History - 1804

CHRISTOPHER IDLE, Esquire, called in, and examined. What is your connection with the West Indies, and what means have you of being Mr. Idle. acquainted with the West Indies

Full view - About this book

Manuscript sources for the history of the West Indies: with special ... - Page 89 Kenneth E. Ingram -

Indenture between (1) Christopher Idle, of London, merchant, William Tinson, of London, wine merchant and Joseph Marryat, of London, merchant and (2)

American encroachments on British rights: or, Observations on the importance . Page 205

Nathaniel Atcheson - Great Britain - 1808 - 250 pages

... so far as my knowledge goes, are flour and staves ; but I am less acquainted with this province than with Nova Scotia. Withdrew. CHRISTOPHER IDLE ...

Full view -

Manuscript sources for the history of the West Indies: with special ..Page 89 Kenneth E. Ingram - History - 2000 - 566 pages To do with Tivoli plantations in Isle of Grenada

Indenture between (1) Christopher Idle, of London, merchant, William Tinson, of London, wine merchant and Joseph Marryat, of London, merchant and (2) ...

"Old Q's" daughter: the history of a strange family - Page 299 Bernard Falk - Biography & Autobiography - 1951 - 316 pages

1 George Idle was the second son of Christopher Idle, wine merchant of The Strand, some time MP for Weymouth, who died in 1819. The youth matriculated at

Archibald McMillan -

In 1803 he set up as a general merchant in a modest commercial. In 1812 Christopher Idle, Brother and Company, a major London firm [see William Price*], ...

McMillan soon found that profits could be made more quickly from lumbering than from farming. A tariff preference accorded by Britain to colonial lumber during the Napoleonic Wars made the timber trade highly lucrative, and a brief period of post-war prosperity maintained the boom [see Peter Patterson*]. McMillan's holdings were advantageous; Grenville and Lochaber were covered with pine and oak, both in demand for naval construction, and were veined with streams capable of carrying the logs to the Ottawa, while Templeton had beech, maple, basswood, pine, and some oak.

In 1812 Christopher Idle, Brother and Company, a major London firm [see William Price*], ordered from McMillan 10,000 cubic feet of squared Norway pine, worth £400–£500. By 1816 he had seven sawmills and was employing many of his former crofters as lumberjacks and workers in the mills. In 1817 he formed an association with Thomas Noyes of Chatham Township; Noyes cut and rafted McMillan's timber, while McMillan delivered and sold it at Quebec. McMillan also established a general store in Grenville by 1821. His suppliers and backers, almost all in Montreal, included John* and Thomas Torrance, Gillespie, Moffatt and Company, the Bank of Montreal, and John Molson and Sons

William Price

lumber merchant and manufacturer of planks (deals); b. 17 Sept. 1789 at Hornsey, near London, England, third son of Richard Price and Mary Evans; d. 14 March 1867 at Quebec.

William Price's parents, originally from Wales, moved to Middlesex at the end of the 18th century. The family probably belonged to the upper middle class, and although its financial situation was precarious after Richard Price's death around 1804, William's mother, with eight children to provide for, was able to count on friends important in business and government. After a few years at Hammersmith College in London, William began to study law under a cousin, a lawyer of the Inner Temple, but had to give up this career. At age 14 he became an employee of Christopher Idle, a prominent London businessman. Six years later, on 10 May 1810, he landed at Quebec as a clerk in a branch of the Idle firm, at a wage of £135 a year.

Full Text of Sir William Beechey R.A

Mrs. Oscar Leslie Stephen is the owner of two un usually fine examples of Beechey, Mrs. Idle and her second son, George. Mrs. Idle, who died at Southgate on January 26, 1834, was the wife of **Christopher Idle**, M.P. for Weymouth (he died March 8, 1819), a partner in the firm of Christopher Idle, Brother and Co., wine merchants, of **377 Strand**, London.

George Idle matriculated at Christ Church College, Oxford, on July 3, 1813, aged eighteen, and his niece Miss Idle, who married Mr. Algernon William Bellingham Greville (Mrs. Stephen's father), inherited the pictures. Mrs. Idlers portrait, on a kit-cat canvas, shows her to half figure, white low dress with black cloak lined with pink, seated in red chair, directed to front and looking to left ; right arm resting on that of chair, dark curly hair falling in ringlets over forehead.

The portrait of George Idle is a whole length on a " three-quarters " canvas (30 in. by 25 in.) of a lad of about eight or nine, in dark blue dress with gold buttons, white lace collar, white stockings; he is directed to left, and is looking at spectator nearly full face, fair hair. Boyle's Court Guide of 1817 gives the addresses of **Christopher Idle** as 6 Adelphi Terrace, Southfield Lodge, Eastbourne, and Southgate, whilst those of George Idle are 12 Lower Seymour Street, and Southfield Lodge.

Richard Brydges, born May 17, 1808, entered the Navy in 1822, and after an adventurous and varied career was appointed admiral; he married Frideswaide M. M. Smyth, eldest daughter of Robert Smyth, Esq., of Portlich Castle, Co. Westmeath.

He was an accomplished painter of sea views, and exhibited at the Royal Academy from 1832 to 1877, at the British Institution from 1833 to 1859, and at the Society of British Artists, 18345.

He lived for several years at Plymouth, and many of his pictures are still in that town; he died in 1895.

Sir William Beechey 's youngest child, Jane, appears to have died in infancy.

John Kingston Debretts Baronetage vol 2 p.1045

Valentine Knightley of Fawsley esq MP for Northamptonshire b.1718 married Eliabeth dau of Edward Drummer of Waitland co Hants and had five sons (eldest named Lucy!) and two daughters.

- 1 Eliabeth Knightley m John Wellis Fleming of Stonham Park, Hants
- 2 Jane Knightley m John Kingston of Belmont, East Barnet co Hants, MP for Lymington
m 18 May 1748 at St Marylebone - FS

Salisbury Journal Sat 29 Feb 1812

On Tuesday 25th inst was married, at the house of Lady Rooke at Lymington, Lucy Henry Kingston esq second son of John Kingston esq MP of Belmont in co Hants, to Frances Sophie Rooke second dau of the late Hon Justice Rooke

BS snips

- 1 two new independent candidates, London wine merchants, Kingston and Thomas Warre
- 2 Fletcher who in 1802 gave to two new challengers, London wine merchants John Kingston and Thomas Warre of East Barnet