



## LOCAL SERVANTS OF THE EAST INDIA COMPANY AND OFFICERS OF THE INDIAN ARMY

### Colonel Henry Malcolm 1749 - 1834

Commissioned as an Ensign to the Madras Army in 1767. He was Adjutant-General to EIC troops at Coromandel, made Colonel 1st January 1798, retired 27th April 1798.

Purchased Ford Manor, Dormans Land in 1801 from Sir Thomas Turton, 1st Baronet, he sold the estate to John F. Elphinstone in 1826. Died in London 21st March 1834, aged 85.

### John Fullerton Elphinstone 1788 - 1854

Eldest son of William Elphinstone, a Director of the East India Company. John Elphinstone went out to Canton, China, in 1794 where he was employed by the EIC as a Writer. After serving his apprenticeship he was promoted to Supracargo, overseeing the cargo of EIC ships. He continued to serve the Company until his retirement, then as President of China Select Committee, on 18th March 1818.

John Elphinstone was regularly afflicted by illness as a result of his time in China. As a result he led a fairly secluded life, becoming progressively more of a recluse as he grew older. Sometime before 1822 he engaged the permanent services of Ho Chee (q.v.) who came from Canton to live in England. Elphinstone depended increasingly on Ho Chee, who eventually managed his estates and became a trusted personal servant. In his later years Elphinstone employed 3 Chinese in his household.

John Elphinstone's town house was York Terrace, Regents Park. He purchased his home in the country, Ford Manor, Dormans Land, in 1826. As his health deteriorated he purchased a lease on a house in Brighton. His Chinese servants accompanied him on his travels between London, Dormans Land and Brighton.

He died unmarried on 12th March 1854 at a leased house in Brighton and is buried in the Extramural Cemetery, Brighton.

**Ho Chee - later - John Hochee c. 1790 - 1869**

Ho Chee was born at Hyan-Shan, China, sometime between 1789 and 1791. He became an employee in some capacity of the East India Company in Canton and Macao.

According to his Denization petition he first came to England in August 1819, although he may have returned to China briefly, returning to settle in England in the summer of 1822. In 1822 Ho Chee took up a post as John Fullerton Elphinstone's personal servant. At that time he acquired an additional first name, 'John', his Chinese family name 'Ho' was joined to his personal name 'Chee' thus Ho Chee became 'John Hochee'.

Hochee's first home in England was at Braughing in Hertfordshire. On 9th January 1823 he married Charlotte Mole in the Parish Church at Braughing. John and Charlotte had two daughters born at Braughing, although the younger daughter was baptised at Lingfield Church in July 1826. They had 6 further children, all born and baptised in Lingfield.

John Hochee became a trusted employee, taking over the land management of Elphinstone's estates in Dormans Land in the parish of Lingfield. John and his family resided at Nortons (now Morven House), Dormans Land. John Hochee was depended on to such a large extent that Elphinstone, recognising his service and loyalty, made him the main beneficiary in his will.

John Hochee died at Brighton on 1st March 1869 and was buried in the plot next to his patron and benefactor, John Fullerton Elphinstone, in a Brighton cemetery.

Charlotte Hochee died 1st July 1882 and was buried in Lingfield Churchyard with John and Charlotte's daughter, Jane, who had died in 1846. A memorial to John Hochee, in Chinese text, is on the tombstone.

**John Elphinstone Fatqua Hochee 1828 - 1883**

**(otherwise known as Lieutenant John Elphinstone Milton)**

The eldest son of John and Charlotte Hochee, born 12th June 1828. According to his application papers for military service, John was educated by Mr Matthews of Camberwell Green, in Classics and Mathematics.

In 1844 John Elphinstone Fatqua Hochee was recommended, by John F. Elphinstone, for the East India Company's Military College at Addiscombe, Croydon, but under the name John Elphinstone MILTON; it seems likely that his Chinese name would have hampered his career with the East India Company. John adopted his maternal grandmother's maiden name. His application stated that he was the son of John Milton, farmer, Nortons, East Grinstead. A sworn affidavit by the Minister officiating at his Lingfield baptism, who was the former EIC Chaplain at Penang, remains with India Office Records at the British Library, it confirms that: "the John Elphinstone Fatqua baptised by me on 7th May 1831 is identical with John Milton now appointed cadet".

John E. Milton was commissioned Ensign on 11th December 1846. Before joining his Regiment, the 9th Regiment of Madras Native Infantry, John presented his parents with a family bible. In April 1847 John joined the Regiment in Madras but did not take to

## LOCAL SERVANTS OF THE EAST INDIA COMPANY

the climate and took sick leave between August 1848 and the beginning of 1851. Two further periods of sick leave caused him to retire from the service on 27th August 1855, with the rank of Lieutenant. John was with his Regiment for about 28 months out of a total of 8 years in the Madras Army.

In 1882 John Elphinstone Milton gave 100 pounds to the New Church Fund, Dormans Land.

John Elphinstone Fatqua Hochee (otherwise John Elphinstone Milton) died 22nd April 1883 at Wimpole Street, London. He was buried in Lingfield Churchyard.

### **Colonel James Pattison St Clair 1780 - 1867**

Married (1) Charlotte, daughter of Michael Head of Halifax, Nova Scotia  
(2) Susannah, daughter of Sir Thomas Turton, 1st Baronet, Lingfield, Surrey

Colonel in Royal Artillery. Living at Felcourt Lodge, Lingfield (1st July 1853).  
Purchased Farindons later that same year.

Trustee, with Joseph Spencer Judge, of the Felcourt estates of Sir Thomas Edward Mitchell Turton, 2nd (and last) Baronet. "Lands to be preserved for the benefit of all or any of the 10 children of Sir Thomas Edward Mitchell Turton" (Deed 24th November 1843).

James Pattison St Clair died January 1867, aged 87 and was buried at Lingfield.

### **Colonel William Augustus St Clair 1810 - 1879**

Eldest son of James Pattison St Clair, born 8th October 1810, baptised St Paul's, Halifax, Nova Scotia 17th December.

Received military training at EIC Cadet College, Addiscombe 1825 - 27.  
Commissioned 2nd Lieutenant Bombay Artillery 15th June 1827, Lieutenant 28th May 1833.

Campaign service (Afghanistan): Ghazni 23rd July 1839; Kabul 7th August 1839;  
Kujjuck 20th February 1841 (medal).

Married Emma, 3rd daughter of George Crawshay, 1846. Lived at The Beacon, Dormans Land.

Retired from the East India Company's service in February 1851.

Captain Royal Sussex Artillery Militia 10th May 1853; Hon. Major 1854; Lieutenant Colonel Commanding 2nd May 1861.

He died at The Beacon and was buried at Lingfield 13th November 1879.

### **Lieutenant James Louis St Clair 1816 - 1886**

Second son of James Pattison St Clair, born 10th September 1816, baptised St Paul's, Halifax, Nova Scotia, 8th October 1816.

## LOCAL SERVANTS OF THE EAST INDIA COMPANY

Cambridge University, Corpus Christi College 21st April 1834. Commissioned, Ensign 17th Madras Native Infantry, 1838. Lieutenant 3rd Oct 1840. Retired 10th November 1849.

Married Juliet, 2nd daughter of George Crawshay, 28th June 1848.

Died 2nd April 1886.

### **Captain David John St Clair 1819 - 1866**

Third son of James Pattison St Clair of Felcourt Lodge, Surrey, born 18th September 1819. Baptised privately Plumstead, Kent.

Received military training at EIC Cadet College, Addiscombe 1837 - 39.

Commissioned 11th June 1839, Ensign, 13th Bombay Native Infantry. Lieutenant 1841, Captain 1850. Resigned in India 1st June 1856.

Married Harriet Anne Bond at Karachi, 4th Sept 1845.

He died at Chadarghat, Hyderabad, 4th June 1866.

### **Sir Thomas Edward Mitchell Turton 2nd (and last) Baronet. 1790 - 1854**

Barrister. Registrar of the Supreme Court of Calcutta 1841 - 48.

September 1842 married Maria Louisa Hume Denman.

By 1853 was living on the Island of Ceylon.

Sir Thomas being indebted and Insolvent in 1848, presented his petition to the Court for the relief of insolvent debtors at Fort William, Bengal. On 22nd February 1849, relief was granted. Another Court at Calcutta ordered that the real and personal estate and effects of Sir Thomas Edward Mitchell Turton, both within the limits of the Charter of the East India Company and without, except the wearing apparel and certain other chattels, were to be offered for sale at Public Auction.

Lands in Lingfield were included in the above order. At the beginning of the 19th century the estates of Thomas Turton (the 1st Baronet) included Starborough, Ford and Felcourt, but by 1817 only the Felcourt estate remained, plus various farm lands at Clay and Plaistow. The majority of the then Turton estates at Felcourt were subject to trust administration for the benefit of Sir Thomas's 10 children. The remainder of his lands at Clays Farm, Apsley Town, Dormans Land, and at Plaistow, Lingfield were sold to pay creditors. On 1st July 1853, Charles Hollington of Godstone, Superintendent of Police, purchased at Public Auction Lot 2, being cottages and gardens in Plaistow in several tenements for the sum of 500 pounds.

### **Lieutenant General Thomas Trevor Turton 1830 - n.k.**

Natural son of Sir Thomas Edward Mitchell Turton and Adeline Maria St Clair.

Born at sea off Ushant (Isle de Ouessant, west of Brest) on board the East Indiaman 'Carolina', 29th July 1830.

Educated by Rev. E F Neville Rolfe, Herts.

Commissioned, Ensign 47th Madras Native Infantry, 26th June 1848; Lieutenant 1853; Captain 1859; Major 1868; Lieutenant Colonel 1874; Colonel 1879; Major General 1889; Lieutenant General 1897.

**Lieutenant Colonel John Palmer Turton 1832 - n.k.**

Natural son of Sir Thomas Edward Mitchell Turton and Adeline Maria St Clair.  
Born Calcutta 7th June 1832, baptised there 3rd January 1833. Baptised again 7th January 1838 at Lingfield.

Marlborough College, private tutor Richard Mann.

Aunt and Guardian, Miss Sarah Turton, Oaklands, Felcourt, Lingfield [The Turton Charity was created in memory of Sarah Turton, 1789 - 1860]

Nominated for a Commission by Elliott MacNaughton on the recommendation of uncle, James Pattison St Clair, Felcourt Lodge.

Commissioned, Ensign 26th Bengal Native Infantry 9th December 1848; Lieutenant 10th Feb 1856; Captain 1861; transferred to 4th Gurkhas 1864; Major 1868; Lieutenant Colonel 9th December 1874.

**Major Thomas Jackson 1805 - 1869**

Born 1805, 4th son of Rev. Gilbert Jackson, D.D., Rector of Donhead St Mary.  
Commissioned Ensign 10th Regiment Bombay Native Infantry 3rd January 1825.  
Married Frances Elizabeth, daughter of Commander John G. M. McKillop, R.N.

At the Census of Lingfield, 1851, Major Jackson's wife, Frances, and their 2 children, John aged 4 and Mary aged 1, were staying at Felcourt Lodge, the home of Colonel James Pattison St Clair. The Census records that both John and Mary were born "British Subjects in East Indies". Also staying at the house were 2 sisters of Frances and the children's nurse. India Office records show that both John and Mary Jackson were born and baptised in the Diocese of Bombay. Thomas and Frances had 5 further children.

Major Thomas Jackson retired from military service 23rd May 1854. He died 17th August 1869, "very suddenly" at Harbledown Lodge, Canterbury.

**Lieutenant General Henry James Barr 1815 - 1881**

Born Bombay 8th April 1815, the son of Lieutenant Colonel David Barr (Bombay Army), Town Adjutant.

Trained Addiscombe College 1830 - 32. Commissioned in 2nd Bombay European Rifles. Married in Bombay 30th March 1840, Eliza Helen Alicea, daughter of Lieutenant Colonel James Keith, 9th Bombay Native Infantry (who died 1839, in camp at Soornee, during the retreat from Kabul).

Lieutenant General Henry Barr died at Apsley Town, Dormans Land, 17th May 1881.

**2nd Lieutenant Henry James Outram Barr 1861 - 1880**

Born 7th January 1861, the youngest son of Lieutenant General James Barr. He trained for the Indian Civil Service but then decided to join the army.

He trained at Sandhurst, where he was appointed Hon. Queen's India Cadet in February 1879. Commissioned, 2nd Lieutenant 66th (Berkshire) Regiment of Foot, 14th January 1880.

Killed at Maiwand, near Gandahar, in the 2nd Afghan War, 27th July 1880, whilst carrying the Regimental Colour, aged 19.

The font in the Parish Church at Dormans Land was given in his memory by Captain and the Misses Barr, his brother and two sisters.

### **Surgeon General Charles Planck 1831 - 1918**

Guy's Hospital, M.R.C.S. 1855. Commissioned Assistant Surgeon Bengal Medical Service 1855.

Service Record: Indian Mutiny 1857 - 58; Second Relief of Lucknow, November 1857; Action at Cawnpur (medal).

Surgeon 1867, F.R.C.S. Edinburgh 1881; Surgeon General 1881, Retired from Service 1886. M.R.C.P. London 1888.

Between 1902 and 1914 Surgeon General Charles Planck, J.P., was Churchwarden of the Church of St John the Evangelist, Dormans Land.

He died at Lyden Croft, Edenbridge, 23rd August 1918, and was buried at Dormans Land.

### **Reverend William Hunter Ross, M.A. 1808 - 1844**

Junior Chaplain of St James Church, Calcutta, Bengal, from December 1843. He died on 7th August 1844, aged 36 years. The Bengal Obituary reads:

"...The deceased clergyman was of a very humble turn of mind, and his intercourse with his parishioners was characterised by great good nature. On Sunday 4th August he was at his post, and on Tuesday following he complained of feeling ill, and died the following day of apoplexy."

Rev. Ross was buried on the day of his death at North Park St Burial Ground, Calcutta. At the time of his death his wife, Frances Louisa, was pregnant. Their daughter was born in Calcutta on 20th December 1844. The baby was baptised on 15th January 1845 with the name William Euphemia Frances Ross.

At the Census of Lingfield, 1851, his wife Frances Louisa Ross, then aged 35, and their daughter, William aged 6, were living at Felcourt. Staying with them at the time were 2 male children, aged 6 and 7, and their nurse.

## LOCAL SERVANTS OF THE EAST INDIA COMPANY

### Acknowledgements and Bibliography:

British Library, Oriental and India Office Collection; Elphinstone Collection

The National Army Museum, Hodson Index

The National Archives (P.R.O.), War Office Records

Surrey History Centre, Ref: 6874/2

*India Britannica* by Geoffrey Moorhouse, 1983

*The East India Company: Trade and Conquest from 1600* by Anthony Wild, 1999

*Hochee and Elphinstone* by Guy Duncan, 2003 (Guy Duncan is the great, great grandson of John Hochee)