

The Stained Glass Windows in Church of St Alkelda, Giggleswick

The Geldard family

Window photographs © Christine Chandler

GELDARD WINDOW DATED 1865

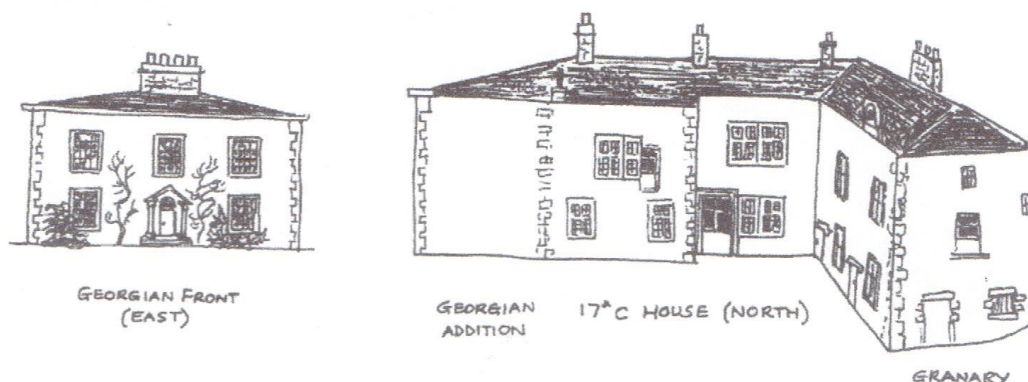


Two brass plaques mounted on the sill beneath the window bear the following inscriptions:

'To the glory of the Ever Blessed Trinity and in affectionate remembrance of his father, **John Geldard** of Cappleside, died February 17th 1852. Also **Frances Anne Geldard** his wife, who died October 19th 1859. This window was placed here by **C.J. Geldard**.

Also to the memory of his mother **Elizabeth Geldard** who died April 25th 1868 aged 81.

Christopher John Geldard who placed this window to the glory of God and in memory of his wife, father and mother, died at **Cappleside** Feb. 3rd 1869 aged 51'.



Cattleside, Rathmell, North Yorkshire

Cattleside derives from the Old Norse word kapall meaning horse; side refers to hillside. The earliest record of the name found is in the Parish Register of Giggleswick which declares the baptism of **John**, son of **William Carr** de Caplesyde (one of several different spellings) in December 1565. Cattleside was purchased by **John Geldard** in 1827. However, there is a map of "**Nicholas Geldard's Estate**" dated 1793, which appears to include Cattleside House and surrounding land. Was he already the owner of the house at this date? The oldest part of the present building probably dates back to the late 17th century.

The **Geldards**, were yeoman farmers who had moved from Aigden, Wigglesworth into Rathmell in about 1750. Amazingly, since then Cattleside has been continuously occupied by the family, except for twenty-two years from the start of the Second World War. During the war it was occupied by the Land Army, and subsequently for some years let to tenants.

John Geldard (1779-1852), son of Nicholas and Hannah married **Elizabeth Abbotson** (1787-1868) and had at least 5 children. In 1851 John describes himself as a 'Landed Proprietor' living with his wife **Elizabeth** as well as their 2 unmarried daughters **Hannah** age 39 and **Elizabeth** age 31 as well as employing a groom and 3 house servants. Life must have been clean and fairly comfortable! When **Elizabeth** died in 1868 her will was proved by her son **Christopher John Geldard** of Cappleside, Gentleman leaving effects of under £600.

Francis Ann Geldard nee **Openshaw** (1827-1859) was from Bury, the daughter of Elizabeth and John a (publican in 1827 and a spinner in 1848) so she had quite a step up marrying **Christopher John Geldard** in 1848. Wonder how they met? No matter, they had at least 7 children!

Christopher John Geldard (C.J. Geldard) (1817-1869) who donated this window, was a successful local Solicitor, huntsman and investor. When the railway network was being established across the UK in the mid 1800's, he was fully supportive and as well as becoming a shareholder, he also became a Director in the Blackburn, Clitheroe and North West Junction Railway.



In 1846 in an announcement from Whitehall, **Christopher John Geldard** was appointed by The Hon. Sir Thomas Wilde, Knt., Lord Chief Justice of Her Majesty's Court of Common Pleas, in the county of York, to be one of the Perpetual Commissioners for taking the acknowledgements of deeds to be executed by married women, under the act passed for the abolition of fines and recoveries, and for the substitution of more simple modes of assurance, in and for the West Riding of the county of York.

In 1853 at the Golden Lion Hotel Settle, he was honoured for his valuable services as hon.sec with a silver tea kettle with stand and a claret jug with the following inscription "Presented to **Christopher John Geldard** Esq., by the members of the North Ribblesdale Agricultural Society, as a mark of gratitude for his many years services, and of esteem for him as a friend and neighbour". In 1873 his daughter Elizabeth (1852-1932) married at Rathmell Church **Edward Kelly Purnell** son of the late W.A. Purnell, physician-general Bombay Army.

In 1868, the year before he died, he was appointed as Member of the Board of Conservators of the Ribble Fishery District of York. His will was proved at Wakefield leaving an estate of under £18,000, a sizeable amount in those days.

Sadly he wasn't to see his daughter **Elizabeth** marry in 1873 at Rathmell Church to **Edward Kelly Purnell**, son of the late W.A. Purnell, physician-general Bombay Army. He becomes a school master and by 1911 they are retired and living in Windlesham, Surrey with 3 of their 4 children, 2 unmarried sons of 34 and 35 as well as their aptly named unmarried daughter, **Francis Emily Innocent Purnell** age 35!

NOTE: Several members of the **GELDARD** family are buried in the family vault (Memorial C5/19) immediately in front of the **GELDARD** windows.

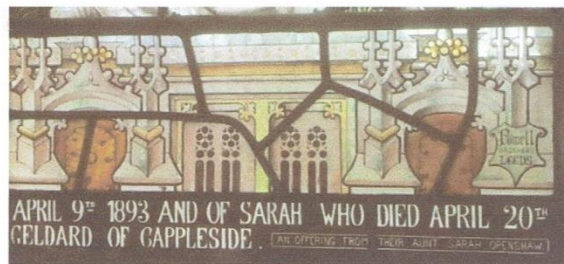
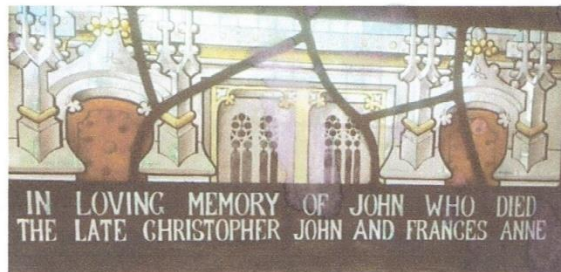
Burials inside churches were not permitted after 1852 but it is interesting to record that during the restoration of the church in the early 1890's, a large number of bones were found to have been buried under the floor of the north isle. The family vaults of Carr, Lister, Paley, Dawson, **Geldard** and possibly others were presumably left intact at this time.

GELDARD WINDOW DATED 1893



GELDARD WINDOW DATED 1893

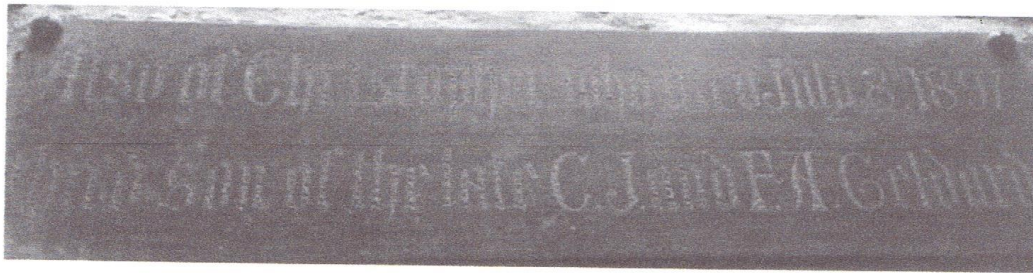
DEDICATIONS



'TO THE GLORY OF THIS EVER BLESSED TRINITY AND IN LOVING
MEMORY OF **JOHN** WHO DIED APRIL 9TH 1893 AND OF **SARAH** WHO
DIED APRIL 20TH 1878, ELDEST SON AND YOUNGEST DAUGHTER OF THE
LATE **CHRISTOPHER JOHN** AND **FRANCES ANNE GELDARD** OF
CAPPLESIDE'

AN OFFERING FROM THEIR AUNT **SARAH OPENSHAW**

A brass plaque fixed beneath the window bears the following inscription:



'Also of **Christopher** who died July 8th 1897,
third son of the late **C.J.** and **F.A. Geldard.**'

This window is in memory of 3 of the children of **Christopher John** and **Frances Anne Geldard** who all lived to adulthood but died in the 1800's.

~ 0 ~

1) John Geldard (1850-1893) JP & Barrister at Law. Presumably although baptised as **John Geldard**, as first born he may have been known both as **John** and **Christopher John** after his father. (*Not to be confused with his brother below of a similar name!*) He married **Laura Elizabeth** nee **Fowler** in 1887 at Harlow, Essex. They had 3 children. **John** is recorded as being a member of local grouse shoots. Sadly **John** died aged only 42 at St Leonards on Sea, Sussex leaving his effects of £3190.10s.9d. to his widow **Laura**

2) Sarah Geldard (1854-1878) Sadly **Sarah** died unmarried aged only 24. The 1861 census reveals that apart from her immediate family, there was also a Governess, a Game Keeper, Helper in Stables, Cook, Nurse, Housemaid, Under Nurse and a Kitchen Maid living at Cappleside, Rathmell.

3) Christopher Gerald Geldard (1858-1897). Christopher like his siblings, was initially privately educated by a governess at home before attending Giggleswick school where he was in 1st XV Football team. After leaving school, in 1877 he was admitted to Trinity College, Cambridge where he obtained a BA in Mathematics in 1881.

In 1883 when he was 24, **Christopher** married **Janet Stuart Humphry** (1863-1950) the daughter of **Joseph T. Humphrey**, a Barrister-at-law of Prince's Square, Kensington London. They set up home in Cambridge and had 6 children. He obtained his MA in 1884 later becoming an Inspector of the Royal College of Science in the Birmingham district. In 1892 he was a Councillor for Trinity Ward and the following year he narrowly missed out on being elected Esquire Bedell, junior ceremonial officer, at the University of Cambridge. He died in Birmingham 1897 and was buried in Cambridge with his family. See below:



THE GELDARD MONUMENT IN CAMBRIDGE

(Cont 1893/4)

Christopher Geldard born Sep 28 1884 died May 16 1939

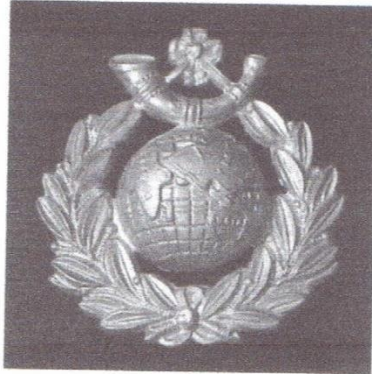
Capt John Geldard born Dec 4 1885 died Aug 20 1918

(Also a brass plaque set into stone in St Alkeda's Church

*'Remembrance John **Geldard** Captain. Royal Marines Light Infantry.*

*Second son of Christopher & Janet S. **Geldard**.*

*Born 4 Dec 1885. Died on active service 20th August 1918'
whilst Captain on HMS Europa.*



Regiment/Corps/Service Badge: Royal Marines Light Infantry

Stephen H. Geldard born Aug 2 1896 died March 11 1940

Christopher Gerald Geldard born 13 Mar 1858 died April 8 July 1897

Janet Stuart Geldard (*nee Humphrey*) (wife of **Christopher**)

born (24 May) 1863 died (17 Nov) 1950

Sarah Openshaw the Aunt (*of Irwell House, Bury, Lancs*) who so generously gave the window was likely the sister of **John Openshaw**, father of **Francis Ann Geldard** nee **Openshaw** (1827-1859).