

The Armisteads of Robert Hall, Bentham

John Armistead was born in 1734 at the monastery in Sawley if the details he provided at his wedding were correct. In 1761 he married **Grace Baldwin**. From this union several branches of the family named girls 'Grace Baldwin Armistead'. John and Grace took over Robert Hall, an impressive 17th century manor house near Low Bentham with over 300 acres of land. In the 17th century, Robert Hall was owned by John Cansfield - the property bears the Cansfield coat of arms. He was a Catholic and is stated to have saved the lives King Charles and his son by a decisive charge at the second battle of Newbury on 10 October 1644. He was made a knight. Robert Hall even has a priest hole! Obviously the building was later confiscated by parliament.



The drawing dated 1856 indicates that the building today is relatively unspoilt since that time.

John and Grace owned the building in the later 18th century. Their four sons were respected tradesmen in the area, and their daughter married into a wealthy farming family in Rathmell. Their (wealthy) son William remained a bachelor. His will was very helpful in detailing family relationships.

John and Grace's youngest son, **Hugh Armistead**, and his wife Jenny Clapham took over Robert Hall with his brother William, describing themselves as 'landed proprietors'. Hugh and Jenny had two sons, **John** and **William Armistead** and six daughters. Hugh and Jenny both died in 1853 and have an impressive family tomb in Bentham. They are buried with their eldest daughter Ann, youngest daughter Jane and Hugh's brother William.



John Armistead [ph1] was the eldest son and became a draper who ran his business in the Market Place in Settle [SC]. He was also a Director of the Settle Gas Company.



In 1841, John married **Ellen Harger**, the third of seven daughters of **William Harger**, a farmer and his wife Mary Holden. They had a comfortable lifestyle - their four children were privately educated and they had several servants attending to their needs in each census return.

John died, aged just 45, leaving an estate of well over £1million in today's value. Ellen was well provided for.

In memory of John Armistead of Settle born January 28th 1819, died March 7th 1864. Also Ellen, wife of the above born Aug 7th, 1816, died Dec 28th 1885 laid to rest at Shelford. Also Annie Elizabeth Orford their daughter died at Bloemfontein, South Africa, July 5th 1897, aged 45 years. RIP, E10

SPRING & SUMMER FASHIONS.

JOHN ARMISTEAD,
Wholesale and Retail Draper,

SILK MERCER, &c.,

Begs to announce that his Stock is now replete with every novelty for the Season in

SHAWLS, MANTLES, DRESS MATERIALS,
and every description of Fancy Goods. His extensive Stock of
WOOLLEN CLOTHS,

has been replenished with the newest and cheapest Goods the Market can offer.

The remainder of last Summer's Stock of **SHAWLS, FANCY DRESSES, MUSLINS, DE LAINES, PRINTS, LIGHT TROUSERINGS,** and **VESTINGS, &c.,** is now being sold off at about **ONE HALF** their original price.

MARKET PLACE, SETTLE.



John is alone in the grave as Ellen died, aged 69, in Cambridgeshire near her daughter Annie.

Both of John and Ellen's daughters married very suitable Cambridge graduates:

Mary Jane Armistead married **Rev William Simpson Bamber**, the son of an inland revenue officer. William spent part of his childhood in Settle and attended Giggleswick School while his father worked in Settle. William was a Cambridge graduate and successful cleric and, after they married, worked as Headmaster at Appleby Grammar School in Leicestershire for nearly 20 years. [1]

Cambridge. On leaving college he held several curacies, one at the Parish Church, Burton. He was afterwards appointed second master of Walsall Grammar School, and from there he came to Appleby Grammar School eighteen years ago. He took an active interest in local affairs and was a member of the Measham District Conservative Association. On Sunday last he was announced to preach at the Sheepy Parish Church—but death's cold hand had stayed all his earthly engagements. It was his expressed wish that the funeral should be as plain as possible, and his desire in that respect was carried out by the widow. There were neither hearse nor mourning coaches, the body being born to the grave by villagers, and followed by the widow and relatives on foot. The afternoon was delightfully fine, and a

THE LATE REV. W. S. BAMBER.
We regret to announce the death of the Rev. W. S. Bamber, head-master of Appleby Grammar School, which took place at three o'clock on Friday morning at his residence. The deceased gentleman had suffered from an attack of the all-prevailing epidemic, influenza, which was followed by acute pneumonia, and, notwithstanding the skill and attention of four medical gentlemen who attended him, he quietly passed away at the above-mentioned hour. The sad tidings were received with intense regret throughout the village, all persons bearing testimony to the spotless character and inestimable qualities of the deceased gentleman. Mr. Bamber will not only be remembered as principal of the grammar school, in which capacity he has taught a large number of scholars (many of them coming from Tamworth), some of whom now hold high official positions, but as a preacher he exhibited talents of a high order, and his discourses were always listened to with delight and profit. About a fortnight ago, he occupied the pulpit of Measham Parish Church, on which occasion his services were highly appreciated and the last time he preached was at Appleby Church on the Sunday preceding his death when it is supposed he took a chill from which he never recovered. The deceased was born in a village in Yorkshire and educated at Giggleswick, near Settle, a famous Yorkshire school. From there he went to Trinity College,

William Simpson Bamber's youngest sister Elizabeth Simpson Bamber died in infancy and is also buried in the Ancient Graveyard in plot BX17.



John and Ellen's daughter Annie Elizabeth [ph2] married **Horace William Orford** who, for three years was working as second master at Appleby Grammar School at the same times as her brother-in-law William Simpson Bamber. Horace was another Cambridge graduate and cleric. They were to have at least 8 children.

After several years in Peterborough, Annie and Horace moved to Bloemfontein, South Africa where Horace took up a post as 'Principal of St Andrew's College and Canon at the Cathedral'. Annie died in 1897 of typhoid which also killed thousands of others. In the Boer War, the college was converted to a hospital with 620 beds, with Horace on ambulance duty. Horace is known for praying for peace and blaming the Dutch Reformed Church for the war. Horace lived until he was 89 [2].

John and Ellen's son William worked as a medical officer in Cambridgeshire. Their son Hugh may have been a military man - he had two daughters, one of whom was brought up by grandmother Ellen. His

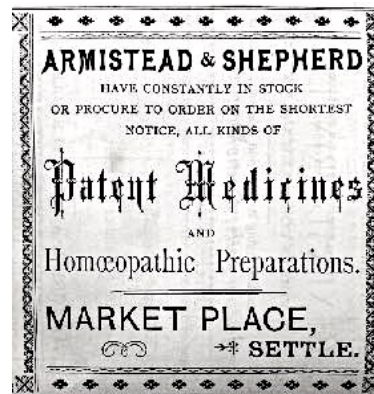
Peterborough people will realise the fratricidal nature of the Transvaal war by a circumstance relating to a former well-known and much esteemed resident in the city. The Rev. Horace Orford was for many years one of the most popular and energetic clergymen attached to St. Mark's Church, Peterborough. He left England some few years ago and became the president of a large educational establishment in Bloemfontein, where he and his family now reside. His son has now been commandeered by the Boers to fight on their side. Of course, there are many similar instances, which practically makes it to some extent a civil war, but when it comes to Peterborough men being pitted against Peterborough men, for with our Peterborough reserves there it amounts to that, the fact is brought home to us with startling reality.

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daughter Mary Alice worked as a gold embroideress, a very specialised occupation.

Hugh and Jenny's younger son, **William Armistead** along with *William Shepherd*, was apprenticed to druggist and grocer, **John Hayhurst**, who worked in Settle Town Hall [ph6]. John Hayhurst died in 1843, and the two William's continued his business at the Town Hall [LSA].

Settle Market (Sheep Market), photograph by the Horner Studio. Horner Collection©NCBPT (CC-BY 4.0)



William married **Maria Harger**, the younger sister of John's wife Ellen in 1848. William and Maria left the business in Settle and moved to Kendal, still trading as 'Armistead and Shepherd'. While William worked, Maria brought up three children. William died in 1862, aged just 38, and their only daughter **Mary Annie** died a year later aged 7. Maria was well provided for in William's will and spent her remaining 33 years alone in 'Castle Villa' in Kendal. She died aged 82.

Their sons **John** and **Hugh** were also chemists and worked in partnership in Dalton in Furness. Hugh was recorded as the owner of 'houses in Castle Hill' from 1912 until High's death in 1921. His listing on the register coincides with the death of his mother. These houses had originally been the property of Isabella Harger, the wife of *Richard Harger*, so it seems the Castle Hill houses stayed in the family.

John and Hugh were both confirmed bachelors, although after brother John died, 62 year old Hugh eventually married his housekeeper **Eleanora Mounsey**, a 37 year old mason's daughter. Eleanor was the beneficiary of this branch of the Armistead estate, lucky girl!

John and Grace's daughter **Bridget Armistead** married **Henry Clark**, the owner of Millgate House in Rathmell. They had six daughters, each of whom married and have interesting stories. Their granddaughter Bridget Holden married Anthony Beverley, who, together with his brother Christopher Lodge Beverley set up the award winning Beverley Brewery



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[ph7] in Wakefield which operated until 1967 when it was taken over by Watney Mann. Christopher Lodge Beverley died in 1887 - his family contributed money for one of the eight new bells at Holy Ascension church and paid for an inscription on the tenor bell. Part of the inscription reads:

When the priest's voice silent falls
Loudly mine his people calls
Him of pious name I sing I
Christopher Lodge Beverley.



John and Grace's son eldest son John had a grandson Henry who also found himself in Settle.



Armistead / Armitstead - what's in name?

Early records for this family use both versions on formal records. Spelling was just not as important in the 17th and 18th centuries as few people could read. 19th century records for this family are all in the name of Armistead.



This account has been compiled as part of the Settle Graveyard Project which has recorded gravestone inscriptions, updated church records and researched the lives of those buried. Life stories can be found on dalescommunityarchives.org.uk, 'settle graveyard project'. The 'Old Settle' family tree on ancestry.co.uk includes the families buried in the graveyard. The project is ongoing and welcomes queries and information on settleresearch@gmail.com. Latest news and events are on the Facebook page 'Settle Graveyard Project'.

Newspaper cuttings by kind permission of the British Newspaper Archives: 1 – Tamworth Herald, 2 – Peterborough Advertiser, 3 – Leamington Spa Courier, 4 – The Stage, 5 – Yorkshire Post, 6 – Lancashire Evening Post, 7 – Lancaster Gazette.

SC – Settle Chronicle, LSA – Lambert's Settle Almanac with kind permission of the North Craven Buildings Preservation Trust

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The life stories of people with italicised names have been researched as part of the graveyard project.