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This Association was formed in October 1976 to bring together people with a concern for the many hundreds of European cemeteries, isolated graves and monuments in South Asia. There is a steadily growing membership of nearly a thousand, drawn from a wide circle of interest - Government; Churches; Services; Business; Museums; Historical and Genealogical Societies, etc. More members are needed to support the rapidly expanding activities of the Association - the setting up of local Branches in India, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Burma, Ceylon, Malaysia etc., the building up of a Record file in the India Office Library and Records; and many other projects for the preservation of historical and architectural monuments.

The annual subscription rate is £2 with an enrolment fee of £8. There are special rates for joint membership (husband and wife), for life membership and for associate membership. Full details obtainable from the Secretary.

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Vol 4 #1 April 1985

THE BOMBAY CHURCH

Although Bombay was received by Britain as part of the dowry of Catherine of Braganza when she married Charles II, it was not until 1718 that the church there was established. Known simply at first as the 'Bombay Church' (now the Cathedral of St. Thomas), the 18th century building stands not far from the Taj Hotel along Churchgate Street.

As early as 1672 Sir Gerald Aungier, President of the East India Company's factories, who was virtual ruler of Bombay, had begun work on the church and gifted one of the chalices in 1675 but after his death, interest flagged and was not revived until the arrival of the Rev. Richard Cobbe, appointed chaplain to the town's garrison. Cobbe found that services were being held in a room at the Fort and in his sermons he impressed on the congregation the necessity of a suitable church. After one such peroration the Governor approached him saying 'Well if you think we must have a church, we must have a church. Do you get a book made and see that everyone will contribute towards it'. So a substantial sum was raised by the subscription method and the foundation stone laid.

The new church prospered under Cobbe, but he was soon quarrelling with the Governor's Council and criticising them in his sermons. The chaplain was subsequently suspended from the Company's service and returned to England where he wrote an account of the church he had helped found. In 1836 Bombay Church became the cathedral of the diocese and its low belfry was converted into a high tower. A chancel was added later but the nave and western part of the church are the earliest works and possess great dignity and elegance. Just a few of the notable people commemorated within are: Jonathan Duncan (1811) Governor for sixteen years, whose memorial shows him receiving the blessings of young Hindus - a reference to Duncan's efforts at suppressing infanticide in some districts near Benares and Kathiawar; Col. John Campbell, defender of Mangalore against Tippu in 1784; and John Carnac (1780) and his wife Eliza Rivett.

Many other details of interest about the Bombay Church are contained in Ruskin Bond's article received recently and by chance BACSA has also been sent an item which first appeared in 'The Times of India' on Christmas Eve 1884. Headed 'Curious Discoveries' it relates how some workmen in the employ of Messrs. Burjorjee Rustomjee & Co., whilst excavating the foundations for new officers' quarters in the Marine Lines found several tombstones at a depth of about three feet and in one instance, some human remains. The first stone, four feet long and two and a half wide bore the inscription 'Here lieth the body of Elizabeth Manhison who departed this life on the 25th day of June 1767 aged 21 years'. The next, larger stone was inscribed 'Here lieth the body of Bell Carleton, Esq., senior merchant in the Hon'ble Company's service at Bombay, who departed this life on April 10th, 1783, aged about 31 years'. A further much broken and battered stone noted a merchant who died in 1781, and since the stones were found

far apart from each other, it was concluded that the site marked that of an old English cemetery, which appears to be contemporary with the Bombay Church.

Still in Bombay a corresponding member Fr. John Correia-Afonso had an interesting article published recently about Garcia de Orta, known as the founder of modern Indian botany. De Orta was born about 1501 in Portugal and his parents were either new Christians or Jewish converts to Christianity. De Orta studied at Salamanca and Alcala university and gained a degree in medicine. He was able to take up a post as temporary lecturer in Lisbon University in natural philosophy while still continuing to practice medicine. But a wave of anti-Jewish feeling swept through the country, with consequent harassment of the 'new Christians' and de Orta decided to leave for India, where he planned to investigate new and exotic plants. Landing in Goa in 1534 he travelled along the coast to Cambay and visited Elephanta, Bassein, Diu and Cochin.

Settling later in Goa, de Orta had a lucrative practice as a doctor and lived well in a house near the centre of the city - probably on the Rua dos Namorados, having a fine garden and orchard, and a good library and museum. He soon became the physician and friend of viceroys and kings. But religious persecution pursued de Orta and in 1549 he moved to Bombay where he was granted the lordship of the city and built for himself the quinta or manor house on the actual Bombay Castle site in the fort area, behind the present Town Hall. From his garden there de Orta wrote a great treatise on drugs and 'medicinal things' of India which was published in 1563. He died in Goa in 1568 but sadly his grave is not honoured as it should be for he was condemned posthumously as a crypto-Jew and in 1580 his remains were disinterred and consigned to the flames. But as his work became better known and appreciated for its empirical and scientific character, his fame became secure and he is renowned today for his original work.

THE MAIL BOX

Twenty years ago the British Embassy in Peking was attacked and burnt at the beginning of the Chinese Cultural Revolution. Very few papers survived the fire but among those that did were a few letters from a Mr. S.E. Elliston of the China Engineers, Shanghai, to a Mr. J.R. Jones of the Hong Kong and Shanghai Banking Corporation, Hong Kong. Mr. Elliston had personally visited a number of old British Cemeteries in China and had prepared lists of tombstones. Any record of such cemeteries is all the more precious today since most, if not all graves of foreigners were deliberately destroyed during the Cultural Revolution. Diligent enquiry by BACSA's Chairman Vincent Davies, who recently visited China and India has resulted in a list of European graves in the Kakchiow Cemetery, Swatow (the modern Shantou, some two hundred miles up coast from Hong Kong.) The list was deposited with the Hong Kong Shanghai Bank by the treasurer of the Cemetery in

about 1951 and was found in the Bank's archives. Sixty-nine graves are noted in the neatly typed sheets and forty-three more were found either without names or illegible. The majority of names are British with a few Scandinavian and German men recorded, and a Muslim boy, Abdulla Jaffar, who died aged only six. It is therefore assumed that the Cemetery was non-denominational though it does not appear to include any Roman Catholics. The earliest grave is that of John Gage of Bromley, England who was drowned on 19 September 1855 aged thirty-four years and the latest is of Sarkis Lean Sahakian (an Armenian) who died in 1934 aged thirty-two.

There are a few sad infant burials, including that of Reginald Julian Hance, who lived only ten days in July 1912 and Wallace Turner Blair who died in 1911 at ten months. But the majority are of sea-faring people like George L. Ramsey, Chief Engineer ss. 'Pharmacy' who died at sea on 21 May 1898 aged forty-two and Henry Girdlestone of Melbourne, Australia, apprentice aboard the British barons' 'James Wilson' who was killed 'from a fall from aloft' on 24 September 1873. Several deaths by drowning are recorded like that of Thomas Martin O'Sullivan in 1906 who left a wife and daughter, Eileen, and Marine engineers, Charter Masters, Captains, Customs officials and officers were buried here too.

A number of missionaries are noted. The Rev. William Ridel M.A., M.D. was a medical missionary in the Hakka country who was born in Cushnie, Aberdeenshire on 5 March 1853, arrived in Swatow in 1881 and died in Wuking Fu on 18 October 1910. A fellow countrywoman, Agnes Gillespie Gibson who was born in Glasgow on 28 December 1852 worked in Swatow for twenty-two years as a missionary and died there on 13 January 1915. A few inscriptions are tantalizingly brief. Who was 'Kitty, born at Shanghai on 25 August 1874' and who died 5 October 1896? Or 'James McNair, died 3rd July 1907'? One or two names, like that of Catherine Maria Ricketts, born at Westbury near Clifton in 1842 who died at Chao Chow Foo in 1907 conjure up distant references to old Anglo-Indian families.

Because all these graves are now irretrievably lost, they have an added poignancy, which is why BACSA makes a special request for Mr. S.E. Elliston or any of his relatives to contact us, for there is a chance that other lists of European cemeteries in China may still exist and the names of Britons who died so far from home could be added to our Archives. Another BACSA member Desiree Battye was able to add a list of names of Europeans buried in the Shanghai cemetery, so our China records are growing slowly. A further source are graves or memorials in British cemeteries, often commemorating those who died in China but could not be brought home for burial. Ron Woollacott, Chairman of Friends of Nunhead Cemetery, London has recently prepared a splendid booklet entitled Graves of Oriental Interest at Nunhead Cemetery. Among many others he notes a memorial to Mary Jane Duval, eldest daughter of H.J.B. Duval and his wife Mary Ann, 'who suffered martyrdom on July 9th 1900 at Tai-Yuen Fu (North China). "Counted worthy to

suffer". One speculates that this Englishwoman was killed during the Boxer Rebellion. Another monument commemorates Lieut. Charles Gardner of the HMS Kestrel, who drowned whilst on duty off Formosa 17 July 1874, aged twenty-six.

An entertaining article arrived recently from an old BACSA member, Peter Hutton, first published in a Singapore magazine 'The Beam'. In it the author chronicles his long fascination with the British Cemetery at Fort Canning (recently the subject of a BACSA booklet by Major Alan Harfield) and tells us that he gets 'a great deal of pleasure in trying to find out more about the men, women and (so often children) whose names adorn the walls there'. He notes, for example the memorial to Mary Eliza Pickering who died in 1863. 'This monument is erected by a bereaved Mother as a tribute of affection to the Memory of her much loved child'. 'Could Mary have been the daughter of William Pickering?' speculates Mr. Hutton. Pickering was appointed first Protector of the Chinese in 1877 and came to Singapore as an interpreter in 1872, having worked in China for eight years before. 'Had he spent time in Singapore before 1864? If so, had he been married? And why is there no mention of a bereaved father on Mary's memorial?' Mr. Hutton enjoys piecing together the lives of the dead from their memorials, and he goes on to mention Charlotte Cashin who died in 1859 at the age of thirty-two. 'She probably led a blameless life, but in 1846 according to a report in the Singapore Free Press, her husband Charles Cashin, formerly a police constable had been found guilty of having received bribes from the keepers of gambling shops. Charlotte would then have been nineteen, so perhaps Charles was simply being over-zealous in finding money to support a new wife. He was sentenced to fifteen months in prison but had been re-instated as a special constable by the time of the serious Chinese riots in May 1854 when he had one of his fingers shot off'.

The Fort Canning Cemetery was used between 1823 and 1865 and contained more than 600 burials, about a third being Chinese Christians. 259 tablets survive today and the Cemetery is kept in good repair by the local Parks and Recreation Department. Peter Hutton concludes his article with a photograph and a puzzle - in one of the archways to the cemetery, designed in 1846 is a very small square tombstone which simply records 'Our Willie 25 Dec 1856' and is noted as 'a poignant reminder of a sad Christmas, guaranteed to tug at your heart-strings'.

From Dr. Dorothy and the Rev. Peter Millar comes a most interesting booklet relating the history of St. Mary's Church in Fort St. George, Madras, known as the 'oldest Anglican church east of Suez', being founded by Streynsham Master in 1680. The lovely church, whose tercentenary was noted in Chowkidar five years ago, is now being completely restored by the Archaeological Survey of the Government of India, who are re-plastering the interior in the traditional way using shell lime, fine river sand and jaggery to produce a durable, glossy mortar. Many celebrated people have been connected with St.

Mary's, including Elihu Yale, one time Governor of the Fort who set up the first hospital in Madras, and Robert Clive who was married there on 18 February 1753 to Margaret Maskelyne. It was here too that Job Charnock (the founder of Calcutta) had his three daughters baptized and the registers recording this can still be seen. In fact all the Registers of Baptisms, Marriages and Burials from 1680 survive - surely a unique record.

A heartfelt plea with very familiar overtones was made by the Vestry Officers of St. Mary's in 1710 about the neglected state of the adjoining cemetery. 'Every day' they wrote, 'it is prophaned and apply'd to the most vile and undecent uses...the Tombs have been made use of for the buffaloes' who were tethered there after a nearby stable was demolished. Another source of complaint were the coconut trees which were tapped by toddy-men who are 'employed there all the day and almost all the night in drawing and selling of Tody, so that we are oblig'd on their account to keep the gates always open, both by day and by night. And then about 8 o'clock at night after work is done, is such a resort of basketmakers, the scavengers, people that look after buffaloes and other parriahs to drink Tody, that all the Punch houses in Madras have not half the noise in them... beggars and other vagabondues (who know not where to goe) make use of tombs to lye in. And what unclean uses the neighbours thereabouts doe make of that place we forbear to tell'.

The early graveyard, which was known as 'The Guava Garden' is now occupied by the High Court and Law College, though a number of ancient stones from it have been placed alongside the Church. Between 1758 and 1759 Madras was besieged by the French and when peace was restored the Chief Engineer of that time complained 'we lately suffered great inconvenience from the tombs at the burying ground, which being large arched structures, placed in a line almost close to each other and opening into one another, not only protected the enemy from our shot, but afforded them a cover equally safe against our shells'. In the unsettled climate of the 18th century the Government ordered the large tombs to be demolished and in 1763 a new graveyard was opened and remained in use until 1952.

Slabs from the 'Guava Garden' were used as a 'pavement' round the Church only to be removed again and used to mount guns in the Fort during Hyder Ali's invasion of 1782. It was not until 1807 that they were replaced against the Church, when many were found to be broken, but marvellously over a hundred inscriptions survive from these much travelled tombs. The earliest is to Elizabeth Baker, wife of the first Governor of the Fort, who succumbed to a fever caught in Java, shortly after giving birth to a child at sea. She died in 1652, three weeks before the 'Roebuck' arrived at Madras but her body was brought ashore for burial.

Memorials within the Church include Sir Thomas Munro, Governor who fought against Hyder Ali and Tippu Sultan and the Rt. Hon. Vere Henry Lord Hobart who died of typhoid three years after his appointment as

as Governor in 1872. A monument by Flaxman commemorates the Rev. Christian William Gericke whose death at Vellore in 1803 'was brought about by a fright caused by monkeys at Royacotta Fort' and another piece by the same sculptor pays tribute to Josiah Webbe, the first chief Secretary to the Government of Madras who died in 1804 at Hus-sangabad on the banks of the Nerbudda. The monument shows an officer, a civil servant, a Muslim and a Hindu mourning over a portrait medallion of the deceased, with a tiger below. St. Mary's Church is so interesting that it is hardly surprising visitors average 300 - 500 per day and the Millars receive queries about burials or family records every week.

Two literary tailpieces sent in late last year will interest readers - the first, from the Jane Austen Society notes the death of Jane's brother Charles John Austen 'Off Prome the 7th October 1852 of cholera while in command of the Naval Expedition on the River Irrawaddy against the Burmese Forces'. He died on board the HMS 'Flute' and his body was taken on board the HMS 'Rattler' to Trincomalee, Ceylon, where it was buried in the Naval Cemetery on Sober Island. A photograph taken eighty years ago showed the grave then in good condition but one wonders if it is still there today?

The second item from 'The Times' reports that Charles Dickens' only surviving grandson has recently been traced and interviewed in South Africa. Charles Tennyson Dickens, an 84-year old retired Postmaster General of India claims his grandfather had an affair with his wife's sister at the family home in Kent, and the resulting illegitimate son was banished to Australia, the whole matter being hushed up. Chowkidar has already noted (March 1984) the death of Charles Dickens second son Walter Landor Dickens in Calcutta in 1863 and The Times story provides another Indian link.

STONE MASONS IN INDIA

As more and more tombs in India are revealed, restored and brought to our notice it is becoming possible to learn more of the masons who sculpted the 18th and 19th century stones abroad. A good start has been made in Cawnpore by Zoë Yalland and she has noted the following names: J. Alexander, MH 14 Regt. Scp.

Shepherd and Co. Sculpt 1794

G. Watkins, Artillery Sculp 1795

Suares, Eng. S. Pelling, Lucnow (sic) 1805

Sculptor Calcutta 1817, Nooralee

W. Reid, Military Undertakers

William Reid, the last named sculptor designed a particularly touching monument in Cawnpore for his dead wife. Reid is noted as a Bazar Sergeant and Pensioner as well as undertaker and on the inscription for his first wife Ann Reid he used every variety and type of letter at his command, as if, in one last gesture, he wished to demonstrate his affection through the skills of his craft. The result is a sampler in stone.

It appears that in the early days, arrangements for the funeral, the design and building of the tomb and the carving of the inscription were organised by military undertakers, writes Zoë Yalland. Probably the tomb was built by Indian craftsmen, many of whom were familiar with Muslim designs. The actual tablet itself often came from sculptors in Calcutta who used local marble and slate and sometimes stone imported from Britain, though another BACSA member Mr. R.R. Langham Carter, who is also researching the same subject, has found that some Calcutta stone-masons used to take stone from ruined buildings in north Bengal.

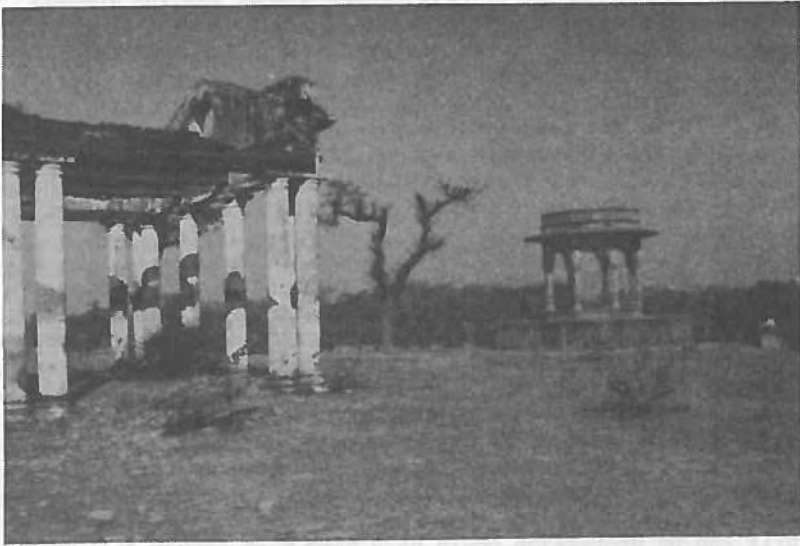
Details of some of these early Calcutta masons have been found in the India Office Library and Records including those of James Palmer, described as a Stone-cutter living at Cossitollah, who arrived from England in 1748; Peter Lindeman an Undertaker and Carpenter, arrived in 1797 and Simpson (possibly the Joseph Simpson) House Builder, who came from Scotland in 1783 and is later described as a carpenter. It is interesting that of the stonemasons who signed their work, several are recorded as having different, if complementary occupations, i.e. carpenter, coach-maker and undertaker. Early traders, it seems were not adverse to turning their hand to something that would make a profit and no profession could have been more secure than that of undertaker or stone-mason in India in those days.

Mr. Langham Carter also reminded us that tombstones from India were exported to other countries, including Malacca and Singapore and he has found that the tombstone of Lady Sale, a survivor of the Retreat from Kabul in 1842, was ordered from Llewellyn & Co. of Calcutta. Lady Sale, who died in Cape Town shortly after her arrival from India, was buried in Plot No. 290 in the Anglican graveyard in Somerset Road, Cape Town and a fine memorial erected over her grave. When the old cemetery was levelled early this century her remains and monument were moved to the main Cape Town burial ground at Maitland where the obelisk can still be seen and is in good condition.

CAN YOU HELP?

Chowkidar's intriguing story about the discovery of Col. William Ross Morton's grave in a remote Buddhist cemetery in Japan has brought two suggestions from BACSA members which help identify the Colonel though the manner of his death in 1917 remains a mystery. Roger Perkins tells us Col. Ross (R.E.) served in Burma during the 1885 campaign to depose King Thibaw, whose conduct had become indefensible. The Colonel commanded, with others, the 2nd Company Bombay Sappers and Miners at that time, and later must have served in the Middle East, for he qualified as an Interpreter in Arabic and Turkish, simultaneously, in October 1900. 'I would bet' adds Roger Perkins 'that Morton was one of those splendid maverick sapper officers who, traditionally, have always rejected mundane garrison duties and found excuses

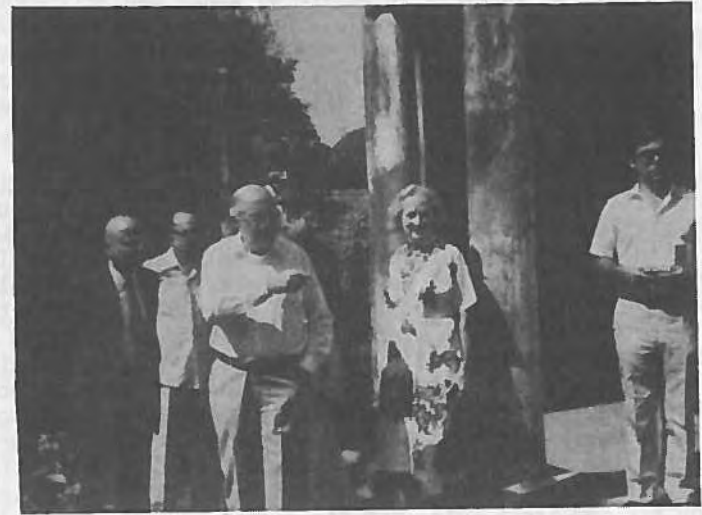
.....continued on p. 10



(A) above. Portico and tomb of Major John Jacob, near Agra. (See article on page 12.)



(B) above. View of the rear facade of the Armenian Major's house.



Jim Callaghan, former Prime Minister, during a visit to South Park Street Cemetery, Calcutta last October, is shown round by APHCI Secretary Sheilah Rome.



Can any reader identify this church in Upper Burma? See article on page 12.

to go off to the far corners, in search of their own self-made adventures'. Another member, Lieut. Col. J.A. Cameron suggests that Col. Morton's father was a Bengal Sapper and Miner at Roorkee where the Colonel was born and further enquiry from the Institute of Royal Engineers should throw more light on this interesting linguist and engineer.

From a new member Mrs. Margaret Gill come two queries, each with a good story attached. At the beginning of the 19th century young Samuel Need, serving in the East India Company formed a liaison with a high-born Indian lady from the princely house of Oudh. Samuel Need, who later became a Lieutenant General brought the lady to England, where she gave birth to two sons, born in June 1810 and August 1811. The family returned to India where the two boys were baptised at Meerut by the Army Chaplain in 1812 (thus regularising the relationship?) and a daughter was later born in India. The poor princess is reported to have found England unbearable, mainly due to the cold, and this is probably why the family returned to India, only for her to die soon after in her native land. Samuel Need remarried in 1815 and removed his children again to England, where they were kindly treated by his new Scots wife, but the eldest boy, Walter Wardell Need returned again to India and finished his education at La Martiniere, Lucknow, his mother's home town. This son subsequently became a Captain in the Nawab of Oudh's private army in the 1840's and his own son, also called Walter, born about 1842 was educated at La Martiniere too. Captain Walter Need was killed by a sniper's bullet during the siege of Lucknow, but his son survived. Mrs. Gill who is descended from Lieut. Gen. Samuel Need's brother wonders if any descendants of the Need family still survive in India?

Her second query concerns Thomas Slater, born about 1808 in Lincolnshire. Thomas' father is thought to have been a yeoman farmer who wished his son to take Holy Orders, but not feeling the call, young Slater went to Madras where he is said to have saved the life of the Maharajah of Mysore's favourite horse, for which he was given a gold watch! Thomas Slater married in Madras and returned to England with his wife and young daughter, taking a job as an Innkeeper in Leicestershire. But life in England obviously could not match the excitement of India and he sailed again for Madras in 1842, only to die of cholera as soon as he landed. He is believed to have been buried in Bangalore and his great grandson, a friend of our correspondent would welcome more details on his life and tombstone if it still survives.

From another recent BACSA member, Major Peter Crocker, comes a request for information about his family who have a long connection with India. His grandfather Henry Crocker was a Master Mariner whose burial place has not yet been identified, despite careful research. A son, Arthur Frank, was born, almost certainly in Calcutta on 13 April 1875 and was baptised there six weeks later, whilst Henry was at sea en route for Mauritius. Our correspondent thinks that Arthur Frank's mother had him baptised in their father's absence because he was not

expected to survive until the latter's return. The other children of the family had all been baptised in their father's presence. Two Crocker children were buried at Chowringhee on the same day, 8 April 1871 (presumably the victims of a sad accident or epidemic) and Major Crocker would welcome any details of family graves, if they still survive.

Mention of BACSA on BBC TV's 'Timewatch' programme last Autumn prompted Dickens Hazlewood to write enquiring about his great-grandfather Richard Babington Preston, who died in the service of the East India Company and was buried at Madras on 16 August 1844. Again despite research at the India Office Library and Records, nothing more can be gleaned of Preston's life and Mr. Haslewood who is compiling a family history would be grateful if readers could suggest other lines of investigation he could pursue.

Two years ago BACSA learnt that a number of portraits depicting Colonels who had served in the Calcutta Volunteer Rifles were in urgent need of a new home. The four large paintings, in heavy frames, had hung in the Board Room of an old office in Calcutta, but a change in tenancy meant they had to be removed. BACSA arranged for the portraits, taken from their frames, to be sent to England and they are now on permanent loan to the India Office Library and Records in the Prints and Drawings Section. The men portrayed are:

Col. Joseph Binning, Commandant 2nd (Presidency) Battalion (between 1899 to 1913)

Lieut. Col. Leslie, who succeeded Col. Binning

Col. R. Craufurd Sterndale, Commander of Presidency Volunteer Rifle Battalion between 1888 and 1895

and Col. B. Walton, Commandant for eighteen months between 1877 and 1878.

The Volunteer Rifles were raised in 1863 and was one of the earliest Auxiliary Forces in India. Two of the colonels, Walton and Sterndale were retired Army officers, Leslie was an attorney with the firm of S.J. Leslie and Sons and Binning was manager of the Evenbarrie Tea Company. Three of the portraits were painted between 1913 and 1919 and though the artist and date of the fourth has been obliterated it appears to be by the same hand. The artist was A.E. Harris, who was recorded as living in Rowland Road, Calcutta when the portraits were painted, but nothing else about him is known. He was obviously a gifted man as his work shows (unfortunately the portraits are too dark at the moment to reproduce) and from the meticulous painting of the uniforms and medals, possibly specialised in military portraits. Perhaps some readers could throw more light on the artist, and descendants of the four colonels who have not been traced and might add more information about BACSA's handsome acquisition.

John Stewart of Ardvorlich has an interesting theory about the foundation of Murree Hill Station. 'At the end of the 2nd Sikh War in 1849 my great-uncle Lieut. Robert Stewart's Regiment, the 22nd N.I. were quartered at Rawalpindi, then a new station for troops' he

writes. In June of that year, together with a fellow officer, he decided to explore the mountainous country to the north, during a few weeks leave. The two climbed one of the hills called 'The Mountain of Mish' in the Hazara range and on the way spent a night at a native village called Murræe. They were so enchanted at its beauty and climate that on their return to 'Pindi' it was decided to build a bungalow there for the use of officers on leave or convalescence. Was this the beginning of Murree, asks John Stewart?

The majority of queries received from readers are obviously about British or European people but William de Villiers, writing from South Africa wonders if anyone remembers Khan Sahib Fazal Rahman who served with the Postal Department in the First World War and on the Frontier in 1919, when he was awarded a War Medal and Indian General Service Medal. Fazal Rahman subsequently obtained the Jubilee and Coronation medals and the title 'Badge of Khan Sahib' in 1942. Perhaps a BACSA member recalls this soldier?

Finally a BACSA member, Salli Dyson wonders if anyone can identify the old church shown on page 9. All that is known is that the church stood somewhere in Upper Burma, and that some of Salli Dyson's relatives are buried there.

AN ARMENIAN GRAVE AT AGRA

Timothy Ash, a BACSA member and inveterate photographer has recently sent us some moving and evocative photographs from Agra. They show the once splendid palatial house of Major John Jacob and in contrast his simple Hindu-like tomb nearby. The well-kept marble inscription set flat in the tomb kiosk is as follows: 'Sacred/to the memory of/ Major John Jacob/late of Scindiah Army/son of the late/Colonel Jacob Petruse/of Gwalior/killed at Agra by the rebels/ on 6th July 1857/ aged 45 years'. There were a number of Armenian soldiers serving in Scindia's army under the command of Col. Jacob Petruse. The Colonel's headquarters were at Gwalior and Colonel Jacob built the Armenian Church there which served some thirty Armenian families.

On the disbandment of Scindia's Army in 1843, most of the Armenians left Gwalior, and this is probably when Major John Jacob built his fine house, though he was not left long to enjoy it. At present the house is owned by a local magistrate and it is believed he wishes to develop the site of the house as a hotel. It is to be hoped that if this happens, the fine tomb at least will be preserved. Photographs on page 8 show (A) the front portico of the ruined house and the tomb and (B) the rear facade of the house with its handsome curving steps down to a vanished garden.

Readers interested in the history of the Armenian community in India during the 18th and 19th centuries may be able to find a copy of Mesrob Seth's rare book 'History of the Armenians' published in 1895.

BACSA BOOKS (Books by BACSA members)

British & Indian Armies in the East Indies (1685-1935) By Major Alan Harfield.

How many have heard of Fort Marlborough or know of the East India Company's involvement with the islands which were later to become part of the Dutch East Indies? This book covers not only the history of Fort Marlborough at Bencoolen in Sumatra from the 17th century onwards but the Java campaign of 1811, the opening up of Penang and Malacca and the founding of Singapore by Stamford Raffles. Other chapters include the island of Labuan and the Sarawak of Rajah James Brooke in the mid-19th century; and there is much more besides, continuing into the 20th century with a detailed account of the little known Indian Army mutiny at Singa ore in 1915.

The links with India are evident throughout; the troops that come out from Madras, the gravestones from Calcutta. The whole area of India and South East Asia is shown as an inseparable unit against the encroachments of other European powers of that time, chiefly the French and the Dutch. The author has provided an enormous amount and variety of detail; lists of Officers serving there, medal rolls, burial registers, monumental inscriptions, maps and plans, and extensive sources of reference so that each chapter in itself may form a base for further research. He has also included over one hundred illustrations and photographs (many taken by his wife or himself) and seven coloured plates depicting scenes in Penang and Singapore from the earliest British times.

Everyone will enjoy the book but primarily it is a gold-mine for the military historian, the family historian, the medal collector and any researcher into the European involvement in those parts. As our President, Lieutenant General Sir John Worsley writes in his Foreword, 'Alan Harfield has done something of great value by, for the first time, bringing together the best of these separate accounts (of Malaysia, Singapore, Sumatra, Java and adjacent islands) in one book'.

1984 Picton Publishing (Chippenham) Ltd pp. 411 £25.00

(This book was first reviewed in Chowkidar in March 1983 but production difficulties resulted in a publication delay)

Kacheri Cemetery Kanpur: A complete list of inscriptions with notes on those buried there. Zoë Yalland

Two years ago BACSA published selected epitaphs in A Guide to the Kacheri Cemetery and the Early History of Kanpur. Now, this Register of the Kacheri Cemetery sets out to make a comprehensive list of all the epitaphs at Kacheri Cemetery which presently exist, or which have been known to exist. In addition it lists certain names which have come to light in checking the burial registers of Kanpur, of persons who may or may not have been buried at the Kacheri Cemetery.

There are also a number of interesting new details and a few corrections. Brief biographical notes are given here but the Register does not repeat in depth what has already appeared in the Kacheri Guide. When read in conjunction with it, however, a rounded picture of Kanpur history will, it is hoped, emerge.

1985 BACSA pp. 140 £7.50 to BACSA members £9.00 for non-members

Bencoolen: The Christian Cemetery and the Fort Marlborough Monuments
Major Alan Harfield

A companion booklet to the Malacca memorials published last year bringing together all that is now known and recorded about the British graves in this almost forgotten settlement on the west coast of Sumatra between 1685 and 1825.

1985 BACSA pp. 112 £7.50 to BACSA members £9.00 for non-members

The Fighting Ten Désirée Battye

This book tells the story of the Battye brothers; ten members of a Victorian family who became celebrated for their deeds of valour in British India and Afghanistan. Exploits at Delhi and Lucknow during the Indian Mutiny of 1857 involving six brothers are succeeded by encounters on the North-West Frontier in the latter decades of the century when one brother after another, in the Guides Cavalry or the Gurkhas, fought their way to glory and sometimes death. This is not only an account of the heroism which created a unique legend of courage and service in the Indian Army but also a history of the Battye family, their home, upbringing and the influence of their forbears. The book was conceived when family records and letters came unexpectedly to light in an old tin trunk, and it was written by Désirée Battye, wife of Stuart Battye, grandson of one of The Ten, in a style which recreates the excitement of those stirring events.

1984 BACSA pp. 250 £7.50

The Marquis Wellesley Collection (Indian Artists under British Patronage) Introduction by Mildred Archer

The ten plates in facsimile of birds, animals and plants in this portfolio have been selected from over two thousand paintings commissioned by Marquis Wellesley, Governor General of India in 1804. Mildred Archer gives an account of a period of 'delightful co-operation between Indian artists and the British in their enthusiastic exploration of the Indian scene'.

1985 Alfalak/Scorpion £20.50

Between Battles (The Album of Colonel James Skinner) Introduction by Mildred Archer

Of mixed Scottish and Rajput descent, James Skinner had portraits of his officers, household and friends painted, probably by the Delhi artist Ghulam Ali Khan. His choice of subjects for this personal

album indicates his deep affection for India and her people.

1985 Alfalak/Scorpion £17.50

The Tranquil Eye: Watercolours of Colonel Robert Smith. Introduction by Mildred Archer.

Eight water colours of a Ganges journey to Calcutta by Robert Smith, a military engineer are an important record of landmarks along the waterway and a charming contribution to the landscape painting of the Indian scene by a sensitive British artist.

1985 Alfalak/Scorpion £15.50

The Captains and the Kings Depart Jack Bazalgette

The author comes from an army family on both sides so it was not surprising that he should choose a military career which took him first to China in the 1920's and then to India. More interesting is the decision to enter the Political Service where his first posting was to the Hyderabad Residency. Mingling freely with famous personalities of the day including of course, the Nizam and the deposed king of Spain Alfonso XIII, the author tells his fascinating story in a simple and readable manner, with many touches of perception and humour. On learning Baluchi, for a possible posting which never materialized, he noted for example that of the very small vocabulary half the words seem to mean 'camel! Recommended for its wide-ranging descriptions of India before Independence.

1984 Amate Press pp. 135 £5.00 .

A Perception of India Richard Terrell

In 1978 Richard Terrell published an affectionate account of his remarkable and eccentric father Sir Courtney Terrell, Chief Justice of Bihar and Orissa in the 1930's and his latest book is a record of a journey he made recently to see his father's old haunts and to examine his own feelings about India. Staying mainly away from tourist areas he has produced a sensitive and perceptive book about the India of today, overlaid with the memories of the British Raj. The author is kindly donating £1 to BACSA for each copy sold via BACSA.

1984 Michael Russell (Publishing) Ltd. pp. 256 £9.00 to BACSA members £9.95 to non-members

Letters from India. Lady Wilson. Introduction by Pat Barr

Anne Campbell Macleod Wilson was the wife of a covenanted civil servant who worked mainly in the Punjab, with desk bound spells in Calcutta and tours under canvas up country. Lady Wilson's letters cover the whole of her stay in India from 1889 to 1909 - a fairly stable period of British rule when the rigours of life there for a mem-sahib were less severe than previously and when the horror of the Indian mutiny had receded, taboos were relaxed and British women began to interest themselves in philanthropic work for the Indian

community. The letters which form this book centre mainly on domestic issues - camps, children, entertainments and the round of what does seem rather like trivia which filled her days. Only occasionally do wider facets of imperial life intrude, like the visit to a Boer camp set up in Hariapur for prisoners-of-war transported to India. A rather lightweight book and an inappropriate cover of an 18th century Daniell painting.

1984 Century Publishing Co. Ltd. pp. 417 £4.95

Books by non-members which will interest readers:

Tunku: A Pictorial Biography Tan Sri Dato 'Mubin Sheppard

Tunku Abdul Rahman Putra Al-Haj was Malaysia's first Prime Minister. An undergraduate at Cambridge, then an unorthodox Civil Servant in Kedah and a Law student in London, the Tunku only completed his Bar Finals after twenty-five years of intermittent study. He spent some of his royal childhood in the timber palace of Alor Star (illustrated in this book) and there is also a rare photograph of a Kedah Malay Resistance group during the Japanese occupation. It was the Tunku as a man with the common touch, concerned about the poor and down-trodden, who led the campaign for Malayan independence by peaceful means, uniting the nation's three main racial communities under a common banner, and the book ends on August 31st 1957 with the Tunku proudly proclaiming independence at the Merdeka Stadium in Kuala Lumpur. The author, who has adopted Malaysia as his home has based his handsome book on lengthy tape-recorded interviews with the Tunku himself and the recollections of his political colleagues.

1984 Pelanduk Publications, Malaysia (Obtainable in the U.K. from Books of Asia). pp. 166 £6.00

India in Britain Kusoom Vadgama

This is a mainly pictorial account of the activities of Indians in Britain between 1852 and 1974, the result of fourteen years work by the author, a Gujarati woman living in Britain. The years of the British Raj brought many Indians to this country where their wealth, culture, cuisine and richness of dress had a great impact on British society, and this book uses contemporary newspaper accounts and cartoons, to reveal the prominent role Indians played in British public life. On a lighter note the colourful Indian social and sporting impact on British life is recorded. Forewords are by HRH the Prince of Wales and the late Indira Gandhi.

1984 Robert Royce Ltd. pp. 224 £10.95

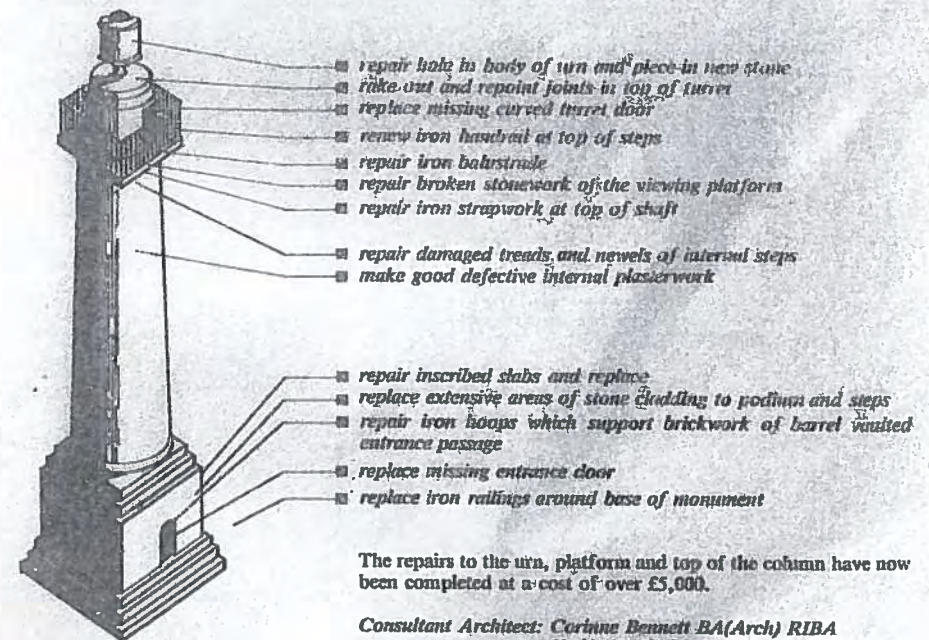
Genealogical Research Directory Ed. Keith Johnson & Malcolm Sainty

Of general interest to the many BACSA members attempting to build up family trees is this Directory which lists in alphabetical order the family name being researched, the time period and place. Details from the Society of Genealogists, London tel: 251 8799

THE EYRE COOTE MONUMENT RESTORED

On September 14th last year the Hampshire Buildings Preservation Trust organised at West Park, Rockbourne, the commemoration of the completion of the principal restoration work of the Eyre Coote Monument. As BACSA had been involved since 1979 in the discussions which led to this admirable initiative, the Association was invited to be represented. The date was exactly the two hundredth anniversary of the interment in the village church of Sir Eyre Coote, who had died in India where he had been the Commander-in-Chief of the British forces.

The monument (depicted below) is a column more than one hundred feet high which was erected in 1826 in memory of the great General and of his nephew, who bore the same name and who had been a successful soldier in the Napoleonic wars. A private 'Memoir of the Coote family' written in 1918 has revealed some interesting information about the monument. The initial construction cost was £4,000 and the bronze lettering, which has now all disappeared, was formed from melted down French cannon, captured during General Coote's Indian campaigns. Even in 1868 a Mr. Appleyard, visiting the West Park Estate, had noted 'the most neglected state' of the monument, and remedial works took place in 1886 when inscribed marble slabs were added to the base and a funerary urn placed on the top.



The repairs to the urn, platform and top of the column have now been completed at a cost of over £5,000.

Consultant Architect: *Corinus Bennett BA(Arch) RIBA*
(Architect to the Dean and Chapter of Winchester)
of Purcell Miller Tritton and Partners

The first part of the document discusses the importance of maintaining accurate records of all transactions. It emphasizes that every entry should be clearly documented and verified. The text continues to describe various methods for ensuring the integrity of the data, including regular audits and cross-checking of entries.

In the second section, the author details the specific procedures for handling discrepancies. It is noted that any variance between expected and actual results should be immediately investigated and reported. The document provides a step-by-step guide for identifying the source of an error and correcting it to prevent future occurrences.

The final part of the document concludes with a strong recommendation for transparency and accountability. It states that all stakeholders should have access to the relevant information and that any concerns should be addressed promptly and fairly. The author expresses confidence that these measures will lead to a more efficient and reliable system.

The second part of the document focuses on the implementation of the proposed changes. It outlines a timeline for the rollout, starting with a pilot program in a few key departments. The author notes that thorough training and support will be essential for a successful transition. Regular communication and feedback loops are established to monitor progress and address any challenges that arise.

The document also addresses the potential risks associated with the new system and provides strategies to mitigate them. It highlights the importance of data security and backup procedures to ensure that all information is protected and recoverable. The author reassures that the benefits of the new system outweigh the risks and that the organization is well-prepared for the change.

In conclusion, the document reaffirms the commitment to continuous improvement and innovation. It encourages all team members to embrace the new system and contribute to its success. The author expresses optimism about the future and the positive impact that these changes will have on the organization's overall performance.

COUNTY OF ...

Know all men by these presents, that ...

WITNESSED my hand and seal of office this ... day of ... 19...