

<b>ANNA GIFFORD</b>	<b>died 1760</b>	<b>Memorial 45</b>
<b>PHILIP GIFFORD</b>	<b>died 1761</b>	
<b>WILLIAM GIFFORD</b>	<b>died 1772</b>	
<b>HARRIET GIFFORD</b>	<b>died 1770</b>	
<b>JOHN GIFFORD</b>	<b>died 1784</b>	
<b>THOMAS GIFFORD</b>	<b>died 1785</b>	
<b>JOHN GIFFORD</b>	<b>died 1795</b>	
<b>DOROTHY GIFFORD</b>	<b>died 1828</b>	
<b>WEARMAN GIFFORD</b>	<b>died 1836</b>	

John GIFFORD was born on 26 February 1729 and baptized by Mr James GREEN on 08 March 1729 at Bow Meeting, Exeter.<sup>1</sup> He was the son of William GIFFORD, a grocer of St Petrock's parish in the city of Exeter.<sup>1</sup> He followed his father into the grocery business but also sold hops and linen drapery. His business was in High Street almost opposite St Petrock Church.<sup>2</sup>

John married Anna LEE on 13 December 1753 at St David's, Exeter.<sup>3</sup> They had four sons:-

John was born on 20 August 1755 and died on 30 August 1784 ("Monday morning at ab't 7 o'clock").<sup>4</sup>

George was born on 10 November 1756.<sup>4</sup> He died on 05 October 1820.<sup>5</sup>

William was born on 20 December 1758 ("ab't 5 o'clock in the morning"). He died on 24 September 1772 ("Thursday morning ab't 1 o'clock").<sup>4</sup>

Philip was born 09 October 1760 ("ab't 6 pm in the evening"). He died on 04 January 1761 ("ab't 9.30 o'clock in the morning").<sup>4</sup>

John, William and Philip are commemorated on this tomb.

Anna GIFFORD (nee LEE) died on 14 December 1760.<sup>4</sup> The transcript of a note found in the Family Bible is as follows, "*My Worthy Spouse departed this life Sunday evening ab't 6 o'clock December 14 – 1760*". She is commemorated on this tomb.

On 07 September 1769, John GIFFORD married Dorothy WEARMAN at St Petrock, Exeter.<sup>3</sup> Dorothy's family Estate was at Withercombe Rawleigh. Her father, George, owned land and properties in East Devon, including the Salutation Inn at Topsham.<sup>6</sup>

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#### Sources

1. Non-Conformist & Non-Parochial Registers 1567-1970 Piece 0965: Exeter Bow Mtg page 43 of 191
2. Besley's Exeter Directory 1828
3. England, Select Marriages 1538-1973 ([www.ancestry.co.uk](http://www.ancestry.co.uk))
4. Transcriptions (owned by Walter Gifford) from notes which were found in the Family Bible.
5. Oxford University and City Herald 28 October 1820 ([www.findmypast.co.uk](http://www.findmypast.co.uk))
6. The Will of George Wearman of Withercombe Rawleigh (sic) – (Devon Heritage Centre – acquisition 48/22/4/12)

Dorothy and John GIFFORD had two daughters (both named Harriet) and four sons:-

Harriet (their first child) was born on 21 June 1770 (“at  $\frac{3}{4}$  after 12 o'clock in the afternoon of Thursday – died Monday 26 June  $\frac{1}{2}$  an hour after 12 o'clock noon”).<sup>4</sup>

Wearman, their oldest son, was born on 12 December 1771 (“3 o'clock in the afternoon”).<sup>4</sup>

Harriet was born on 30 April 1773 (“at  $\frac{1}{4}$  after 12 o'clock in the forenoon of Fryday”).<sup>4</sup>

Thomas was born on 29 November 1774 (“at 2 o'clock a Tuesday morning”).<sup>4</sup>

Charles was born on 01 August 1776 (“ab't 11 o'clock Wednesday”).<sup>4</sup>

Robert was born on 24 February 1779 (“about 1 o'clock of a Wednesday”).<sup>4</sup>

Harriet, Wearman and Thomas are commemorated on this tomb.

Wearman GIFFORD carried on his father's business with his brother, Charles. The hops were delivered on waggons (sic) from London. In 1803, he was described as a Linen Draper and was a member of the City Cavalry.<sup>7</sup> Though, four years earlier, his brother, Charles, was described as a Grocer & Linen Draper so it is likely they carried out the two businesses at the same time.<sup>8</sup> In the 1820's, Wearman lived at Parkers Well House, St Leonards.<sup>9</sup>

In 1835, Wearman GIFFORD was a busy man!! He was President of the Protestant Dissenters' Charity School in Paris Street; an Auditor of the West of England Institution for the Instruction of the Deaf and Dumb in Topsham Road and one of a number of Vice Presidents of Exeter Mendicity Society which had been established on 23 July 1825 “for the relief of travelling poor and the suppression of vagrancy”.

Wearman GIFFORD never married. He died on 15 February 1836.<sup>10</sup>

Charles GIFFORD married Mary MORESBY on 07 January 1819.<sup>11</sup> At that time, he was living at Parker's Well House, Topsham Road, Exeter. Shortly after their marriage, they moved to Cliff's End House, Exmouth where they lived for the rest of their lives. *This is now the Park Hotel on Exeter Street.*

Charles and Mary had six children<sup>12</sup>:-

Charles Burr (born 24 February 1821)

Wearman (born 06 December 1824)

Frederick (born 05 January 1828)

Daughter – (stillborn in June 1822)

Robert (born 10 April 1826)

Mary (born 04 May 1829)

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#### Sources

7. Devon: Exeter – Militia List 1803 ([www.ancestry.co.uk](http://www.ancestry.co.uk))
8. Extracted Church of England Parish Records ([www.ancestry.co.uk](http://www.ancestry.co.uk))
9. The Will of Wearman Gifford proved on 14 April 1836 ([www.ancestry.co.uk](http://www.ancestry.co.uk))
10. England & Wales Non-Conformist Burials (No.708) ([www.ancestry.co.uk](http://www.ancestry.co.uk))
11. Devon Marriages ([www.findmypast.co.uk](http://www.findmypast.co.uk))
12. Information provided by Walter Gifford

In 1851, Charles GIFFORD (senior) was Deputy Lieutenant of Devon.<sup>13</sup> Their eldest son, Charles Burr GIFFORD emigrated to Canada in 1854.<sup>14</sup>

Charles GIFFORD died in Exmouth in 1855.<sup>15</sup> He is buried in the small Dissenters' Graveyard at Lymptone (on the main road from Exeter to Exmouth).

The most noteworthy of the children of John and Dorothy GIFFORD is their youngest son, Robert, who was born in 1779. Robert was a lawyer, judge and politician. He was elected to the House of Commons in 1817 and knighted on 29 May the same year. He served as Attorney General and Master of the Rolls and was raised to the peerage in 1824 - Baron GIFFORD of St Leonards in the County of Devon. He was married to the daughter of Reverend Edward DREWE of Broadhembury. He died of cholera, in 1826, whilst holidaying in Dover and was buried in the Rolls Chapel, Chancery Lane, London.<sup>15</sup>

John Gifford died on 22 October 1795<sup>16</sup> and his wife, Dorothy, died on 01 December 1828.<sup>17</sup>

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#### Sources

13. 1851 Census ([www.ancestry.co.uk](http://www.ancestry.co.uk))
14. Information provided by Walter Gifford
15. Lord Robert Gifford ([www.historyhome.co.uk](http://www.historyhome.co.uk))
16. England & Wales Prerogative Court of Canterbury Wills 1384-1858 ([www.ancestry.co.uk](http://www.ancestry.co.uk))
17. Non-Conformist & Non-Parochial Registers 1567-1970 Exeter, Georges Meeting Piece 1085, page 14 of 52.

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