

Memorial 45

ANN GIFFORD	died 14 December 1760
PHILIP GIFFORD	died 1st January 1761
WILLIAM GIFFORD	died 17 September 1772
HARRIET GIFFORD	died 26 June 1770
JOHN GIFFORD	died 30 August 1784
THOMAS GIFFORD	died 02 June 1785
JOHN GIFFORD	died 22 October 1795
DOROTHY GIFFORD	died 01 December 1828
WEARMAN GIFFORD	died 15 February 1836

John GIFFORD was born on 26 February 1729. He was the son of William GIFFORD, a grocer in the city of Exeter. He followed his father into the grocery business but also sold hops and linen drapery. His business was in High Street.

John married Anna LEE in 1753 at St David's, Exeter and they had 3 sons, John (died 30 August 1784 aged 29 years), William (died 17 September 1772 aged 13 years) and Philip who died on 1st (or 4th) January 1761 aged 2 months. Anna died in 1760 and John married Dorothy WEARMAN in 1769 at St Petrock's, Exeter. Dorothy's family Estate was at Withycombe Rawleigh. Her father, George, owned land and properties in East Devon, including the Salutation Inn at Topsham.

Dorothy and John had 2 daughters (only one survived) and 4 sons. Their oldest son, Wearman, carried on his father's business, though this was now in Fore Street, with his brother, Charles. The hops delivered on waggons (sic) from London. In the 1820's, Wearman lived at Parkerswell House, St Leonards and Charles at Cliffs End, Lympstone

The most noteworthy of the children 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.

YC Hensman
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