

FRANCES HILL died 28th September 1809

Memorial Number 62

THOMAS HILL died 11th January 1817

FRANCES PARTRIDGE died 12th January 1835

E.B. PARTRIDGE died 6th November 1834

Thomas Hill was baptised at Bow Meeting House on 9th March 1775.¹ His parents, Thomas and Indiana Hill, grandfather John Hill, sister Thomasin Hill and elder brother John Hill, are commemorated on Memorial 63. On 16th January 1802² at St Stephen Church in Exeter Thomas married Frances Boutcher. The marriage was announced in the Exeter Flying Post which said that Frances was the sister of Mr Charles Boutcher, brush-maker and that Thomas was an Ironmonger.³ A year later in the Exeter Militia List Thomas Hill was shown as 28 years old and working as an Ironmonger.⁴

Thomas and Frances' son, Thomas, was born on 11th July 1805 and was baptised at Bow Meeting House on 4th August 1805 by James Manning.⁵ The previous year the family had moved to the house that his brother in law had been living in.⁶ The following year the family may have moved again as an advert in the Exeter Flying Post offered a house for sale in the High Street which was "...lately occupied by Mr Thomas Hill, ironmonger..."⁷ Thomas and Frances' second son, John Hill was born on 6th July 1807 and baptised on 2nd August 1807 at Bow Meeting House.⁸ Their daughter Ann Hill was born on 16 May 1809 and baptised on 22 June 1809 at Bow Meeting House.⁹ Ann died in January 1810 and was buried in the Dissenters Graveyard on 17 January 1810. She is not commemorated on the Memorial. Her mother Frances Hill had died on Thursday 28th September 1809 "...after a long and painful illness..."¹⁰

Frances Partridge (nee Hill) was Thomas and Frances' eldest daughter. She was 31 years old when she died which suggests that she was born around 1803-1804. No record of her baptism has been found. There is a baptism recorded in the Bow Meeting Register for an Elizabeth Hill daughter of Thomas and Fanny Hill who was born on 23 November 1803

¹ RG4/965 Exeter Bow Meeting (Presbyterian) 1687 - 1823 accessed on findmypast.co.uk 1.4.17

² Devon Marriage Transcription accessed on findmypast.co.uk 1.4.17

³ Exeter Flying Post Thursday 21st January 1802 accessed on britishnewspaperarchive.co.uk on 1.4.17

⁴ Exeter Militia List by W G Hoskins (Editor) 1972, Page 48

⁵ RG4/965/127 Bow Presbyterian Meeting House in Exeter, 1687-1823, accessed on The Genealogist 12.05.14

⁶ Exeter Flying Post Thursday 2 August 1804 accessed on britishnewspaperarchive.co.uk on 3.4.17

⁷ Exeter Flying Post, Thursday 3 October 1805, accessed on britishnewspaperarchive.co.uk on 11.05.14

⁸ RG4/965/132 Bow Presbyterian Meeting House in Exeter, 1687-1823, accessed on The Genealogist on 12.05.14

⁹ RG4/965/136 Bow Presbyterian Meeting House in Exeter, 1687-1823, accessed on The Genealogist on 12.05.14

¹⁰ Exeter Flying Post, Thursday 5 October 1809, accessed on britishnewspaperarchive.co.uk on 8.6.14

and baptised on 25 December 1803.¹¹ This would be the right time for Frances' birth and it is possible that the wrong name was written into the register at the time. When Thomas died his will refers to his children but does not name them. No other record after this date for a daughter called Elizabeth has been found.

Following his wife Frances' death Thomas married Ann Bond at Chudleigh on 6th July 1812.¹² Ann was the daughter of William Bond a school master in Chudleigh. The couple had less than five years together before Thomas died on 11 January 1817. He was buried at the Dissenters Graveyard on 16 January 1817.¹³ He appointed his brother John Hill as one of the executors of his will and as the guardian of his children.¹⁴

Thomas' daughter, Frances, married Robert Partridge at Broadhembury twelve years after her father's death. She may have met him through her uncle and Guardian John Hill as both men were Druggists. The wedding was reported in the Western Times which confirmed her relationship to both Thomas and John Hill.¹⁵ Robert and Frances had two children. Fanny Hill Partridge was born on 25 March 1830 and was baptised at Saint Paul in Exeter on 17 June 1830.¹⁶ Their second daughter Elizabeth Boutcher Partridge was baptised on 16 May 1833 at Saint Paul in Exeter. The family were living in North Street and Robert was working as a Druggist.¹⁷ Elizabeth died on 6 November 1834 when she was 2 years old and was buried on 15 November 1834 in the Dissenters Graveyard.¹⁸ At that time the family were living in St Petrocks parish. The next entry in the burial register is for Frances Partridge, Elizabeth's mother, who was buried on 17 January 1834.¹⁹ The North Devon Journal reported her death "January 12, much and deservedly lamented, Frances, the beloved wife of Mr R Partridge, Chemist, Exeter, aged 31. This melancholy event was occasioned by 4 days severe illness, and her confinement of a still born child."²⁰

¹¹ RG4/965/122 Bow Presbyterian Meeting House in Exeter, 1687-1823, accessed on The Genealogist on 3.4.17

¹² Chudleigh Parish Marriage Records, 6 July 1812, accessed on findmypast.co.uk on 3.4.17

¹³ RG4/965/179 Bow Presbyterian Meeting House in Exeter, 1687-1823, accessed on The Genealogist on 11.5.14

¹⁴ PROB 11/1592/227-281 England & Wales, Prerogative Court of Canterbury Wills accessed on findmypast.co.uk on 3.4.17

¹⁵ Western Times, Saturday 28 March 1829, accessed on britishnewspaperarchive on 11.5.14.

¹⁶ England Select Births & Christenings 1538 - 1975, accessed on findmypast.co.uk on 2.4.17

¹⁷ England Select Births & Christenings 1538 - 1975 accessed on findmypast.co.uk on 2.4.17

¹⁸ RG4/1085/16 George's Meeting 1824-1837, accessed on findmypast.co.uk on 2.4.17

¹⁹ RG4/1085/16 George's Meeting 1824-1837, accessed on findmypast.co.uk on 2.4.17

²⁰ North Devon Journal, Thursday 22 January 1835, accessed on britishnewspaperarchive.co.uk on 3.4.17