**Mary Ann TYRRELL,** buried 9th October 1843

**Mary MACKINTOSH,** buried 23rd November 1838

**John MACKINTOSH,** buried 1st July 1844

Four members of the Tyrrell family are recorded as being buried in the Dissenters’ graveyard[[1]](#footnote-1); Mary Ann aged 40, wife of John, two of their young daughters and an infant child. Originally from Ireland, John (born c. 1790)[[2]](#footnote-2) was a barrister in Exeter when he married Mary Ann, only child of John and Mary Mackintosh of St. Leonards, at Exeter Cathedral on 18th February 1822[[3]](#footnote-3),[[4]](#footnote-4).

Mary Ann was born on 3rd January 1802 and her registration certificate states that she was born at Balham Hill in the parish of Streatham, Surrey as a protestant dissenter[[5]](#footnote-5). Her parents, John and Mary (née Hett) married in Camden in 1795[[6]](#footnote-6). John’s father (Mary Ann’s grandfather), also John (senior), died, “at his house on the Terrace, Islington,…”[[7]](#footnote-7) on 6 March 1790 and he was buried in Bunhill Fields, London[[8]](#footnote-8), on 13th March 1790. He was described as, “..formerly an eminent stockbroker”.7 John senior married Elizabeth Galloway on 5th June 1749 at St George Hanover Square in London[[9]](#footnote-9). Elizabeth Mackintosh (Mary Ann’s grandmother) was buried in the Exeter Dissenters’ graveyard in October 1807 aged 731, so Mary Ann, her parents and grandmother must have moved to Devon some time between 1802 and 1807. Mary Ann was a minor at the time of her marriage, so her father gave consent for her to be married4.

Their first child, Mary Emma, was born on 5th December 1822 at their home at Underwood Cottage, Ide, in the parish of Alphington[[10]](#footnote-10). At that time the 18th century cottage was part of the Earl of Devon’s Alphington estate.

Helen Elizabeth, their second daughter, was born on 15th February 18241 and John, their first son, was born on 9 March 1826[[11]](#footnote-11). A fourth child, a daughter, was born on 9th August 1827[[12]](#footnote-12) but she only survived for just over two weeks[[13]](#footnote-13) and was buried in the Dissenters’ graveyard on the 28th August1.

John and Mary Ann’s second son, Edward, was born in early May 1829 at St Leonard’s Cottage[[14]](#footnote-14). An advert in the Exeter and Plymouth Gazette in 1832 described St Leonard’s Cottage as a, “..*beautiful residence…adjoining Mount Radford Park*”. The cottage had 12 bedrooms and stood in lawns and a pleasure garden extending to almost three acres, constructed for the accommodation of a “*..large and genteel family*”[[15]](#footnote-15).

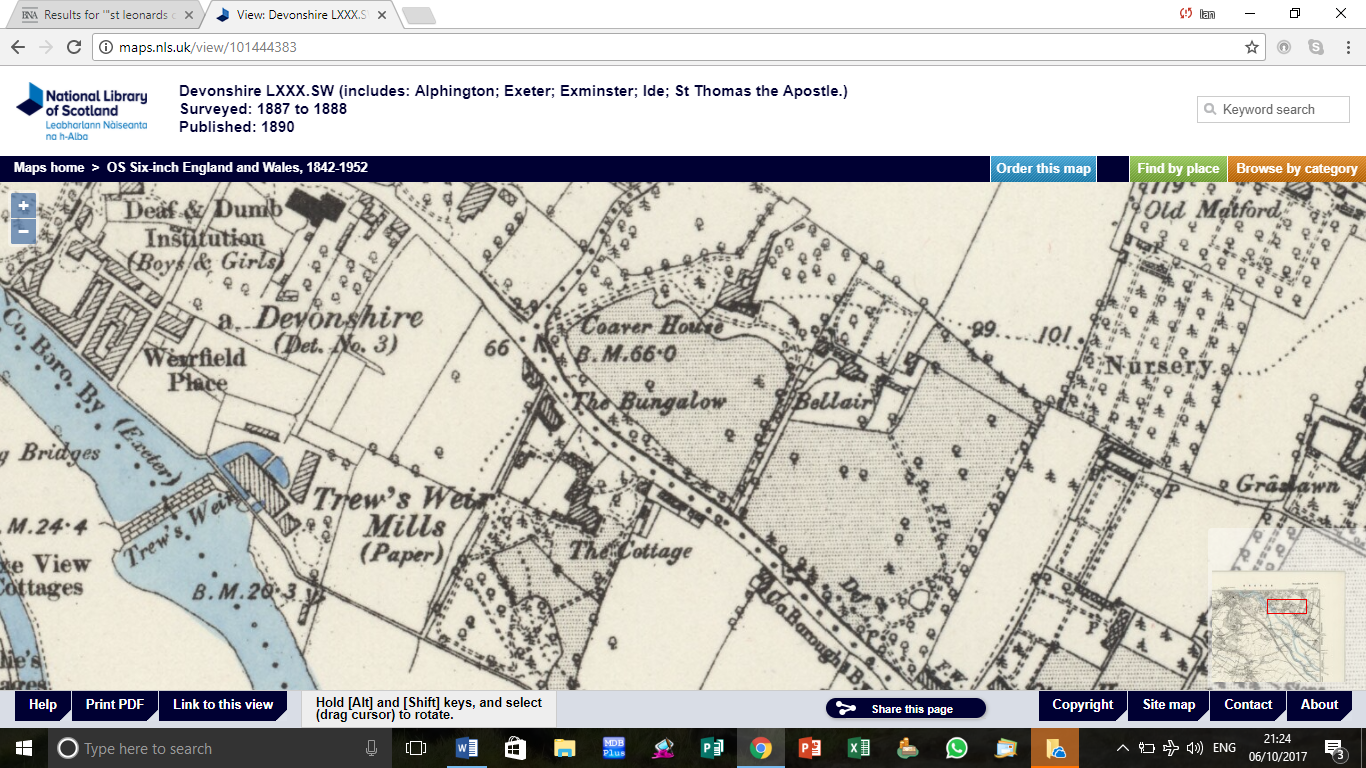
Sadly, Helen Elizabeth died in December 1830 aged 6 years 10 months and was buried in a cave at the Dissenters’ graveyard1. Another daughter, Kate, was born on 7th April 1831[[16]](#footnote-16), but tragedy struck again in 1833 with the death of their eldest child, Mary Emma, on Wednesday 30th October aged almost 11 years[[17]](#footnote-17).

George, their third son, was born on 26th January 1835[[18]](#footnote-18) and the 1841 Census showed that John, Mary Ann and their four surviving children (3s 1d) were living with John Mackintosh (aged 70) and two servants[[19]](#footnote-19). Mary Mackintosh, Mary Ann’s mother, died in November 1838 aged 74[[20]](#footnote-20) and was buried in the Dissenters’ graveyard1.

On October 1st 1843, Mary Ann died and was buried at the Dissenters’ graveyard on the 9th of October1. Her age was given as 40, but she was actually 41 years old. The report of her death was surprisingly brief, “*Oct. 1, aged 40, Mary Ann, wife of John Tyrrell, Esq., of this city, barrister at law*”[[21]](#footnote-21). This was in complete contrast to a fulsome eulogy that followed the death of Mary Ann’s father, John Mackintosh, who died aged 77 on 25th June 1844 at St. Leonard’s Cottage[[22]](#footnote-22).

*June 25, at St Leonard’s Cottage, near this city, in the 77th year of his age. John Mackintosh, Esq. There are few whose loss will be more sincerely felt and generally lamented, than the amiable and excellent individual above mentioned;- beloved and respected by all who knew his worth, he has closed an useful and honourable life, distinguished by firmness of purpose, combined with mildness and candour, - endeavouring, through a long and consistent course, - to preserve “The unity of the spirit in the bond of peace.” On first coming into this county, about forty years since, he took an active part in founding some, and promoting the interests of most of our Charitable Institutions, cheerfully devoting his time and means to that purpose; and when advancing years obliged him to discontinue his personal exertions, his pecuniary aid was still afforded, nor was it ever solicited in vain. It was but lately that he resigned the office of Treasurer to the Lunatic Asylum, the last public Institution he was able to take a part in, and amongst the first that engaged his attention and support. – He will long live in the grateful remembrance of the poor, to whom he was at all times a kind and generous benefactor; while to a large circle of friends, and more especially to those connected with him by the nearer and dearer ties of kindred and affection, his memory will be fondly cherished, and his loss very deeply deplored.*

John Tyrrell’s career progressed – he became a County Court Judge, Recorder of Tiverton and a Justice of the Peace. He re-married in 1849 to Lucy Clunes Robertson[[23]](#footnote-23) when he was 59 and she was about 23. They lived at Sidcliffe in Salcombe Regis near Sidmouth and Newcourt in Topsham and went on to have three sons, Arthur, Walter and Louie[[24]](#footnote-24). Tragically, Lucy died on 14th September 1854 at Newcourt[[25]](#footnote-25) aged 28 years. John married for the third time in 1857, to Georgiana Nias of Plymouth[[26]](#footnote-26). He was 67 and she was 48. John died in the morning of Friday 10th July 1868 aged 79 at The Bungalow, Topsham Road[[27]](#footnote-27). His death was reported in the Dublin Evening Post[[28]](#footnote-28) and a description of his funeral appeared in the Exeter and Plymouth Gazette[[29]](#footnote-29).

The O.S. map (left) published in 1890 shows ‘The Bungalow’ and ‘The Cottage’ (St. Leonard’s Cottage) with its large garden. Coaver House and Bellair, both named on the map, are located in the grounds of the Devon County Council buildings

Ian M Varndell  
November 2017

1. Exeter Dissenters’ Burial Ground Account Book (Devon Heritage Centre). [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. In a marriage bond (Devon Heritage Centre DEX/7/b/1/1822/64) John gave his address as No. 1 Brick Court in the Middle Temple, Lincoln’s Inn, London. The Middle Temple accepted many Irish students, but a prerequisite was a Call at King’s Inns Dublin, the oldest institution for legal education in Ireland – see <http://www.middletemple.org.uk/about-us/history/later-centuries>. Reports of his marriage – see *Yorkshire Gazette* (2nd March 1822) and 3 below state that he was from Clonard in Co. Meath, about 25 miles from Dublin. It is possible that John was related to Captain John Tyrrell of the Clonard Cavalry, a magistrate in the neighbouring counties of Meath and Kildare, who left Ireland for England in 1798 with his family after, “*positive information to a conspiracy to take away his life*” during the Irish Rebellion (*An impartial narrative of each engagement which took place between His Majesty’s forces and the rebels during the Irish Rebellion 1798* by John Jones, 4th ed., part 1, 1800). [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. Annual Register, edited by Edmund Burke, Vol. 64, p. 245, 1822. [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
4. Devon Marriages Image accessed at [www.findmypast.co.uk](http://www.findmypast.co.uk) on 7th October 2017. [↑](#footnote-ref-4)
5. Public Record Office ref. RG5 Protestant Dissenters’ Birth Registry (1801-1810), Piece 0025, C 2483. [↑](#footnote-ref-5)
6. London and Surrey Marriage Bonds and Allegations, 1795, accessed at [www.ancestry.co.uk](http://www.ancestry.co.uk) on 7th October 2017. [↑](#footnote-ref-6)
7. Gentleman’s Magazine, Vol. 60, p. 281, 1790. [↑](#footnote-ref-7)
8. England & Wales Non-Conformist Burials TNA/RG/4/3987 accessed at [www.findmypast.co.uk](http://www.findmypast.co.uk) on 28th November 2017. [↑](#footnote-ref-8)
9. Westminster Marriages accessed at [www.findmypast.co.uk](http://www.findmypast.co.uk) on 28th November 2017. [↑](#footnote-ref-9)
10. *Exeter Flying Post* 12 December 1822, accessed at <www.britishnewspaperarchive.co.uk>. [↑](#footnote-ref-10)
11. *Exeter Flying Post* 16 March 1826, accessed at [www.britishnewspaperarchive.co.uk](file:///C:\Users\BIOMOL\Documents\EDGT%20Dissenters\Biographies\www.britishnewspaperarchive.co.uk). [↑](#footnote-ref-11)
12. *Exeter and Plymouth Gazette* 11 August 1827, accessed at [www.britishnewspaperarchive.co.uk](file:///C:\Users\BIOMOL\Documents\EDGT%20Dissenters\Biographies\www.britishnewspaperarchive.co.uk). [↑](#footnote-ref-12)
13. *Exeter Flying Post* 30 August 1827, accessed at [www.britishnewspaperarchive.co.uk](file:///C:\Users\BIOMOL\Documents\EDGT%20Dissenters\Biographies\www.britishnewspaperarchive.co.uk). [↑](#footnote-ref-13)
14. *North Devon Journal* 7 May 1829, accessed at [www.britishnewspaperarchive.co.uk](file:///C:\Users\BIOMOL\Documents\EDGT%20Dissenters\Biographies\www.britishnewspaperarchive.co.uk). [↑](#footnote-ref-14)
15. *Exeter and Plymouth Gazette* 21 July 1832, accessed at [www.britishnewspaperarchive.co.uk](file:///C:\Users\BIOMOL\Documents\EDGT%20Dissenters\Biographies\www.britishnewspaperarchive.co.uk). [↑](#footnote-ref-15)
16. *Exeter and Plymouth Gazette* 9 April 1831, accessed at [www.britishnewspaperarchive.co.uk](file:///C:\Users\BIOMOL\Documents\EDGT%20Dissenters\Biographies\www.britishnewspaperarchive.co.uk). [↑](#footnote-ref-16)
17. *Western Times* 2 November 1833, accessed at [www.britishnewspaperarchive.co.uk](file:///C:\Users\BIOMOL\Documents\EDGT%20Dissenters\Biographies\www.britishnewspaperarchive.co.uk). [↑](#footnote-ref-17)
18. *Western Times* 7 February 1835, accessed at [www.britishnewspaperarchive.co.uk](file:///C:\Users\BIOMOL\Documents\EDGT%20Dissenters\Biographies\www.britishnewspaperarchive.co.uk). [↑](#footnote-ref-18)
19. 1841 Census; Devon; St Leonard; District 7, accessed at [www.ancestry.co.uk](http://www.ancestry.co.uk) on 7th October 2017. [↑](#footnote-ref-19)
20. *North Devon Journal* 22 November 1838, accessed at [www.britishnewspaperarchive.co.uk](file:///C:\Users\BIOMOL\Documents\EDGT%20Dissenters\Biographies\www.britishnewspaperarchive.co.uk). [↑](#footnote-ref-20)
21. *Western Times* 7 October 1843, accessed at [www.britishnewspaperarchive.co.uk](file:///C:\Users\BIOMOL\Documents\EDGT%20Dissenters\Biographies\www.britishnewspaperarchive.co.uk). [↑](#footnote-ref-21)
22. *Exeter and Plymouth Gazette* 29 June 1844, accessed at [www.britishnewspaperarchive.co.uk](file:///C:\Users\BIOMOL\Documents\EDGT%20Dissenters\Biographies\www.britishnewspaperarchive.co.uk). [↑](#footnote-ref-22)
23. *Bristol Mercury* 25 August 1849, accessed at [www.britishnewspaperarchive.co.uk](file:///C:\Users\BIOMOL\Documents\EDGT%20Dissenters\Biographies\www.britishnewspaperarchive.co.uk). [↑](#footnote-ref-23)
24. 1861 Census; Devon; St Leonard; District 7, accessed at [www.ancestry.co.uk](http://www.ancestry.co.uk) on 7th October 2017. [↑](#footnote-ref-24)
25. *Western Times* 23 September 1854, accessed at [www.britishnewspaperarchive.co.uk](file:///C:\Users\BIOMOL\Documents\EDGT%20Dissenters\Biographies\www.britishnewspaperarchive.co.uk). [↑](#footnote-ref-25)
26. England, Select Marriages, 1538-1973, accessed at [www.ancestry.co.uk](http://www.ancestry.co.uk) on 7th October 2017. [↑](#footnote-ref-26)
27. *Western Daily Press* 13 July 1868, accessed at [www.britishnewspaperarchive.co.uk](file:///C:\Users\BIOMOL\Documents\EDGT%20Dissenters\Biographies\www.britishnewspaperarchive.co.uk). [↑](#footnote-ref-27)
28. *Dublin Evening Post* 13 July 1868, accessed at [www.britishnewspaperarchive.co.uk](file:///C:\Users\BIOMOL\Documents\EDGT%20Dissenters\Biographies\www.britishnewspaperarchive.co.uk). [↑](#footnote-ref-28)
29. *Exeter and Plymouth Gazette* 17 July 1868, accessed at [www.britishnewspaperarchive.co.uk](file:///C:\Users\BIOMOL\Documents\EDGT%20Dissenters\Biographies\www.britishnewspaperarchive.co.uk). [↑](#footnote-ref-29)