

# John Wingfield Stratford

## *Addington Place*

The second son of **Richard** and **Amelia Wingfield** was **the Hon John Wingfield Stratford**, born on 2 August 1772 at *Powerscourt*, co Wexford. He assumed the additional name of **Stratford**, his mother's maiden name, by Royal Sign Manual in 1802, in accordance with the will of his uncle, **Edward Augustus, 2<sup>nd</sup> Earl of Aldborough**. From 1777 (when **John** was just five years old), he and his brother, **Edward**, who was born that year, were in receipt of an annuity of £200 from the Irish Tontines. Who the provider of this bounty was is not known. Having joined the Coldstream Regiment of Guards, he eventually rose to the rank of Lieutenant Colonel. **Captain the Hon John Wingfield Stratford** married firstly, on 25 April 1797, **Frances**, only child of **Leonard Bartholomew** of *Addington Place*, near Wrotham, Kent. **John's** place of abode at the time of his marriage is listed in the *Addington Parish Register* as St James, Middlesex, which I take to be the parish of St James, Piccadilly. Witnesses to the marriage at Addington Church were **Frances** and **Leonard Bartholomew**, the bride's parents, **John**<sup>1</sup> and **Doro. Larking** of *Clare House*, Christian Franklyn and Frances Davis. **Dorothea Larking** was actually a cousin of **John Wingfield Stratford**, being the daughter of his uncle and aunt, **Sir Charles** and **Lady Isabella Style**. **Frances Wingfield Stratford** died on 13 July 1829 aged 53 years. He married, secondly, on 1 August 1833, **Harriette**, daughter of **Henry Grant**, Esq., of *The Knoll*, Glamorganshire. **John** died at 12 Stratford Place, W1, London, on 3 August 1850 aged 78 years and **Harriette** remained alive until 28 March 1863, when she was aged 80. She was responsible for the restoration of Addington Church in 1856. The church dates from 1403:

*In fourteen and none,  
Here was neiuther stick nor stone;  
In fourteen hundred and thee,  
The goodly building which you see*<sup>2</sup>.

**John Wingfield Stratford's** will, signed on 20 March 1850<sup>3</sup> in the presence of Charles and William Oakes, both of 13 John Street, Bedford Row, was proved in London on 26 September 1850 before the Worshipful James Varter Jeane and probate was granted. The chief provisions of his will were That he be buried at *Addington Place* "in such manner as my executors may approve avoiding as much as possible all ostentation and unnecessary exposure", that a marble tablet to the memory of the late **Mr & Mrs Bartholomew** and their daughter (his late wife) be placed in the chancel of Addington Church and that "a suit of mourning be given to each such poor man and woman residing within the parish", that all his just debts, funeral and testamentary expenses be paid without delay, and, according to his marriage settlement, that his present wife, **Harriette**, should have the house and property called *St Vincent* in *Addington Park* purchased from Mr William Groom except for land already entrusted to a tenant together with the fixtures, fittings and plate, for her life and later to revert to his daughter, **Frances Amelia Hall** and then to his son, **John Wingfield Stratford**. The following bequests were made:

to **Harriette Wingfield Stratford** £500 stg to make additions to the furniture of *St Vincent's* "as she may think proper";  
to **Frances Amelia Hall**, £400;  
to his other daughter, **Harriott**, wife of **John Malcolm** of Lanorby Esq £300;  
to **John Malcolm** himself, £500;  
to **Isabella Malcolm**, their daughter, "my little pony called Whisky";  
to his brother, **the Honourable Edward Wingfield**, £1,000 "and also my other cob pony and my gold repeating watch as a token of my sincere regard and esteem for him";  
to **Miss Charlotte Style** of *The Vale*, Addington, daughter of **Robert Style**, **Sir Charles's** brother, £20 "as a small token of kind remembrance" (she lived in Addington with her younger sister, **Clara**);  
to **the Revd Lambert Larking**<sup>4</sup>, Vicar of Ryarsh (and first Hon Secretary of the Kent Archeological Society) £100;

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<sup>1</sup> John Larking was a leader of the timber merchants' cartel and with his partner, John Bowsher of Chepstow, made money from the awarding of contracts for the supply of timber for the Navy in spite of the efforts of Lord St Vincent, First Lord of the Admiralty, to clean up abuses in the system. John Larking in 1804 was Purveyor General of the Navy Board.

<sup>2</sup> Inscribed on the wall of the church.

<sup>3</sup> 32/30/11/2120 Documents Online

to Charles George Bannister of John Street, Bedford Row in the County of Middlesex, Gentleman, £100

to his butler, William Ipps, £100 “lent to him by me and I hereby do acquit and release him from the repayment thereof as a reward for his long and faithful services and care of me in many severe illnesses”;

to his steward, William Brown, £30;

to his housemaid at Addington, Jane Buss, “for her very loyal and faithful services”, £30;

to his coachman, James Clarke, “as a faithful good servant”, £25;

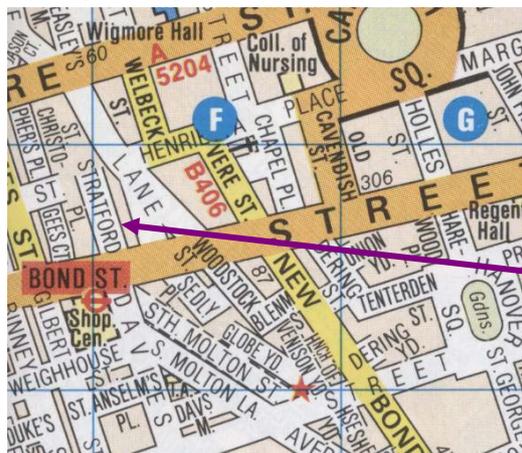
to his under-butler, William Chilton, “for his faithful services”, £20;

to each of his other servants who, at the time of his decease, had been “in service twelve months and upwards, one year’s wages over and above what may be due to each of them respectively”;

to the Treasurer for the time being of the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts, £50;

to the Rector of Addington to be distributed “in such manner as he shall think expedient and beneficial”, £30;

to his daughter, **Frances Amelia Hall**, in addition to the £7,000 already allocated to her through her marriage to **the Venerable John Cecil Hall**, Archdeacon of the Isle of Man (by then deceased) another £7,000 with interest at the rate of 4% for her own use to be financed through his estates in co Carlow, Ireland;



to his other daughter, **Isabella Harriott Malcolm** and her husband the same to be likewise financed through his estates in co Wicklow, both bequests to be free of legacy duty which was to be paid out of his residuary personal estate;

to his son, **John Wingfield Stratford**, his estates in Carlow, Wicklow Queen’s Count or elsewhere in Ireland and at Addington and the estate called the **Stratford Place Estate** partly held under the City of London and partly purchased by himself from the trustees of the Conduit Fields Estate as well as the remainder of his personal estate and effects after the payment of funeral and testamentary expenses;

to each of his children an equal share of the £3,000 bequeathed to him by his sister, **the Honourable Amelia Spread** and published in her last Will and Testament on 15 December 1831.

The appointed joint Executors were set down as his son, **John Wingfield Stratford**, his son-in-law, **John Malcolm**, and his brother, **Edward Wingfield**.

**John Wingfield Stratford’s** Addington landholdings totalled more than 330 acres, some arable and some wooded, together with 21 cottages, 2 houses, a farmhouse, the *Addington Park mansion* and *St Vincent’s House, the church and the Angel Inn*. Hops were extensively grown and there was an oast house<sup>5</sup>.

“The Parish of Addington is not unpleasantly situated, being for the greatest part on high ground, adjacent to the northern side of the Maidstone Road at the twenty-seven mile stone, ... hence the ground rises and at a small distance above it is the mansion and garden of *Addington Place*, pleasantly situated on the side of a hill, having a lawn and avenue down to the road ... , whose father owned the manor married **Robert Watton**, who thenceforward resided at Addington and was buried in the church. The property



descended to **Thomas Watton** and finally to **Edmund**.<sup>6</sup> The chief monument in the Church of St Margaret of Antioch, Addington, is that of the Watton<sup>7</sup> family, erected in the second half of the 17<sup>th</sup>

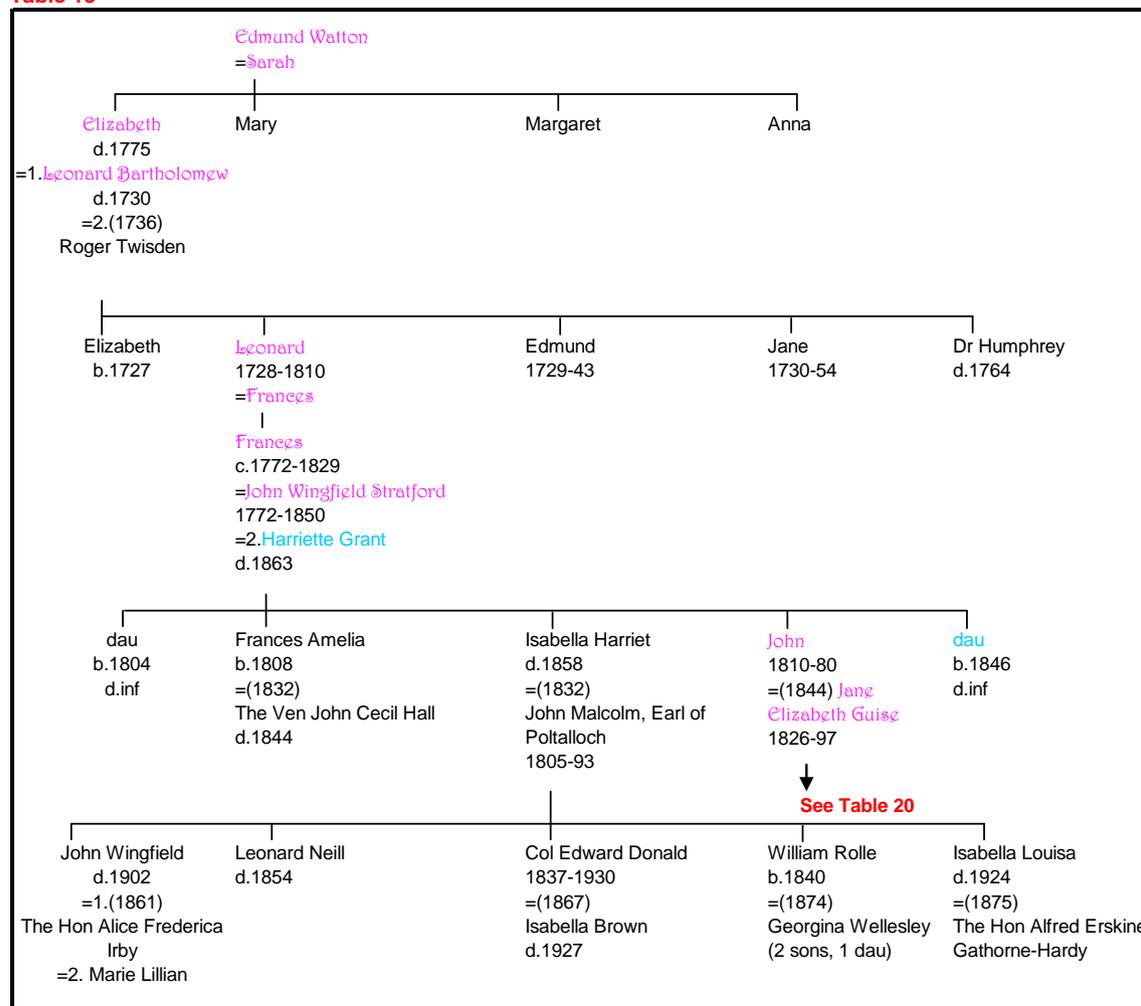
4 Lambert Blackwell Larking (1797-1868) was the son of John and Dorothea of *Clare House*. He married Frances, daughter of Sir Jervis Twysden, 5th Baronet (1760-1834) and Frances Wynch.

5 1849 Tithe Apportionment

6 Institute of Historical Research: *Historical and Topographical Survey of Kent*, Vol 4 (1798)

Century, with two tablets added later. It gives a complete overview of the family for six generations, including the information that **Edmund Watton** and his wife, **Sarah**, had four daughters of whom

**Table 13**



**Elizabeth** became the sole heiress who survived her parents. She died at *Addington Place* on 18 October 1801. Her first husband was **Leonard Bartholomew** of Oxenhoath, the father of **Frances Wingfield Stratford**. These Bartholomews are well represented in *the Parish Register of Addington* in the 18<sup>th</sup> and the early part of the 19<sup>th</sup> Centuries. Baptisms are recorded for **John Knox**, son of **J Phillip Bartholomew**, on 1 December 1719, and four children of **Leonard Bartholomew** and his wife, **Elizabeth**. These were

**Elizabeth** (15 June 1727) who died an infant,

**Leonard** (30 June 1728), who died at *Addington Place* on 28 July 1814 aged 82 years. He married **Mrs Thornton, née Wildash**, daughter of **Mr Wildash** of Chatham and was father of **the Hon Mrs Wingfield Stratford**, who was named after her mother, **Frances**.

**Edmund** (12 May 1729) who died on 17 July 1743 aged 14 years,

and **Jane** (12 July 1730). Jane died on 23 January 1754 in her 24th year.

**Leonard Snr** died on 8 October 1730, whereupon **Madam Elizabeth Bartholomew**, widow, married **Roger Twisden**, Esq. (q.v.) She survived him and died in 1775.

**Mary,**  
**Margaret**  
and **Anna**.

In West Malling Parish Church is a memorial to

7 The Watton family were long settled at Addington – the Herald's *Visitation of Kent 1619* reveals at least seven earlier generations, beginning with the marriage of 'Robertus Watton de Addington' who married Alicia Snath of that place. No year is given.

"**Humphrey Bartholomew**, MD, youngest son of **Leonard Bartholomew** Esq<sup>r</sup>, and **Elizabeth** his wife, late of Oxenhoath in this county who departed this life the 15<sup>th</sup> day of December 1764. To whose memory his nephew **Leonard Bartholomew** of Addington, Esq<sup>r</sup>, erected this monument."

## Some Wingfield Stratford Children

### Fanny, Isabella and John

I return now to the family from which **Colin** is descended.

**John** and **Frances Wingfield Stratford's** first child was a daughter, born at their house in Devonshire Place, London, on 16 June 1804, but died soon after her birth.

**Frances Amelia Wingfield Stratford (Fanny)** was born on 9 January 1808 at *Powerscourt*, co Wexford, and baptised on 12 March following at Addington, Kent. On 31 July 1832, she married **the Venerable John Cecil Hall**, collated Archdeacon of Man in June 1839 and Rector of Kirk Andreas. He was the son of the **Dean of Durham, the Very Revd Charles Henry Hall**, also Dean of Christ Church, Oxford, by **the Hon Anna Maria Bridget Byng**, aunt to the then **Viscount Torrington**. Thus she must have been a sister to **John Byng**, who wrote *Rides around Britain*. **John Cecil Hall** was a student of Christ Church, Oxford, and was presented in 1832 by the Lord Chancellor to the Rectory of Great Cressingham with Bodney, Norfolk.<sup>8</sup> A man of lively, engaging manners, he was an amiable and sincere Christian. He died on 8 February 1844 at Kirk Andreas.

The next daughter,

**Isabella Harriet Wingfield Stratford**, joined her sister, **Frances**, in a double wedding on 31 July 1832 at "Mary la Bonne", her husband being **John Malcolm**, Deputy Lieutenant, JP for Kent and Argyllshire, 14<sup>th</sup> Earl of Poltalloch, Argyll, and youngest son of **Neill Malcolm**, 13<sup>th</sup> Earl of Poltalloch and his wife, **Harriet Mary**. She died on 30 September 1858. The Earl lived on until 30 May 1893, when he was aged 87. **John Malcolm** was born on 5 September 1805. He built up a noted art collection, which is now in the British Museum. This he began mainly after Isabella's death and he eventually acquired close to a thousand drawings and engravings, among them being works by such old masters as Michelangelo, Rembrandt van Rijn and Titian. With the death of their eldest son,

**John Wingfield Malcolm** (16 April 1833-6 March 1902), the peerage became extinct. He was educated at Eton and Christ Church, Oxford, where he gained an MA. He firstly married **the Hon Alice Frederica Irby** on 25 July 1861 and secondly **Marie Lillian** on 3 November 1897.

The second son,

**Leonard Neill Malcolm** was educated at Eton and died at the Battle of Inkerman on 5 November 1854.

Of their other three children,

**Colonel Edward Donald Malcolm** became the 16<sup>th</sup> Earl. Born on 13 November 1837, he was educated at the Royal Military Academy, became Deputy Lieutenant of Argyllshire and a JP, Boundary Commissioner for Scotland and engineer to the Secretary of Scotland for piers and harbours (West Highlands and Islands, 1890-92). He is credited with breeding the West Highland white terrier. He was created a Knight Commander of the Order of the Bath in 1881 and died on 20 March 1930. On 17 July 1867, he married **Isabella**, daughter of **John Wyld Brown**; she died on 3 March 1927, having borne him six sons and two daughters. The 19<sup>th</sup> Earl, **Robin Neill Lochnell Malcolm**, his great-grandson, carries on the Poltalloch line.

**William Rolle Malcolm** was born on 10 January 1840. Educated at Eton and with an MA from Balliol College, Oxford, he became Assistant Under-Secretary of State for the Colonies. He was a Barrister-at-Law and Chairman of Messrs Coutts & Co. He married on 22 July 1874 **Georgina**, daughter of **Lord Charles Wellesley** and had two sons and a daughter.

**Isabella Louisa Malcolm** married on 3 August 1875 **the Hon Alfred Erskine Gathorne-Hardy**. She died on 17 August 1924.

By **John Wingfield Stratford's** second wife, **Harriette Grant**, there was at least one child, a daughter born on 22 December 1846. She may not have survived long.

The heir, however, was

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<sup>8</sup> *Crockford's Clergy List*

**the Hon John Wingfield Stratford**<sup>9</sup> of *Addington Park*, Deputy Lieutenant, JP, and High Sheriff of Kent in 1873. He was born at *Powerscourt* on 10 December 1810 and married on 10 December 1844, **Jane Elizabeth**, daughter of **General Sir John Guise**, 3<sup>rd</sup> Baronet, GCB, of Elmore, Gloucestershire.

The three young Wingfield Stratfords, **Fanny**, **Isabella** and **John**, with their parents moved into *Stratford House* in London in 1820. Elaborate gaities were organized for their parents until the untimely death of their mother, **Frances**, caused a break in their ordered existence. After his remarriage, **John Wingfield Stratford's** family moved first to No 9 and then to the dower house, No 12 Stratford Place.

## In Addington Church



In St Margaret's Church, Addington, there are several memorials to **John** and **Jane Wingfield Stratford** including plaques, a window commissioned by their children, and a reredos in memory of **John** erected by his widow at Christmas 1881, he having died on 8 May previously. In the porch is a small light depicting St Elizabeth placed in memory of **Jane** by her brother, **Lieutenant General John C Guise** in 1897. Another brother, **Julian Guise**, MA, Rector of the parish in 1897, erected the companion light, **Faith**, to her memory. Her children also built a lych gate as a tribute to their mother. She died on 20 February 1897 aged 71 years.



Faith

**John** and **Jane's** eldest son,

**Edward John Wingfield Stratford**, was born at *Powerscourt* on 26 February 1849. He settled on a military career and became a lieutenant in the Scots Guards. He died unmarried on 21 April 1903 aged 54 years. Having succeeded his father in 1881, he seems to have spent money at a torrential rate so that *Stratford Place* and the family estates in Kent and Ireland had to be sold to meet his debts.

*Addington Park* remained in the Wingfield Stratford family until 1887, when it was bought by C J S Whitburn, Esq. The house was used as a military hospital during World War I and, some time later, was allowed to become derelict, during which period it was partly destroyed by fire. The gatehouse remains as a private residence and the huge park, with its original stone wall largely intact, is now a golf course. In addition to *Addington Park*, in 1876, **John Wingfield Stratford** owned 1321 acres and 27 perches of land in co Sligo, Ireland, valued at £356/10/-<sup>10</sup>.

<sup>9</sup> Debrett: *Illustrated Peerage Baronetage Knightage & Companionage* - London - Dean & Son (1902)

<sup>10</sup> Griffith's Valuations



The reredos in Addington Church is in memory of John Wingfield Stratford (the Younger)

