

The Tippling Dean Kipling.

Thomas Kipling was born in Bowes in 1745, the son of William Kipling, a cattle dealer, and his wife Margret. William was in turn the son (b1708) of Thomas Kipling of Bow-fields.

Thomas's brothers Robert (1748) and Richard (1756) are also recorded in the Bowes parish register (and possibly also sisters Margaret (1750) and Hannah (1754)).

("Mr") William Kipling was buried in Bowes in 1777 (aged 69) and ("Mrs") Margaret Kipling (widow) in 1779 (age 75).

Thomas Kipling was educated at Sedbergh School and St John's College, Cambridge. He entered the latter in 1764 as a sizar (a student who had to work for the wealthy students). He graduated BA in 1768 (he was First Wrangler in the mathematical tripos i.e. the top maths student of his year), was elected fellow in 1769 and progressed to DD in 1784. In 1787, he was appointed deputy regius professor of divinity when the incumbent, Dr Richard Watson, was ill.

His main publication was the *Codex Theodori Bezae Cantabrigiensis* (1793) which was a marvellously printed version of a 5th century Greek and Latin text of the new testament in an ancient script

The edition was unfortunately marred by some basic linguistic errors in the Latin preface which led to his enemies calling it a "disgrace to a literary society" and coining the term "a Kiplingism" to mean a grammatical error.

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ΕΞΙΣΤΕΙ ΚΑΤΟΙΚΟΝΤΑΡΧΟΣ ΦΩΝΗΤΑ
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ΤΟ ΜΗΜΑ ΑΥΤΟΥ Ψ ΤΟΣΤΡΕΨΑ ΣΑΙ Ε
ΗΤΟΙΜΑΣΑΝ ΑΨΜΑΤΑ ΚΑΙ ΜΥΡΑ
ΚΑΙ ΤΟ ΜΕΝ ΣΑΒΒΑΤΟΝ ΗΣΥΧΑΣΑΝ ΜΙΑ ΔΕ
ΤΩΝ ΣΑΒΒΑΤΩΝ ΟΡΘΟΥ ΒΑΘΕΛΩΣ
ΗΡΧΟΝΤΟ ΕΠΙ ΤΟ ΜΗΜΑ ΦΑΙΡΟΥΣΑΙ
ΑΝΤΟΙΜΑΣΑΝ ΚΑΙ ΤΙΝΕΣ ΤΩΝ ΑΥΤΑΙΣ
ΕΛΟΓΙΖΟΝΤΟ ΔΕ ΕΝΕ ΑΥΤΑΙΣ

The following EPIGRAM turns on the DOCTOR'S Blunder
of "Paginibus" for "Paginis," in his CONEX.

IN THOMAM KIPLINGUM, D. D.
CANTABRIGIENSEM.

Mors sit si vultum ex auro formare Gœorgi,
Lex audacem aliquem fingere verba finet ?
Oh, utinam acciperet Censorum curia ! saltem aut
Conservare mihi jura Latina daret ;
Pro "Doctore" esles "Crassus" Kiplinge ! teneres
At tu nomen adhuc, Pagina, crede tuum !

Morning Post (London, England), Friday, June 21, 1793;

According to the Oxford Dictionary of National Biography, Thomas made himself unpopular by being a bitter and personal critic of those with unorthodox views, including Unitarians, Calvinists and, late, Roman Catholics.

Also from the ODNB: *In the former he [Charles Symmons] expressed some whig doctrines which were seized on by his political antagonists at Cambridge. One of them, Thomas Kipling, borrowed the manuscript under some pretence and then sent extracts, garbled and detached from the context, to the bishop of St. David's, Windham, and others. Symmons thereupon wrote to Kipling a 'long and powerful letter' of reproach, fifty copies of which were printed and distributed by Henry Gunning among members of the university.*

In his early career, Thomas also published a minor work on optics.

In 1776, banns were read at Bowes by the "Rev Mr Kipling (pro tem)". This was probably Thomas on a visit home from Cambridge, possible when his father was ill (William died the following year).

In 1784 he became vicar of Holme-on-Spalding-Moor. He additionally became dean of Peterborough in 1798, allegedly as a reward for political support for the Tories, having earlier failed to be elected to the Lady Margaret professorship at Cambridge due to his unpopularity.

Richard Porson of Trinity College wrote "To Dr Kipling" about him:

*Orthodoxy's staunch adherent,
Bishop Watson's great vice-gerent,
Sub-Professor Dr Kipling
Leave off your Yorkshire trip of tipping:
For whilst thy Beza is in hand
Man's salvation's at a stand.*



On June 10th 1793, the poem below appeared in the Morning Chronicle

A N O D E
TO THE
REV. THOMAS KIPLING, D. D.
DEPUTY-PROFESSOR OF DIVINITY IN THE UNIVERSITY OF
CAMBRIDGE, AND EDITOR OF THE MANUSCRIPT OF THEODORE
BEZA; A CAMBRIDGE GENTLEMAN.

In Imitation of the Laureat.

Sieur KIPLING, Sieur KIPLING, in knowledge a stripling,
Though by years and grave looks for an adult you pass;
Will thatching your skull, make the inside less dull,
Or the skin of the lion* ennobles ** ***?
'Twas wrong to aspire, to lift yourself higher,
The further you mount, you will seem to be less tall;
So small is your size, you appear to our eyes,
A dwarf statute perched, on a lofty pedestal.
With laughter at first, we are ready to burst,
When we see you stuck up in the chair as Professor;
But our mirth is soon check'd, and with grief we reflect,
That we had a LANDAFF, and we have—his successor.
A footman, no doubt, when his master is out,
Will sometimes make free with his holiday clothes;
In plumes not his own, he parades through the town,
Exposes himself, and is pull'd by the nose,
So when WATSON departed, you candidate started,
And squatted your impudent haunch on his seat;
But your plot was betray'd, for as soon as you bray'd,
Not a freshman but smok'd you, and scouted the cheat.
Then did † heavenly-science, indignantly fly hence,
And leave us to dulness and orthodox lore;
To read was forbidden, enquirers were chidden,
And ‡ ignorance brought forth devotion once more.
To Faith, Common-sense, gave such heinous offence,
It was offer'd, the victim most pleasant to God;
So my lads, if you're wise, and all pull out your eyes,
You'll clearer discern the Jerusalem road.

"What damnable rogues are your stanch theologues!
§ Said a quondam professor: "they dare to allege,
"That if children devour grapes rather too sour,
"Their father must set his own teeth on an edge."
But my Pegasus strays far away from thy praise;
Let subjects inferior to KIPLING give place!
He shall live in my rhyme, to the end of all time,
If my rhyme get the better of time in the race.
When in Latin you found you were fairly aground,
Your weakness enough to the public was shown;
Why prove what we know long ago? That to you
Both Latin and English alike are unknown.
By example you shew'd *one truth* to the crowd,
Which to juvenile orators must have been pleasing;
"That a man may discourse till he makes himself hoarse,
"Sans matter, sans manner, sans language, sans reason."
Here I light off my steed, just to give him a feed,
And when he's refresh'd, I'll remount him with glee;
Then visit, please Heaven, the whole *twenty-seven*, ¶
And clear their dull organs with *three times thrice three*.

(To be continued.)

ET NOS TELA.

* See Aesop's Fables.—N. B. In a copy of verses describing a Cambridge commencement, Dr. WATSON is called "Divinity's Lion."

† Theology to wit.

‡ Alluding to the old maxim, *Ignorantia mater est devotionis*.
§ *Intolerantiam theologorum ecclesiam!* Dr. W. in his Commencement Speech, 1787.

¶ The number of Mr. Friend's accusers. This they take for an omen that they are actuated by divine inspiration; at the same time they observe that Mr. Friend cannot complain of an unfair attack, since it is only the cube of three to the cube of one, which every body may prove by common multiplication to be a perfect equality. This sentiment is expressed in a very *pittoresque* manner by the Christian Poet Prudentius:


Ter trinitatibus tribus
Par una semel est unitas,

Dean Kipling (1798-1822) is chiefly remembered from his alterations to the lantern tower. He erected unsightly turrets at the four corners and removed the octagon. These turrets, commonly spoken of with derision as "Dean Kipling's chimneys" were of unsuitable height, and poor detail; they were terminated with battlements. They were happily removed when the tower was rebuilt. "The Cathedral Church of Peterborough - A Description Of Its Fabric And A Brief History Of The Episcopal See". W.D. Sweeting (1926)

He never married and died at Holme in 1822. In his will, he appointed his brother Robert and his nephew William to be his executors. He left legacies to the following family members:

- his late brother Richard's children Thomas, William, Robert, Richard, Margaret and Mary
- his other brother Robert's wife Mary.
- George Alderson of Ferrybridge, the husband of his "late niece Margaret" and their children Eliza, Mary, William, George and Frances,
- his niece Elizabeth Shaw and her children Sophia and Elizabeth
- his "cousins" William Carter of Ferrybridge and George Thompson of Cockspur Street, Westminster,
- his "relation" Mr Heslop of St Martin's Lane.

In 1764, his brother Robert was apprenticed to Thomas Sowerby, musician, for £105.


 His Indenture witnesseth, That ~~Robert~~
Robert ~~son of Wm. Hepling of Bow~~
 in the Co. of York Gent.
 doth put himself Apprentice to *Thomas Seely*
 Citizen and *Merchant* of London, to learn his Art, and
 with him (after the Manner of an Apprentice) to serve him from the D

Robert married Mary Wyrill of Ferrybridge in London (St Dunstan's in the East) in 1777. Mary was the daughter of John and Elizabeth Wyrill. Later, her mother married William Carter. She was also the great aunt of William Wyrill (see later).

Robert Hepling of [this] Parish *Butcher* N^o 254
 and *Mary Wyrill* of [this] Parish *Ferrybridge in the County*
 of *York* *spinster*
 were married in this [Church] by [Licence] [the] *Seventeenth*
 Day of *August* in the Year *One thousand seven hundred seventy seven*
 By me *D. Lloyd* [Cleric]
 This Marriage was solemnized between us } *Robt. Hepling* in the
 Presence of } *Mary Wyrill*
J. Bunth } *James Throck*

St Dunstan in the East 17 Aug 1777

Robert is recorded as being taxed at Ferrybridge in 1790.

West Riding of Yorkshire } An Assessment for the
 For the } Land Tax Laid on
 Township of *Ferrybridge* } the Inhabitants for
 in the Div. of *Goldcroft* } the Year 1790

Names of Proprietors	Names of Occupiers	Sum. Amt.
<i>The College</i>	<i>Tho. Mainwaring</i>	<i>3 6</i>
	<i>Robt. Hepling</i>	<i>4 8 1/2</i>

His was last taxed at Brotherton in 1823

Robert was involved in a legal dispute in 1801-7 alongside several Wyrills (Catherine, Elizabeth, William and John Dickon) and others against a William Agar. I have still to discover what this was about.

In the 1822 West Riding directory, there is an entry for Robert Kipling, gentleman, at Ferrybridge and also for George Alderson and William Carter. George runs the Angel Inn – so slightly odd that he was a “surgeon” in 1841. William Carter is also in the 1841 census (aged 80).

DIRECTORY.	
<p>Aislabee John, shoe maker Alderson George, vict. Angel Inn, (post chaise) Bailey John, schoolmaster Barker James, constable and collector of poor rate Barrowclough Alfred, toll keeper, Fer- rybridge bar</p>	<p>Barrick Thomas, wheelwright & house carpenter Barwick Richard, willow merchant Bennet John, tailor, draper & hat dlr. Bradford Joseph, hair dresser, &c. Bradford Thomas, hair dresser, &c. Carter Robert, gentleman Carter William, grocer, tea dealer and seedsman</p>
<p>Holmes Lawrence, saddler and harness maker Hunter James, inspector of taxes Jacobs George Lewis, stocking mfr. Jenkinson John, postman Jenkinson John, house & sign painter Kipling Robert, gentleman Laidman John, vict. Three horse shoes Langhorn Jas. butcher & cattle dealer Lee Thomas, boot and shoe maker</p>	

He and wife Mary died childless and left wills, from which an interesting picture can be built up of the various families into which the Kiplings had married and to whom Thomas, Robert and Mary left legacies (see Appendix).

[Thomas’s sister, Margaret], had married a Thomas Kay Jackson of Lartington in 1771 (witness Robert Kipling) and [their daughter?], Margaret, had married a George Alderson at Birkin, West Riding, in 1794. Their children included Margaret Ann (c1795, Pontefract), Eliza (c 1797, Pontefract), Mary (c1799, Pontefract) and Frances (c1807, Ferry Fryston). Eliza subsequently married a William Wyrill at Ferry Fryston in 1820. George (“surgeon”) and Eliza appear in the 1841 census.

Thomas’s other brother, Richard Kipling, married Mary Barnett at Kirby Stephen in 1784 and had a son Thomas there in 1787. They then appear to have moved to Hartlepool where Mary (1789), Margaret (1795), William (1796), Robert (1798) and Richard (1801) were born.

Kipling Richard, Custom-house Officer

The Universal British Directory 1791. Hartlepool

Son Thomas (a hosier) married Jane DeLaRue at the Old Church, Paddington, in 1808 and their son, Thomas DeLaRue Kipling was christened at St Ann, Holborn in 1809.

Thomas D Kipling married Susannah E Carter (b1807) at Ferry Fryston in 1835. He was a draper in London . He died in 1844.

Thomas D and Susannah had two children, Susannah and Thomas William (1842). In 1851, Thomas William was living with his uncles, Thomas and John Carter, seedsmen and grocers, at Ferry Fryston (the sons of William Carter). In 1861, Thomas William is back with his mother and sister in London (St Pancras). He died in 1866, his sister in 1867 and their mother in 1873.

A Sophia Shaw married William Garnett Taylor in Pontefract in 1827. I can find no other references to the Shaw beneficiaries.

The Dean's cousins would be the children of his father William's brothers or sisters. These latter include Richard (b1710), Thomas (b1712) and Hannah (b1714). It has not yet been possible to trace them further.
