

Mayor Kipling



Edward Kipling was the mayor of Darlington (1869-70). He was born on Christmas Day 1807 in Darlington, the son of Francis Kipling and Jane (nee Teasdale).

Francis Kipling was the brother of James Kipling, the 3xgreat-grandfather of the author of this note. As did James, Francis built up a weaving business over his lifetime, in his case into carpet manufacturing. He died in 1835 (a 'gentleman'), and left Edward (one of seven surviving children), a legacy.

On the 30th ult., at Darlington, Mr. Edward Kipling, carrier, to Charlotte, youngest daughter of the late Rev. Mr. Kane, Wesleyan Minister.

Edward married Charlotte Kane in 1834 and they had four children, Frances Elizabeth, Mary Jane, Charlotte and Eliza. Charlotte was born in Nottingham and her older sister Amelia married Edward's brother John. Charlotte and Amelia were daughters of Methodist minister Lawrence Kane.

Edward was a leather merchant by trade and clearly became somewhat of a local dignitary, being an alderman, director of the Darlington District Joint Stock Banking Company, signatory (along with another brother, John Kipling) of an address to Queen Victoria in 1849 on the occasion of her visit to Darlington¹. He contributed a golden rose to the Darlington mayoral chain (See Appendix 1).

In the 1851 census he was living at 5 Paradise Row, was described as a "currier and leather merchant employing 20 people" and had two live-in servants. In 1871, he was still living there (now called Paradise Terrace) with daughters Mary, Frances and Charlotte (and still two servants), his wife having died in 1862. He is described rather

¹ Visit of Queen Victoria. On the 28th of September, 1849, Darlington was once more in the route of a royal progress. Her present Majesty on her journey from Scot land to the Isle of Wight, most graciously consented to receive an address here. The Bank Top Station was repainted, and hung with evergreens and banners, platforms and terraces were prepared, floral crowns furnished, and all the petty splendour a rural town could muster was brought to bear on the event. At a public meeting, (Robert Henry Allan, esq., in the chair) the following address was decided upon, to be presented by the borough bailiff, such of the local nobility as could attend, the two members for the division, the magistrates of the district, the clergy and ministers of the town, together with Messrs. William Backhouse, Edmund Backhouse, Joseph Forster, Henry Hutchinson, John Kipling, Michael Middleton, Francis Mewbum, jun., Edward Kipling, James Overend, Joseph Pease, J. B. Pease, Nathaniel Plews, Henry Pease, J. S. Peacock, and George Allison

grandly as “Alderman, magistrate, bank director and leather merchant” (see Appendix 2).

Mayor Edward’s daughter, Frances Elizabeth, never married and later lived in Harrogate where she died age 94 in 1931. She is buried in the family grave in Darlington West cemetery.

DDR/EJ/MLA/1/1834/363 27 September 1834
allegation by Edward Kipling, of Darlington, County Durham, bachelor for marriage to Charlotte Kane, of Darlington, County Durham, spinster at Darlington, County Durham sworn before John Marriner (surrogate)

In 1852, he was a witness to his brother John’s will (from where the signature overleaf came).

In the 1858 Post Office directory, he is described as being in business with a Robert Teasdale at Prebend Row. In the same directory, his cousin John (our ancestor) is also mentioned.

Post Office Directory of Northumberland & Durham, 1858

Kipling Edward & Teasdale Robert, curriers & leather merchants, Prebend row
Kipling John, bricklayer & registry office for servants, Laurel cottage, Bondgate
Kipling John, cabinet maker & upholsterer, Grange road
Kirton John, painter & shopkeeper, 7 Blackwell gate
Kyle Gibson, architect, civil engineer & surveyor; offices, Houndgate, & 47 North Bailey, Durham

The Teasdales were a farming family from Cockerton, now a suburb of Darlington but then a village outside it to the NW. John Teasdale had a number of children, including Jane, Edward’s mother, Thomas and John (who were executors of Francis Kipling’s will alongside his elder sons John and Francis). Robert Teasdale (b1811, exact relationship not yet established) married Edward’s sister Mary in 1836.

He was a guardian of the poor for Darlington, along with his (presumably) his brothers John and Francis Kipling, although his partner Robert Teasdale just missed out!

DARLINGTON.
GUARDIANS.—The following gentlemen have been elected Guardians for the township of Darlington for the ensuing year, viz., J. B. Pease, Esq., 639 votes; Joseph Pease, Esq., 567; Henry Pease, Esq., 523; J. C. Backhouse, Esq., 424; Edmund Backhouse, Esq., 423; Mr. Edward Kipling, 518; Mr. John Kipling, 512; Mr. Michael Middleton, 387; Mr. Francis Kipling, 292. There were thirteen others nominated, viz., Mr. T. E. Abbott, 205; Mr. Anthony Hall, 249; Mr. William Robson, 236; Mr. Robert Teasdale, 233; Mr. Thomas Bowman, 196; Mr. James Overend, 189; Mr. John Brodie, 188; Mr. J. H. Dowman, 178; Mr. Thos. Oxendale, 196; Mr. Jeffery Balmer, 90; Mr. R. M. Nelson, 82; Mr. John Teasdale, 79; and Mr. Christopher Watkin, 75. The contest laid between Churchmen and Dissenters, and has terminated in the election of nine gentlemen who, it is supposed, will not sanction the payment of a chaplain for the workhouse.

SERIOUS ACCIDENT TO ALDERMAN KIPLING, OF DARLINGTON. — Yesterday morning, while Mr Alderman Kipling was coming downstairs from his bedroom, his foot slipped, and he fell to the bottom of the stairs. He caught a rail, which, happily, reduced the violence of his fall, but his injuries are severe, his shoulder being dislocated and one of his ribs broken. Dr. Piper was called, who set the fracture and joint, and last evening Alderman Kipling, who, we regret to say, has been for some time in a delicate state of health, was progressing very favourably.

Northern Echo - Tuesday 18 January 1876

Edward died in 1879 and is buried in Darlington West Cemetery, where there is a memorial (section B row 5, stone 9) inscribed as follows:

“East Side:- CHARLOTTE KIPLING. 1802 - 1862. North Side:- EDWARD KIPLING. 1808 - 1880. West Side:- FRANCES ELIZABETH KIPLING. 1837 - 1931. South Side:- MARY JANE KIPLING. 1836 - 1879.”

His funeral appears to have been a substantial municipal affair, as the cutting below shows:

FUNERAL OF THE LATE MR. ALDERMAN KIPLING J.P.

On Saturday morning the funeral of the late Mr Alderman Kipling, J.P., took place at the West Cemetery, Darlington, with every mark of respect. At eleven o'clock the funeral cortege left the residence of the deceased in Paradise-terrace. The hearse containing the remains was preceded by a large body of police under the command of Mr Supt. Rogers and Inspector Scott. Then followed the members of the Darlington Corporation and officials, headed by the Mace-bearer; the Mayor (Mr T. Swinburne), Messrs Aldermen Alfred Kitching, J.P., and Arthur Pease; Councillors F. T. Stevenson, John Morrell, J. Dresser, J. K. Wilkes, E. Manners, Geo. Elwin, W. Foggitt, J. B. Hodgkin, H. F. Pease, Theodore Fry, Joseph Stephenson, William Russell, W. Smith (Borough Surveyor), W. Smith (Gas Manager), J. W. Armitage (Borough Accountant). Next followed the Darlington Fire Brigade in uniform, under the command of Captain John Bowman. Then came the ministers and friends, with the general public, among whom were the Revs. H. Kendall, W. A. P. Johnson, M.A., Robert Bushell (Methodist Free Church Missionary Secretary, Sheffield), Messrs Alfred Backhouse, J. G. Backhouse, J. H. Bowman, J.P., Dr. Piper, G. G. Hoskins, Joseph T. Shewell, Henry Brooks, Ewbank Harrison, John Bonsfield, G. N. Watson, John Airey, Thomas Robson, Richard Robson, George S. Byers, William Hilton, John Rennison, W. Hodgson, Francis Mewburn, and W. T. Robinson. The first mourning coach contained the chief mourners, the Rev. Bryan Dale (Halifax), Mr John Booth (Rochdale, sons-in-law of the deceased), Mr Robert Teasdale, J.P. (a relative, and late partner of the deceased), Mr Andrew Common (Sunderland). The second coach contained Mr Yeoman (Osmotherley, representing the Darlington District Bank), the Revs. A. Holliday, Richard Dimond, and Francis Marrs (the circuit ministers). Then followed the private carriages of Mr Henry Pease, J.P., Mr David Dale, J.P., Mr Alfred Kitching, J.P., Mr H. F. Pease, J.P., Mr Alfred Backhouse, Mr J. B. Hodgkin, and Dr. Piper. The service in the chapel and at the grave was conducted by the Rev. A. Holliday. A number of beautiful wreaths were placed upon the coffin, which was of polished oak, and contained the simple inscription, "Edward Kipling, died Feb. 25, 1880, aged 72 years." The funeral arrangements were most efficiently carried out by the Messrs J. G. and F. [redacted] undertakers.

**Miss F. E. Kipling, of Cleveland House, 21,
York Place, Harrogate, daughter of Mr.
Edward Kipling, of Darlington (net per-
sonalty, £9,750) — £9,884.**

Yorkshire Evening Post - Thursday 28 January 1932

Appendix 1 – Darlington Mayoral Chain



The Mayoral chains of Office were made by a celebrated manufacturing company 'Buller Hutchinson'. The initial chain consisted of twenty links, which was of 22 Carat Gold. The gold for the chain being supplied by way of gold sovereigns from Backhouse's Bank, High Row, Darlington. (Now Barclay's Bank). The chain was paid for by public subscription and presented to the Borough by Mr Edmund Backhouse (Member of Parliament for Darlington) on behalf of the subscribers on 5th June 1873.

Each link of the chain was an English Rose, connected by double 'D's either side.

(Darlington & Durham). The Roses were later referred to as Tudor Roses, however this was perhaps due to personal interpretation, but not as originally intended. When the chain was supplied it was the wish of the subscribers that each succeeding Mayor would add another 'Rose' and double D links, until such time that there was to be twelve chains worn around the neck of the Mayor. The practice of adding links to the chains is believed to have stopped in the early 1900's as the double chain, was proving to be coming to heavy to be worn with any comfort. Each 'Rose' had a locket on the rear for the purpose of adding the details of the Mayor and date of Office.

However the adding of Roses and links each year must be questioned for the following reason:

The original twenty-link chain has obviously been altered as the chain now has two special roses, which denote Queen Victoria's Golden Jubilee (1887) and her Diamond Jubilee (1897). The Golden Jubilee Rose was probably added in 1905 as it does not appear in any Mayoral photograph before this time, as for the Diamond Jubilee Rose, this could have been added about the same time. The two 'roses' that were replaced were no doubt added to the second chain, which came into use in 1882 (nine years after the introduction of the mayoral chains). This is borne out by one of the 'Roses' on the second chain having inscribed on the back 'Edward Kipling 1869' who was Mayor in that year.

As this second chain contained twenty-eight 'roses' and appropriate links, it would seem to indicate that the 'roses' were purchased in advance and that the incumbent Mayor paid for a 'rose' at the end of his year. Fifteen of the roses on this chain had a locket attached to the rear and some contained the name of the Mayor who paid for that 'Rose'.

Appendix 2 - Markets and Banks

“ON February 21, 1878, Darlington Town Council held a meeting that ended at least 800 years of history. The mayor, Theodore Fry, presided over the meeting.

Alderman Henry Pease gave a brief report. Alderman Edward Kipling seconded the resolution, which the rest of the council carried unanimously.

And that was that. The practice of holding a cattle market in the town centre streets a practice that had begun in the 11th Century under the jurisdiction of the Bishop of Durham was formally discontinued.

Business was transferred to a new cattle mart, which the council had built for £14,000 on pastureland near the shed that in those days served as Bank Top railway station.

It was a bitterly contested move. For centuries, Darlington’s prosperity had been built on the market, which made it the agricultural capital of Durham. As well as farmers, shopkeepers and publicans benefitted from having so many people in the town centre every Monday fortnight.

But, as Echo Memories told last week, as the 19th Century drew to an end, the council came to the conclusion that it was not acceptable to have hundreds of cattle, horses, pigs and geese gorming about in High Row which was itself part of the Great North Road and doing what comes naturally to animals all over the cobbles.

The Bank Top market opened on Monday, March 4, 1878. The Darlington and Stockton Times stated: The morning trains brought with them shoals of country folk on various errands bent; ruddy faced and long-coated dealers, plump and good tempered farmers daughters, and those shabbiest of shabby men, the drovers. Under the hammer that first morning were 11 bulls, 198 cows and heifers, 1,762 lean cattle, 115 pigs, 351 lean sheep and 60 fat sheep”.

In the Matter of the Companies Acts, 1862 and 1867 ; and in the Matter-of the Merrybent and Darlington Railway Company (Winding up) Act, 1878 ; and in the Matter of the Merrybent and Darlington Railway Company.

NOTICE is hereby given, that a petition for the winding up by the Court of the. abovenamed Company was, on the 18th day of June, 1878, presented to Her Majesty's High Court of Justice (Chancery Division), by Edward Kipling, one of the Registered Public Officers of the Darlington District Joint Stock Banking Company, whose chief office is situate at Darlington, in the county of Durham, and William Forster, of Darlington aforesaid, Bank Inspector, creditors of the said Company and that the said petition is directed to be heard before the Master of the Rolls, on the 29th day of June, 1878; and any creditor or contributory of the said Company desirous to oppose the making of an Order for the winding up of the said Company under the above Acts, should appear at the time of hearing by himself or his counsel for that purpose ; and a copy of the petition will be furnished to any creditor or contributory of. the said Company requiring the same by the undersigned, on payment of the regulated charge for the same.

Clarks, Rawlins, and Clarke, 66, Gresham House, Old Broad-street. London ; Agents for Allison, Son, and Willan, Darlington, Solicitors for the Petitioners.