

## Memorial 82

### North face:<sup>1</sup>

JANE KINGDON

died 12th February 1783 aged 11 months (No longer visible)

THOMAS KINGDON

died 6th Sep 1789 aged 16 months

ZACHARY KINGDON

died 16th May 1795 aged 25 years

### West face:

..... this monument  
are deposited the remains  
Mr SAMUEL KINGDON  
of this city  
Oct 30<sup>th</sup> 1797 aged 52  
and of his wife  
Mrs JANE KINGDON  
died March 16th 1816 aged 69

### East face:

Here (underground) lie interred  
the remains of  
WILLIAM KENT  
who died Dec 10<sup>th</sup> 1802(?) aged ?1  
&  
FRANCES KENT  
who died Sep 6<sup>th</sup> 1814 aged 79

### South face:

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The family of Samuel Kingdon who is commemorated on this memorial had lived in Thorverton from the 17<sup>th</sup> century and for several generations were recorded as serge makers.<sup>2</sup>

Samuel's father (Samuel Snr), like his grandfather Zachary was a man of property. In 1758 he was insuring all his property for £400, including his stock in trade, and the neighbouring property which was let to a tenant farmer.<sup>3</sup> When his father died the *'Bath Chronicle and Weekly Gazette'* of the 7<sup>th</sup> of June 1792 noted his death, *'Died aged 73 Samuel Kingdon, Serge-maker of Thorverton'*.<sup>4</sup> His will, proved on the 23<sup>rd</sup> of May 1793, left amongst other bequests, his 'Estate called Channons' to his wife Susanna, his son Thomas received *'my great and little furnaces, looms, sleas, harness, dyestuffs and oil in my house'*. His son Samuel dwelling houses in trust for son Zachary and his estate called 'Holes' was subject to an annuity for his niece Grace Tracey.<sup>5</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Description based on 1894 Transcription by W. H. Hamilton Rogers. South West Heritage Trust (SWHT) [www.swheritage.org.uk](http://www.swheritage.org.uk) and 2014 Transcription.

<sup>2</sup> Sutton, Iris – Notes on the Kingdon family.

<sup>3</sup> Chapman, Stanley D: *The Devon Cloth Industry in the Eighteenth Century* Sun Fire Office Inventories of merchants' and manufacturers' property, 1726-1770 Devon & Cornwall Record Society 1978.

<sup>4</sup> *Bath Chronicle and Weekly Gazette*, accessed via [www.findmypast.co.uk](http://www.findmypast.co.uk)

<sup>5</sup> Abstracts of Devonshire wills, 1600-1800 (22 vols) by Olive M. Moger.

Samuel was born about 1745, to Samuel and his wife Susanna.<sup>6</sup> He was one of nine children; his siblings were William ( -1800), John (c.1748-1819), Susanna (1762-1834), Joseph (1755-1797), Zacharias ( -1756), Zachary ( -1795), Thomas (c.1761-1833) and Mary ( -1810). Of the above Joseph his brother was also buried in the Dissenters' graveyard in Exeter with two of his children and a grandchild as well as two of John's children and two grandchildren.<sup>7</sup> Mary's husband Joseph Hunt was also interred there and commemorated on **Memorial 58**.<sup>8</sup>

As the eldest son Samuel might have been expected to join the family business in Thorverton, but he was instead apprenticed to Richard Coffin, a haberdasher in Exeter.<sup>9</sup> On 20<sup>th</sup> June 1768 Samuel was made a freeman of the city, by virtue of having served his apprenticeship to Mr Coffin.<sup>10</sup> Samuel was soon to become Richard Coffin's brother-in-law by his marriage to Jane Kent, sister to Richard's wife. They married on the 17<sup>th</sup> of October 1768, at St Petrock's church in Exeter with a William and Ann Kent as witnesses.<sup>11</sup> Elizabeth Kent had married Richard Coffin the '*haberdasher of small wares*' twenty years before on the 26<sup>th</sup> of March 1749 in St. Peter's Cathedral in Exeter.<sup>12</sup>

Samuel and Jane had nine children spread over twenty years from 1770 to 1790. Zachary (1770-1795), Elizabeth (1773-1831), Susanna (1776-1837), Samuel (1779-1854), William (1782-1858), Jane (1784-85), Jane (1786-1863), Thomas (1788-1789) and Thomas (1790-1817). Most, possibly all, of the children were baptised at Bow Meeting in Exeter but as there is a gap between 1767 and 1772 in the register, we cannot be sure.<sup>13</sup> The first Jane and Thomas, died as infants. The 'cave' in which subsequent members of Samuel's family were buried, was originally made for Jane who died in 1785 aged only eleven months.<sup>14</sup> It cost one pound five shillings.<sup>15</sup> The next burial was that of Thomas on the 9<sup>th</sup> of September 1789. He was just sixteen months old.<sup>16</sup> Ten shillings was paid to open the cave to inter Thomas.<sup>17</sup> It was common practice in the 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> centuries that when a child died his or her name would be reused for subsequent children.

In the same year Samuel and Jane married, Samuel set up his first business. He notified the public by taking an advertisement in the paper stating, "*Samuel Kingdon, ironmonger and haberdasher of small wares who lately lived with Mr. Coffin in Exeter. That he has taken the house with the stock-in-trade in which Mr. William Britnell lately lived at the sign of the Golden Hammer, four doors above the Conduit in Fore Street, where he sells all sorts of ironmongery and haberdashery goods, wholesale and retail.*"<sup>18</sup> It appeared that William Britnell had only been in this business for about a year before he had become bankrupt.<sup>19</sup> In his sister-in-law, Elizabeth Coffin's, will written in 1792 Samuel was still described by her

<sup>6</sup> No definitive marriage record has been found for this union.

<sup>7</sup> Biographies are in the process of being written 25/04/2021.

<sup>8</sup> <http://www.edgt.org.uk/social-history.html>

<sup>9</sup> UK Register of Duties paid for Apprentices' Indentures, 1710-1811, accessed via [www.ancestry.co.uk](http://www.ancestry.co.uk)

<sup>10</sup> Rowe, M M & Jackson, A M: Exeter Freeman 1266 – 1967 (1973) Devon & Cornwall Record Society.

<sup>11</sup> St. Petrock's parish records accessed via [www.findmypast.co.uk](http://www.findmypast.co.uk)

<sup>12</sup> St Peter's Register accessed via [www.findmypast.co.uk](http://www.findmypast.co.uk)

<sup>13</sup> Exeter Bow Meeting (Presbyterian) 1687-1823, accessed via [www.ancestry.co.uk](http://www.ancestry.co.uk)

<sup>14</sup> As note 13.

<sup>15</sup> Report and Account book of Dissenters Burial Ground 1748-1832 [www.swheritage.org.uk](http://www.swheritage.org.uk)

<sup>16</sup> As note 13.

<sup>17</sup> As note 13.

<sup>18</sup> *Exeter Flying Post* 1768, from Garton and King Limited website <http://www.exeterfoundry.org.uk/c3.php>

<sup>19</sup> <https://manholemiscellany.blogspot.com/2007/03/exeter.html> and Kentish Gazette, 26 August 1769, accessed via [www.findmypast.co.uk](http://www.findmypast.co.uk)

as a 'haberdasher of small wares'.<sup>20</sup>

Samuel later expanded the business and as the ironmongery side became more important, he acquired further premises in Theatre Lane. Like many businesses at the time, in 1792 he issued a provincial token for use as money. 'The lack of small change, counterfeiting problems, and the reluctance of the British government to provide a good small coin for the masses to use' was essentially the reason for this.<sup>21</sup>

The token worth half a penny was inscribed 'SUCCESS TO THE WOOLLEN MANUFACTORY' and engraved into the rim 'PAYABLE AT THE WAREHOUSE OF SAMUEL KINGDON'. The obverse depicted Bishop Blaize, the patron Saint of clothworkers.



Zachary, Samuel, and Jane's eldest son, died at the young age of twenty-five and was buried the 24<sup>th</sup> of May 1795.<sup>22</sup> The cave was opened again at a cost of 10/- but not paid for until November that year.<sup>23</sup> He lived long enough to write a will which is a most interesting read. It is reputed that he died after a fall from a horse while steeplechasing.<sup>24</sup> His will dated 27<sup>th</sup> April 1795 was written just under a month before his death. In it he wrote, 'I Zachary Kingdon being of sound mind and perfect understanding but weak and low in body' implying that he probably knew he was dying. *First the silver cup which my horse Ironsides won at Totnes I give to my dearly beloved father*'.<sup>25</sup> He was obviously a keen horseman and proud of the cup although it is not known whether he was the jockey.

*The Gentleman's Magazine* reported his death, 'At Dawlish after a long illness, Mr Z. Kingdon, of New Street, Covent Garden, London, Eldest son of Mr Samuel K. of Exeter; a young man possessed of good abilities and most amiable manners, such as endeared him to his afflicted relatives, and procured him the esteem of numerous friends by whom his early loss will be long and sincerely lamented.'<sup>26</sup>

<sup>20</sup> Elizabeth Coffin's Will (PROB11/1358/239), accessed via [www.ancestry.co.uk](http://www.ancestry.co.uk)

<sup>21</sup> For a good explanation of the token system <https://www.jncoins.co.uk/Shop/content/29-18th-century-british-tokens> accessed 20/04/2021.

<sup>22</sup> As note 13.

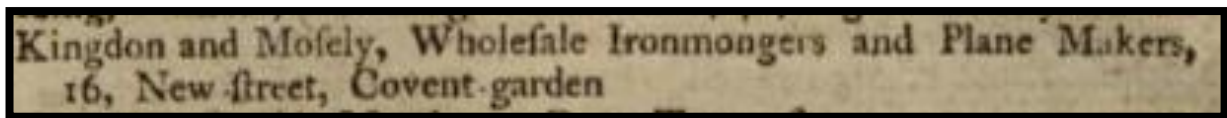
<sup>23</sup> As note 15.

<sup>24</sup> Information supplied in a letter written by Mrs Frances Baker in 1930 to her cousin Walter Kingdon.

<sup>25</sup> England and Wales, Prerogative Court of Canterbury Wills 1384 – 1858, (PROB 11/1262/188) accessed via [www.ancestry.co.uk](http://www.ancestry.co.uk)

<sup>26</sup> *The Gentleman's Magazine and Historical Chronicle*, Vol. 77 1795, London

The address at new Covent Garden was also the abode/workplace of one John Moseley, Zachary's Brother-in-Law. John had married Zachary's sister Elizabeth in 1792 at St. Petrock's Exeter.<sup>27</sup> John was described as a Tea Dealer in the newspaper reporting their marriage<sup>28</sup>, although in Wakefield's Merchant and Tradesman's general Directory for London, 1794, 'Kingdon and Moseley' are listed as Wholesale Ironmongers and Plane Makers, 16 New Street, Covent Garden.<sup>29</sup> Perhaps this was the London outlet for the Kingdon empire? Had John Moseley changed his profession when he married or had the newspaper reported it incorrectly?



Whether the 'Kingdon' listed was Zachary or whether his father was in business with John Moseley and Zachary was merely working there we still must discover, though John Moseley and Sons continued as plane makers for many years at the same address. When both Samuel and Jane Kingdon, Zachary's parents died it appears that John had owed money to both.

In 1797 Samuel died, at the age of 52. The *Sherborne Mercury* reported that, he '*died, after a tedious illness, supported with the patience of a Christian, Mr Samuel Kingdon, of Exeter, ironmonger. He conducted an extensive business through a long period, with honour and integrity. In his death society at large has lost an useful and active member, the industrious artist a humane and benevolent patron; his family and friends will long lament his loss, to whom, in each relation, he was sincerely attached, for it ever contributed to his own happiness in being instrumental to their's.*'<sup>30</sup> Samuel was buried on the 6<sup>th</sup> of November in the cave next to his three children.<sup>31</sup>

In his will which he wrote or updated a few months after Zachary died most of his property was left to his widow Jane, including the premises in Fore Street, Theatre Lane, otherwise known as Waterbeer Street and property in the Pig Market in Exeter, as well as property in Bradninch and Christow. His son Samuel Jnr was left Hole, the farm in Thorverton. His other sons, William, and Thomas were each left £1000. Daughters Elizabeth, Susanna and Jane were also left money, and there were bequests to servants.<sup>32</sup>

Jane continued to run the business. An advertisement written on the 8<sup>th</sup> November 1797 just after Samuel died gratefully thanked the '*nobility, gentry and public of this city and the County for the many favours conferred on her late husband in the Ironmongery business and begs to inform them, she still continues the same, for the benefit of herself and her family in all its branches.*' She stated that she had taken an active part in the business while her husband was alive and with the same assistants, '*the greatest diligence and exactness will be observed.*'<sup>33</sup>

<sup>27</sup> As note 11.

<sup>28</sup> *Bath Chronicle and Weekly Gazette*, 22<sup>nd</sup> November 1792, accessed via [www.findmypast.co.uk](http://www.findmypast.co.uk)

<sup>29</sup> Wakefield's Merchant and Tradesman's General Directory for London, Westminster, Borough of Southwark and Twenty two miles circular from St. Pauls, for the year 1794. accessed via google books 23/04/2021.

<sup>30</sup> *The Western Flying Post; or, Sherborne and Yeovil Mercury, and General Advertiser*, Monday November 6 1797 accessed via [www.findmypast.co.uk](http://www.findmypast.co.uk)

<sup>31</sup> As note 13.

<sup>32</sup> Samuel Kingdon's will (PROB 11/1303/83), accessed via [www.ancestry.co.uk](http://www.ancestry.co.uk)

<sup>33</sup> *The Western Flying Post; or, Sherborne and Yeovil Mercury, and General Advertiser*, Monday November 20, 1797 accessed via [www.findmypast.co.uk](http://www.findmypast.co.uk)



After she retired, the business continued to be run by her sons Samuel Jnr and William expanding into the *"largest manufacturing ironmongery business in the West of England"*.<sup>34</sup> In 1849 when Samuel Jnr was seventy and his brother sixty seven they too retired and sold the business to Garton and Jarvis.<sup>35</sup> Much has been written about Samuel Jnr and his brother William's business so it will not be repeated here, instead see <http://www.exeterfoundry.org.uk/>.

Samuel Jnr, 'Iron Sam', 'Justice Sam' or 'The Knight of the Golden hammer' as he was sometimes nicknamed and his brother William, like the rest of their family were brought up as Dissenters and therefore initially prohibited from holding any official office. Samuel was however eventually *"elected into the Reformed Corporation by the largest majority of the Burgesses which was polled in the city at the first election and was chosen the first Mayor under the new dynasty. He was afterwards appointed a magistrate by the crown"*.<sup>36</sup> In 1854 when he died the obituary in the *Western Times* showed something of his character, *"His manners often brusque and dogmatical, sometimes brought him into wordy conflict with opponents; but his general good heartedness secured for him the popular verdict that 'his bark was worse than his bite'."*<sup>37</sup> For more biographical information see: <http://www.exetermemories.co.uk/em/people/kingdonsam.php>.

His brother William never married. Like Samuel Jnr he invested early in the local railway to Exeter and the surrounding areas. Elected High Sheriff of Exeter in 1841, the newspaper reported that, *"In Mr William Kingdon of Haccombe, will be found all the necessary qualifications for this honorary situation – a gentleman who deservedly ranks in the highest estimation amongst all classes of our fellow citizens."*<sup>38</sup> This was just one of many public and private offices he held. In 1852 he was elected president for that year of St.Thomas' Hospital for Lunatics and in the 1851 census he was listed as an Alderman, a post which he held until his death.<sup>39</sup> He died at his home, Haccombe House in Redhills, just on the outskirts of Exeter on the 6<sup>th</sup> of January 1858 at the age of seventy-six. His executors auctioned his home and all its contents in March just a few months later. The advertisement shows that William certainly lived very well.<sup>40</sup>

Jane went to live in Exmouth where she died on the 8<sup>th</sup> of March 1816. *'Died on Friday last, at Exmouth, aged 69, Mrs Kingdon, widow of the late Mr Samuel Kingdon, of this city, ironmonger, whose cheerful disposition, and goodness, of heart endeared her to her family and friends, and renders her loss lamented by all who knew her.'*<sup>41</sup> Her interment took place on the 14<sup>th</sup> of March in the cave with her husband and children.<sup>42</sup> On the 24<sup>th</sup> of December that year £2 and 2 shillings was paid to place a monument over 'Mrs Kingdon's vault'; this is the obelisk visible today (see above).<sup>43</sup>

Jane's Will, written in 1813, shows just how extensive the Kingdon family's empire had grown. Not only did they have premises in the High Street, Waterbeer Street, Sidwell Street, Exe island and Bartholomew

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<sup>34</sup> Advertisement placed in *Trewman's Exeter Flying Post*, March 15 1849 accessed via [www.findmypast.co.uk](http://www.findmypast.co.uk)

<sup>35</sup> As note 34.

<sup>36</sup> *The Western Times*; Exeter, Saturday January 21 1854 accessed via [www.findmypast.co.uk](http://www.findmypast.co.uk)

<sup>37</sup> As note 36.

<sup>38</sup> *Woolmer's Exeter and Plymouth Gazette*, Saturday, November 13 1841

<sup>39</sup> 1851 census accessed via [www.ancestry.co.uk](http://www.ancestry.co.uk)

<sup>40</sup> *Trewman's Exeter Flying Post*; Exeter Thursday February 18 1858 accessed via [www.findmypast.co.uk](http://www.findmypast.co.uk)

<sup>41</sup> *Trewman's Exeter Flying Post*, Thursday March 14, 1816 accessed via [www.findmypast.co.uk](http://www.findmypast.co.uk)

<sup>42</sup> As note 13.

<sup>43</sup> As note 15.

Yard. They also had the house in Exmouth (Withycombe Raleigh) and property in Christow.<sup>44</sup>

A portrait of her was bequeathed by her grandson Kent Kingdon to the Royal Albert Memorial Museum and Art Gallery in Exeter.<sup>45</sup>



*Jane Kingdon. Maternal grandmother of Mr Kent Kingdon.*

Photo credit: Royal Albert Memorial Museum & Art Gallery

Thomas, Samuel and Jane's youngest son had become a soldier in the 25<sup>th</sup> Dragoon's. In 1812 he was listed as a 'cornet' in Bangalore, rising to Lieutenant in September of the same year.<sup>46</sup> Sadly, Thomas died of a bilious fever near Madras in India on the 25<sup>th</sup> of April 1817, aged 26.<sup>47</sup> The *Exeter Flying Post* noted, "*On the 25<sup>th</sup> of April last, near Madras, East Indies, of a bilious fever, aged 26, Lieutenant Thos. Kingdon, of the 25<sup>th</sup> Dragoons, a native of this city; his loss is sincerely felt by his relatives, and deeply regretted by the officers of his regiment, and all who had the pleasure of knowing him.*"<sup>48</sup>

<sup>44</sup> Jane Kingdon's Will (PROB11/1583/223) accessed via [www.ancestry.co.uk](http://www.ancestry.co.uk)

<sup>45</sup> The sitter has been wrongly attributed as Kent's paternal grandmother whereas she was his maternal grandmother and his great aunt on his father's side; his parents were cousins.

<sup>46</sup> UK, British Army Muster Books and Pay Lists, 1812-1817, accessed via [www.ancestry.co.uk](http://www.ancestry.co.uk)

<sup>47</sup> *The Hampshire Chronicle and Courier* 15 December 1817, accessed via [www.findmypast.co.uk](http://www.findmypast.co.uk)

<sup>48</sup> *Trewman's Exeter Flying Post*, Thursday December 4<sup>th</sup> 1817, accessed via [www.findmypast.co.uk](http://www.findmypast.co.uk)

Two of Samuel and Jane's daughters, Jane Kingdon (d:1863) and Susannah Kingdon (d: 1857) were buried with their families behind George's Meeting in South Street, Exeter, which is now a Wetherspoons public house.<sup>49</sup>

Susanna married her first cousin John Holman Kingdon a Linen draper on the 12<sup>th</sup> of December 1803 at St. Petrock's church, Exeter.<sup>50</sup> They had three children, John (1804-1838), Samuel (1807-1808) and Ellen (1809-1812).<sup>51</sup> John Holman her husband died in 1811 at the young age of thirty, "*after an illness of five years borne with Christian resignation.*"<sup>52</sup> Susannah never remarried and died at the age of 80 on the 27<sup>th</sup> of January 1857 at her home on St. David's Hill.<sup>53</sup> They were all buried behind George's Meeting.

Jane also married her first cousin, the brother of John Holman Kingdon, Thomas Medland Kingdon, a paper stainer, and carpet retailer.<sup>54</sup> They were married in St. Petrock's church, on the 15<sup>th</sup> of September 1807.<sup>55</sup> A total of nine children were born before Thomas died at the age of forty-nine in 1832.<sup>56</sup> It appeared he was thinking of liquidating the business the year before he died. Had he like his brother been unwell? He is recorded as being buried in the Dissenters graveyard.<sup>57</sup> Jane continued in the business at 180 Fore Street as paper stainers, cabinet makers, and upholsterers employing sixteen men, twenty-five women and three boys.<sup>58</sup> Jane died on the 22<sup>nd</sup> of January 1863, after a long illness aged seventy-seven.<sup>59</sup> "*The deceased was endowed with great intellectual power and judgement and she was truly respected and esteemed by a very wide circle of friends.*"<sup>60</sup> She along with two of her daughters, Elizabeth Walker Kingdon (1822-1859) and Anna Susanna Kingdon (1820-1865) were interred behind George's Meeting.<sup>61</sup>

Jane and Thomas Medland's son, Kent Kingdon was a key figure in the establishment of the Royal Albert Memorial Museum in Exeter. As part of his will and after the death of his sister Jane in 1892 their collection was donated to the museum.

### The Kents

On the East face of the obelisk two of Jane's relatives are remembered (see above). It is possible that three of her family are interred within the cave as the burial register records two; one of whom is not recorded on the memorial.

Jane's side of the family were mainly cabinet and furniture makers prominent in Exeter from at least the early 1700'. Her father William, son of Thomas Kent a chairmaker was baptised on the 9<sup>th</sup> of

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<sup>49</sup> 1894 transcription of memorials behind Georges Meeting by W. H. Hamilton Rogers. South West Heritage Trust (SWHT) [www.swheritage.org.uk](http://www.swheritage.org.uk)

<sup>50</sup> As note 11.

<sup>51</sup> As note 13 and Register of deaths kept by the Ministers of George's Chapel, Exeter 1837-1882 (DRO3693D/R1) [www.swheritage.org.uk](http://www.swheritage.org.uk)

<sup>52</sup> As note 49.

<sup>53</sup> *Exeter Flying Post* 29 January 1857 accessed via [www.findmypast.co.uk](http://www.findmypast.co.uk)

<sup>54</sup> *Exeter Flying Post* April 9 1812 accessed via [www.findmypast.co.uk](http://www.findmypast.co.uk)

<sup>55</sup> As note 10.

<sup>56</sup> Georges Meeting (Presbyterian) 1824-1837 accessed via [www.ancestry.co.uk](http://www.ancestry.co.uk)

<sup>57</sup> As note 53.

<sup>58</sup> As note 39.

<sup>59</sup> *Woolmer's Exeter and Plymouth Gazette* January 23 1863 accessed via [www.findmypast.co.uk](http://www.findmypast.co.uk)

<sup>60</sup> *The Western Times*; Exeter Friday January 30 1863 accessed via [www.findmypast.co.uk](http://www.findmypast.co.uk)

<sup>61</sup> As note 49.

November 1704 at Holy Trinity church in Exeter.<sup>62</sup> He was one of three children that we know of born to Thomas and his wife Mary; all were baptised in Holy Trinity church.

There are numerous records of Thomas Kents in business as joiners, cabinet and chairmakers and upholsterers in Exeter.<sup>63</sup> It is probable that they are all related to William, but further research needs to be undertaken.

William and his wife had a total of eight children, Ann ( -1813), Gabriel (1728-1769), William (1733- ), Frances (1735-1814), Jane (1747-1816), Mary ( - ), Susanna ( -1802) and Elizabeth ( -1801). Only Gabriel, William and Frances were baptised at Bow Meeting in Exeter.<sup>64</sup>

We know for certain that William and his son Gabriel continued in the trade. In 1751 William was noted as a carver when he took on apprentice Alexander Voisey (Voysey) who later worked in Fore Street as a carver and gilder.<sup>65</sup> Gabriel was working predominantly from 1753 until 1769 when he died. He was buried on November the 9<sup>th</sup> at St. Petrock's.<sup>66</sup> In 1753 he had married Catherine Lang at Clyst Honiton church.<sup>67</sup> They had five children including Thomas who was also described by his Aunt, Elizabeth Coffin in her will as a cabinet maker. After Gabriel died Catherine continued with the business as a cabinetmaker and upholsterer. An entry in The Dictionary of English Furniture Makers 1660-1840 lists a 'Mrs Kent near the Conduit, Fore St, Exeter, Devon'.<sup>68</sup> This would have been close to Samuel and Jane Kingdon's premises.

In November 1785 ten shillings was received for opening Mr Kingdon's cave for Mr Kent.<sup>69</sup> The *Bath Chronicle and Weekly Gazette* noted that, 'At Exeter, Mr. Wm. Kent, at the advanced age of 81 years.'<sup>70</sup> 'He had recently retired from the trade and was said to have been in business 'more than fifty years'. The size of the business is difficult to ascertain but already in the late 1740s William Kent owned property in the city including houses tenanted to others. [Exeter Flying Post, 1 December 1785; GL, Sun MS vol. 76, ref. 105246; vol. 85, ref. 115855]."<sup>71</sup>

Both Gabriel and William left wills but, unfortunately, they were destroyed in an air raid on Exeter in 1942.<sup>72</sup>

The William Kent mentioned on the memorial with the death date of the 10<sup>th</sup> of December 1802 is a mystery. It is possible he was Jane Kingdon's brother, whose death date is unknown but without the age of the deceased we may never know who he was.

<sup>62</sup> Holy Trinity Baptismal Records accessed via [www.findmypast.co.uk](http://www.findmypast.co.uk)

<sup>63</sup> Dictionary of English Furniture Makers 1660-1840, ed. Geoffrey Beard and Christopher Gilbert (Leeds, 1986), pp. 500-520. British History Online <http://www.british-history.ac.uk/no-series/dict-english-furniture-makers/k> [accessed 23 April 2021].

<sup>64</sup> As note 11.

<sup>65</sup> UK, register of duties paid for apprentices' indentures, 1710-1811, accessed via [www.ancestry.co.uk](http://www.ancestry.co.uk)

<sup>66</sup> As note 10.

<sup>67</sup> Clyst Honiton Register accessed via [www.findmypast.co.uk](http://www.findmypast.co.uk)

<sup>68</sup> As note 63.

<sup>69</sup> As note 15.

<sup>70</sup> *The Bath Chronicle*, Thursday, December 8 1785 accessed via [www.findmypast.co.uk](http://www.findmypast.co.uk)

<sup>71</sup> As note 63.

<sup>72</sup> See <https://www.genuki.org.uk/big/eng/DEV/DevonWillsProject> accessed 25/04/2021.



Frances Kent, who is commemorated on the obelisk and buried in the cave below was the sister of Jane Kingdon. She was baptised on the 13<sup>th</sup> of July 1735 at Bow Meeting in Exeter.<sup>73</sup> She never married. She died in September 1814 and was buried on the 12<sup>th</sup> of September at the grand age of seventy-nine. Ten shillings was paid on the day of her interment for '*opening Mr Kingdon's cave for Miss Kent.*'<sup>74</sup>

A William Kent is frequently evident in the records of Bow and Georges Meeting. He was one of the subscribers to the founding of the graveyard in 1748 and subscribed to the building of the new George's Meeting House in 1759.<sup>75</sup> Was this Jane Kingdon's father?

### **Moseley**

One final interment mentioned in the records is that of Thomas Moseley the son of John and Elizabeth. The register records, '*Thomas Moseley, an infant, buried Aug 22 1802*'.<sup>76</sup> Ten shillings was paid in September '*for opening cave for Mrs Kingdon's gr. child the 22 Aug.*'<sup>77</sup> Is Thomas Moseley also here underneath the obelisk with his grandparents?

B. G. Coe November 2014

A. Amosford updated April 2021

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<sup>73</sup> As note 11.

<sup>74</sup> As note 13.

<sup>75</sup> Records of Georges Meeting [www.swheritage.org.uk](http://www.swheritage.org.uk)

<sup>76</sup> As note 13.

<sup>77</sup> As note 15.