

No Memorial

Sarah BARHAM	1793 - 1836
Charles BARHAM	1828 – 1830
Kharietta (Henrietta) BARHAM	1832 – 1836



Sarah Barham painted about 1820¹

Sarah Barham (née Garratt) who was buried on 3rd November 1836 was the wife of Thomas Foster Barham.² A plaque in George's Meeting House dedicated to her reads '*In Memory of Sarah beloved wife of Thomas Foster Barham Physician, who slept in Christ October 28th 1836 aged 42*'.

Sarah Garratt was originally brought up in the Church of England. She was born on 15th December 1793 to Francis and Mary Garratt of Dartmouth Row, Blackheath and baptised at St. Mary's Lewisham.³ Her three brothers and two sisters were all baptised at St. Michaels, Crooked Lane in the City of London.⁴ Francis Garratt, Esquire, her father was a Tea merchant based at The Old Swan near Thames Street, London.

In or around 1803 the family moved to Clapham from the Grove, Blackheath and near then started worshipping at Holy Trinity Church best known for the group of people called the 'Clapham Sect' or 'Clapham Saints'; a group of 'friends' interested in reform of the penal system and abolition of the slave trade.

Sarah's mother died in 1806 and her father in 1809.⁵ They were buried in the family vault at Holy Trinity Church, which in his will Francis stated had been 'lately erected at my expense in Clapham Churchyard'.⁶ In his will Francis also allowed his daughters, Sarah, Elizabeth and Mary to live on in the house in Clapham until such time they should marry. Mary was the first to marry in 1815 with Sarah next in 1816 and Elizabeth in 1818.⁷

Sarah Garratt and Thomas Foster Barham were married on 2nd July 1816 at Holy Trinity Church, Clapham. The church register records that Thomas Foster Barham (the younger) was of 'this parish' and a bachelor; Sarah Garratt a spinster. *The Gentleman's Magazine* reported their marriage '2 July Thomas Foster Barham Esq. eldest son of T. F. Barham, Esq. of Penzance, to Sarah, second dau. of the late Francis Garratt, Esq. of London.'⁸

¹ Given by permission of the owner.

² Exeter, Georges Meeting (Presbyterian) 1824-1837, RG4/1085, Ancestry.co.uk (accessed 20/2/2017)

³ 'London, England, Church of England Baptisms, Marriages and Burials 1538-1812' accessed via Ancestry.co.uk

⁴ As note 3 above

⁵ As note 3 above

⁶ 'England and Wales Prerogative Court of Canterbury Wills, 1384-1858' accessed via Ancestry.co.uk

⁷ 'London, England, Church of England Marriages and Banns 1754-1921' accessed via Ancestry.co.uk

⁸ The Gentleman's Magazine, 1816

Sarah and Thomas went on to have twelve children, two of them, Charles aged 3 and Kharietta (see burial ledger) or Henrietta (see newspaper report below) aged 4 years were buried in the Dissenters Graveyard along with their mother.⁹

006	Kharietta Barham Leonard	Daughter of Thos Foster Barham	28 th Oct 1836	4	Henry Ash
007	Sarah Barham Leonard	Wife of Thos Foster Barham	3 rd Nov 1836	43	Henry Ash

Extract from George's Meeting burial register.

Died.
Oct. 28, at Dawlish, in the 80th year of her age, Ann, widow of the late William Nation, Esq.
Oct. 24, at Heavitree, aged 4 years, Henrietta, fifth daughter of Thos. Foster Barham, Esq., M. D., of scarletina.—Also, on the 29th, the wife of Dr. Barham.
Oct. 19, after a long illness, aged 76, Margaret, the beloved

Extract from Exeter Flying Post, 3rd November 1836.

Kharietta (Henrietta) died from a bacterial infection reported as scarletina – probably scarlet fever – a common disease that killed many children in the nineteenth century. Whether Sarah, who died only five days after her daughter, also succumbed to the same illness is not known.

In the 1841 census Thomas was still living in Magdalen Road with eight of his children. Thomas remarried in 1842 to Margaret Henryson who in the 1841 census was living a few doors away from Thomas in Park, Mount Radford. They eventually moved to Highweek, Newton Abbot.

Thomas Foster Barham the husband of Sarah Barham was born in Hendon, Middlesex on 9th September 1794 to Thomas Foster and Mary Ann (née Morton) Barham.¹⁰ His entry in the *Dictionary of National Biography* reported, "After taking his degree he returned to Penzance in Cornwall, where he was physician to the dispensary, and in general practice for several years. About 1830 he removed to Exeter in Devon and became physician to the Exeter Dispensary and Institution for the Blind. From early life he had been attached to the doctrines of Unitarianism, and during the first part of his residence at Exeter actively supported the Unitarian congregation which met at George's Chapel, Exeter. After a time, he expressed an aversion to all dogmatic theology, as well as to the adoption of any sectarian name, and embodied his views on these points in a pamphlet entitled *Christian Union in Churches without Dogmatism*."¹¹

⁹ 'Georges Meeting (Presbyterian) Register of Births, Baptisms and Burials 1824-1837' RG4/1085 accessed via Ancestry.co.uk

¹⁰ As note 3 above

¹¹ *Dictionary of National Biography*, 1885-1900, Vol.3, p.190, London: Smith, Elder and Co.

His paternal grandfather Joseph Foster had taken the name Barham from his stepfather, Dr Henry Barham as a condition of his will¹². Joseph was a friend of John Newton of the Clapham Sect and took the Moravian faith in 1755. Both Thomas's grandfather and his uncle, also a Joseph Foster Barham, were owners of the Mesopotamia Plantation in Westmoreland, Jamaica and therefore owners of slaves, through the will of Henry Barham.

Thomas's father was a well-known musician and composer.

Sarah's brother William Albin Garratt eleven years her senior married Sibella Ann Stephen in 1810.¹³ She was the daughter of James Stephen the abolitionist, member of the Clapham Sect, friend of William Wilberforce and was in fact married to Wilberforce's sister, Sarah. William Wilberforce was one of the witnesses at William Albin Garratt's wedding.

Sarah's brother John Garratt had laid the first stone of the new London Bridge on 15th June 1825 in his capacity as Lord Mayor of the City of London before moving to Bishop's Court, Sowton, near Exeter Devon in 1833.¹⁴ The house remained in the family until the 1950s.

Anne Amosford
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¹² Will proved 26th September 1746, 'England and Wales Prerogative Court of Canterbury Wills, 1384-1858' Ancestry.co.uk

¹³ As note 7 above

¹⁴ A Topographical History of Surrey, Vol 2, by Edward Wedlake Brayley FSA