

No memorial

NATHANIEL WELSFORD	buried 2nd October 1830
MARGARET R WELSFORD	buried 3rd September 1829
JULIA WELSFORD	buried 5th March 1802
WILLIAM R WELSFORD	buried 18th August 1819

Nathaniel Welsford was born on 6th August 1763 and baptised on 28th August in the same year.¹ His baptism took place at Bowder Hill Non-Conformist Meeting at Crediton.¹ His parents were Richard Welsford and Rebekah Weeks who had married on 2nd January 1748 at Shobrooke.² Nathaniel was the seventh child to be born of Richard and Rebekah but only the fourth to survive. The baptismal record from Bowder Hill shows all the children:

Rebekah Welsford born 26th September 1749 baptised January ?
 Giles Welsford born 3rd July 1751 died 10 July 1751
 Giles(II) Welsford born 16th December 1752 baptised 7th January 1753, died 1818
 Mary Welsford born 26th May 1755 died 6th June 1755
 Mary(II) Welsford born 29th September 1756 baptised 26th December 1756
 Nathaniel Welsford born 20th January 1759 died ?
 Nathaniel(II) Welsford born 6th August 1763 baptised 28th August 1763

Nathaniel married Margaret Roope Larkworthy on 15th November 1794 at St. Mary Major, Exeter.³

Margaret Roope Larkworthy was born in 1770 and baptised on 11th December of that year at St Olave, Exeter.⁴ Her parents were John Larkworthy and Mary Upjohn who were married on 6th November 1769 at St David, Exeter.² It is possible that Margaret was the second child to be born to John and Mary as there is a record of a George Roope Larkworthy born in 1769 but it has not been possible to confirm that he was the son of Margaret's parents. Two of her siblings died the same year that they were born - Jonah Lavington Larkworthy (born and died in 1773) and John Larkworthy (born and died in 1779).⁴ Her remaining siblings were:

Mary Ann Larkworthy baptised 3rd January 1772 at St Olave
 Jonah(II) Lavington Larkworthy baptised 5th September 1774 at St Olave
 Julia Larkworthy baptised 16th March 1778 at St Olave
 Anna Larkworthy baptised 28th May 1780 at St Olave
 James Larkworthy baptised 14th April 1784 at St Olave
 John(II) Larkworthy baptised 23rd May 1788 at St Mary Major

Nathaniel and Margaret. When Nathaniel married Margaret in 1794, his occupation was stated to be Haberdasher. In 1806, he was declared bankrupt and was ordered to appear before the judges at the Globe Inn in September that year.⁵

A Lease document, dated 1st September 1819, reported that Nathaniel was a former tenant of a house in or near Meeting House Lane in Exeter.⁶ The Lease which was for one year, was between Reverend John Hughes of Honiton, Reverend James Manning of Exeter and Thomas Murch, a brewer from Titchfield, Hampshire. It stated that another former tenant had been John Ede (see MANNING - <https://t.ly/ABKM6>). There is also mention of Giles Welsford, formerly a Grocer of St. Leonard, Exeter. This is likely to have been Nathaniel's brother.

Nathaniel and Margaret died one year apart; she was buried on 3rd September 1829 and Nathaniel died on 29th September 1830. The newspaper report of his death stated, "*On Wednesday after a lingering illness, which he bore with pious resignation, Mr. Nathaniel Welsford, of this city, aged 68*".⁷

Over a twelve year period (1795-1808) they had had seven children:

Charles born on 5th September 1795 and baptised on 18th February 1796 at Bow Meeting, Exeter.⁴

Julia born on 3rd May 1797, baptised on 13th July of that year and was buried on 5th March 1802 aged 5 years.⁸

Eliza born 20th December 1798 and baptised on 24th October 1799.⁴

John Nathaniel (1802-1845) – see <https://t.ly/tdaRO>.

Susanna Julia born 26th July 1804 and baptised on 29th April 1805.⁴ It is believed that she died in the 1st quarter of 1851 and that her death was registered in Marylebone, London. She was unmarried.

William (1802-1819) – see <https://t.ly/tdaRO>.

Lavington James born on 10th March 1808 and baptised on 18th September of that year.⁴ He married Mary Bidgood on 9th March 1830 in Stoke Damerel, Devon.² It is possible that Mary died in 1849 in Marylebone, London as the 1851 census shows Lavington living in Marylebone with his five year old daughter, Elizabeth.⁹ He was employed as a Leghorn Blocker. Also, at the home there was a house-keeper with her two sons and a young visitor. Mary hasn't been found on the 1851 census.

In 1866, Lavington married Rhoda Prime in Victoria, Australia.¹⁰ According to the Probate Record, he had been employed as a Weighmaster and died in Castlemaine, Victoria on 26th October 1877.¹¹ However, the Australian Death Index records his death in 1879.¹² Note: some records refer to him as James Lavington Welsford.

Yvonne Hensman

January 2024

References

1. England & Wales, Non-Conformist & Non-Parochial Registers 1567-1970, No.RG4, Piece 3558 (www.ancestry.co.uk)
2. England, Select Marriages 1538-1973 (www.ancestry.co.uk)
3. www.ancientfaces.com
4. England, Select Births & Christenings 1538-1975 (www.ancestry.co.uk)
5. Morning Post 18th August 1806 (www.britishnewspaperarchive.co.uk)
6. www.familydeeds.com
7. www.britishnewspaperarchive.co.uk
8. England & Wales, Non-Conformist & Non-Parochial Registers 1567-1986, Piece 0965 (www.ancestry.co.uk)
6. Victoria, Australia Marriage Index 1837-1950 (www.ancestry.co.uk)
7. Victoria, Australia Wills and Probate Records 1841-2009 (www.ancestry.co.uk)
8. Australian Death Index 1787-1985 (www.ancestry.co.uk)
9. England & Wales Deaths 1837-2007 (www.findmypast.co.uk)
10. Australia, Marriage Index 1788-1950 (www.ancestry.co.uk)
11. Victoria, Australia, Wills and Probate Records 1841-2009 (www.ancestry.co.uk)
12. Australia, Death Index 1787-1985 (www.ancestry.co.uk)