

THE WALTON FAMILY OF LITTLE BURSTEAD

The Manor of Great Burstead in history.

The village of Great Burstead is first recorded about 975, as 'Burgestede' meaning 'stronghold-site'. In the Domesday Book of 1086, it is recorded as 'Burghsteda'. "Burghsteda", which Ingar the 'Thegn' then held in King Edward's (1239-1307) time as one manor and ten hides, held by the Bishop in Demense. Then, as now three ploughs on the demesne. Then twelve ploughs belonging to the men, now eleven ploughs. Then, twenty villeins, now twenty-two. Five bordars, now ten. Half a hide of woodland and pasture for one hundred and fifty sheep. There are two rounceys, eleven beasts, one hundred and six swine and two hundred and nineteen sheep. It is worth twenty pounds.

To this manor has been added, in King William 1 time (1028-1087), twenty-eight free-men holding twenty-eight hides and five acres on which there were seven ploughs and now thirteen. There are five hides or woodland, twenty-three acres of meadow and pastures for two hundred and fifty sheep. There are fifty-four bordars and five serfs. This addition is worth sixteen pounds and was then worth twenty.

Held by the Bishop (The Bishop Odo of Bayeux) (The Mitred Plunderer" as contemporary writers describe him) who was appointed Bishop of Bayeux in 1049 by his half-brother Duke William of Normandy, and at this time William was attempting to consolidate his hold on Normandy after his victory at Val-es-Dunes two years previously. Odo was heavily involved in the planning of William's invasion of England in 1066 and contributed one hundred ships to the expedition. He also took part in the Battle of Hastings.

The Bayeux Tapestry, which commemorates the conquest and the famous events of 1066, was probably commissioned by Odo to adorn his cathedral. The Tapestry appears to make the point that as an ordained Bishop, he did not actually take part in the fighting during the battle, but instead encouraged troops at the rear. The Latin annotation embroidered on the tapestry above his depiction reads: "Hic Odo (Episcopus) Baculu(m) Tenes Confartat Pueros." Which translates as "Here Bishop Odo holding a club, strengthens the boys." In 1067, King William I created his half-brother Earl of Kent and on some occasions when William was in Normandy, he served as de facto Regent of England.

The aforementioned probably means that this Manor was his residence and not leased to a tenant. Originally of almost thirteen hundred acres and the large number of ploughs (fifteen) suggests a large proportion of cultivated land plus the large number of livestock concluding a prosperous and valuable manor.

Odda the Ceorl (circa 600AD)

It should also be remembered that this manor had been created in 527 by Odda the Saxon Commander and therefore had the added advantage of history of over five hundred years in which to develop and mature.

The Ceorl was the freeman in Anglo-Saxon society. Although he was not one of the warrior nobles, all able-bodied freemen could be called upon to bear arms in defence of the tribe's homelands.

The Ceorl at this time (c.400-700AD) would have been primarily a farmer, The Anglo-Saxon economy was based on food production and few villages or settlements would have supported specialist craftsmen. Most people had to be self-sufficient in all requirements of everyday life. For this reason, each person had to become a "jack of all trades" although within each community, individuals would tend towards the craft for which they showed natural aptitudes rather than being a specialist craftsman.

Anciently, this Lordship belonged to the Abbot and Monks of Stratford Abbey to whom King Henry III in 1253 granted a market and fair to be held here and this grant was confirmed by Edward I in 1285 but probably discontinued when a similar grant was made to Billericay close by.

In 1551, the estate was granted by Henry VIII to Sir Richard Rich(e) and retained by his descendants until sold on 2nd September 1600 by Sir Edwin Rich to Sir John Petre and his son William. On 21st July 1603, Sir John was created Baron of Writtle and died in 1613 possessed of this manor which has descended through the Petre line for three hundred years.

The Parish of Little Burghsted.

This parish, extending south-west from Great Burghsted, has been sometimes named West Burghsted; the village consists of a few scattered houses, nearly two miles from Billericay. Godwin was Lord of this Manor in the time of Edward the Confessor.

The Manor of White Hall was in the family of Helion in the reign of Henry the Second, and passed in succession to Gilbert de St. Owen in 1301: Humphrey de Walden, who died in 1331, and Andrew his heir, son of his brother Roger; to Humphrey de Bohun, who died in 1372; and to Robert Pekenham in 1377, from

whose descendants it was conveyed to the ancient family of Tyrell, of whom Sir Thomas Tyrell died possessed of it in 1476. It now belongs to the Earl of Arran.

St. Margaret's is the name of another Manor, which was holden by Sir Thomas Tyrell of the King, as of his Duchy of Lancaster, by the rent of two-pence. The manor house of this estate is half a mile west from the church, and near it is a house belonging to an estate named South Fields, which with white Hall and St. Margaret's, descended to the heirs of Sir John Tyrell, bart. And were retained by his descendants till conveyed, by marriage, to the present owner, the Earl of Arran.

"The Church is small, and in an obscure situation; it has thirty-one acres, three roods and seven perches of glebe lands." In 1821 the population of this parish was two hundred & one, and, in 1831, two hundred & four.

Notes:

The chapel and chantry lands were sold, by King Henry the Sixth, to Tyrell; who, reserving the lands for himself, sold the chapel to the inhabitants of Billericay, for whose use it was rented in trustees; but it is not certainly known whether this sacred edifice had ever been properly consecrated. The inhabitants surrendered their legal right to Henry, Bishop of London, on 30th August 1693; and on 8th October 1694, he consecrated and dedicated it to St. Mary Magdalen, with the usual privileges belonging to ancient chapels, but reserving to the mother church all her rights.

In this church there are monuments and inscriptions to the memory of Felton Neville esq; Joseph Fishpool gent; of Billericay, who died in 1659, and of Anne his wife; also several of the family of Thresher of this parish; and of the family of Tyrell, the lineal ancestors of the present Sir John Tyrell. Reverend Bayley Rector of North Benfleet, left an estate of twenty pounds per annum, for the education of ten poor children of the parish. There is also an alms-house for poor females, and a well-conducted workhouse. This brave man signalled himself on many occasions, particularly at the destruction of the Spanish fleet near Messina in 1718. His letter on that event to Sir George Bing read as follows:-

Sir, We have taken and destroyed all the Spanish ships and vessels which were upon the coast (number as per margin) – I am G. Walton, 16th August 1718. Canterbury off Syracuse" The number was: taken, four sixty-gun ships, one of fifty-four, one of forty and another of twenty-four: a Bomb vessel and another laden with arms: burnt, one of fifty-four, two of forty and another of thirty guns, with a gun-vessel and a fire-ship".

- Sir George Walton was knighted on 15th January 1720.

THE WALTON CONNECTION:

A Thomas Walton died in Higham Somerset and was buried at Shapwick Somerset on 02 April 1611. He would appear to be the first of the Walton's in the family line. Married to Ann Hunton of East Knoyle Wiltshire, born in 1548.

Children of Thomas Walton and Ann Hunton are:

Thomas Walton (Had a daughter Andrea Walton who was buried on 15 September 1617 at St. John the Baptist Glastonbury Somerset)

Jacobus Walton (Buried at High Ham Somerset on 04 November 1619)

James Walton (Buried at North Petherton Somerset on 12 November 1593)

Andreas Walton (Baptised 09 November 1569 High Ham Somerset – Buried 24 August 1638 High Ham Somerset). He married Isotta People on 16 March 1637 at High Ham Somerset.

William Walton (Born 1575 – Died 16 October 1640)

A William WALTON, was the father of a Charles Walton who was buried on 11 December 1714 in the Churchyard of St. Mary the Virgin Little Burstead. The question is raised as to whether there was a son Charles or a grandson Charles, who was the person buried on 11 December 1714.

It is recorded that a Charles Walton had a daughter, Pooley Walton (1709 – 1791), furthermore a George Walton who died in 1662) and who possibly married Elizabeth Harris who died in 1665. George Walton was buried on 28th August 1690 at St. Mary the Virgin Little Burstead.

A William WALTON married Mary DETCH (possibly a Widow) on 29 January 1710 at St. Mary the Virgin Little Burstead.

Mary WALTON died in 1748 buried in the Churchyard of St. Mary the Virgin Little Burstead) and

William WALTON died on 24 March 1747, buried in the Churchyard of St. Mary the Virgin Little Burstead)

William WALTON (1711-) Son of Mary and William WALTON (Baptised 03 October 1711 at St. Mary the Virgin Little Burstead.

George WALTON died on 9 May 1779, buried in the Churchyard of St. Mary the Virgin Little Burstead). The son of Mary and William WALTON (Baptised 04 March 1713 at St. Mary the Virgin Little Burstead.

George WALTON was married to Constance Charity WALTON (nee COLE) in 1756 at Great Burstead.

Constance Charity WALTON died in 1773 is buried in the Churchyard of St. Mary the Virgin Little Burstead).

Mary WALTON (Baptised 17 September 1757 - (Daughter of George and constant Charity Walton Buried 30 October 1757).

Sarah Ann WALTON (Baptised 18 September 1758) (Daughter of George)

George (Baptised 20 September 1759) (Son of George)

William Steevens (Baptised 9 June 1766) (son of George) – of Saffron Walden - Buried 12 March 1833 Aged 76.

Admiral Sir George WALTON (1665-1739)

George Walton was born at Little Burstead, Essex in 1665, unfortunately much of his early life is obscure other than that his family had lived in the village for many years possibly at Stockwell Hall.

It is obvious from the opening statement of his Biography (The History and Lives of Distinguished Characters in the British Navy from the earliest period of history to the present time.) that he had an amazing career:- 'Few men have ever obtained greater celebrity, or rather publicity as naval officers, than this gentleman; not merely on account of his services, which, however, were certainly meritorious and very highly entitling him to public regard and favour but from a very extraordinary and apparently trivial circumstances, that will be here after related and which from the oddity and gallantry accompanying it, has caused him to be most honourably noticed by every historian, who has written the annuals of that period, in which he flourished.'

The biography goes on to state that it appears that he was descended from very humble and obscure stock but the fact there are monuments/inscriptions to him and his family in the local village church ' St Mary the Virgin' suggests the family had status certainly within the village of Little Burstead and surrounding area. However it would appear that he raised himself solely by his own efforts, to the highest pinnacle of popular favour and public attention.

He entered the navy and was commissioned Lieutenant on 22 February 1690. His first assignment was on HMS Anne, under Captain John Tyrell. It was not long before he saw action while on board of HMS Anne at the Battle of Beachy Head on 10 July 1690. This battle was the greatest French tactical naval victory over the English and Dutch opponents during the Nine Years' War. Resulting in control of the English Channel temporarily falling into the hands of the French, although this only last a few months before it was back in the hands of the English. HMS Anne lost her mast, unable to escape she was deliberately run ashore west of Rye where her crew abandoned and then burnt her to prevent her capture.

Walton then moved onto HMS Ossory again under the command of John Tyrell and two years later he finds himself in action again at the Battle of Barfleur and La Hougue against the French (still part of the Nine years War) , this time a English victory which put pay to any possible invasion by the French.

In 1693 he was appointed First Lieutenant of HMS Devonshire spending the next few years serving in the English Channel before moving on to HMS Restoration. Then on 19 January 1697 he was promoted to Captain and given command of the 24-gun HMS Seaford, but this did not last long when HMS Seaford was captured and burnt by the French off the Isle of Scilly. Over the next two or three years he took command of HMS Seahorse, then HMS Carcass and was off to the West Indies when in March 1702 took charge of 48-gun HMS Ruby.

He then participated in the Action of August which was a naval battle that took place from 19-25 August between an English squadron under Vice-Admiral John Benbow and a French under Admiral Jean du Casse, off Cape Santa Marta on the present-day Colombia, South America during the War of the Spanish Succession. During the action many of the captains held back with the exception of Walton and his conduct was considered

above reproach. Unfortunately HMS Ruby was disabled by French Fire and Benbow ordered Walton to return to Port Jamaica.

His next command was HMS Canterbury and eventually spent over six years commanding the ship, spending between 1705 and 1706 in the Mediterranean. He accompanied Sir Thomas Hardy in escorting a convoy to Lisbon in 1707.

Hardy was criticised and court-martial for not pursuing a French squadron that had been sighted off Land's End. Walton gave evidence on his behalf. In fact Hardy did leave the convoy to pursue the French but later called it off and re-joined the convoy, he was acquitted

HMS Montagu was his next command in which he sailed with the fleet under Sir Hovendon Walker to attack Quebec City 1711. Known as the Quebec Expedition or the Walker Expedition to Quebec. During the expedition Walton captured two prizes, but it turned out to be a failure and Walton returned to England and

was appointed as acting commander-in-chief at Portsmouth in December 1712. After a few year he was back at sea with HMS Defiance but in 1718 he re-joined his old ship HMS Canterbury and joined the fleet under George Byng in the Mediterranean, playing a large part in the Battle of Cape Passaro on 31 July 1718. In command of a detachment of five ships he pursued a division of the Spanish fleet, capturing six ships and destroying six more in the Strait of Messina.

On his return to England he went on to command a number of ships, HMS Nassau, HMS Cumberland, HMS Captain, HMS Princess Amelia, HMS Revenge and HMS Newark. On 15 January 1721 he was knighted for his victory in 1718 and continued to rise through the ranks being appointed Admiral of the Blue on 26 February 1734.(Admiral of the Blue was a senior rank within the navy only being outranked at the time by Admiral of the Fleet and Admiral of the White). In his last two years before his retirement 1934/5 he was Commander-in-Chief at the Nore. (The Commander-in Chief at the Nore was an operational commander of the Royal Navy – The Nore being a sandbank at the mouth of the Thames Estuary and River Medway, informally known as Nore Station or Nore Command)

George retired in 1736, receiving a pension of £600 a year, He died three years later on 21 November 1739, unmarried and was buried in the family vault in the Parish church of St Mary the Virgin, Little Burstead, Essex. Leaving £9,600 in his will to be divided amongst his relations.

Following his death the Gentleman's magazine wrote:- 'The brave Hon. Sir George Walton KNT. Admiral of the Blue, who died in 1739 was an honour both to his family and country. This undaunted sailor signalized himself on many occasions particularly at the destruction of the Spanish fleet at Messina in 1718. His letter to Sir G. Byng on that occasion can be equalled only by Caesar's "Veni Vidi, Vici" – It was as follows:-

Sir, We have taken and destroyed all the Spanish ships and vessels which were upon the coast, number as per margin* - I am, G Walton – Canterbury, off Syracuse 16 Aug 1718.

*The number of Spanish ships taken seven, besides smaller vessels; the number burnt, four ships, with a bomb-vessel and a fire ship.'

("Veni, Vidi, Vici" is a famous phrase said to have been spoken by the Roman Emperor Julius Caesar (100-44BC) in a bit of stylish bragging that impressed many of the writers of his day and beyond. The phrase roughly means – "I came, I saw, I conquered.")

In the church of St Mary the Virgin are the following inscription of the Walton family:

"Here lies interred the body of Anne Walton, the wife of Wm. Walton, Esq and citizen of London, the daughter of Henry Crook, late in Oxfordshire, Esq who after pilgrimage of XLVIII years, surrendered her soul into the hands of her redeemer, the X1 day of June, Anno 1'ni 1639"

"George Walton, esq who departed this life 20 July 1662."

"Here lieth the body of Eliz, Walton wife of George Walton, esq eldest daughter of Christopher Harris, esq who died 1 March 1666.

"The Hon. Sir George Walton, KNT late Admiral of the Blue died November 21 1739 in the 74th year of his age." The Hon. Sir George Walton was buried 28 November 1739.

Captain Charles WALTON (4th Dragoons).

He married Elizabeth. Charles was with the 4th Dragoons on 3 May 1800 Lieutenant.

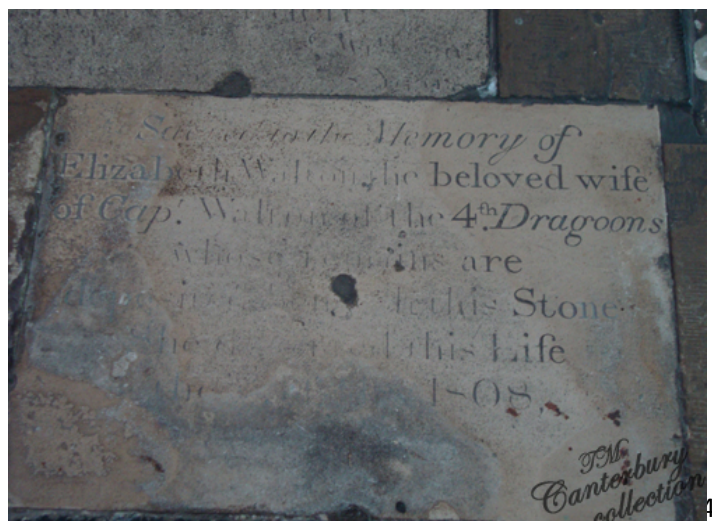
Children of Charles and Elizabeth Walton:

Ann Catherine WALTON (Born 24th April 1808 Baptised 18 May 1808) Daughter of Charles WALTON esq of the 4th Regiment of Dragoons, and Elizabeth, his wife

Elizabeth WALTON (born 1774) – her remains are interred at St. Pauls Church Canterbury (wife of Captain Walton of 4th Dragoons) who died in 1808.

"The Athenaeum: a magazine of literary and miscellaneous.. Vol. 4 - July to Dec 1808" Died at Canterbury, Mrs. Elizabeth Walton, wife of Charles Walton, Esq. Captain in the fourth regiment of dragoons.

This lady a few days subsequent to her becoming a mother, having raised the sash of her apartment for the benefit of fresh air, in leaning out unfortunately lost her equipoise, and was precipitated into the street, by which her skull was dreadfully fractured. She survived the catastrophe in a state of insensibility only a few hours.



The Gentlemen's Magazine, Vol 215 - Death in Westbourne place, Easton square, aged 70, Mrs. Mary Ann Walton, of Bower hall, relect of Major Charles Walton, 4th Light Dragoons, and eldest daughter of the late Ellys Anderson Stephens, esq. of Bower Hall, Steeple Bumpsted, Essex. (Nov. 13, 1863)

The Gentlemen's Magazine, Vol 38 - July 6, 1852, Marriage, at St. Peter's Eaton square John Lewin SHEPPARD, Lieut. 4th Bombay Rifles, second son of W. H. Sheppard, esq. Keyford house, Frome, to Sabine, youngest daughter of the late Major Charles Walton, 4th Light Dragoons.

Thomas Beardsmore enlisted for the British Army on the 10th of October 1807, sadly the place of his enlistment is not recorded in Army musters at that time. Thomas's first appearance in the musters of the 4th (Queen's Own) Dragoons is on the 7th of December 1807 when he joins the Regiment at Canterbury, he is placed as a Private in the 4th Troop under command of Captain C. P. Ainslie and Lieutenant's Charles Walton and William Fryer.

The next year is a quiet one in the Regiment, the Troop having a change of command in October 1808 (Captain Holmes taking charge) and on the 28th of November 1808 the men begin the long march by road to Portsmouth which takes them 7 days. Arriving on the 5th of December at Portsmouth the unit takes a short break before moving on to Chichester on the 10th and 11th of December. In barracks at Chichester the men are warned off for service in the forthcoming campaign in Spain and eventually board transports on the 1st day of April 1809 at Portsmouth. As a matter of interest, Thomas is paid the sum of £5, 12 shillings and 6 pence for the period 15th December 1808 until the 24th of April 1809, the date the Regiment arrived at Lisbon, Portugal.

The 4th Dragoons were to spend the next 5 years on campaign, and Thomas Beardsmore was to see every minute of it. A concise description of the events are given below, but the whole story is told in '4th Hussar – Story of the 4th QOH 1685-1958' by David Scott Daniell, Aldershot, 1959.

The 4th Dragoons arrived at Lisbon on April 25th 1809 with a strength of 29 officers, 37 sergeants and 674 other ranks. Commanding the regiment was Lieutenant Colonel Lord Edward Somerset. The regiment formed part of Fane's cavalry brigade along with the 3rd Dragoons. The regiment's first action came at Talavera on July 27th-28th 1809 where it took part in the charge that saw the 23rd Light Dragoons plunge headlong into a hidden ditch. The 4th Dragoons, however, advanced at a much more leisurely pace and came through unscathed. The regiment saw no further action until September 27th 1810 at Busaco although the regiment was held in reserve. Soon afterwards the regiment retreated along with the rest of the Allied army to the Lines of Torres Vedras. When Massena withdrew to Santarem in November 1810 the 4th Dragoons took part in the pursuit and frequently clashed with the French rear-guard. In April 1811 the 4th Dragoons were sent to assist in the operations around Badajoz and when Soult advanced to relieve the place the battle of Albuera was fought during which the 4th Dragoons attacked the Polish lancers who had earlier overwhelmed Colborne's brigade. The regiment lost 29 men during the battle.

On May 25th 1811 the 4th Dragoons took part in the victory at Usagre and for the remainder of the year saw much skirmishing around Ciudad Rodrigo which was besieged in January 1812, the regiment forming part of the covering force during the operations. In February 1812 the 4th Dragoons became part of Le Marchant's Heavy Brigade of Cavalry, and the following month again formed part of the force covering the siege operations, this time at Badajoz. On July 22nd 1812 the 4th Dragoons fought at Salamanca where, as part of Le Marchant's brigade, it helped smash several French battalions.

The regiment lost 8 men killed and 20 wounded during the day. Following Le Marchant's death at Salamanca command of the brigade passed to William Ponsonby who led it into Madrid on August 12th 1812. Shortly afterwards it marched north to cover the siege operations at Burgos and retreated to Portugal when the operation failed. The 4th Dragoons were present at Vittoria on June 21st 1813 although they took no part in the battle itself. The regiment remained in quarters close to Vittoria until February 1814 when it marched north and entered France.

The 4th Dragoons were present at Toulouse on April 10th and on June 1st, the war having ended, paraded before marching north to Calais, arriving back in England on July 20th 1814. The musters show that Thomas' Troop (the 4th) was in Abrantes in May 1809, Merida in June 1809 and Tentugal in March 1810.

On the 23rd of April 1810 Thomas is promoted to Corporal and takes up a post in the 10th Troop under command of Captain Charles Walton, at this time his pay was 1 shilling 1½ pence a day, but he would have to buy all his own food and other supplies from this amount. The Regiment and Troops that formed a part of it are in constant motion throughout the next year, the Troop being shown at Estramoz in June 1811 and Covilhao on the 12th of February 1812.

In March 1812 the command of the 10th Troop falls to Lieutenant Gregory, who in turn hands command to Lieutenant George Luard in October 1812. The musters show no real activity until Lieutenant Edward Wildman

takes command of the Troop in January of 1814, the Troop being at Arbulo at that time, at the same time on the 14th of that month, Thomas Beardsmore is appointed to the post of Sergeant in the 6th Troop, at that time under the command of Lieutenant Gregory.

As stated above, the Regiment arrive at Dover from Calais on the 20th of July 1814 and on the following day they board ships again and are taken to Kingston in Ireland (a sea voyage of 6 days), no doubt for service in that Country. There would seem, however, to have been a change of heart as on the 29th of July (having only arrived on the 27th) the men are shipped to Liverpool where they make a journey south to Lichfield, arriving on the 8th of August. The Regiment is only to spend 8 days at Lichfield before making the journey to Liverpool in reverse from the 16th to the 20th of August, where they then embark on transports on the 25th of August, arriving at Dublin, Ireland on the 31st of that month. After all this travelling the Regiment must have welcomed

the period of stability they were about to embark on at Dublin, and a period of nearly 5 years in the Emerald Isle.

On the 28th of January 1815 the command of the 6th Troop devolves to Captain C. Spedding. Although based in Dublin, the individual Troops (and sometimes even smaller groups) would find themselves spread around the country to try and maintain order. As such the musters of the next few years show a continued absence from the unit HQ, mostly under a Troop but often in a section of only a few men. Throughout February and then through to June of 1815 Sergeant Beardsmore is detached at Carlow with his Troop, his Troop moving then to New Ross by early July and returning to Carlow by August. The Troop remains at Carlow until September when they move to Clonmel, and then on the 27th of November 1815 the 134 men in the detachment travel to

Cahir where they are to remain for the next few months.

On the 25th of May 1816, 17 men (including Thomas) of the 6th Troop (still under Captain Spedding) travel back to Dublin. The small group arrive on the 31st of May and the following day 5 men (again including Thomas) travel back to Cahir, arriving on the 8th of June. There are no events then shown in the musters for Thomas from June 1816 until August of 1818, the entire period being spent as a Sergeant with the 6th Troop at Cahir.

On the 8th of March 1818, Thomas and 95 other men leave Cahir and travel south to Cork, arriving two days later. This Troop deployment was to last until the 22nd of June 1819 when the Troop (then 129 men strong) moves to Waterford, arriving on the 24th of June and boarding a ship the following day with the rest of the collected men of the 4th Dragoons. The transport ship docks at Bideford the following day and the HQ moves to Exeter with Troop deployments happening at Plymouth, Truro and Taunton. Thomas is with the 6th Troop at Truro when he is promoted on the 25th of September 1819 to take the position of the Troop Sergeant Major of the 8th Troop, also at Truro, commanded at that time by Captain W. Fryer. The 8th Troop under its new

TSM is to remain at Truro until the 27th of April 1820 when the Regiment moves north to the Midlands and arrives at Coventry on the 13th of May.

The period in Coventry is a rather short 3 months before the Regiment moves south via a series of marches (Coventry to St. Albans, 11th to 15th August 1820, St. Albans to Bromley, 16th to 18th of August 1820, Bromley to Pimlico, 21st August 1820). The unit is in London until the 12th of September when they then move to the Cavalry Barracks at Canterbury, arriving 2 days later on the 14th.

It is here, at Canterbury, that TSM Beardsmore commits an indiscretion that results in him being reduced in the ranks to Private on the 11th of October 1820, sadly no other details are available in the musters to add more detail to this event.

From this period there is no other detail except that Private Beardsmore was put in the 2nd Troop under Captain Charles Walton at the time of his reduction in the ranks and remained at Canterbury.

Eventually, for his own reasons, Thomas decides to leave the Army. In a period where a man signed for life and only left the army by means of death, desertion or being medically unfit, he found the 4th way out, to purchase his freedom. The Army set a high price on discharge, for Thomas this was £20, an amount equal to 400 days gross pay, how he managed to find this sum is not clear. What is clear is that on the 18th of June 1821, after nearly 14 years' service, Thomas Beardsmore is discharged from the 4th Dragoons at Canterbury. Because he was not pensioned, sadly no papers exist for this soldier.

Gazette

4th Regiment of Light Dragoons Captain Charles Walton to be Major, by purchase, vice Hugouin, who retires
Dated 31 May 1821

Captain Norcliffe Bendyshe WALTON

94th Foot – Born in 1825 - Died 29th January 1859.

Son of Charles M.B. Walton (ex-Captain, 4th Dragoons).

Tablet in St. John's Church, Peshawar - "This tablet is erected by the officers of Her Majesty's 94th regiment to the memory of four of their comrades who died of disease contracted in the Punjab during the years 1858 and 1859 deserving this expression of warm regard. Ensign J.E.H. Wheeler died 17th September 1858. Surgeon T. Cowan M.D. died 7th November 1858. Captain N.B. Walton died 29th January 1859." Lt. C.T. Paley died 11th June 1859.

Other Walton links:

Mary WALTON (Died 1744 Great Burstead) (buried 25 February St. Mary Magdalen Great Burstead).
William died 1739 and was buried on 16 May 1739 at St. Mary Little Burstead could be son of William.

TOMB / VAULT

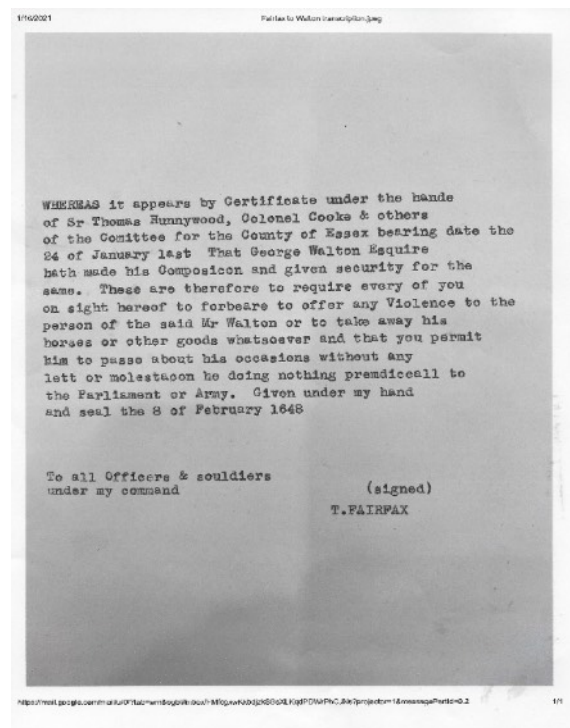
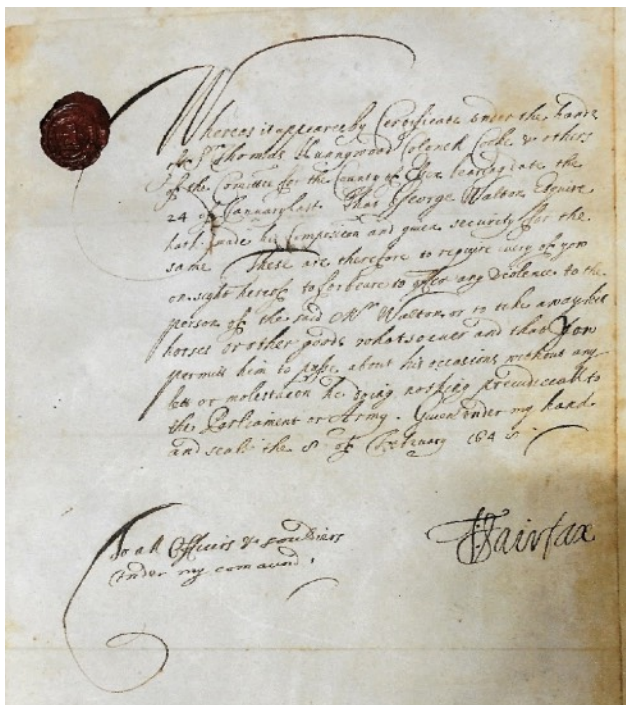
William Walton who was buried by his mother Mary Walton was removed from Great Burstead Church to be reinterred in the same Vault with his father in Little Burstead.

Sarah WALTON married Nicholas Revell on 03 January 1705 at Great Burstead.

Susannah WALTON married Thomas CHILD ON 23 November 1726 at Great Burstead.

William (Cuts??) WALTON of Wanstead In this County of Essex was buried in this parish church 14 March 1729.

George WALTON Aged 70 of Saffron Walden buried 22 March 1828.



Essex; Barstable Hundred
June the 30th St. Dunns 1643

One gray gelding of George Dalton of Little
Bristol Esq. Lister under the Command of Capt
Henry Hatcher for the Service of the King and
Parliament, And praised the day I paid about
said by Lieutenant Colonel Harr and
Colonel Wood Esq. at the value of fourtenscore
pounds wh said Horse I acknowledge the Receipt of
of me Hen Hatcher Capt.