

# Monumental Brasses in Somerset

## PART III

BY ARTHUR B. CONNOR

### BATCOMBE

*Kneeling Effigy of Philip Biss, D.D., rector, archdeacon of Taunton, 1613, in gown and hood. On the north wall of the chancel within the rails. (Plate VIII).*

The brass consists of a rectangular plate with arched top, 17 and  $14\frac{3}{4}$  in. by  $12\frac{1}{2}$  in.

Philip Biss kneels to his right, on a tasselled cushion placed on a tessellated pavement before a simple prayer-desk, on which is an open book. He wears a gown with false sleeves, hood and ruff, short hair, beard and moustache. From his mouth a prayer-scroll bears the words in Roman capitals,

SCIO QVOD REDEMPTOR MEVS VIVIT.

Behind his back on the plain background,

QVI 28 · OCTOB :  
1613 · ANNO ÆTA  
TIS SVÆ 72 ·  
MORTVVS : NVNC  
REGNAT CVM  
CHRISTO \*

The lower part of the plate, 4 in. in depth, contains four lines of Latin elegiacs, followed by two lines of inscription,

NON MERITV̄: NON MISSA IVVAT NON FICTVS & IGN<sup>is</sup> =  
PVRGANS: SED CHISTI (*sic*) MORS MIHI SOLA SALVS :  
SIC DOCVIT : VIXITQ PIE : SIC MORTVVS : OMNI  
ÆVO BIS DOCTOR QVIQ BEATVS ERIT ·  
PHILIPPVS BISS ·  
ARCHIDIAC : TAVNTON ET HVIVS ECCLĒ PASTOR ·

HIC IACET ECCE, TVVM QVONDAM, BATCŌBIA, LYMEN  
 QVI MIHI PATRONVS, BIS TIBI DOCTOR ERAT.  
 TERRA CADAVER HABET, VARIOS ACADEMIA LIBROS,  
 CHARAS PASTOROVES, ALTER ET ALTER OPES:  
 ASTRA TENENT ANIMĀ, VENERABILE PATRIA NOMĒ  
 TAM PIA VITA FVIT, TAMBONA FATA VIRI.

SCIO QVOD REDEMPTOR MEVS VIVIT



QVI 28 OCTOB:  
 IGI ANNO ÆTA  
 TIS SVÆ 72  
 MORTVVS: NVNC  
 REGNAT CVM  
 CHRISTO.

NON MERITV: NON MISSA IVVAT NON FICTVS & IGN  
 PYRGANS: SED CHRISTI MORS MIHI SOLA SALVS:  
 SIC DOCVIT: VIXITQ; PIE: SIC MORTVVS: OMNI  
 ÆVO BIS DOCTOR QVIQ; BEATVS ERIT.

PHILIPPVS BISS.  
 ARCHIDIAC: TAUNTON ET HVVS ECCLĀ PASTOR.

BATCOMBE

Kneeling Effigy of Philip Biss, D.D., Rector, and Archdeacon of Taunton, 1613

MONUMENTAL BRASSES IN SOMERSET

The brass is fixed in the lower part of a frame of stone painted black, 31 by 20 in. The upper part, above the arch, borders a slab of stone, on which six lines of Latin elegiacs are painted in black on a white ground,  $7\frac{3}{4}$  and 5 in. by  $14\frac{3}{4}$  in.

HIC IACET ECCE, TVVM QVONDAM, BATCŌBIA, LVMEN  
 QVI MIHI PATRONVS, BIS TIBI DOCTOR ERAT.  
 TERRA CADAVER HABET, VARIOS ACADEMIA LIBROS,  
 CHARAS PASTOROVES, ALTER, ET ALTER, OPES :  
 ASTRA TENENT ANIMĀ, VENERABILE PATRIA NOMĒ  
 TAM PĪA VĪTA FVIT, TAMBONA FATA VIRI.

Philip Bisse was the eldest son of Richard Bisse of Croscombe and Mary daughter of Joseph Carter; Magdalen College, Oxford, B.D., 1570; D.D., 8 July 1580; Rector of Batcombe from 1564; instituted to the Vicarage of Wiveliscombe, 23 Feb. 1571, which he resigned 1577; Subdean of Wells, 1572 till 1585; Archdeacon of Taunton, 23 May, 1584; resigned 1586; Rector of West Monkton, 22 June 1586; Rector of Elington, alias Wroughton, Wilts., 13 Dec. 1596. He married (1) Thomasin, daughter of ——— Chancellor of ——— co. Somerset, widow of ——— Nayle; (2) Bridget, daughter of Richard Milward by Anne, daughter of John Cleve of Stoke St. Michael. She survived him.

His will is dated 7 Oct. 1613, proved 2 Dec. 1613 by his son Samuel Bisse [114 *Capell*]. Poor of Batcombe, 40/- Bequest of Books to Wadham College, Oxford. My son in law Dr. William Hill. My wife Bridget an annuity out of Wroughton, Wilts. My sons Samuel and Thomas Bisse. To Sarah Hill, Sarah Swadell, Thomasin Bisse and Elizabeth Bisse the children of my four children, Sarah, Hester, Samuel, and Thomas, £10 each. The mother of the said Sarah Swadell is decd. My brother Richard Bisse. My 3 sisters, Johan, Agnes and Alice, 5 marks each. Judith Nayle, my first wife's daughter. My cousin Mr. Edward Bisse the elder of Spargrove, my watch. Residue to the seven children of Dr. William Hill, by my daughter, his late wife, Sarah. My grandchild and goddaughter Elizabeth Bisse, daughter of my son Thomas. My grandchild Philip Swadell. My son Samuel Bisse Exōr.

Witnesses, James Orenge, Robt. Borde.

(Brown's *Som. Wills*, i, 94-95.)

He was the founder of the library of Wadham College, Oxford, where his portrait hangs.

## CROSCOMBE

I.—*Rectangular plate with kneeling figures of James Biss, 1606, aet. 72, in civil dress, with six sons; and wife with six daughters; and inscription. On the wall of the south aisle. (Plate IX).*

Rectangular plate,  $20\frac{1}{2}$  by 20 in. The upper part,  $7\frac{1}{4}$  in. in depth, contains the figures of James Biss, and his wife, kneeling at a table, covered with a cloth, on which rests a desk, on the sloping sides of which are books with markers hanging over the edge. Behind them kneel their six sons and six daughters. James Biss is represented as an old man with short hair, beard and moustache, small ruff, doublet with plain cuffs, long furlined gown, turned back over the shoulders, with diagonally striped false sleeves. His sons, but for the youngest, wear short pointed beards, their short hair brushed straight up off the forehead, plain turned down collars over short cloaks. The youngest only wears the false sleeves. His wife wears a ruff; plain bodice, full at the waist; plain ample skirt; high-crowned, wide-brimmed hat over the French hood. The daughters are dressed like their mother. All kneel on large tasselled cushions.

Below the figure are twelve lines of Latin verse followed by two lines of inscription in Roman capitals,

IACOBVS BISS, DOMVS BISSORVM IVBAR,  
 FAMILIÆ SPENDOR, ISTIVS VILLÆ<sup>1</sup> SVMVM DECVS,  
 ZELO FERVENS, PIETATE LVCENS, RELIGIONE FVLGENS,  
 PACIS AMANS, INTER VICINOS CONCORDIAM FOVENS,  
 IVSTVS, COMIS NVLLI HOSPITALITATE SECVNDVS,  
 CLARVIT BISSVS SINE BYSSO, ABYSSVM FVGIENS,  
 QVEM DEVS PIA ET FÆCVNDA DOTAVIT CONIVGE,  
 QVEM DEVS NVMEROSA DITAVIT SOBOLE,  
 QVI SOBOLEM ORNAVIT, MORIBVS, RELIGIONE, FIDE,  
 EXIJT È VIVIS, TRANSVOLAT ASTRA DEO,  
 MARMORE SVB ISTO, IN PACE REQVIESEVNT OSSA,  
 NON SINE MVLTVS MVLTORVM LACHRIMIS ×  
 OBDORMIVIT A° DŌI, 1606, NOVEMB : 18°  
 REGIS IACOBI 4°, ÆTATIS SVÆ 72°

<sup>1</sup> The E has been lightly scratched in.

<sup>2</sup> HA has been corrected to FO.

<sup>3</sup> DEC has been corrected to Nov.

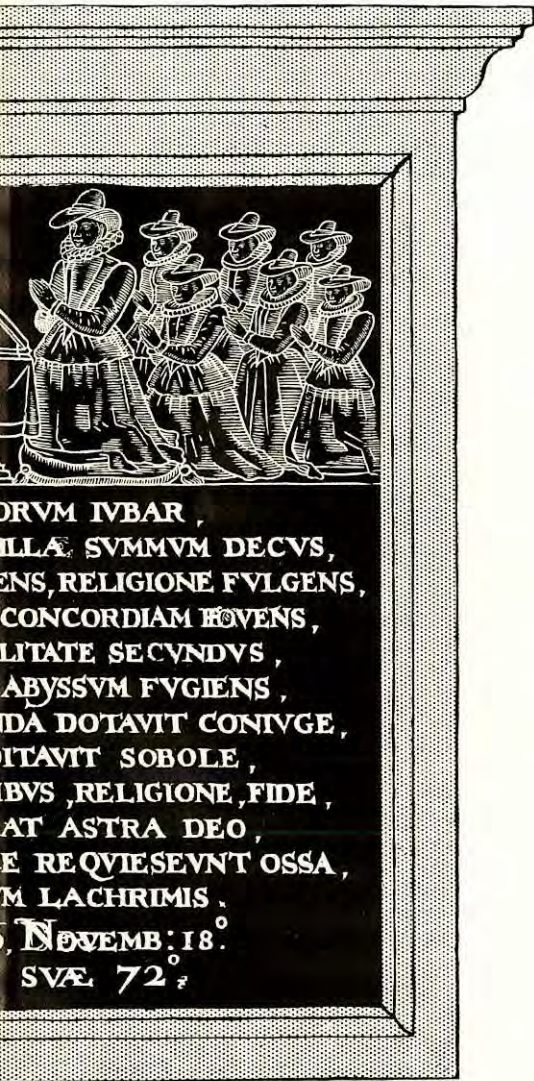


**IACOBVS BISS, DOMVS B**  
**FAMILLÆ SPLENDOR, ISTIV**  
**ZELO FERVENŒ, PIETATE D**  
**PACIS AMANS, INTER VICIN**  
**IYSTVS, COMIS NVLLI HOSP**  
**CLARVIT BISSVS SINE BY**  
**QVEM DEVS PIA ET FÆC**  
**QVEM DEVS NVMEROSA**  
**QVI SOBOLEM ORNAVIT, M**  
**EXIJT È VIVIS, TRANSV**  
**MARMORE SVB ISTO, IN**  
**NON SINE MVLTIŒ MVLTI**  
**OBDORMIVIT A DŒI, IC**  
**REGIS IACOBI 4, ÆTA**

CRO

Monumental Brass in m

MONUMENTAL BR



MBE

y of James Biss, 1606

ES IN SOMERSET

The brass is mounted in a stone frame,  $1\frac{3}{4}$  in. wide, painted brown to match the entablature of oak,  $2\frac{3}{4}$  by  $27\frac{1}{4}$  in.

James Bisse was the second son of John Bisse of Croscombe and Joan, daughter of ——— Bothe of Hartell? He married Christina Ashe. Of his six sons, William, John, James, Robert and James, and another whose name is not known, William was a clothier of Croscombe (No. II), John was instituted to the Rectory of Croscombe, 2 Oct. 1624, and Robert was of Shepton Mallet. See *Miscellanea Genealogica et Heraldica*, n.s. ii, 140 et seq.

The will of James Bysse of Croscombe, Som. [no date], proved 14 Feb. 1606-7 by Christian, the relict [21 *Huddleston*]. My son James Bysse the elder, £10. My son Robert. My daughter Elizabeth. My son James Bysse the younger. My daughter Joyce Penn, £10. Children's children 29 in number. My brothers Philip and John Bysse. To poor of Croscombe, 40/- at the discession of my son William Bysse. Residue to my wife Christian, Extrix. My cousin James Bysse esq., and my son William Bysse Overseers.

Christian Bisse of Croscombe, Som. Will dated 30 Jan. 1608, proved 10 Aug. 1609 [*Wells Registry*]. To my son William Bisse, £10. To James Bisse the elder, my son, ground called "Pynam." To my son James Bisse the younger, £10 that he oweth me, & £13 . 6 . 8 more. My daughter Mary Serraye, £10. My daughter Ann Nashe, £10. Mary Nashe, daughter of the said Ann. My daughter Sarah Barket, £10. My daughter Joyce Penn, £10. My daughter Elisabeth, £50. To every of my children's children 10/- each, which my husband, by his will, gave them, except Em Barkets, to whom I give £6 . 13 . 8 for her marriage, or at age of 22. To my daughter Elisabeth the best bedstead, with the curtains, in the guest's chamber. Residue to my son Robert Bisse, Exor. Signed by mark + (*Brown's Som. Wills*, i, 94.)

In Holy Trinity Church, Guildford, Surrey, there is a brass, evidently by the same engraver, to the memory of Maurice Abbot and wife Alice, 1606, with their six sons, of whom the third, Robert, became bishop of Salisbury; the fourth, George, archbishop of Canterbury; and the fifth, Morris, lord mayor of London.

II.—*Rectangular plate with kneeling figures of William Bisse, 1625, aet. 66, in civil dress, with nine sons; and wife with nine daughters; and inscription. On the wall of the south aisle westward of No. I. (Plate X).*

Rectangular plate,  $18\frac{3}{4}$  by 27 in. The upper part, 8 in. in depth, contains the figures of William Bisse and his wife, kneeling at an elaborately carved altar-table, covered with a fringed cloth, on which lie two open books. Behind them kneel their nine sons and nine daughters. William Bisse is represented with short hair, somewhat long over the ears, beard and moustache, with a deep falling ruff round the neck; pointed doublet, buttoned down the front with plain turned back cuffs; loose trunk hose confined above the knee; long gown, with plain false sleeves hanging from the shoulders, over which the lining of the gown is turned back to form an ample collar.

The sons are clean-shaven, their short hair longer over the ears, brushed straight up off the forehead. With the exception of the eldest, who wears a falling ruff like his father, they wear large plain turned down collars over short cloaks, open in front to show the pointed doublet; ample trunk hose ending above the knee; stockings, clocked in the case of the eldest, gartered below the knee and tied with a bow; neat shoes somewhat high in the heel. The wife wears a calash over her French hood; large falling ruff; low-cut peaked bodice with full sleeves to the elbow, where the tight sleeves with turned back cuffs of an under bodice appear. She wears a full plain skirt.

The girls wear the French hood; neck-wear like their brothers, the eldest wearing the falling ruff; in other respects their costume is similar to their mother's, and in their case the false sleeves of the over-gown are seen falling from the shoulders.

The lower part of the plate contains one long line of inscription followed by fourteen shorter lines of elegiac verse in Roman capitals.

MEMORIE SACRVM GVILLIELMI BISSE IN DOMINO DEFVNCTI 18°/  
DIE IVNIJ A° DÑI 1625 · ET ÆTAT : SVÆ 66 ·

QVI QVONDAM FLEBAS IACOBI FVNERA BISSI; (scroll)

IAM LACHRYMIS NATI SPARGE SEPVLCHRA SVI.

VIVENTIS FACIEM REFERVNT HÆC ÆREA SIGNA,

VIVENTIS MORES ÆRA REFERRE NEGANT ·

SCILICET ILLE FVIT VILLÆ DECVS, ILLE PATERNÆ

PROLIS HONOS, MISERIS TVRRIS, ASYLON ERAT,





MEMORIA SACRVM CVILIELMI BISSE IN DOMINO DEFVNCTI 18<sup>o</sup> DIE IVNII A<sup>o</sup> D<sup>ni</sup> 1625 ET ETAT<sup>is</sup> SVÆ 66.

QVI QVONDAM FLEBAS IACOBI FVNERA BISSI,  
 IAM LACHRYMIS NATI SPARGE SEPVLCHRA SVI.  
 VIVENTIS FACIEM REFERVNT HÆC ÆREA SIGNA,  
 VIVENTIS MORES ÆRA REFERRE NEGANT.  
 SCILICET ILLE FVIT VILLA DECVS, ILLE PATERNÆ  
 PROLIS HONOS, MISERIS TVRRIS, ASYLON ERAT.  
 CLARVIT INSIGNI BYSSO PIETATIS AMICTVS,  
 INOVE SVO FVLST PECTORE VERA FIDES:  
 TER TRINOS FÆLIX PVEROS, TOTIDEMQVE PVELLAS  
 SVSTVLIT, HÆC TANTÆ PROLE BEATVS OBIT.  
 INSEQVITVR QVERVLO CONIVX DVM FVNERA PLANCTV,  
 VT FLORANS SOCIAM MÆSTA COLYMBA, CADIT.  
 MOLLITER HOC SVBTER REQVIESCVNT CORPORA SAXO,  
 MENTES CVM CHRISTO CÆLICA REGNA TENENT.

## CROSCOMBE

Monumental Brass in memory of William Bisse, 1625

MONUMENTAL BRASSES IN SOMERSET

CLARVIT INSIGNI BYSSO PIETATIS AMICTVS,  
 INQVE SVO FVLSIT PECTORE VERA FIDES :  
 TER TRINOS FÆLIX PVEROS, TOTIDEMQVE PVELLAS  
 SVSTVLIT, HÂC TANTÂ PROLE BEATVS OBIT ·  
 INSEQVITVR QVERVLO CONIVX DVM FVNERA PLANCTV,  
 VT PLORANS SOCIAM MÆSTA COLVMBÆ, CADIT ·  
 MOLLITER HOC SVBTER REQVIESCVNT CORPORA SAXO,  
 MENTES CVM CHRISTO CÆLICA REGNA TENENT ·

The brass is fixed in a frame of oak,  $1\frac{1}{2}$  in. wide, with an entablature 3 in. by  $32\frac{1}{2}$  in.

William Bisse, clothier of Croscombe, eldest son of James Bisse. (No. I) married Joyce, daughter of Thomas Strode of Batcombe. His will is dated 17 June 1625. Admon. 23 Aug. 1625, to the supervisors, James Bisse, esq., James Bisse, clerk, and Nathl. Barnard, the relict, Joyce Bisse having renounced [89 *Clarke*]. Sentence of confirmation registered [129 *Hele*]. My daughter Elizabeth Bisse, £200, given her by her grandfather Strowde. My daughters, Joyce, Gartrude, Martha, Sarah, and Thomasin Bisse. My daughter Mary Webb and her son William. My daughter Amy Ruddock and her son Edward. My sons, Thomas, William, Stroude, James, John and Edward Bisse. My godson William Bisse, son of my brother James. My sister Hester Russe. My friends, Edward Bisse of Spartgrove, esq., and Nathaniel Barnard, gent. My brothers, James Bisse, parson of Croscombe, and Robert Bisse, of Shepton. Lease of grounds, called "Pynam." My wife living. (*Brown's Som. Wills*, i, 95.)

Brasses which are evidently by the same engraver, and in some respects almost identical, may be seen at Wyatt's Alms-houses, Godalming, Surrey; Richard Wyatt and wife, with 3 sons and 3 daughters, 1619: Chelsea, Middlesex; Sir Arthur Gorges and wife, with 6 sons and 5 daughters, 1625: and Loughton, Essex; Abel Guilliams and wife with 6 sons and 4 daughters, 1637.

#### LOST BRASS

On the floor of the south aisle is a slab of Purbeck marble, 81 by 42 in., which contains the indents of small figures of a man in civil dress,  $9\frac{1}{2}$  by 3 in., his wife,  $9\frac{1}{2}$  by 3 in., and a foot inscription,  $2\frac{1}{2}$  by  $11\frac{3}{4}$  in. His hair is cut straight on a level

with the bottom of the ears. His wife wears a simple veil head-dress. The date would appear to have been about 1470. Two rivets remain in the indent of each figure, and one in that of the inscription.

### PILTON

I.—*Inscription ; Henry Hole, 1624, William Hole, 1638 ; George Hole, 1690. On the western jamb of the westernmost bay on the south side of the north aisle. (Fig. 1).*

Inscription of five lines in Roman capitals (the numerals only being in italics) within a double-lined border. Many of the letters are combined dipthong fashion.

HEARE RESTETH THE BODY OF HENRY  
 HOLE WHO WASE BVRIED FEB : <sup>10<sup>th</sup></sup> 1624 : ALSO  
 WILLIAM HOLE WASE BVRIED MARCH : <sup>11<sup>th</sup></sup> 1638 :  
 ALSO GEORGE HOLE WASE BVRIED APRIL  
 : 19<sup>th</sup> 1690 :

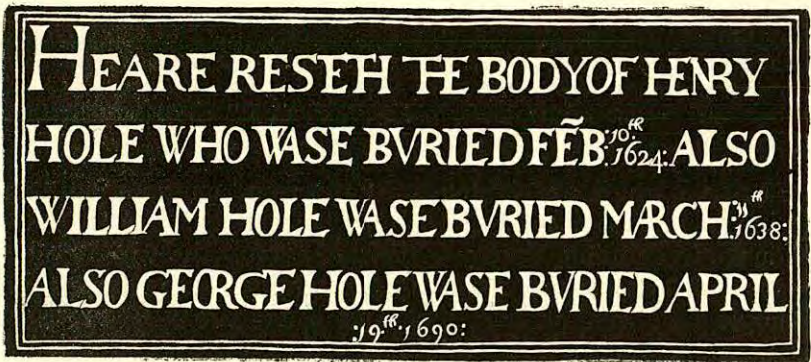


FIG. 1.—BRASS OF THE HOLE FAMILY, PILTON CHURCH



Inscribed plates to the memory of  
 Members of the Strode and Slade families, 1624–1712  
 Elizabeth, widow of John Strode,  
 1716

- II.—*Inscription with two achievements of arms above; John Strode, second son of Edward Strode of Ham, gent. and Mary, daughter of Henry Slade of Ham, gent., 1712; John, father of Henry Slade, 1624; John, son of Henry Slade, 1643; Henry Slade, 1655. Now fixed to the west wall of the north aisle. The indent remains under No. IV. (Plate XI).*

Inscription of eight lines in italics, 17 by 14½ in.

*Here resteth y<sup>e</sup> body of John Strode of Ham gentt.  
Who departed this life y<sup>e</sup> 19 day of February 1712 he  
Was Second Soñ of Edward Strode of Ham gentt and Mary  
His Wife only Daughter of Henry Slade of Ham, gentt  
and also y<sup>e</sup> bodyes of John Slade Father of y<sup>e</sup> said Henry Slade who  
Departed this life y<sup>e</sup> 3 day of March 1624 and of John Slade Son of y<sup>e</sup> said  
Henry Slade who departed this life y<sup>e</sup> 26 day of January 1643 and of y<sup>e</sup>  
said Henry Slade who departed this life y<sup>e</sup> 21 day of January 1655*

The achievement on the dexter side bears the arms and crest of STRODE :—

*(Erm.) on a canton (sa.) a crescent (arg.), a crescent for difference.*

*Crest, A demi-lion rampant, couped (or.).*

That on the sinister side,—

*(Arg.) three nags' heads erased (sa.), a chief (gu.). SLADE.*

*Crest, A lion's gamb erased, holding three ostrich feathers.*

The engraving is merely scratched on to the plate, and gives the impression of having been sketched by a very artistic amateur. The mantling is free and very pleasing. The crescent for difference has been deeply impressed as an after-thought.

- III.—*Inscription with achievement of arms above; Elizabeth, widow of John Strode, daughter of Ralph Willet of Wotton-under-Edge, Gloucestershire. Above No. I. (Plate XI).*

Inscription of eight lines in script on a rectangular plate with a domed top with a smaller dome on either side; 15 by 12½ in.

*Here Likewise resteth the Body  
of Mrs. Elizabeth Strode Widow of the  
said In: Strode & Daughter of  
Ralph Willet Gent: of Wooten Vnderhedge  
in Glocestershire She Departed this  
Life on Friday y<sup>e</sup> Thirteenth day of Iuly  
in the 64 Year of Her age Annoq, Domini  
1716*

Above this is a shield with helmet and mantling, surmounted by the crest of STRODE, a *demi-lion rampant (or)*.

STRODE impaling (*Arg.*) three bars gemel, and in chief as many lions rampant (*sa.*). WILLET.

IV.—*Inscription with achievement of arms above; Edward Strode of Ham, 172 $\frac{2}{3}$ , aet. 42. He married Elizabeth, daughter of Simon Michael of Offord Cluny, Huntingdonshire, Gent. On the western jamb of the westernmost bay on the south side of the north aisle, under No. III.*

Inscription of eight lines in Roman capitals, 14 $\frac{1}{4}$  by 12 $\frac{1}{4}$  in.

HERE RESTETH THE BODY OF  
EDWARD STRODE OF HAM, ESQ<sup>r</sup> :  
WHO DEPARTED THIS LIFE THE  
19<sup>th</sup> DAY OF MARCH 172 $\frac{2}{3}$  ÆTATIS SUÆ 42  
WHO MARRIED ELIZABETH THE  
DAUGHTER OF SIMON MICHAEL OF  
OFFORD CLUNY IN HUNTINGTON=SHIRE  
GENT :

Above the inscription is an achievement of arms with the crest and arms of STRODE, impaling (*gu.*) a *chevron between three swans (arg.)*, MICHAEL, helmet, and mantling in the style named by Ex Libris collectors Jacobean.

Above this is a skull with cross-bones, on the dexter side of which are a pick and spade crossed and tied with a bow; on the sinister side a winged hour-glass. Sprays of laurel ornament the sides of the inscription and lie on either side of a

✦  
 DONA  
 CHARITATIS  
 THO WHITE  
 CITIZ OF LONDON  
 A.D. 1636 GAVE TO THIS P<sup>SH</sup>  
 YEARLY FOR = EVER  
 VIZ TO THE MIN<sup>S</sup> X FOR A SERMON  
 NOV<sup>o</sup> 1<sup>ST</sup> TO C. W. O  
 TO Y<sup>E</sup> CLARKE 2 TO Y<sup>E</sup> POOR 7<sup>L</sup>

SHEPTON MALLET

Inscribed plate recording the benefactions of Thomas White, 1636

CORPVS EDVARDI BARNARD  
 DE DOWNESIDE ARMIGERI  
 DORMIT SVB HOC TVMVLO  
 SEPVLTVM DECIMO SEXTO  
 DIE SEPTEMBRIS ANNO  
 DOMINI 1641

SHEPTON MALLET

Inscribed plate in memory of Edward Barnard, of Downside, 1641

MONUMENTAL BRASSES IN SOMERSET

winged cherub's head below it. The plate is very finely engraved, and is almost exactly similar to that erected to the memory of Henry Strode of Ham, 1722, at Shepton Mallet.

These brasses are not mentioned by Collinson.

SHEPTON MALLET

I.—*Inscription ; Philip Bythsea and wife Katherine, married 1571 ; he died 1599, aet. 80 ; she died 1626, aet. 81. On the north wall of the tower, under Nos. XIII, V, and VII.*

b. 1509  
v. 52  
b. 1545  
v. 26

Inscription of six lines in Roman capitals,  $8\frac{1}{2}$  by  $19\frac{1}{8}$  in.

PHILIPVS BYTHESEA ET KATHERINA ~  
 HIC IACENT · NVPTI FVERVNT ANNO DOM̄  
 1571 · PH̄VS OBIJT<sup>9</sup> 18° DIE APRILIS<sup>9</sup> ~  
 ANNO DOM : 1599 · ANNO ÆTATIS SVÆ  
 80 · KATHERINA OBIJT<sup>9</sup> XIJ°: DIE IVNIJ :  
 ANNO DONI : 1626 · ANNO ETATIS SVE · 8j ·

The will of Philip Bythsea, of Ham, in Pilton, Somerset, is given in Brown's *Som. Wills*, v, 17, dated Apr. 18, 1599, proved May 11, 1599 [40 *Kidd*]. To be buried at Shepton Mallett. To my son Joseph all my plate. My wife Katherine Bythsea Ex̄cx.

II.—*Inscription recording the charitable benefactions of Thomas White, citizen of London, 1636. On the south wall of the tower, eastward of No. IX and above No. XII. (Plate XII).*

Inscription of nine lines in Roman capitals,  $12\frac{7}{8}$  by  $17\frac{1}{2}$  in.

~ DONA ~  
 · CHARITATIS ·  
 · THŌ · WHITE ·  
 CITIZ · OF · LONDON  
 A·D· 1636 · GAVE ·  $\frac{1}{8}$  · TO · THIS · P<sup>SH</sup>  
 YEARL<sup>Y</sup> · FOR = EVER ·  
 VIZ · TO · THE · MIN<sup>N</sup> ·  $\frac{5}{X}$  · FOR · A · SERMON  
 NOV<sup>R</sup> · i<sup>ST</sup> TO · C·W·  $\frac{8}{8}$  ·  
 TO ·  $\frac{E}{Y}$  · CLARKE ·  $\frac{5}{2}$  · TO ·  $\frac{E}{Y}$  · POOR · 7 ~



The lines have been filled in with some black material in modern times.

Collinson notes this brass as 'on a table against a north pillar of the nave.'

III.—*Inscription ; Edward Barnard of Downside, Esq., 1641. On the south wall of the tower, under No. VIII. (Plate XII).*

Inscription of six lines in Roman capitals, on a rectangular plate with ornamented bottom corners,  $7\frac{3}{8}$  and 10 by  $16\frac{3}{4}$  and  $14\frac{1}{2}$  in.

CORPVS EDVARDI BARNARD  
DE DOWNESIDE ARMIGERI  
DORMIT SVB HOC TVMVLO  
SEPVLTVM DECIMO SEXTO  
DIE SEPTEMBRIS ANNO  
DOMINI 1641 .

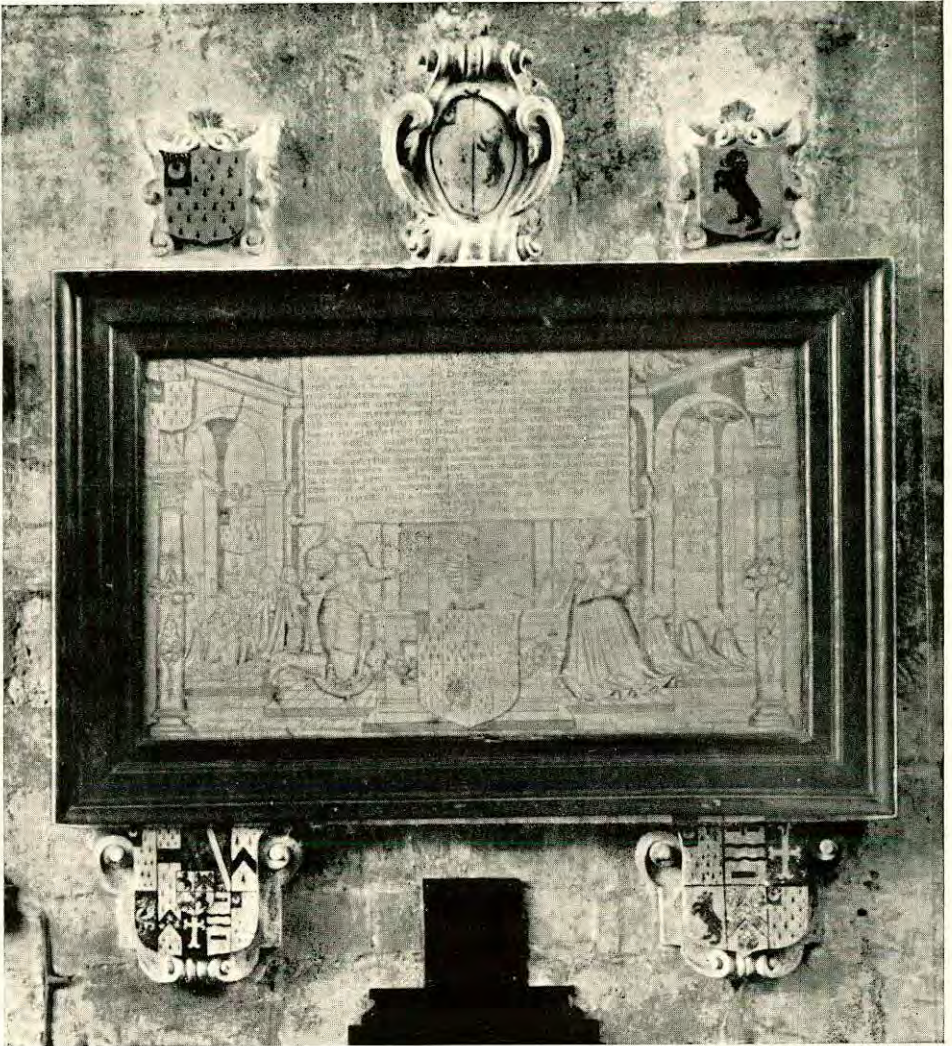
There is also a small monument to the memory of Edward Barnard, with white marble bust, eastward of this brass. The inscription gives his age as 56.

High on the same wall is a monument commemorating his widow, Dame Jane, daughter of John Smythes of Wrington. She died 12 April, 1658, aged 68.

IV.—*Rectangular plate ; William Strode of Barrington, Esq., in armour, with six sons, and wife Joan, only child of Edward Barnard of Downside, Esq., 1649, aet. 42, with three daughters, all kneeling, with figure of Death, etc., inscription and five shields. On the south wall of the tower. (Plates XIII and XIV).*

Rectangular plate,  $28\frac{1}{2}$  by 47 in. This is the latest in date and most elaborate of the pictorial compositions which were fashionable in England and Wales in the latter part of the sixteenth and the early seventeenth century.

The scene is laid in the chancel of a Renaissance church. William and Joan Strode, with their six sons and three daughters behind them, kneel on either side of the altar, from behind which Death emerges with a wreath of laurel in his left hand. With his right he points his arrow towards Joan, while William attempts to ward off the blow.



SHEPTON MALLET CHURCH

Monument to Joan, wife of William Strode

(see Details of the Brass in Plate XIV)

*From a Photograph by Dr. F. J. Allen*

MONUMENTAL BRASSES IN SOMERSET

The inscription hangs on rollers in the centre of the picture. At the top an Eye of Providence looks forth on either side from clouds, among which appear the crowned heads of six sons and two daughters who died before their parents. Their memorial slabs, each with its inscription and shield or lozenge of brass containing the arms of Strode impaling Barnard, lie in the pavement below.

The altar which is festooned with a garland of leaves and fruit, is raised on a single step. On either side of it, and partly covered by the inscription, is a round-headed, diamond-paned window, from which a plain round arch leads outwards to a festooned column with Corinthian capital, over which a shield hangs from a tasselled bow, that on the dexter side containing the arms of STRODE; (*erm.*) *on a canton (sa.) a crescent (arg.)*; that on the sinister side, (*arg.*) *a bear salient (sa.), bridled of the field*,—BARNARD. Under each arch and over the kneeling figures of the children are two more shields hanging from tasselled bows, each with the same charges, Strode impaling Barnard. A large shield of eight quarterings hangs in front of the altar,—

I. (*Erm.*) *on a canton (sa.) a crescent (arg.)*. STRODE.

II. (*Erm.*) *a fess (gu.)*. BITTON.

III. (*Gu.*) *a bend between six crosslets (or)*. FURNEUX.

IV. (*Gu.*) *a lion rampant (or) debruised by a bend (erm.)*.  
FITCHET.

V. (*Arg.*) *a chevron between three ermine spots (sa.)*.  
GERARD.

VI. (*Gu.*) *a wyvern (arg.)*. BRENT.

VII. (*Erm.*) *on a chevron (sa.) three mullets (arg.)*. WITTY.

VIII. (*Sa.*) *a cross moline (arg.)*. UPTON.

William Strode is represented with hair reaching to the shoulders, small pointed beard and moustache. His armour consists of a gorget of plate nearly covered by a plain linen collar; a long peaked breastplate with a projecting ridge down the centre; large shoulder-pieces; small rounded elbow-pieces, with the usual plates on the arms; with turned back linen cuffs at the wrists. The hands are bare. The tassets, attached to the breastplate by hinges, hang over the breeches, which have a long lateral stripe ornamented with small circles, and elabo-

rate ruffles at the knees. The handle of the sword, which hangs from a strap attached to the breastplate appears on the left side. He wears high boots, to which rowel spurs are strapped. From him, in a wavy line passing behind the figure of Death, come the words in Roman capitals—

PARVM FVIT DIV VIXIT.

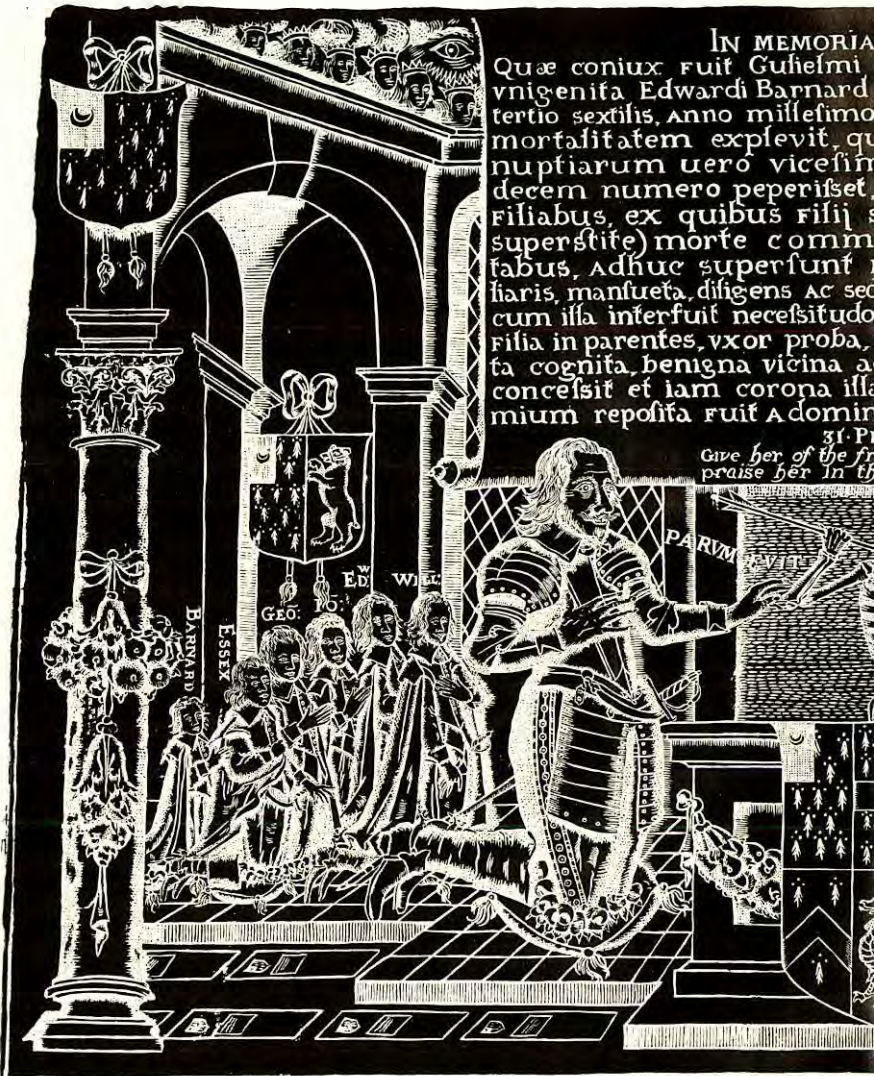
The sons have hair to the shoulders, the eldest with a small pointed beard and moustache. They wear plain linen collars, tied in front, over short cloaks open in front to show the peaked doublet and breeches, elaborately frilled at the knees; boots with spurs; and swords. The eldest carries a glove in his right hand. Their names are inscribed above them in Roman capitals, WILL<sup>v</sup> :; ED<sup>v</sup> :; IŌ :; GEŌ :; ESSEX, BARNARD. All kneel on tasselled cushions.

Joan Strode wears a simple veil head-dress falling almost to the knees behind; her hair loose; a plain kerchief at the neck; pointed bodice with full sleeves to the elbow, from which the tighter sleeve and plain broad cuffs of the under-bodice appear. The skirt is full and plain. The three girls wear low-cut peaked bodices and plain flowing skirts; their hair loose, but for a portion which is caught up in a net in a small flat 'bun' at the back of the head. The eldest wears two rows of pearls round her neck. Their names are inscribed in Roman capitals above them; IANE, ELIZABETH, IOHANNA.

From behind Joan Strode's figure a scroll ascends to a crown among the clouds; VINCENTI DABITVR. The inscription,  $12\frac{3}{4}$  by  $24\frac{3}{4}$  in., is in sixteen lines of Roman lettering with three lines of a text below, the last two in italics:

IN MEMORIAM IOHANNA STRODE

Quæ coniux fuit Gulielmi Strode Baringtonensis Armigeri, vnigenita Edwardi Barnard Dounfidenfis generosi quæ vicefimo tertio sextilis, Anno millefimo sexcentefimo, quadragesimo nono, mortalitatem explevit, quadragesimo secundo Ætatis suæ nuptiarum uero vicefimo octavo Anno, cum liberos sex decem numero peperisset, viz : filios duodecem, cum quatuor filiabus, ex quibus filij sex, cum nata una vitam (illa superstite) morte commutarunt, sex uero cum tribus natibus, Adhuc superfunt fuit fœcunda, fidelis, beneuola, Auxili-



SHEP  
 Monumental Brass in memory  
 MONUMENTAL I

ANNA STRODE,  
 de Baringtonensis Armigeri,  
 videns generosi quæ vicelimo  
 centesimo, quadragelimo nono,  
 regesimo secundo Regis suæ  
 octavo Anno, cum liberis sex  
 filios duodecem, cum quatuor  
 cum nata una vitam (illa  
 sunt, sex vero cum tribus na-  
 tæcunda, fidelis, benevola, auxi-  
 ec non omnibus quibuscum aliqua  
 uiosa optima fuit christiana pia  
 gens mater, mitis domina gra-  
 summo animi gaudio satis  
 iæ potitur quæ ipsi in præ-  
 soterie suo Iesu Christo:  
 BS, 31  
*er hands and lett her works.*



MALLET  
 an, wife of William Strode, 1649  
 ES IN SOMERSET

liaris, manfueta, diligens ac sedula nec non omnibus quibuscum aliqua cum illa interfuit necessitudo obsequiosa optima fuit christiana pia filia in parentes, vxor proba, indulgens mater, mitis domina grata cognita, benigna vicina ac ita summo animi gaudio fatis concefsit et iam corona illa gloriæ potitur quæ ipsi in præmium repofita fuit a domino et sotere suo Iefu Christo :

31 · PROVERBS, 31 ·

*Give her of the fruit of her hands and lett her works praise her in the gates.*

The brass is fixed in an oak frame, 6 in. wide. Above it are three cartouches of stone ; that in the centre, 9 by 6 in., contains the painted arms of Strode impaling Barnard. A cartouche on either side, 7 by 6½ in., bears on the dexter Strode ; on the sinister Barnard. Below the frame, and forming brackets for its support, are two cartouches ; Dexter ; Quarterly of 10 ;

I and X. STRODE.	IV. FITCHET.	VII. WITTY.
II. BITTON.	V. GERARD.	VIII. UPTON.
III. FURNEUX.	VI. BRENT.	IX. <i>Arg. 2 bars wavy between 3 billets sa.</i> HONE.

Over all, an inescutcheon bearing,

I and IV. BARNARD.

II and III. *Arg. a chevron az. between 3 oak-leaves slipped vert.* SMYTHES.

Sinister ; Quarterly of six ;

I and VI. STRODE.

II. *Arg. 2 bars wavy between 2 billets sa..* HONE.<sup>1</sup>

III. UPTON.

IV. BARNARD.

V. SMYTHES ; *a label gu. for difference.*

William Strode was the third son of William Strode of Shepton Mallet and Elizabeth, daughter and heiress of Geoffrey Upton of Wormister in Wells (who married secondly Edward Bisse of Spargrove in the parish of Batcombe, and was buried at Milton Clevedon, 7 Jan. 1629–30). He married Joan, only child and heiress of Edward Barnard of Downside in Shepton

<sup>1</sup> The true order of II and III seems to have been reversed. Hone should be blazoned with 3 billets as in IX on the dexter shield. Maria, daughter and coheir of Robert Hone of ' Otterie St. Mary ' married ' Galfri Upton de Welles . ' Vivian's *Visitations of Devon*, 603.

Mallet, and Jane, daughter of John Smythes of Wrington. She died 23 Aug. 1649, after twenty-eight years of married life, aged forty-two.

William Strode bought Barrington Court from the Phelips family of Montacute in 1621.

This brass was in a bad state until Mr. Bowden, one of the churchwardens, removed the verdigris with such skill that he was able to leave the original black material in the bottom of the incised lines. The rubbing from which the illustration (Plate XI) is prepared was taken when the brass was removed from its frame. It is thought that possibly it may add to its interest to leave the representation of the jagged edges of the metal, which are now covered by the frame.

The brass is illustrated in the *Monumental Brass Society's Portfolio*, III, plate 50, and *The Brasses of our Homeland Churches*, by W. E. Gawthorp, plate 58, p. 103.

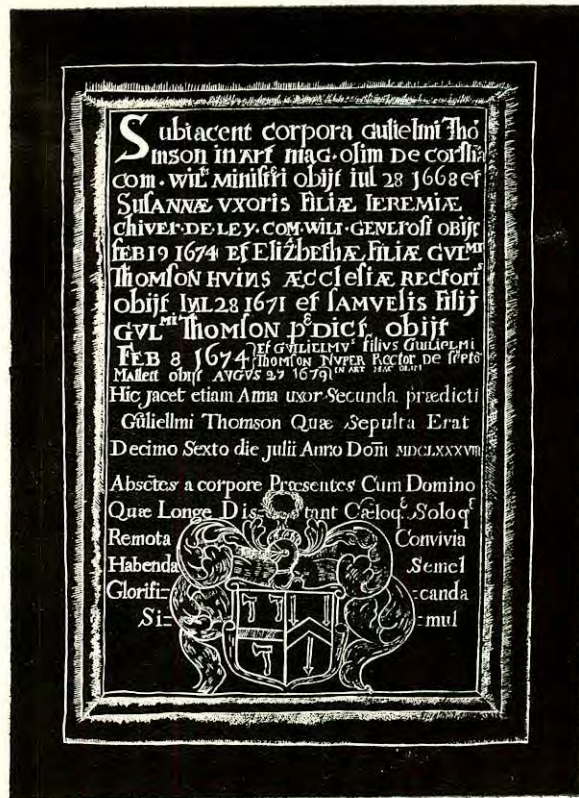
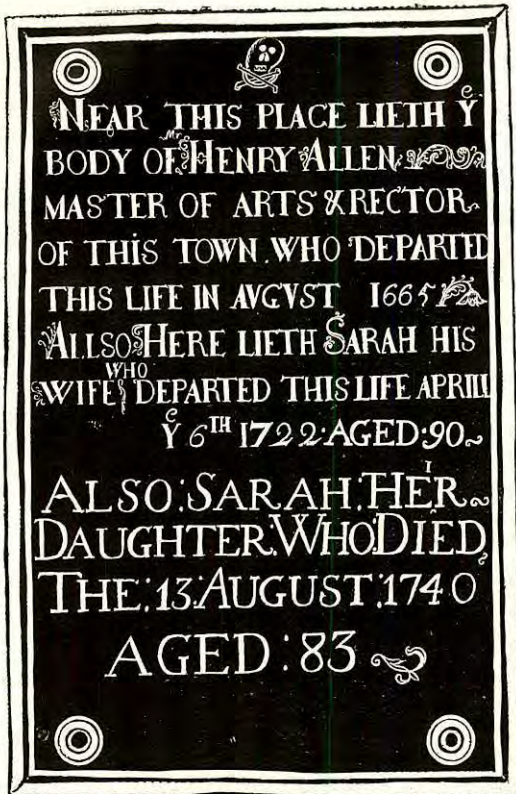
The photograph (Plate X) of the complete monument was taken under great difficulties by Dr. F. J. Allen, to whom the writer's most hearty thanks are due.

V.—*Inscription* ; Henry Allen, M.A., Rector, 1665 ; Sarah his wife, 1722, aged 90 ; Sarah, their daughter, 1740, aged 83. On the north wall of the tower, between Nos. XIII and VII. (Plate XV).

Inscription of twelve lines in Roman capitals, bordered by a frame moulded in the brass itself, 18 by 12 in. The plate is attached by four circular bosses  $1\frac{1}{8}$  in. in diameter.

NEAR THIS PLACE LIETH  $\overset{e}{Y}$   
 BODY OF  $\overset{Mr}{H}$ ENRY ALLEN (scroll)  
 MASTER OF ARTS & RECTOR  
 OF THIS TOWN · WHO DEPARTED  
 THIS LIFE IN AVGVST 1665 (flower)  
 ALLSO HERE LIETH SARAH HIS  
 WIFE  $\overset{WHO}{/}$  DEPARTED THIS LIFE APRILL  
 $\overset{e}{Y}$  6<sup>TH</sup> 1722 · AGED · 90 -  
 ALSO : SARAH :  $\overset{I}{T}$ HER -  
 DAUGHTER : WHO : DIED,  
 THE : 13 : AUGUST : 1740  
 AGED : 83 (scroll)





Inscribed plates in memory of

Henry Allen, 1665, Sarah his wife, 1722,  
 and Sarah their daughter, 1740

Members of the Thomson family,  
 1668-1688

MONUMENTAL BRASSES IN SOMERSET

Above the inscription is a crude skull with cross-bones.

The principal initial letters of the first two entries are enriched by scroll work ; there is a leafy scroll at the end of the second line, and a conventional flower ends the fifth.

The word *Mr.* is inserted in italics.

The date of engraving appears to coincide with the second entry, though the age of Sarah Allen the elder was evidently added by the engraver of her daughter's inscription, which is on a much larger scale than the other two.

Henry Allen, M.A., was instituted to the Rectory of Shepton Mallet, 2 Apr. 1663 ; Patron, King Charles II. He and Sarah Allen were married at Shepton Mallet in 1656. He was buried 26 Aug. 1665.

VI.—*Inscription and achievement of Arms ; William Thomson, M.A. 1668, formerly minister of Corsham, Wilts., father of William Thomson, rector of Shepton Mallet ; and wife Susan, daughter of Jeremiah Chiver of Ley, Wilts., gent., 1674 ; their daughter Elizabeth, 1671 ; son Samuel, 1674 ; and son William, 1679, rector of Shepton Mallet ; and his second wife Anne, 1688 : On the east wall on the north side of the choir. (Plate XV, and Fig. 2).*

Inscription of twenty lines in Roman lettering, 12¼ by 8 in., within a shaded border of four lines, from 2 to 2¼ in. wide.

Subiacent corpora Gulielmi Tho'  
 mson inart mag · olim de corfhā  
 com · WIL<sup>ts</sup> miniftri obijt iul 28 1668 et  
 SufANNÆ vxoris FILIÆ IEREMILÆ  
 chiver · DE · LEY · COM · WILT · GENERofi obijt  
 FEB 19 1674 et Eliz<sup>a</sup>'bethÆ FILIÆ GVL<sup>mt</sup>  
 THOMFON HviNS (sic) æcclefiÆ RECTORi<sup>s</sup>  
 obijt IUL 28 1671 et SAMVELIS Filij  
 GVL<sup>mt</sup> THOMFON p<sup>o</sup>dict obijt  
 FEB 8 1674 } et GVILIELMV<sup>s</sup> filiVS GvILIELMI  
 THOMFON NVPER Rector de f<sup>o</sup>ptō  
 Mallett obijt AVGV<sup>s</sup> 27 1679 } IN ART MAG OLIM  
 Hic jacet etiam Anna uxor Secunda p<sup>ræ</sup>dicti  
 Gulielmi Thomson Quæ Sepulta Erat

Decimo Sexto die julii Anno Dom̄ MDCLXXXVIII  
 Absētes a corpore Præsentes Cum Domino  
 Quæ Longe Dis= tant Cæloq<sup>e</sup> Soloq<sup>e</sup>  
 Remota Convivia  
 Habenda Semel  
 Glorifi= (achievement) =canda  
 Si= =mul

The date of engraving appears to be 1674. The death of the son William has been clumsily inserted. Up to this the lettering is unusual, and a curious mixture of capitals and small letters. From thence onwards the lettering is of the usual character.

Crest ; *a dexter hand erased, holding a wreath.*

Arms ; *a fess between 3 axes hafted.*

Impaling a chevron between 3 spears points downward.

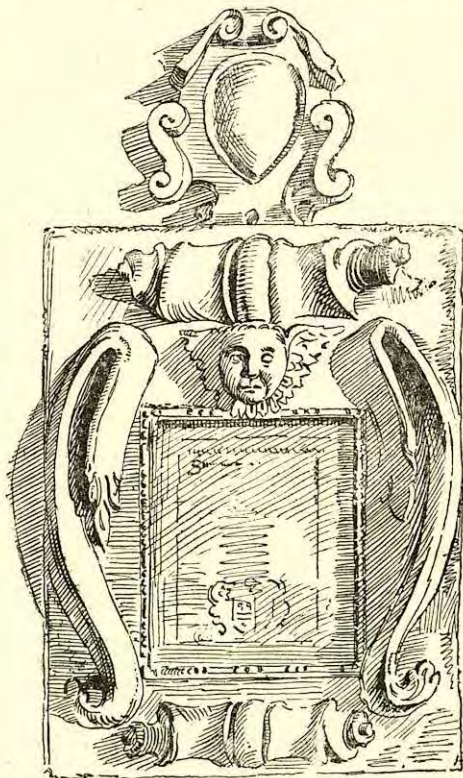


FIG. 2. INSCRIPTION TO MEMBERS OF THE THOMSON FAMILY, SHEPTON MALLET.

These arms do not seem to correspond with any of the recorded arms of Thomson or Chiver.

The brass is mounted on a stone frame, 34 by 24 in. A beaded border with cherub's head above, between two strap-like scrolls, two large scrolls above and below; the whole surmounted by an empty heart-shaped cartouche, 12 by 9 in.

William Thomson, junior, became Rector of Shepton Mallet 16 Dec. 1665. Patrons, John Parker and wife Anna. He was buried 29 Aug. 1679.

VII.—*Inscription; Mary, wife of Andrew Cranston, Rector, 1695, aged 38. On the north wall of the Tower, to the east of No. V.*

Inscription of thirteen lines in Roman text within a border of one thick and one thin line with acanthus leaf ornament in bottom corners. On the dexter side is a figure of Father Time with scythe in right hand, hour-glass upheld in left hand, below which is a well-engraved skull. On the sinister side is a skeleton with right elbow resting on a spade and a pick held in the left hand, below which are crossbones. The angles of the plate are slightly curved; 12 by 12 in.

M. S.

Memoriæ ORNATISSIMÆ Fæminæ

MARLÆ CRANSTON

Quæ in sexto puerperio ex hâc  
periturâ, ad perennem Vitam

(Father  
Time)

Emigravit

(Skele-  
ton)

Anno { 20 Die Aprilis  
Salutis 1695  
Ætat : fuæ 38

(Skull)

(Cross-bones)

ANDREAS CRANSTON

Hujus Ecclesiæ Rector,

Conjux Mœrens

pofuit

Andrew Cranston became Rector of Shepton Mallet 27 Oct. 1693. Patrons, John Harvey and John Parker of London. He died in 1697.

VIII.—*Inscription and achievement of arms; Edward Strode of Downside, Esq., 1703. On the south wall of the tower under No. IV. (Plate XVI).*

Inscription of twenty-six lines in Roman lettering on a rectangular plate with shaped upper corners, 24 by 18 and  $14\frac{7}{8}$  in.

Here Resteth the Body of  
EDWARD STRODE of DOWNSIDE (*sic*)  
Esq.

A man endow'd with Great, and Exemplary Vertues A true Lover of his Country. A constant Affertor of it's Liberties, of a Singular greatnes of Mind, A remarkable fortitude, A distinguishing prudence. A pattern to pofferty, A friendly Courteous, and usefull Neighbour. A prudent, and Indulgent Father. A tender, and Affectionate Husband to his only And Dearly Beloved Wife IOAN GONINGE Daughter of IOHN GONINGE Esq and Alderman of Britoll, of a pleafant Wit, and Agreeable Conuerfation.  
Sound Judg'ment And Unbyaff'd Integrity.

Even, Calme, Chearfull, Happy to Himself, and Delightfull to all who knew him.

To complete all the Rest,  
In his Religion Truly Christian, pious, and Humble, of a Comprehensive and Charitable Spirit, free from Superftition, or Neglect, of an Admirable patience, and in Suffering, Being entirely Submitted to the Divine Will. And, when it pleased God to call him hence in a chearfull Refignation of his Soul to his Redeemer, and in fteadfaft Affurance of a Happy Eternity, He departed this life on the 28 of OCTOBER. 1703  
Having run the Courfe, and endured the Fatigue of Seventy three Yeares. And then entred into that Rest Above, Which is in vain expected here below.

Above this is an achievement of arms on a separate plate, 8 by 7 in., containing the arms and crest of Strode, with a crescent for difference.

Edward Strode, second son of William Strode of Barrington and Joan, only child of Edward Barnard of Downside, was born in 1630. He was admitted pensioner at Emmanuel College,

Cambridge, 15 Apr. 1645; matriculated 1645, and was admitted at the Middle Temple 12 Apr. in the same year. He married in 1659, Joan, daughter of John Gunning, Alderman of Bristol. He founded an almshouse on the south side of the churchyard.

High on the south wall of the tower is a white marble monument to his memory with a long inscription very similar to the above, and another to the memory of his wife, Joan, 'who had by him five sons and five daughters, four lying here by her, William, Edward, Edward, Mary, the other six now living with their father, Edward, John, Elizabeth, Joanna, Jane and Mercy.' She died 1 Apr. 1679, in her fortieth year.

There is also a white marble slab to the memory of Elizabeth, his daughter, who died unmarried 9 Aug. 1715.

IX.—*Inscription with achievement of arms; Henry Strode of Ham, Esq., 1722, aet. 78; Mary Ann, daughter of George and Lucy Strode, 1756, aet. 3. On the south wall of the tower, eastward of No. VIII.*

Inscription of seven lines in Roman capitals, 13 $\frac{7}{8}$  by 12 $\frac{1}{2}$  in.

HERE RESTETH THE BODY  
OF HENRY STRODE OF HAM  
ESQ<sup>r</sup>: WHO DEPARTED THIS  
LIFE THE 5<sup>th</sup> OF AUGUST  
1722 ÆTATIS SUÆ 78

And also Mary Ann Strode daut<sup>r</sup>: of Gẽo: & Lucy  
Strode DYED Sep: the 29<sup>th</sup>: 1756. Aged 3 Years

Above the inscription is an achievement of arms with the crest and arms of Strode, with helmet and mantling in what Ex Libris collectors have named the Jacobean style. Above this is a skull with cross-bones, on the dexter side of which are a spade and pick crossed and tied with a bow; on the sinister side a winged hourglass. Sprays of laurel flank the inscription and lie alongside a winged cherub below.

This plate is very finely engraved, and is almost precisely similar to that erected to the memory of Edward Strode of Ham, 172 $\frac{2}{3}$ , at Pilton.

X.—*Inscription ; Mary, wife first of Barnard Strode, secondly of Samuel George, 1737. On the south wall of the tower, westward of No. VIII. (Plate XVI).*

Inscription of seven lines in shaded Roman capitals, 15 by 12 $\frac{3}{8}$  in.

HEAR LYETH Y<sup>E</sup> BODY  
OF MARY LATE WIFE  
OF BARNARD STRODE  
LAST WIFE OF SAMUELL  
GEORGE WHO DEPARTED  
THIS LIFE 27 OCT<sup>BR</sup>  
1737 Æ 36

The whole is surrounded by a border of conventional leaves between two lines. The top corners have been broken off.

The Strode and Barnard memorials were formerly in the north-east chapel.

XI.—*Inscription ; Thomas Speed, 1742 ; his first wife died 1698 ; his second in 1739 ; son Thomas and daughter Ann 1754 ; Elizabeth Hewish, 1793, aged 88 ; Hannah George Chandler, 1795, aged 77 ; Jonathan Chandler, 1796, aged 75. On the south wall of the south aisle.*

Inscription of twelve lines in Roman capitals, Roman text and italics, within a two-lined border of twisted pattern ; 19 $\frac{1}{4}$  by 15 $\frac{1}{4}$  in.

In Memory of  
*THOMAS SPEED Gentleman,*  
Who Depart<sup>d</sup> in y<sup>e</sup> Year of our Lord : 1742 ;  
And his firft Wife Died in 1698 ;  
His Second in 1739 ;  
His fon *THO<sup>S</sup>* & Daughter *ANN*, in 1754.  
*Also ELIZABETH HEWISH, who*  
*DIED AUGUST 2<sup>d</sup> 1793 AGED 88.*  
*Also HANNAH GEORGE CHANDLER*  
*Who DIED FEB<sup>V</sup> 24<sup>th</sup> 1795 AGED 77*  
*JONA<sup>N</sup> CHANDLER, Who DIED*  
*MARCH 27<sup>th</sup> 1796 AGED 75 YEARS.*

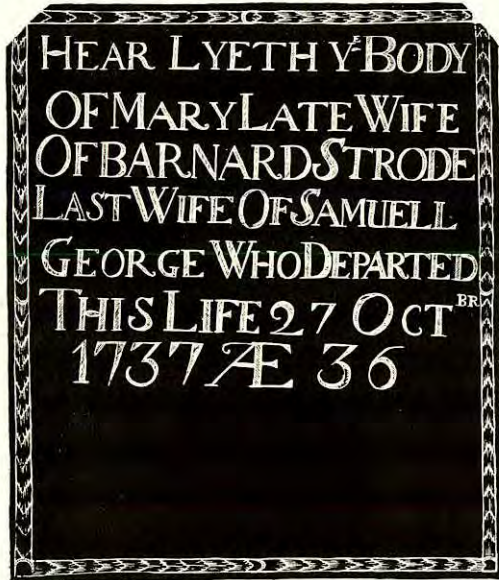


Here Resteth the Body of  
EDWARD STRODE of DOWNSIDE  
Esq;

A man endow'd with Great and Exemplary Vertues A true

SHEPTON MALLET

Inscribed plate in memory of Edward Strode of Downside, 1703



SHEPTON MALLET

Inscribed plate in memory of Mary, wife  
of Barnard Strode, 1737

MONUMENTAL BRASSES IN SOMERSET



The date of this brass appears to be 1742, subsequent records being closer, and in somewhat coarser lettering.

XII.—*Inscription, recording a bequest of Mrs. Frances Combe, 1783. On the south wall of the tower, under No. II.*

Inscription of twenty-two lines in Roman text ; 23¾ by 17 in.

MRS. FRANCES COMBE  
 by her Will gave FOUR HUNDRED POUNDS  
 in trust to FRANCIS MORGAN  
 and WILLIAM PURLEWENT  
 to apply the Interest thereof  
 on the 27<sup>th</sup> day of January Yearly  
 in the PARISH CHURCH of SHEPTON MALLET  
 in the following manner

	£	s.	d.
To the RECTOR for a Sermon	}..... 2	2	0
to be Preached on that day			
To each of the CHURCHWARDENS	}..... 1	1	0
for their Attendance			
To the CLERK .....	0	10	6
To the SEXTON .....	0	5	0

and the residue to such of the Poor Inhabitants  
 not having relief of the PARISH  
 as the said TRUSTEES shall think to be  
 in most need thereof Five Shillings each

NB. the said Will was proved in Doctors Commons  
 27<sup>th</sup> May 1783 and a copy of such part thereof  
 as relates to this Charity  
 is deposited in the Parish Chest

Collinson notes this brass as ‘on the opposite pillar’ to No. II.

XIII.—*Inscription ; Mary, widow of Thomas Tryon, 1785, aged 71 ; Anna Maria Townsend, 1790, aged 19. On the north wall of the tower, to the west of No. V.*

Inscription of eleven lines in Roman capitals, Roman text, and italics, within a two-lined border of twisted pattern with a circle in each corner and in each centre, 14 by 12 in. On either side of the first word is a flourish in the style of the old writing-masters.

(flourish) HERE (flourish)  
 LIE the Remains of MARY TRYON  
 WIDDOW of THOMAS TRYON of  
 The COUNTY of KENT *Esq<sup>r</sup>*. Who  
 DEPARTED this LIFE Auguſt y<sup>e</sup> 17<sup>th</sup> 1785 ;  
 ~ ~ ~ ~ AGED 71 YEARS ~ ~ ~ ~  
 Also ANNA MARIA TOWNSEND  
 Daughter of  
 WILLIAM & MARTHA TOWNSEND  
 of the CITY of BATH,  
 DIED JULY y<sup>e</sup> 6<sup>th</sup> 1790 AGED 19 YEARS.

SHEPTON MALLET, THE UNITARIAN CHAPEL, COWL  
 STREET

*Inscription ; William Hislop, 1728. Now fixed to the east wall. (Fig. 3).*

Inscription of six lines in Roman capitals and text and italics, within a two-lined border, 9½ by 8 in., and six lines of English verse,

*Here lieth the Body of*  
 WILLIAM HISLOP  
*Born in the pariſh of MOFFAT in the*  
*County of ANNANDALE in NORTH BRITAIN ~*  
*Who departed this life Apr : 25 : 1728 ~*  
 Aged XL Years ~ {eft  
 LONG while with Pains and Sicknefs ſore oppr  
 The Traveller at laſt, lies here at reft ~ {nd  
 Reader in deep and awfull thought tread : rou  
 Fleſh mouldring into duft lies under Ground ~  
 But out of Duft each ſaint fhall riſe again  
 In perfect Life that bars all death and pain

The corners of the plate are broken off. The original stone rests against the outside of the east wall.

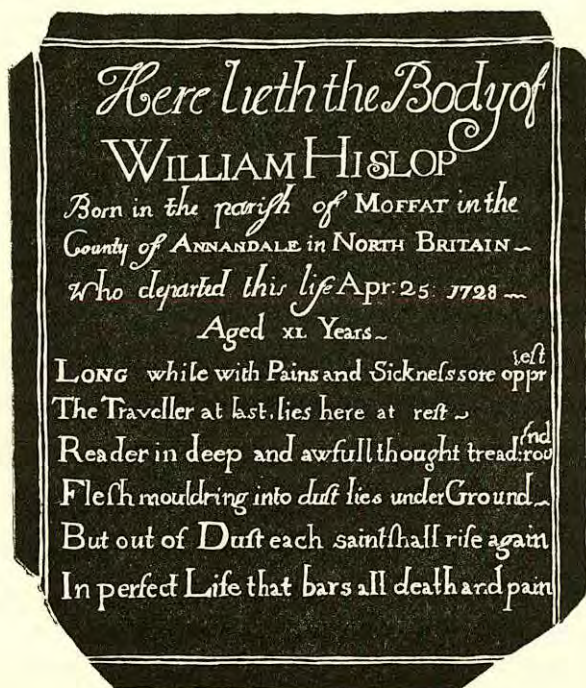


FIG. 3. BRASS, WILLIAM HISLOP, UNITARIAN CHAPEL, SHEPTON MALLET.

### SHEPTON MALLET, MARKET CROSS

*Inscription recording the gift of the Market Cross by Walter Buckland and Agnes his wife, 1500; their obit to be kept for ever in the Parish Church of Shepton Mallet on 28 November. On the southern face of the central column of the Market Cross. (Fig. 4).*



FIG. 4. INSCRIPTION, MARKET CROSS, SHEPTON MALLET, 1500.

Inscription of four lines in Black Letter, bordered by a single line, the ends being represented turned as of a scroll unrolled,  $3\frac{5}{8}$  by  $24\frac{3}{4}$  in.

Of þo charþte pray for the soules of Walter Buklond & Agnys hys wyff w<sup>t</sup> whoys good<sup>þ</sup> thys Croffe was made in the yere of o<sup>r</sup> lord god M<sup>c</sup> U<sup>e</sup> whoys obbyt<sup>t</sup> shalbe kept for Ever in thys pariffhe Church of Shepton Mallett y<sup>e</sup> xxvij day of Nouember whoys soules Jhu pardon

The *S* of *Shepton* is written backwards.

Walter Buckland's will is given in *S.R.S.*, xix, 16–17.

[13 *Blamyr*]

November 26th, 1500. Walter Buklond To be buried in the church of the blessed apostles Peter and Paul of Shepton Mallett. To the mother church of Wells 12*d*. To the four lights of the church of Shepton 4*s*. To the bells 3*s*. 4*d*. To the building of the cross in the market place of the said parish £20. To my son Thomas £20. To my son Richard £20. To my daughter Alice £20. To John my elder son £5. To John my younger son £5. To my daughter Margery £5.

Residue, Agnes my wife.

Proved December 15th, 1501.

'Agnes Buckland widow' is mentioned in the will of Reginald West, sub-dean of Wells, 1515.

The lines have been filled in with black material in modern times. The brass is suffering from exposure to weather and dirt. The illustration has been prepared from a rubbing taken by Dr. F. J. Allen in 1889. It is illustrated without the border and scrolled ends, in the *Proceedings*, liii, i, 28.

Owing to lack of space it has been found necessary to defer the description and illustration of brasses at Bruton and South Brewham for a future paper.

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