

## Thomas Fisk (1839–1903)

Thomas Fisk, born in 1839, was the third of Edward's older brothers, and was five years older than he was. Like his older brother James, he was a boarder at Totteridge Park School, and they were both there at the time of the 1851 census. There is no evidence that he ever had anything to with the drapery, but probably did at some point during in his teens, as that seemed to be an obligation for all the Fisk children.

By 1861, he had moved out, and aged 22 was in Pershore, Worcestershire at the home of a 61 year old watchmaker called John Beckett, his wife Mary and their 29 year old daughter in law Sarah Wilkstin. Thomas had decided to go the same way as his older brother William, and was a 'Baptist student', and was probably lodging with the Becketts and doing some kind of apprenticeship at Pershore Baptist Church, although as we shall see later, at some point he had also studied at Bristol Baptist College.

Thomas would have a very different life to his fellow minister brothers William and our Great Great Grandfather Edward, who spent most of their lives moving from church to church, town to town. He went to Kidderminster to work at the Kidderminster Baptist Congregational Church (now the United Reformed Church) as a minister, and stayed there all his life. Also unlike his brothers, he never married.

In 1872, he was 32 and living in Arch Hill Square, just off Church Street, with his 49 year old housekeeper Mary Kelly from Scotland, and an 18 year old lodger from Preston called Frederick John Sellon, who was an apprentice leaflet maker.

Later on in his life, in 1895, he wrote a book about the history of the church titled "Kidderminster Baptist Congregational Church - memorial sketch by the pastor". It probably didn't make the best-sellers list.

The 200th anniversary souvenir booklet about the church published in 2008 has something to say about Thomas Fisk's time at the church. It even has a picture of the old boy! The booklet says: "Rev. John Henry Jones led the church from 1857 – 1861 but by the time of his resignation the membership had dropped to 88. However by the time Rev. Thomas Fisk, fresh from Bristol Baptist College, was called to the pastorate the membership had dropped to 52, with sometimes only one member in the congregation at the evening service.

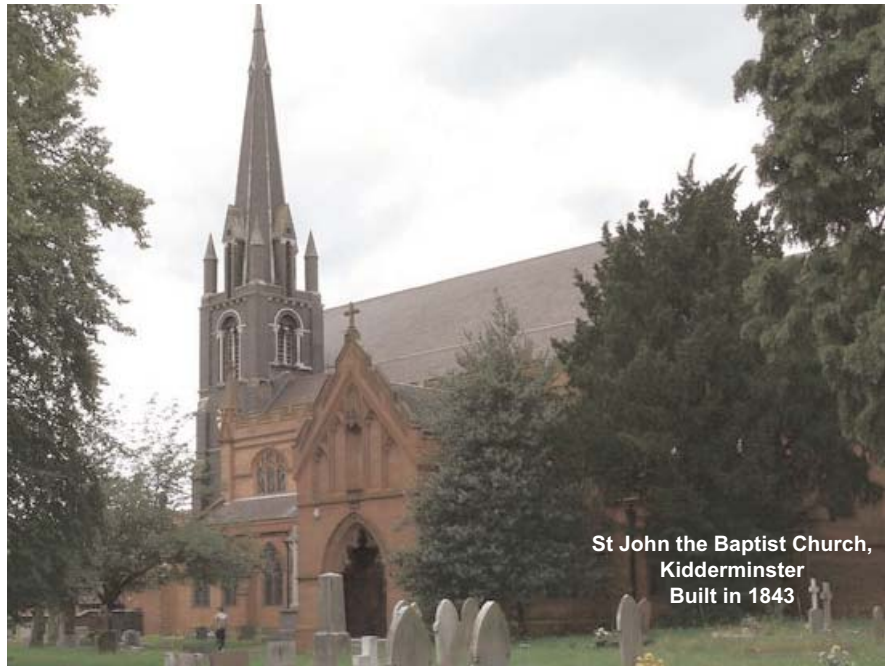
"The church grew under Rev. Fisk's leadership and the site at Silver Street became too constricted for the church's activities. The site at Church Street was bought from Mr. Fawcett for £425 in 1865 and a foundation stone was laid in 1867. After much sacrificial giving the new church was opened in 1868 at a total cost of £2694. The site at Silver Street was kept as a mission station for many years. The town's population had grown to about 5,000 in 1867.

"It is hard to realise in these days of high inflation and increasing rising prices, how much sacrificial giving went into the provision of this church building. The debt on the church building was not paid off until 1876. "During this time the church existed on a shoe string, Thomas Fisk was not being paid his full stipend for many years at a time. However the church was growing fast during these years, 103 members in 1866, 206 members in 1873, and up to a peak membership of 288 members in 1896.

"In 1874 a nucleus of members, with the blessing of the church in Kidderminster, went and formed Stourport Baptist, under the leadership of Rev. Richard Evans. Expansion on the home front was also occurring. In 1874 the number on the Sunday School roll was 400 with another 90 at the Silver Street Mission. This stretched the premises so much that in 1877 the purchase of Arch Hill School was proposed. This was finally opened in 1882, having cost £2662.



This picture of Thomas Fisk appears in the 200th anniversary souvenir booklet for Kidderminster Baptist Congregational Church



St John the Baptist Church, Kidderminster Built in 1843

"In addition to this, Mr. J. R. Harvey, one of the deacons at Church Street, having bought land in Lorne Road, both gave it to the church as a mission outreach centre and paid for building costs of £600. Milton Hall, as it was then titled, was opened in 1890 under first Mr. Richardson, then Rev. L. T. Harry, also assistant minister at Church Street. There were difficulties in the relationship between the two leaderships and Milton Hall finally became a separate church under Rev. W. A. Benton in 1898. After Thomas Fisk died in 1903, Rev. Henry John Morley was called, 1904 – 1913."

The church seems to have been the focus of Thomas Fisk's entire life. In 1881 he was still living in the same house, and even though he was "not being paid his full stipend for many years at a time", he still

seemed able to afford to keep on Mary Kelly as his housekeeper, and also had a 29 year old servant from Stafford called Elizabeth Davis. So life can't have been that tough.

At the time of the 1891 census, his nephew William, son of older brother James was staying with him for some unknown reason. He also had a new and much younger housekeeper in 36 year old Sarah Pawney of Stafford, and a 26 year old servant, Ellen Tipper, also of Stafford.

### THE BAPTIST MAGAZINE - 1862

church has resigned the pastorate of the church at Branch Road, Blackburn.—Mr. Thomas Fisk, of the Baptist College, Bristol, has accepted the unanimous invitation of the church, at Union Street, Kidderminster.—The Rev. Thomas

### THE CHURCH - 1863

HATCH BEAUCHAMP, SOMERSET.—Interesting services connected with the recognition of the Rev. E. Curtis (late of Rawden College), as pastor of the church meeting in the above place of worship, were held on Wednesday, April 9th. A portion of Scripture was read, and prayer offered by the Rev.

has accepted the invitation of the Church at S. Bride's, near Newport, Monmouthshire.—The Rev. W. C. Fildes has resigned the pastorate of the Church in Branch-road, Blackburn, and will finish his labours there shortly.—Mr. Thomas Fisk, of the Baptist College, Bristol, has accepted the unanimous invitation of the Baptist Church

### KIDDERMINSTER SINCE 1800 BY KEN TOMKINSON

a very low ebb when, on May 1st 1862, the Rev. Thomas Fisk became pastor. He was a young man of 23, fresh from college, and Kidderminster Baptist Church became his life's work. His ministry became very successful and in a few years a new and larger church became necessary. A site for the proposed new church became available to the Baptists in a rather curious way. A well known Liberal Councillor, Mr. Fawcett, purchased the house

Thomas Fisk	Head	Wm	32	Baptist Minister	Worcestershire	Kidderminster
Mary C. Kelly	Sew	W	29	Housekeeper	Herts	St Albans
Fredrick John Sellers	Boarder	Wm	18	Carpet Manufacturer (Apprentice)	Suffolk	Boston
Thomas Fisk	Head	Wm	32	Baptist Minister	Herts	St Albans
Mary C. Kelly	Servant	Wm	29	Housekeeper	Suffolk	Boston
Elizabeth A. Green	do	Wm	17	General S. Domestic	Stafford	Brockhampton
Thomas Fisk	Head	S		Baptist Minister		St Albans
William Fisk	Nephew	S		Draper's Assistant		
Sarah A. Brown	Housekeeper	S				

Thomas Fisk's census entries 1871-1891, all in Kidderminster

### THE BAPTIST MAGAZINE - 1867

BROMSGROVE.—The new Baptist Chapel, recently erected in the New-road, Bromsgrove, was opened on the 12th Feb. The chapel is in the Gothic style, and is built of brick, with dressings of Box ground stone. It is seventy feet long by thirty-eight feet wide within, and twenty feet high in the side walls; the entire height to ceiling is twenty-nine feet. The total accommodation at present being for 550 adults and children, including the north gallery, and when side galleries are added the total accommodation will be 750. At the opening service, the Scriptures were read by the Rev. T. Fisk, of Kidderminster; prayer was offered by the Rev. Stephen Dunn, of Atch Lench; after which the Rev. Hugh Stowell Brown, of Liverpool, preached. In the afternoon a sermon was preached by the Rev. W. Brock, of London. At the evening meeting Mr. Alfred Arnold took the chair. The Revs. J. J. Brown, of Wycliffe Church, Birmingham, H. E. Von Sturmer, of Worcester, H. D. Gray, of Redditch, and — Smith addressed the meeting, after which a collection was made. Mr J. H. Serroton proposed and Mr. S. Yates seconded a vote of thanks to the architect, Mr. Bidlake, for his services. The Rev. A. Macdonald, pastor of the church, gave a brief address, and after certain votes of thanks were passed, the meeting concluded in the usual manner.

### THE BAPTIST BIBLIOGRAPHY - 1961

FISK, THOMAS, 1838-1903

The bright side of the educational struggle. Worcestershire ass'n letter. Alcester, 1903. McIntyre E3384

The church and the drinking habits of society. Worcestershire ass'n circ. letter. Pershore, 1874. McIntyre E3385

The hope of the church. Worcestershire ass'n letter. Upton-on-Severn. 1878. McIntyre E3386

Memorial sketch of Kidderminster Baptist church. 1895. McIntyre E3387

The practical side of church membership. Circ. letter of Worcestershire ass'n Worcester, 1866. McIntyre E3388

Sermonettes for young people. London, 1904. 203p. McIntyre E3389

No member of the Fisk family had as many articles and books published as Thomas Fisk did, and his bibliography suggests two particularly popular Fisk themes - preaching to young people and preaching against the evils of alcohol. Most of the Fisks seem to have been pretty active in the Temperance movement. And that was more or less it for Thomas Fisk. As mentioned in the souvenir booklet, he died in 1903, and left no children, his will being proved by his brother Ebenezer Fisk, baptist minister and William Brown, a marble and stone-worker. However, we are massively indebted to Thomas Fisk, because he was the man who provided Henry FFyske with the information on his family and its history for inclusion in the Fisk Family Papers.

## Sarah Fisk (1842–1923)

## Eleanor Fisk (1848–1930)



Sarah was the fifth child of William and Louisa, and second daughter, and was born in June 1842, making her two years older than Edward. And Eleanor was the eighth child of William and Louisa, and fourth daughter, and was born in 1848, making her four years younger than Edward. Sarah and Eleanor's lives shared so much in common that I think their stories can be dealt with together. By the time of the 1861 census, Sarah had moved out but was still in St Albans working as an assistant English teacher at a small school for ladies (secondary school age) at 52, London Road. The school no longer exists, and the building (shown above) is now the head offices of Belvoir Letting Specialists (an estate agent). Ele-

anor was 13 at the time, and still at school.

Ten years later, 1871, and Sarah was no longer working at the school. In fact she doesn't seem to have been doing anything at all in particular. She was back living with her mum and dad and is recorded as simply being a 'draper's daughter', but perhaps she was helping with the family business. That year it was now 23 year old Eleanor who, like her older sister had done before, was working as a teacher – there are no details of to who or where. In 1881, Sarah was 39 and Eleanor was 31, and both of them still lived with her mother and father, the latter having retired by now and left the drapery in the hands of their son James. Neither of them are recorded as doing anything in particular.

Roll on 1891, and Sarah and Eleanor had moved out, and were living together in Bricket Road, still in St Albans, along

with their 21 year old servant, Lizzie King from Buckinghamshire. Both the spinster sisters were recorded as simply 'living on their means'.

They may not have had professions as such, but both the Fisk sisters were very involved in the local Baptist church. A photo taken around the turn of the century of the Dagnall Street staff includes, along with some men with very silly beards, both of these ladies, and it turns out that they were giving bible classes, Sarah to women, and Eleanor to the girls in the top class.

In 1901, Sarah and Eleanor were not recorded as being in St Albans at all. They were in a boarding house in 26 Belgrave Road, Tormoham (a parish that no longer exists and is now part of Torquay). The photo of the street shown below was taken around the turn of the century. Once again, they were purely living on 'their means', and the chances are they were only in Devon for a holiday.



**Teachers and Officers of the Dagnall Street Baptist and Village Sunday Schools and Sopwell Lane Mission of 20 years old and upwards  
Circa 1890**

*Back row left to right:*

W M G, Boxall [Park St S.School Super] Joseph Bowers,  
Miss Jane Wiles [Sec.], Henry Oakley, Miss Julia Harris, Isaac Westell,  
W M Pearce, James Savage, Walter G. Blow [Sopwell Lane Super],  
Joseph Humphrey [London Coloney S.School Super]

*2nd row left to right:*

Jos. Wiles, Miss Mary A Gurney Church [Girls Super],  
James Fisk [Gen.Super], Miss Sarah Fisk [Woman's Bible Class],  
Richard Gibbs [Mens Bible Class].

*Front row left to right:*

Miss Eleanor Fisk [Top Class Girls], William Pelly [Infant Boys],  
Miss Mary Ann Pellant [Infant Girls], John Way.

In 1911, however, Eleanor was in St Albans and was living in the vicinity of the drapery. She was still managing to get by on her own means though, and had a general domestic servant called Maria Pope in case life became too difficult for her. I cannot find any record of Sarah in the 1911 census.

It was in 1920 that Eleanor was involved in an incident at the church that is mentioned in the history. To reflect the changing position of women in society, it was decided that there should be lady deacons, and Eleanor was one of the first two to be appointed. However, presumably because she found it hard to work in such a male dominated environment, she only lasted a year before resigning.

Sarah died at the age of 81, dying in 1923, having never married and was buried in the same place as her parents William and Louisa. The inscription on her grave says "all is well", which may have been a pet phrase of hers. Eleanor lived for seven more years, and was the longest surviving of all the ten Fisk children. She never married or had children and was buried in the same place as her parents and older sister. On her inscription, it says "safe home."

## HISTORY OF DAGNALL STREET BAPTIST CHURCH BY DEREK TURNER

At a Church Meeting in September 1919, the question of appointing a lady to the Diaconate was raised but turned down. Apparently Dagnall Street was a little slow to accept the changing place of women in society which had been recognised by Parliament granting them the vote a year previously. The next year, however, the appointment of lady deacons was agreed and in October 1920, Miss Eleanor Fisk and Miss A Kate Bright were nominated. Miss Fisk was appointed but was clearly not comfortable as the only woman in a male stronghold. She resigned after a year and Miss Bright was appointed in her stead. Obviously of much sterner stuff, she served until she left St Albans some ten years later. A Report on the Hertfordshire Baptist Association Assembly held in June 1925, records the President as emphasising the necessity of women taking a wider sphere of



In His Majesty's High Court of Justice,  
The Principal Probate Registry.

BE IT KNOWN that Sarah Fisk  
of Tiptree London Road St. Albans in the County  
of Hertford Spinkite  
died here on the 18<sup>th</sup> day of June 1923

AND BE IT FURTHER KNOWN that at the date hereunder written the last Will and Testament  
\_\_\_\_\_

(a copy whereof is herewith annexed) of the said deceased was proved and registered in the Principal Probate Registry of His Majesty's High Court of Justice and that Administration of all the Estate which by law devolves to and vests in the personal representative of the said deceased was granted by the aforesaid Court to  
Eleanor Fisk Spinkite Sister of deceased and  
Reginald William Fisk and William Fisk  
Persons of deceased  
the Executors  
named in the said Will \_\_\_\_\_

And it is hereby certified that an Affidavit for England has been delivered wherein it is sworn that the gross value of the said Estate within Great Britain  
(exclusive of what the said deceased may have been possessed of or entitled to as a Trustee and not beneficially) amounts to £ 5848-10-0

And it is further certified that it appears by a Receipt signed by an Inland Revenue Officer on the said Affidavit that £ 232-12-0 in respect of Estate Duty and interest on such duty has been paid.

### SARAH FISK'S WILL

Sarah Fisk's will provides some information. It confirms that she died on June 18, 1923, and gives her address as Tiptree, London Road, Saint Albans. That house was probably given that name by the Fisks, because that's the place where their mother, Louisa Lake was born.

The will was proved by two of her nephews, William's son Reginald William Fisk and James' son, the former mayor, William Fisk.

Her estate amounted to £5,848, which is quite a lot of money for somebody who never seems to have done a day's paid work in her life. She leaves it all to her sister Eleanor, apart from £50 for her niece Muriel Sarah Moore, Louisa's daughter in Folkestone, who I think might have been her granddaughter. There are certain clauses about what would happen if Sarah and Eleanor both died at the same time, so it is likely that Eleanor's will was exactly the same as Sarah's.

Should both the sisters die, then the money was to be divided "share and share alike" between all the surviving nephews and nieces, and these are all listed, which is excellent confirmation of who all of them were, who the girls married, and which ones were still alive in 1923. Also, I have no date for their sister Louisa's death, which was probably some time around 1915, but she is tellingly not mentioned in Sarah's will, which seems to confirm that she was not with us in 1923.

All the nephews and nieces fit perfectly, which two exceptions. Louisa's son Alban is not mentioned, which suggests he must have died, and there is a mysterious Mary Louisa Owen. The only person this could be is Louisa Fisk's daughter Louisa Moore, although I can find no record of her ever marrying anybody called Owen, and she was definitely 42 and still single in 1911.

Ebenezer Edward's three children all appear in the will. Ethel Annie was now called Guenin, having married for a second time, and Elsie Beatrice and George Fisk are there too. It's a great little document, because it really does tie in George William Fisk with all the different ancestors.

of Fifty pounds and To my Niece Muriel Sarah  
Moore the sum of Fifty pounds And as to all the  
residue of my estate whatsoever and wheresoever I give  
devise and bequeath the same unto and to the  
use of my sister Eleanor Fisk absolutely And I  
herely declare that if my sister Eleanor Fisk shall  
die in my lifetime then and in that event I revoke  
all the legacies given by this my Will to such persons  
who shall have been given legacies under her Will  
except the legacies of Thirty pounds each to my  
Executors And I give and devise the residue  
of my estate equally between such of my nephews and  
nieces next mentioned as may survive me namely  
William Fisk, Edward Lake Fisk, Reginald William  
Fisk, John Fisk Moore, Ernest Lake Moore, Herbert  
Ebenezer Moore, James Moore, William Fisk Moore, Ellen  
Wallace, Muriel Sarah Moore, Mary Louisa Owen, William  
Herbert Watts, Francis Watts, Arthur Watts, Esthel Annie  
Gwynn, Elsie Beatrice Fisk and George Fisk share and  
share alike And I also declare that in the event of  
my said sister Eleanor Fisk and myself both dying  
simultaneously in consequence of accident or any other  
cause whatever Then and in that event I declare  
that all the legacies given by this my Will shall be

## Frances Fisk (1844–1870)

Frances was the sixth child of William and Louisa, and third daughter, and was born in June 1844, making her one year older than Edward.

She was 17 at the time of the 1861 census, and still living at the family home in St Albans, and not apparently doing anything in particular.

She married at the age of 26 in St Albans to a man of the same age called Isaac Watts from Compstall Bridge (near Stockport, then in Derbyshire but now in Cheshire and just known as Compstall). And what would you know ... the guy was yet another Baptist minister! There is certainly something of a pattern forming here.

There are frequent mentions of an Isaac Watts involved in the History of Dagnall Street Baptist Church. It seems likely that this was the same man, but it seems odd, because it is unlikely that Isaac Watts lived for very much time in St Albans, if he ever lived there at all. It could be a different one.

What with all these Baptists around, the wedding was a real family affair, held at the Dagnall Street Baptist Church that was so closely associated to the Fisk family, and as it says in the Herts Advertiser, the service was given by Frances' brother William, who was a Baptist minister himself, and by Isaac Watt's brother, the Rev T Watts.

The newlyweds got a house in Godmanchester, a small town within the Huntingdonshire district of Cambridgeshire. The address was 95, Post Street, and this picture shows Post Street today, with the Baptist Church in the background where Isaac did his stuff.

At the time of the 1871 census, they were recently married, and Frances had her first baby, Gertrude Fanny Watts, who was four months old at the time. Isaac was not in the house that day, I have not found out where he had gone, but Frances was being visited at the time by Annie, her brother Edward's wife.

They didn't stay in Godmanchester long. They were soon off to Macclesfield in Cheshire. "A history of Macclesfield" by Clarice Stella Davies says that "the minister under whose pastorate the new chapel was built, and who was largely responsible for a period of strength in the church, was the Rev. Isaac Watts (minister 1871-75)".

All of that fits, because their next children, Mary Louise Watts (born 1872) and William Herbert Watts (1874) were both born in Macclesfield, Cheshire, but the next child, another boy, this time Francis Fisk Watts, was born in Louth in Lincolnshire in 1877, while the next son, Arthur Isaac Watts, was born in Abergavenny, Monmouthshire, Wales in 1879. With each of the three sons being born in different places, it seems Isaac Watts moved around quite a lot. Also, here we have yet another Fisk daughter giving her child the middle name of Fisk. In Abergavenny, they lived at 2, Trinity Street (the grandly named Trinity Villa), and in the late seventies had a housekeeper, Annie Charles, and a general servant, Esther Walby, both from Abergavenny. The "Frogmore Street Baptist Chapel, Abergavenny, Church Book" presumably has something to say about Isaac Watts' work, and is available online, but you have to pay for the privilege of viewing it.

But life ended early for Frances Watts (nee Fisk). She died in 1880, aged just 37, leaving Isaac on his own with two daughters and three sons, including little Arthur of just two.

A year later, Isaac Watts appears on the 1881 census, a widowed Baptist minister living with the three motherless children. 10 and 8 year old Gertrude and Mary Louise were not at home, but they were in Abergavenny. They were at school in 13, Neville Street, and looking at the list of pupils, it's interesting how few of them were born locally - most of the kids were born in England.

This really was a tragic time for the Watts family, because shortly after that, in December 1881, the oldest child, Gertrude Watts died in Abergavenny at the age of just ten.

Some time over the next decade, Isaac married again, to a lady called Harriet from Northampton. He was still a Baptist minister, and four surviving children are still with him. The boys were 16, 14 and 12 and all at school. Mary, aged 18 and working as a governess.

And they were soon on the move again, because in the 1901 census, the family was living in Wem, a small village near Shrewsbury, where Isaac was the Baptist minister at a small church that is still running today. The children Mary, William and Francis were now in their twenties and all still living with mum and dad, Mary wasn't working, William was a science tutor in an unnamed school, and Francis was a self-employed art designer and sculptor. The only child that was not with them was Arthur, but I can't trace where he might have been.

An Isaac Watts was the minister from 1911 to 1912 Wootton Baptist Church in Bedfordshire, and is likely to be the same person, but I do not know when he died.

This is supported by the fact that the oldest child Mary was married in Bedfordshire in 1909, to a Welshman called Robert Jenkin Owen. Robert was originally from Whitford in Flintshire (Clwyd), but had spent most of his life in Holyhead, Anglesey. The religious thing was still going on, because Robert was a minister, but not a Baptist one. In the 1911 census the couple are recorded at Glanfor, Holyhead, and Robert is a Methodist Minister. They also had their first child, Gwyneth Mary, who was just five months old at the time of the 1911 census.

Of the other children, the only one I can find on the 1911 census is William Herbert Watts, who was 36 years old and still single at the time, working as a science tutor in Bromborough, Wirral, in Merseyside. He was boarding at a house called Oaklawn owned by an estate agent called Edward Owens.

All four of the surviving children were mentioned in their aunt Sarah's will of 1923, so they all lived full lives. The will is also confirmation that Mary Louise married Robert Owen, as she is named as Mary Louise Owen.

### THE BAPTIST MAGAZINE, 1870

**Mr. I. Watts, of Regent's Park College, has accepted the unanimous invitation of the Union Church, Godmanchester.**

**The Former Baptist Church, Castle Donington  
This church is now up for sale, no longer used  
as a church, due to relocation**



### HERTS ADVERTISER, 1870

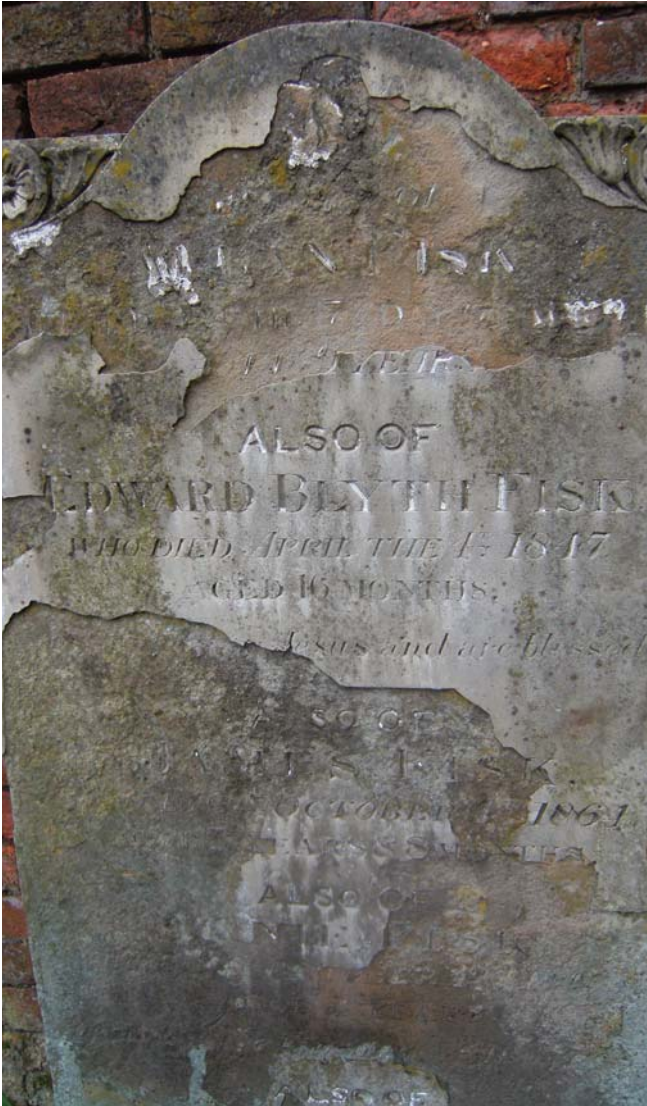
**Feb. 1, at the Baptist Chapel, St. Alban's, by the Rev. T. Watts, brother of the bridegroom, assisted by the Rev. W. Fisk, brother of the bride, the Rev. Isaac Watts, of Godmanchester, to Frances, third daughter of Mr. W. Fisk, of St. Alban's.**

### THE CHURCH, 1870

Watts has been recognised as the pastor of the General Baptist Church at Macclesfield.—The Rev. W. Walters has been recognised as the pastor of the Church at Aston Park.

Way, Sheepshed; the Rev. W. H. Price, of Haverfordwest College, to Maesteg, Mon.; the Rev. H. Wood, late of Longton, to Barton, Leicestershire; the Rev. T. E. Skuse, of

## Edward Fisk (1845-1847) and Alban Fisk (1851-1860)



Edward Blyth Fisk was born in 1845. He was clearly named in honour of Edward Blyth, William's sister Sarah's husband, who had died a year earlier in 1844. Sarah clearly mourned the loss of her husband, and although she would marry again, it would be with her first husband that she would be buried. Sadly, life would be short for Edward. He only lived for 16 months and died in 1847. It is curious that he was called Edward if he already had an older brother called Ebenezer Edward Fisk, who was at least once referred to as "Reverend Edward Fisk". Maybe Ebenezer simply preferred his middle name (who wouldn't?) or maybe he adopted Edward in honour of the younger brother who died? Edward Blyth Fisk was buried in the cemetery at Dagnall Street, which was built over a few decades later. When this happened, the stones were moved and are now lined up against the car park wall. They are very decayed and can hardly be read at all, but there is one where Edward Blyth Fisk is clear.

The last of the nine Fisk children was Alban, born in 1851, and named, obviously, after the saint after whom their hometown was named. Alban died when he was just nine years old. It isn't clear, but it does look like Alban's name might be the one at the top of the gravestone. A few years later, his older sister Louisa named one of her sons after him.

### THE DISAPPEARANCE OF THE FISK NAME

To the best of my knowledge, there is not one person alive now that has carried the Fisk name from William Fisk and Louisa Lake's drapery home in St Albans to the present, and that is despite them having ten children. Two died young, and four were girls.

Of the four sons, the oldest William had two sons, one of whom died in childhood, and the other, Reginald, had two daughters, Dorothy and Alice, but seemingly no sons.

Thomas never married and never had children.

Our great great grandfather Ebenezer Edward had three children, two girls and a boy, George. But George only had one child, Muriel, our grandmother. James had two sons, the first of which, William, seems to have an unhappy marriage and only produced one child, Kathleen Gladys Fisk, yet another daughter.

So as each of these chains end either with no children or only daughters, who would not pass the Fisk name onto their children, the only chance of there being any descendant of William Fisk that is still called Fisk today is via Dr Edward Lewis Fisk, the younger of James' two sons, who lived in Norfolk. He married Mary Ann Elvin, but I have no details of any children they might have had.

