

Captain¹ Thomas Hamilton, the Trollopes, and the Windermere ‘incident’

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IN July 1839, the writer Frances (Fanny) Trollope and her son, Thomas Adolphus Trollope (also a writer), visited her married daughter Cecilia Frances Tilley, who was at that time living in Penrith.² *En route* to Penrith, mother and son stopped off in Windermere and went to see an acquaintance, Captain Thomas Hamilton, who was then living at Elleray.

Hamilton was a keen yachtsman and took the Trollopes for a sail on the lake in his boat, the *Victoria*, but the expedition very nearly ended in disaster and was recorded by Thomas Adolphus in his autobiography:³

The first of these [reminiscences of our first visit to lake-land] concerns an excursion on Windermere with Captain Hamilton, the author of *Cyril Thornton*, which had at that time made its mark. He had recently received a new boat, which had been built for him in Norway. He expected great performances from her, and as there was a nice fresh wind idly curling the surface of the lake, he invited us to come out with him and try her, and in a minute or two we were speeding merrily before the breeze towards the opposite shore. But about the middle of the lake we found the water a good deal rougher, and the wind began to increase notably. Hamilton held the tiller, and not liking to make fast the haulyard of the sail, gave me the rope to hold, with instructions to hold on till further orders. He was a perfect master of the business in hand, and so was the new boat a perfect mistress of *her* business, but this did not prevent us from getting thoroughly ducked. My attention was sufficiently occupied in obeying my orders, and keeping my eye on him in expectation of fresh ones. The wind meanwhile increased from minute to minute, and I could not help perceiving that Hamilton, despite his cheery laughter, was becoming a little anxious. We got back, however, to the shore we had left after a good buffeting, and in the condition of drowned rats. My mother was helped out of the boat, and while she was making her way back up the bank, and I was helping him to make the boat secure, I said, ‘Well! The new boat has done bravely!’ ‘Between you and me, my dear fellow,’ said he, as he laid his hand on my shoulder with a grip, that I think must have left his thumb-mark on the skin, ‘if the boat had not behaved better than any boat of her class that I ever saw, there would have been a considerable probability of our being dined on by the fishes, instead of dining together, as I hope we are going to do! I have been blaming myself for taking your mother out; but the truth is that on these lakes it is really impossible to tell for half an hour what the next half hour may bring forth!’⁴

This paper will examine the life of Thomas Hamilton, who was for a number of years a member of the coterie of literary and artistic giants in Scotland and England and later was one of the select group of independent, sporting gentlemen who lived in and around Windermere in first half of the 19th century.

Thomas was born at Glasgow on 4 January 1790, the second surviving son of Dr William Hamilton, Professor of Anatomy and Botany at the University. The elder son, William, was born at the house in Professors’ Court on 8 March 1788, and there was a brother and sister who had died in infancy.⁵

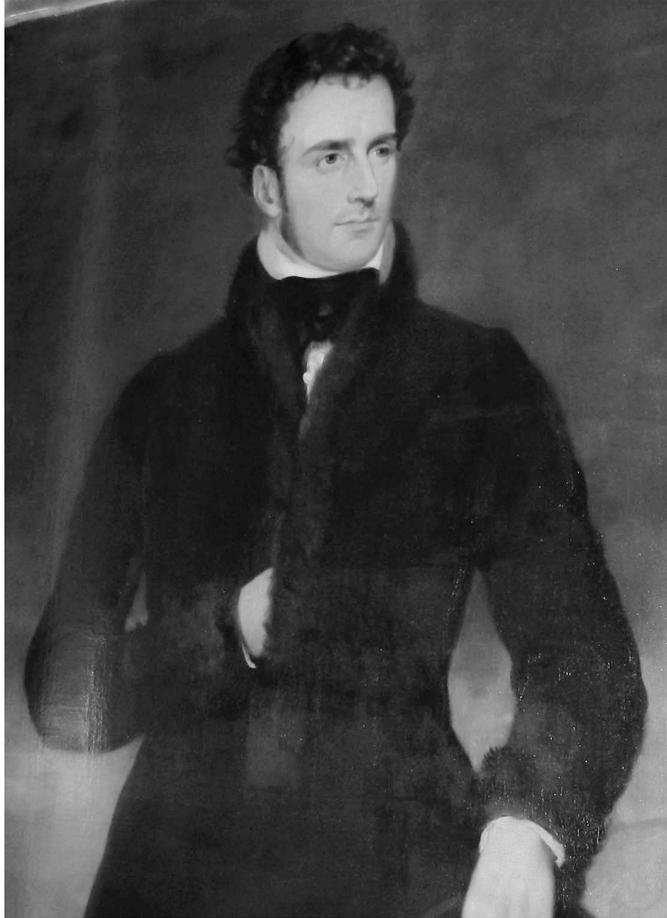


FIG. 1. Captain Thomas Hamilton (1789-1842)⁶ by Sir John Watson Gordon.
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The mother was Elizabeth, daughter of William Stirling, merchant, whose family had for several generations been settled in Glasgow, where they occupied an influential position. They traced their descent from the Stirlings of Bankeir and Lettyr, and through them claimed to represent the distinguished house of Cadder – oldest of the name of Stirling.⁷

Dr William Hamilton, the father, was a cadet of the Hamiltons of Aidrie near Glasgow, they again were a branch of the Hamiltons of Preston and Fingalton.⁸ He was born at Glasgow on 31 July 1758 and died there on 13 March 1790, leaving the mother to care for the two boys.⁹ In October 1801 both brothers were sent to be educated in England. They were first placed in a school at Chiswick, kept by the Revd Dr Horne, 'a man of some reputation'.¹⁰ They remained only until the Christmas vacation, after which Thomas was sent to the school of the Revd Dr Scott of Hounslow, while William went to the school of the Revd Dr Dean at Bromley. Dr Scott's reputation as a classical

scholar and disciplinarian was deservedly high. Thomas flourished at Hounslow, 'here obtaining what in his earlier career he mainly stood in need of – a firm, steady, and unavoidable control – he made rapid progress in all his studies, particularly in languages'.¹¹

In Midsummer 1803 William went to the care of Revd John, later Dr Sommers, at Midcalder in Midlothian, and was shortly followed by Thomas. 'Dr Sommers was a man of very considerable accomplishments, and of excellent sense and tact in dealing with the boys. To his instructions, and with the pervading spirit of the quiet country manse, the two youths owed much, both in the way of education and in the general growth of character. Thomas was of a highly volatile temperament, and abounded in fun and mischief'.¹²

William and Thomas entered the University of Glasgow in session 1803-4. Thomas attended the Arts classes as a regular student for three winters. 'In his academical career . . . he was more remarkable for ability than application, and the honours he carried off were in general those won by vigorous rather than continued effort. In the 'Blackstone examination' of his first year he distinguished himself by giving up an unprecedented complement of Latin authors, trusting, it must be confessed, to his general command of the language to carry him over more than one which he had never read. His power of Latin composition, both verse and prose, which he owed in part to his English education, enabled him to obtain some easy triumphs in the language classes; in that of logic, the excellence and irregularity of his English essays obtained for him both the praise and the reprobation of the venerable professor. At this period he and another able and somewhat idle student were drawn together by a secret affinity of genius, and became inseparable companions. Their different destinations soon divided them, and they hardly ever met again in after life. This was Michael Scott, the author of 'Tom Cringle's Log, etc.'¹³ The university records indicate that he does not appear to have graduated but that he studied there in the academic years 1803-4 and 1805-6 at least. He first matriculated in 1803 and probably can be identified as the Thomas Hamilton who is in the Greek class list for 1803-4, and the Logic class list for 1805-6. On 1 May 1804 he was presented with a Humanity class prize (one of three receiving prizes for the best Latin verses), and with a Logic class prize on 1 May 1806 (one of 14 First Division prize winners 'for the best Specimens of Composition, on various Subjects of Reasoning and Taste, connected with the Course of lectures, prescribed and executed during the present Session, and for distinguished eminence and proficiency in the whole business of the class').¹⁴

Thomas wished to join the army but his mother was opposed to the idea and he was sent for a time to a mercantile house, first in Glasgow, and then in one of its branches in Liverpool. But the life did not suit him and he was finally permitted his chosen path.¹⁵ On 2 August 1810 at the age of 18 years he purchased a commission as Ensign in a Worcestershire Regiment, the 29th Regiment of Foot, at the height of the Peninsular War.¹⁶ He embarked for Lisbon on 24 August and joined his regiment at Alhandra on 9 October. In May 1811 he was present at the 1st siege of Badajos, and was severely wounded at the battle of Albuera on 16th.¹⁷ Albuera was a particularly fierce battle, indeed 'Sir John Fortescue, the great historian of the Army, has said that of all the

battle-honours which a regiment can bear on its Colours, Albuera is one of the most to be envied, ranking in glory with Waterloo and with Minden alone'. The 29th was part of Hoghton's Brigade and the fiercest of the stress fell upon them, 'wherein it seems that every mounted officer fell. . . . Captains, lieutenants, and ensigns, sergeants and rank-and-file all fell equally fast. Nearly four-fifths of Hoghton's brigade were down, and its front had shrunk to the level of that of the French; but still it remained unbeaten, advanced to within twenty yards of the enemy and fired unceasingly'.¹⁸

On 31 October 1811 he purchased a promotion to the rank of Lieutenant,¹⁹ and on 3 November he embarked at Lisbon on the *Malabar* with part of the regiment for Portsmouth. He served with the regiment at Cadiz in 1813 and Gibraltar until 13 June 1814, when it sailed for North America. He disembarked at Halifax, Nova Scotia, on 20 August and from that time until 9 March 1815, when he was granted leave for recovery of his health, he was returned as 'Sick at Halifax', and did not rejoin Headquarters until 15 December 1815 when the regiment was stationed at Versailles. He served with the Army of Occupation in France until 1 August 1817, when he was granted leave of absence and retired as a Lieutenant on a half-pay pension on 26 March 1818.²⁰

On retirement he moved to Edinburgh, where he took a house at 5 Darnaway Street, and soon immersed himself in the active literary scene there, becoming a friend of William Blackwood, publisher, and John Gibson Lockhart, editor of the *Blackwood's Magazine*. He was a regular contributor to the magazine²¹ and appears to have been a popular resident in the city. 'He walked lamely from a wound in the leg . . . but his tall and noble military figure, his finely-cut and expressive features, gave him a distinguished air, to which no one could be insensible'.²² The essayist and historian Thomas Carlyle recorded his views, 'In the winter of 1832-33, Captain Hamilton . . . was likewise resident in Edinburgh; a pleasant, very courteous, and intelligently-talking man, enduring, in a cheery military humour, his old Peninsular hurts, and printing his Peninsular and other books. At his house I have been of literary parties; of one, at least, which I still remember in an indistinct but agreeable way. Of a similar party at Sir William's I have a still brighter recollection, and of his fine nobly simple ways there; especially of one little radiance (his look and his smile the now memorable part of it) privately addressed to myself the mode of supping I had selected; supper of one excellent and excellently-boiled potato, of fair size, with salt for seasoning.- at an epoch when excellent potatoes yet were. The evening was altogether pleasant, the talk lively and amusing: the Captain, I remember, quizzed me, and obliquely his brother, in a gay good-natured tone on Goethe's "Last Will": . . .'²³

His brother William, by this time Sir William, was an established member of the 'Edinburgh set' - 'Many were the pleasant reunions that took place in those days under Professor Wilson's roof,²⁴ where might be seen together, Lockhart, Hogg,²⁵ Galt,²⁶ Sir William Hamilton, his brother Captain Thomas Hamilton, Sir Adam Fergusson,²⁷ Sir Henry Raeburn,²⁸ Mr Allan and Watson Gordon.²⁹ In such meetings as these, it may easily be imagined how the hours would pass, the conversation and merriment perhaps continuing till sun-rising'.³⁰

On 6 November 1820 Hamilton married Annette (Anne) Montgomery Campbell in St Paul's Chapel, Edinburgh.³¹ She was born 14 January 1792, baptised on 13 February 1792 at St Mary, St Marylebone, London, the daughter of Archibald Montgomery Campbell, and a lady 'of very pleasing manners and accomplishments'³² but sadly not of robust health.³³

On 5 December 1825 Lockhart took over the editorship of *The Quarterly Review* and moved with his wife and young family, to London³⁴ allowing Hamilton to rent his house, Chiefswood,³⁵ a delightful cottage near Melrose built by Sir Walter Scott for his daughter and son-in-law, within walking distance of Abbotsford. The Hamiltons appear to have mainly stayed at Chiefswood in the summer months and retreated to their Edinburgh address for the winter. While they were in residence, they became good friends with the Scotts and were often in each others company:

2 July 1826 – . . . Mr and Mrs Hamilton from Chiefswood, the present inhabitants of Lockhart's cottage, dined with us, which made the society pleasant. He is a fine, soldierly-looking man – though affected with paralysis – his wife a sweet good humoured little woman. He is supposed to be a writer in Blackwood's *Magazine*. Since we were to lose the Lockharts, we could scarce have had more agreeable folks.³⁶

Whilst at Chiefswood, Hamilton finalised the writing of *The Youth and Manhood of Cyril Thornton*, a semi-autobiographical work, which was first published in 1827 by William Blackwood. It ran to three editions in his lifetime and is a lively and valuable record of the times. He also began work on his *Annals of the Peninsular Campaign*, which was published two years later.

In the autumn of 1829 the Hamiltons went to Italy and whilst in Florence Mrs Hamilton was taken ill and died on 26 December. She is buried in the Protestant Cemetery, called the 'English Cemetery' in a fine tomb engraved with a winged globe.³⁷ There were no children of the marriage.

Thomas returned home and on 16 October 1830 set sail from Liverpool to New York for a tour of America gathering material for his final book, *Men and Manners in America*.³⁸ In it he describes his peregrination, visiting, amongst other places, Boston, Philadelphia, Baltimore, Washington – where he met the President, General Andrew Jackson, and the Vice-President, Martin Van Buren who was to succeed as President in 1837³⁹ – Cincinnati – where he saw the bazaar⁴⁰ erected by Fanny Trollope – 'The most remarkable object in Cincinnati, however, is a large Graeco-Moresco-Gothic-Chinese looking building, an architectural compilation of prettinesses of all sorts, the effect of which is eminently grotesque'.⁴¹ He travelled on to Louisville, down the Mississippi to New Orleans, on to Mobile, Montgomery and Macon, Augusta, Charlestown, and back to New York. Thence to West Point, Albany, Rochester and Niagara, where he actually met Fanny Trollope, with her two daughters, Cecilia and Emily, and her companion Auguste Hervieu. 'In what capacity the latter attended her, Hamilton could not make out, but from the odd appearance of matters, and her apparent poverty, which hardly admitted her and her daughters being decently dressed, it was conclusive against her being taken notice of by respectable ladies, or treated as one herself'.⁴² He met her again in New York and an acquaintanceship

was formed which would lead eventually to the later meeting at Windermere.⁴³ From Niagara, he went to Fort George, York, Montreal and Quebec, returning to New York and sailing back to Liverpool on 20 July 1831. During his travels he had visited many of the major institutions in America, including the House of Representatives and the Senate, was not impressed by American politics, and was particularly distressed by the evils of the slave trade, still thriving in the southern states.

Hamilton arrived in England on 12 August and in September went to stay for two weeks with his old friend, now Professor John Wilson at Penny Bridge, near Ulverston.⁴⁴ He was obviously much taken with the Lake District, as by February 1832 he was living at Ivy Cottage, Rydal and had as his neighbours the Wordsworths, at Rydal Mount.⁴⁵ Wordsworth had been a fellow contributor to *Blackwood's Magazine* and had been much admired by Thomas and his brother William.⁴⁶ Despite Wordsworth's 'aloof' reputation they obviously forged a link: on 20 July that year they climbed Helvellyn together, with Julian Hare of Trinity College, Dr Arnold, master of Rugby and Revd John Buckland,⁴⁷ and over the next few years a close friendship developed.⁴⁸ In the autumn of 1832 Hamilton went to the Highlands of Scotland⁴⁹ and he spent the winter back in Edinburgh.⁵⁰ While he was there Wordsworth was acting on his behalf negotiating the purchase of Ivy Cottage with the Kendal attorney, Edward Tatham⁵¹ lawyer for the owner Revd Samuel Tilbrooke.⁵²

On 15 February 1834, at All Soul's, Saint Marylebone, Hamilton married Maria Frances Geslin Farquhar, widow of Sir Robert Townsend Farquhar, M.P. (1776-1830), first British Governor and Commander-in-Chief of Mauritius. The Farquhars were friends of Wordsworth and regular visitors to the Lake District.⁵³ Maria, baptised on 25 December 1792 at Fort George, Madras, Tamil Nadu, was the daughter of Francis Joseph Louis Delautour, a Strasbourg-born merchant and banker, and Anne Hordle.⁵⁴ The newly married couple returned to Westmorland and leased Professor Wilson's house, Elleray⁵⁵ at Windermere.⁵⁶

Windermere had long been popular as a venue for yacht racing and around 1824 there was a marked revival of interest in the sport by the wealthy gentlemen who had made the area their recreation ground. Professor Wilson was in the forefront of the revival and regattas were held on the lake.⁵⁷ Sir Walter Scott, his daughter Anne and John Gibson Lockhart, attended one in 1825 as guests of Wilson, whom Scott called 'Lord High Admiral of the Lakes'. It was described as '... a beautiful aquatic spectacle', 'a scene worthy a royal progress', ... 'brilliant cavalcades through the woods in the mornings, and delicious boatings on the lake by moonlight ...'. There were no less than 50 barges following that of Professor Wilson when they passed Storrs Point. There was music, sunshine, flags, streamers, gay dresses, and spectators lined the bays and promontories.⁵⁸

Hamilton was a keen sailor and now that he was married and settled at Elleray he ordered the construction of a new racing boat to be named the *Victoria* – the very boat in which Frances Trollope had her 'adventure'. It was to be ready for the first race in a series of three heats for a silver cup by 'members of the club and gentlemen of Windermere', which was to take place on 17 July 1838.⁵⁹ It was built by Mr William

Barrow,⁶⁰ in the Norwegian style, under the supervision of Edward Swinburne Jnr. and was launched at Bowness on Thursday, 28 June 1838.⁶¹ But the official launch came later, to celebrate the Coronation of Queen Victoria, and was reported in the *Westmorland Gazette* of Saturday, 7 July 1838.

Coronation rejoicing.

Bowness - . . . the morning was filled up by the launch of the new pleasure boat *Victoria* belonging to T. Hamilton Esq., of Elleray. The other boats and yachts in the bay were gaily decked out with flags. At 10 o'clock a royal salute was fired, and again at one, when the *Victoria* received her name from Lady Farquhar [after her marriage to Hamilton Maria retained her title up to her death], after which the people assembled and partook of refreshments provided for the occasion.

The first heat was delayed and took place on Friday, 10 August, starting and finishing at Waterhead, where the judges' boat was anchored.

The course was one of about five miles, three times over, beginning and ending at Waterhead, where the judges' boat was anchored. The race was a time race, the smallest boat starting first; the rest in succession, having a certain number of minutes and seconds allowed between each boat, and the one next in size; but it unfortunately happened that the wind was most unfavourable at the time, for the first four boats started with a light breeze from the northward, which died away into a calm by the time the rest was to go, so that the last four boats were nearly together when they went off. The following boats entered

1. Mr Moor's *Zara*; 2. Earl of Tryconnel's⁶², *Monkey*; 3. Mr Swinburne's⁶³ *no name*; 4. Earl of Tryconnel's *Fairy*; 5. Captain Greave's *Yager*; 6. Mr Hamilton's *Victoria*; 7. Mr Roughsedge's⁶⁴ *Nautilus*; 8. Mr Brancker's⁶⁵ *Dolphin*.

The wind at first was very light from the northward; but in rather less than an hour, a good breeze sprang up from the south-west, which continued tolerably steady for the rest of the race, just steady enough for the boats to carry their whole sails. Mr Swinburne's boat, having carried this light breeze, had started well, kept the lead, and rounded the judges' boat the first time very far ahead of all the others; the next boat was the *Victoria*, then the *Dolphin*, *Nautilus*, and *Fairy*, all three close together. The second time round, Mr Swinburne was still ahead, but the large boats had gained much on him, and both the *Dolphin* and the *Nautilus* had passed the *Victoria*. In the first mile and a half of the last round the *Dolphin* and the *Nautilus* passed Mr Swinburne; and about a mile further the *Nautilus* passed also. It was then rather a close race between the *Dolphin* and the *Nautilus* running off the wind, and the heat was won by the *Dolphin*, beating the *Nautilus* by one and a half minutes, and the *Victoria* by eight minutes. Mr Swinburne came in fourteen minutes after the *Dolphin*; but had got out of the way of the *Victoria*, near one of the buoys, finding he was not winning, and thereby lost several minutes. The *Fairy* came in twenty minutes after the *Dolphin*, and the two small boats, *Zara* and *Monkey*, a very long way astern. The *Yager* having been thrown out at the very first gave up the trial directly, though she sailed over the course.

The weather which had been very wet, held up with the exception of a sharp shower, till the race was just over, and then set in very rainy for the evening.

To entitle any boat to be the winner, for the season, she must win two heats, and the cup is not to be considered won until she has won two seasons in succession.

(We regret to understand that the *Victoria* had not an equal chance in this run, as her jib was wantonly cut away on the previous night.)⁶⁶

The second race took place on Monday, 3 September. There were six contestants – E. Swinburne's, jnr., Esq. *No name*; Lord Tryconnel's *Fairy*; George Greave's, Esq. *Yager*; T. Hamilton's, Esq., *Victoria*; H. Roughsedge's Esq., *Nautilus*; J. Brancker's

Esq., *Dolphin*. 'There was a light breeze from the west, which gradually increased to whole sail breeze'. *Nautilus* went aground in the early stages and *Fairy* had problems with her mainsail but *Victoria* won, beating *Dolphin* by four minutes and *Yeager* by 15 minutes.⁶⁷

The third and final race took place on Thursday, 13 September in a good breeze from the south-west – *Dolphin* went aground but the *Victoria* won, beating *Nautilus* by six minutes and a half.⁶⁸

Over the next couple of years Hamilton raced the boat regularly on Windermere and generally with success⁶⁹ and the couple appear to have been at the heart of Windermere society. On 20 March 1841 the *Westmorland Gazette* reported:

BOWNESS. On Thursday the 11th inst. the 2nd anniversary of the Lady of the Lake Society of Odd Fellows in Bowness was held at the Crown Hotel. The day was uncommonly fine, and a great number of the members were present . . . At the dinner . . . the healths of Lady Farquhar and Captain Hamilton of Elleray were next proposed from the vice-chair, with due honours, and thanks for their kindly contribution to the Widows and Orphans Fund.

The Hamiltons were in residence at Elleray for the 1841 Census, together with their friend Letitia Luff,⁷⁰ and a number of servants. Thomas may well have been writing at this time for, in the *Westmorland Gazette*, Saturday, 12 June 1841, a short article appeared entitled 'St Patrick's Day in the Peninsula' by Lt. O'Malley. He had previously written in *Blackwood's* magazine under the *nom de plume* Ensign and Adjutant O'Doherty and, in the absence of any positive identification of O'Malley, such an attribution would not seem implausible.

In the spring of 1842 the Hamiltons went to Edinburgh to visit brother William before they embarked upon a tour of the Continent. While they were there together, the brothers laid a slab on their mother's grave.⁷¹ This was to be their last meeting. Thomas and Maria spent the summer in France and Switzerland arriving in Florence for the winter when Thomas was taken ill with paralysis. He recovered sufficiently to allow them to proceed to Pisa but suffered a recurrence and died there on 7 December.⁷² He is buried alongside his first wife in the 'English' Cemetery in Florence⁷³ not many yards away from Fanny Trollope who was later buried there in 1863. His will is dated 20 July 1844.⁷⁴

Maria returned home and shortly afterwards gave up the tenancy of Elleray. She moved to Dale Lodge, Grasmere⁷⁵ and apart from visits to her son Walter Minto Townsend Farquhar at his home, 6 Gloucester Square, Marylebone, London,⁷⁶ she remained there until her death on 27 August 1875.⁷⁷ The *Westmorland Gazette* 11 September 1875 reported the funeral:

Funeral of Lady Farquhar at Grasmere. The remains of the late Dowager Townsend Farquhar were interred at Grasmere on Tuesday the 31st ult. The body was borne to the grave by eight of the most respected dalesmen, tradesmen, and others, and followed not only by near relatives and servants, but by all the chief inhabitants of the vale. The coffin was adorned with costly flowers, offerings from distant friends and mourners. Though not among her immediate relations, Lady Farquhar is laid to rest in the well known 'classic corner' of Grasmere churchyard, which is now looked upon

as a national possession, and was doubly hallowed to her as the resting place of many of her oldest friends.

Her grave, surrounded by an iron railing, lies within feet of William Wordsworth.

Thomas appears to have been a well-regarded man who had enjoyed an active and eventful life at the heart of the northern literary and artistic movement of the early 19th century. He was eloquently celebrated in the obituary notice printed in *Blackwood's Magazine*, February 1843, page 280:

. . . Mr Hamilton exhibited a remarkable union of scholarship, high breeding, and amiability of disposition. To the habitual refinement of taste which an early mastery of the classics had produced, his military profession and intercourse with society had added the ease of the man of the world, while they had left unimpaired his warmth of feeling and kindness of heart. Amidst the active services of the Peninsular and American campaigns, he preserved his literary tastes; and, when the close of war restored him to his country, he seemed to feel that the peaceful leisure of a soldier's life could not be more appropriately filled up than by the cultivation of literature. The characteristic of his mind was rather a happy union and balance of qualities than the possession of any one in excess, and the result was a peculiar composure and gracefulness, pervading equally his outward deportment and his habits of thought. The only work of fiction which he has given to the public certainly indicates high powers both of pathetic and graphic delineation; but the qualities which first and most naturally attracted attention, were rather his excellent judgment of character, at once just and generous, his fine perception and command of wit and quiet humour, rarely, if ever, allowed to deviate into satire or sarcasm, and the refinement, taste, and precision with which he clothed his ideas, whether in writing or in conversation. From the boisterous or extravagant he seemed instinctively to recoil, both in society and in taste . . .

Notes and References

- ¹ Despite the fact that Hamilton used the title of Captain there is no evidence that he was ever promoted to that rank. His will describes him as Lieutenant on half-pay and his army records bear that out.
- ² See W. G. Wiseman, *The Trollopes, the Tilleys and the Penrith connection*, CW3, vii, 179-192.
- ³ Thomas Alolphus Trollope, *What I Remember* (2 vols., 1887).
- ⁴ *Ibid.*, ii, 14-15. See Frances Trollope, *The Laurringtons, or Superior People* (Longmans, 1844) 3 vols. for her version of the incident.
- ⁵ John Veitch, *Memoir of Sir William Hamilton, Bart.* (Edinburgh and London, 1869), 2. William, a distinguished philosopher, was well known in Edinburgh literary circles, became a baronet in 1816, was called to the Scottish Bar, and in 1821 was elected Professor of Civil History at Edinburgh. In 1836 he was elected to the chair of logic and metaphysics, again at Edinburgh and died in 1856 *Dictionary of National Biography* [hereafter *DNB*].
- ⁶ Although his birth is generally reported as being in 1789 the records at the General Register Office in Edinburgh [hereafter GRO] appear to show 4 January 1790 – GRO OPR Births 644/001 0180 0228 Glasgow.
- ⁷ Veitch, *Memoir*, 1.
- ⁸ *Ibid.*, 4.
- ⁹ *DNB*.
- ¹⁰ Veitch, *Memoir*, 14. At Manor Farm House in Chiswick Lane a boarding academy was kept from c.1786 by the Revd Thomas Horne (1737-1824), who taught 82 boys in 1801. Pupils included his son William (1774-1860), later Sir William, the attorney general; John Copley (1772-1863), later Lord Chancellor as Lord Lyndhurst, who thought Horne a good classical scholar; and the philanthropist Anthony Ashley Cooper (1801-1885), later Earl of Shaftesbury, who remembered a large and brutal school which had given him an early horror of oppression. Horne's son Thomas was master from 1824 until 1835 but by 1845 the school had been turned into an asylum – *VCH Middlesex*, vii (1982), 98.
- ¹¹ Veitch, *Memoir*, 14.

- ¹² *Ibid.*, 16; Revd Dr John Sommers (1765-1842), married at Mid Calder on 16 September 1811, Isabella Euphemia Hamilton Donaldson (died 13 May 1821), second daughter of Charles Donaldson of Calcutta and Bethia Hamilton [IGI]. He may have been related to Thomas by marriage.
- ¹³ Veitch, *Memoir*, 18.
- ¹⁴ William Innes Addison, *Index to the Matriculation Albums 1728-1858* (Glasgow, 1913), 204, entry 6502. I am most grateful to Claire Daniel, Archivist at the Glasgow University Archive Services for this information.
- ¹⁵ Veitch, *Memoir*, 19.
- ¹⁶ *The London Gazette* 31 July 1810 and details from his service record held by the Worcestershire Regiment Museum. I am most grateful to Lt. Col. (Rtd.) C.P. Love (Hon. Archivist) and the Museum for the information and for permission to quote from the Regimental Magazine 'Firm'.
- ¹⁷ Veitch, *Memoir*, 19, citing Sir William Hamilton's notes, states that a musket-bullet passed through his thigh and for a time his life was in serious danger.
- ¹⁸ *Worcestershire Regiment 'Firm' Magazine*, April 1931 which gives a full account of the battle.
- ¹⁹ *The London Gazette* 2 November 1811 and information from his service record.
- ²⁰ *The London Gazette* 25 April 1818 and his service record.
- ²¹ Thomas Hamilton, *The Youth and Manhood of Cyril Thornton* (ed. Maurice Lindsay) (Aberdeen, 1990), Introduction, vii.
- ²² Veitch, *Memoir*, 87-88.
- ²³ *Ibid.*, 125.
- ²⁴ 20 Ann Street, Edinburgh in 1820 - Mrs Gordon, 'Christopher North' *A Memoir of John Wilson* (Edinburgh, 1879), 217. John Wilson (1785-1854) was an author, the 'Christopher North' of *Blackwood's* and professor of moral philosophy at Edinburgh [DNB].
- ²⁵ James Hogg (1770-1835), the 'Etterick Shepherd', poet [DNB].
- ²⁶ John Galt (1779-1839), novelist [DNB].
- ²⁷ Sir Adam Ferguson (1771-1855), keeper of the regalia in Scotland [DNB].
- ²⁸ Sir Henry Raeburn (1756-1823), portrait painter [DNB].
- ²⁹ Sir John Watson Gordon lived with his father (then Captain, afterwards Admiral Watson) and a pleasant group of brothers and sisters, in the house adjoining that of Professor Wilson, in whom this rising artist found a warm and kind patron. Not a few of his early pictures were painted under the encouragement and advice of his genial friend . . . In 1850 he was elected President of the Royal Scottish Academy, and was shortly afterwards knighted. He died on 1 June 1864 - Mrs Gordon, 'Christopher North', 216. It was probably at this time that he painted the portrait of Hamilton, see Fig. 1.
- ³⁰ Mrs Gordon, 'Christopher North', 217.
- ³¹ GRO Edinburgh OPR Marriages 685/001 0540 0363 Edinburgh and information from his army service record.
- ³² Veitch, *Memoir*, 129.
- ³³ The Campbells had property in Shropshire, see Shropshire Record Office Records from Messrs Wace, Morgan and Salt, Solicitors 4929/4/1. Annette was related to, and an 'affectionate friend' of, Mrs Elizabeth Eyton (née Campbell) of Wellington, Shropshire, and a number of letters in the Shropshire Record Office, Eyton Family Part II, include references to Annette's poor health - Letter 665/5881 dated 9 June 1817 from Annette to Elizabeth Eyton states she is content with the improvement in her stomach as long as she takes her 'dear Mr Pennington's medicines'; Letter 665/5998 dated December 1807 ' . . . Your friend Annette Campbell is very poorly. . .'; Letter 665/6001 dated October 1808 ' . . . Too fat and florid she fears to be quite healthy . . .'; Letter 665/6002 dated 7 January 1809 ' . . . I do not think Annette at all in a good state of health. . . '.
- ³⁴ *The Journal of Sir Walter Scott from the original manuscripts at Abbotsford* (Edinburgh, 1890), i, 34.
- ³⁵ There is a watercolour in the National Gallery of Scotland, Edinburgh, by Joseph Mallord William Turner of the house painted in 1831.
- ³⁶ *Scott Journal*, i, 220, see also 231, 237-238, 241, 262; ii., 9, 23-24, 53, 85, 303-304, 319-320.
- ³⁷ www.florin.ms/cemetery.html .
- ³⁸ Thomas Hamilton, *Men and Manners in America* (2 vols., first published in 1833 by Blackwood in Edinburgh and Cadell in London).
- ³⁹ *Men and Manners*, ii, 39-42, 133-134.
- ⁴⁰ Teresa Ransom, *Fanny Trollope* (1996), 47-63; Victoria Glendinning, *Trollope* (1992), 26-31.
- ⁴¹ *Men and Manners*, ii, 169-172.

- ⁴² Ransom, *Fanny Trollope*, 69.
- ⁴³ *Men and Manners*, ii, 171-172.
- ⁴⁴ Mrs Gordon, 'Christopher North', 356.
- ⁴⁵ Alan G. Hill (ed.), *Letters of William and Dorothy Wordsworth* (Oxford, 1979) Vol. V, part 2, 485 – Letter to George Huntly Gordon . . . dated January to February 1832.
- ⁴⁶ Veitch, *Memoir*, 88-89.
- ⁴⁷ Hill, *Letters of Wordsworth* Vol. V, Part 2, 546.
- ⁴⁸ *Ibid.*, 550 dated summer 1832 from Wordsworth to Hamilton inviting him to ride out. Mary E. Burton (ed.), *The Letters of Mary Wordsworth* (Oxford, 1958), 198 – letter dated 8 December 1837 ' . . . We had a cold drive home to 5 oc dinner yesterday. Cyril and Daddy walked off [first] leaving Q and myself to follow . . . '. Wordsworth had given Hamilton the eponym 'Cyril Thornton', after the hero of his book.
- ⁴⁹ Hill, *Letters of Wordsworth*, 556 – Wordsworth to John Gibson Lockhart dated 24 September 1832 – sending condolences re. the death of Sir Walter Scott, mentions that Hamilton is in the Highlands.
- ⁵⁰ *Ibid.*, 569 – Wordsworth and Dora to John Wordsworth dated 5 December 1832 ' . . . Mr Hamilton is gone to Edinburgh for 4 months'. *Ibid.*, 591 – Letter from WW to T. Hamilton Esq., 4 Athol Place. Monday 18 February 1833.
- ⁵¹ Kendal attorney of Stramongate (1829) and Deputy Recorder – W. Parson and W. White, *History, Directory and Gazeteer of the Counties of Cumberland and Westmorland* (1829), 661.
- ⁵² Hill, *Letters of Wordsworth*, 591. Alan G. Hill (ed.), *The Letters of William and Dorothy Wordsworth: A Supplement of New Letters* (Oxford, 1993), Letter from WW to Julius Charles Hare, from Rydal Mount 28 or 29 August 1832 – ' . . . Mr Hamilton . . . purchased Mr Tilbrook's for 1700, very dear I think; but he is likely to have his enjoyment of it, and promises to make a pleasant neighbour for us, only I fear that he will draw around him some persons whom this quiet village would rather be without.' The Revd Samuel Tillbrooke M.A., B.D. (Cantab.) (1782-1835), Bursar of Peterhouse, Cambridge, Rector of Freckenham, Suffolk, in 1816 bought David's, an old inn in Rydal, and rebuilt it, calling the house Ivy Cottage (now the Glen Rothay Hotel). His will, dated 21 November 1835, is PROB 11/1854. For a history of the house see Mary L. Armit, *Rydal* (Kendal, 1916), 429, 434, 437 and a drawing of the house executed in 1809 by Green. Tilbrooke's crest with initials and date 1817 still adorns the door of the present hotel.
- ⁵³ R. S. Boumphrey, C. Roy Hudleston and J. Hughes, *An Armorial for Westmorland and Lonsdale* (CWAAS Extra series XXI, 1975), 111.
- ⁵⁴ IGI and *Armorial for Westmorland and Lonsdale*, 185. His will is PROB 11/1479 dated 1808.
- ⁵⁵ Wilson had purchased the estate of Elleray in 1807 but the only habitation was a 'rustic cottage with the addition of a drawing room thrown out at one end . . . it was built of common stone . . . pretty French windows opened to the ground'. In 1808 he began to build 'a mansion of elegant proportions'. Mrs Gordon, 'Christopher North', 87-88. There is an engraving of the cottage on p.87, taken from the painting by Alexander Nasmyth, 'The Old Cottage at Elery', now held in the National Gallery of Scotland. The painting was exhibited by Nasmyth in Edinburgh in 1808
- ⁵⁶ *Letters of Wordsworth* Vol. V, Part 2, 726 and fn – Letter dated c.24 July 1834 from Dorothy to Mr Robinson . . . 'Cyril and Maria are happy and happier than the day is long – they frequently inquire after you as do the Hardens whenever they see us'.
- ⁵⁷ Sir William Forwood (ed.), *Windermere and the Royal Windermere Yacht Club* (Kendal, 1905), not paginated.
- ⁵⁸ Mrs Gordon, 'Christopher North', 305.
- ⁵⁹ *Westmorland Gazette* Saturday 16 June 1838.
- ⁶⁰ The Barrows were a well-known family of boat-builders at Bowness. William Barrow (died 1840) was the father of James Barrow, whose yard stood on the site of the Stag's Head Inn. See 1841 and 1851 Census for Undermillbeck and *Parson and White Directory* (1829), 679 – Bowness, Robert Barrow, joiner and boat builder; *Mannix* (1849), 338 – Bowness, Boat builders, John Balmer and James Barrow.
- ⁶¹ *Westmorland Gazette* Saturday 30 June 1838.
- ⁶² John, 4th Earl of Tryconnel was born John Delaval Carpenter on 16 December 1790 at Owlsbury, Hampshire, the son of Charles Carpenter and Elizabeth Mackenzie. He succeeded to the title in 1812, when his elder brother, George 3rd Earl of Tryconnel, was killed at Wilna. He married, in 1817, Sarah Crowe, daughter of Robert Crowe and Anne Buckle, of Kiplin Castle, North Yorkshire. Tryconnel visited the area regularly as his mother lived in Bowness until her death on 23 February 1842 (Memorial inscription in Windermere Church). Her will is in the North Yorkshire Record Office ZBL VIII/2/4/1.

- Tryconnel died 25 June 1853 and his will is in the North Yorkshire Record Office ZBL II/180.
- ⁶³ Edward Swinburne (1788-1855) was the son of Sir John Edward Swinburne of Capheaton, Northumberland and Emilia Elizabeth Bennet. He married 1stly 13 December 1819 Anna Antonia Sutton, daughter of Capt. Robert Nassau Sutton. 2ndly 11 February 1846 Letitia Mary Feltham, daughter of Edward Feltham. Swinburne lived at Bowness Rectory (1841 Census) and later at Calgarth Park – see *Armorial for Westmorland and Lonsdale*, 289. He was in the same regiment as Hamilton, the 29th Regiment; recorded as an Ensign on 11 August 1808 and by 1 December that year he was with the Regiment in Lisbon. On 1 May 1809 he was at Coimbra and on 27 July he was promoted to Lieutenant. From 25 August 1809 to 25 September 1809 he was returned as 'In charge of Sick at Coimbra' but by the end September/early October 1809 he had rejoined the H.Q. of the 29th at Puebla de la Calzada. On 18 November 1809 he was granted leave of absence and on 13 January 1810 he resigned – just seven months before Hamilton enlisted. I am most grateful to Lt. Col. (Rtd.) C. P. Love, Hon. Archivist at The Worcestershire Regiment Museum for this information.
- ⁶⁴ Hornby Roughsedge (1782-1859) was the son of Revd Robert Hankinson Roughsedge (died 1829), Rector of Liverpool and Elizabeth Wareing. Hornby married Margaret Elizabeth (died 1867). He owned mills in Bentham, Yorkshire and lived at Bentham House until he retired in 1850 when he moved to Foxghyll, Grasmere, where he died in September 1859. He was a magistrate for Lonsdale Ward and is buried in Grasmere Church (Memorial Inscription and *Armorial for Westmorland and Lonsdale*, 255).
- ⁶⁵ James Brancker (1790-1852, son of Peter Whitfield Brancker and Hannah Aspinwall) of Croft Lodge, Ambleside was a wealthy Liverpool sugar merchant who bought Croft Lodge in 1827, pulled it down and on the site built the present house 'in a style which neither Vitruvius, Palladio, Inigo Jones, Piranesi not Sir Jeffrey Wyatville ever dreamed of even in a nightmare or under the influence of opium'. He was a close friend of Hartley Coleridge. *Armorial for Westmorland and Lonsdale*, 49. On 1 December 1842 he married Anne Symonds at St Nicholas, Liverpool and his return home with his bride was noted in the *Westmorland Gazette*, Saturday 10 December 1842 – 'Rejoicing at the return of James Brancker. It being reported that James Brancker, Esq. accompanied by his bride, proposed returning to his beautiful and delightful residence, Croft Lodge, near Ambleside, on the 1st inst.'. Brancker and Co. were sugar refiners in Mathew Street, Liverpool. *Gores' Directory of Liverpool* (1827), 57.
- ⁶⁶ *Westmorland Gazette* Saturday 18 August 1838.
- ⁶⁷ *Westmorland Gazette* Saturday 8 September 1838.
- ⁶⁸ *Westmorland Gazette* Saturday 15 September 1838.
- ⁶⁹ See reports in the *Westmorland Gazette* 27 October 1838, 1 June 1839, 22 June 1839 and 24 August 1839 (relating to a race which should have taken place on 20 August but was postponed as *Victoria* lost her mast), 31 August 1839, 21 September 1839, 19 October 1839, 29 August 1840 and 5 September 1840. After Hamilton's death *Victoria* continued to be raced by G.A. Aufrere Esq. *Westmorland Gazette* Saturday 2 August 1851. George Anthony Aufrere, J.P., of Burnside, Windermere and Foulsham Old Hall, Norfolk (1794-1881) *Armorial for Westmorland and Lonsdale*, 13.
- ⁷⁰ Widow of Captain Charles Luff or Lough (died 1815 in Maritius). They stayed in Patterdale but frequently took lodgings in Ambleside. They were friends of Wordsworth, and Letitia took the tenancy of Fox Ghyll after Thomas de Quincey.
- ⁷¹ She had died in January 1827, see *DNB* entry for William.
- ⁷² Veitch, *Memoir*, 266-267.
- ⁷³ www.florin.ms/cemetery.html
- ⁷⁴ His will in the GRO, Edinburgh SC70/1/65 Edinburgh Sheriff Court Inventories. In it he refers to sums of money paid to him as a result of his marriage contract to Annette Montgomery Campbell and to his holdings in Alabama and Pennsylvania Bonds. The main legatees appear to be the nephews and nieces of Annette.
- ⁷⁵ 1851 and 1871 Census.
- ⁷⁶ 1861 Census.
- ⁷⁷ See *Westmorland Gazette* 4 September 1875, 'Death. On Friday the 27 ult. at Dale Lodge, Grasmere, the Dowager Lady Townsend Farquhar, aged 82 years'. Although she was buried as Lady Farquhar her death was registered at Kendal as Hamilton.