

Fotherley Pannell

Dr Fotherley Pannell MD was born in Stokesley in December 1748, the son of Hugh Pannell, a clockmaker.

He qualified MD in Edinburgh in 1775 and his thesis for his doctorate concerned Tuberculosis. He first practised in Northallerton and then moved to Buckingham in 1783.

He lived in Great Ayton from 1790 until he died on 19 December 1826 aged . His name appeared in the Land Tax register and he was assessed for the Poor Rate until his death.

In 1808 he subscribed to Graves 'History of Cleveland' and in 1823 is listed in Baines directory as a 'surgeon'.

Thomas Loy

Dr Thomas Loy was born in 1775, the son of the Reverend Richard and Jane Loy. He qualified MRCS (Membership of the Royal College of Surgeons) His qualification M.D. was 'assumed'. He married Elizabeth Richardson, daughter of William and Mary Richardson of Langbaugh Thomas and Elizabeth had six children Elizabeth (b1806), Ann (b1809), Edmund (b1810), Mary (b1813), Thomas (b1816) and William Augustus (b1819).

Thomas ran foul of the law in 1816 when he was accused of assaulting Robert Davison in October 1816 in Great Ayton. He was arraigned along with John Smith, a labourer, at Northallerton Quarter Sessions. The outcome of the case is not known as the records of the case were removed by writ to a higher court presumably for judgement.

In 1818 Dr Loy appears in the Overseers of the poor accounts as being paid £68 8s 0d for attending eleven families during a typhus epidemic. (Typhus is an acute infectious disease caused by micro-organisms transmitted by body lice. Typhus is likely to occur where there is overcrowding and bad hygienic conditions)

A reference to Dr Loy occurs in minutes of the Select Vestry of 3rd October 1822.

'Jas. Cook being unable to work any longer from a complaint he has had upon him for some time it is agreed that Dr Loy is to take him under his care at the expense of the parish and the doctors are to report at the next meeting what will be necessary to support his family while he is out of work and to relieve them if needful at this time.'

In 1831 an epidemic of Asiatic cholera spread through the north of England and like other North Riding townships Great Ayton started preparations to counteract the epidemic which had reached York area in the spring of 1832. The Vestry minutes noted:-

'A meeting of the inhabitants in August in consequence of the approach of the alarming disease, the Asiatic cholera, established a board and began inspection of the village for removal of nuisances.

The two parish doctors, Loy and Pannell, were authorised to give free treatment to any victims and free lime was provided for whitewashing the cottages of the poor. William Robertson, an unemployed weaver, was paid 1s 6d a day to watch travellers that may be passing through the village.'

As far as is known Ayton suffered little or not at all from the epidemic, unlike, for instance Hutton Rudby, where there were 25 deaths out of a population of around 1000, in the autumn of 1831. It was said that during the height of the epidemic 'that the inhabitants of Hutton Rudby kept so closely to their houses that rabbits were said to have fed undisturbed on the village green.

Thomas Loy lived in a house in the centre of Great Ayton. In the early morning of the 22nd July 1840 heavy rains around Kildale caused two artificial lakes to break through their embankments and flood the Leven. The waters broke through the dam in Great Ayton and flooded the High Street. The water is said to have risen above the top of the stable doors at Dr Loys house.

In the 1841 census Dr Loy, 62 is living with his wife Elizabeth, 56, son Thomas 25, William Simpson (a visitor?) and four servants.

In April 1842 Dr Loy again ran foul of the law. The Stokesley Conviction Book for the 23 April 1842 shows; 'Special Sessions: Upon hearing the complaint of John Slater Pratt of Stokesley, printer, against Thomas Loy, Doctor, for being drunk in the township of Stokesley aforesaid on the 7th day of April instant ordered to pay a fine of 5s and costs.'

Dr Loy died on the 18th December aged 66. He had made a will on the 3rd November 1841 and at that time his estate consisted of a dwelling house at West End, Great Ayton, Greenhow Hill Farm at Nunthorpe and farms at Commondale and Lofthouse (Loftus). There were bequests to his wife and sons William Augustus, Thomas and Edmund. A codicil to the will on the 3rd December 1841 saw his wife from whom he was now separated, cut out of the will but with competent allowance to her general satisfaction. The same bequests as in the original will were made to his sons and Dr Loy had retired to his farm at Greenhow Hill, Nunthorpe.

Dr Loys obituary appeared in the 'Cleveland Repertory and Stokesley Advertiser' dated 1.1.1843 Vol 1, No 2, P7.

'Died at Ayton on Sunday Evening the 18th ult. After a severe and protracted illness - Thomas Loy, surgeon aged 66. Mr Loy was a practitioner of the old school possessing along with many eccentricities a keen and searching talent and as considered for a great many years eminently successful in the exercise of his profession. He was particularly celebrated among his brother practitioners for rapidity of observation, correctness in pronouncing on a disease and rapid perception of the idiosyncrasies and physical constitution of the individual. His loss will be greatly felt and with some feeling, we may pronounce in the words of Shakespeare that it will be long ere we 'look upon his like again'/ Thomas Loy MD of Great Ayton who has practised successfully in the district for upwards of forty years'

Thomas Loy Junior

Thomas Loy, junior was born in Great Ayton on April 1st 1816 and baptised on May 13th. The fifth child of Thomas Loy, senior he went onto Cambridge University where he graduated MA, MRCS, LSA (Licenciate of the Society of Apothecaries) in 1842.

He married Elizabeth Jackson of Tanton Hall on 26th June 1843 at Great Ayton, he being 26 and she 18.

He practised only in Stokesley where his father had owned the East Side of the College Square and the land now occupied by Springfield.

Thomas died in November 1871 aged 56.

Lawson Fleck Crumney

Lawson Crumney studied Medicine at Edinburgh University and graduated MRCS in 1832 and LSA in 1845. He practised in Stokesley in 1832, Middlesbrough in 1854 and Darlington in 1860.

He retired to Great Ayton in 1864 and he was noted as living in the manor house in 1871. He died in 1886 and was buried in Great Ayton churchyard.

William Augustus Loy

William Augustus Loy was baptised on 26th February 1819 the youngest child of Thomas and Elizabeth,. He studied medicine at Edinburgh and Guys Hospital and qualified MRCS in 1841. He obtained his doctorate at Jena in the same year.

He benefited from a complex inheritance under his fathers will when Thomas Loy senior died in 1843.

He was a witness, with Hannah Jackson and William Curry, at his brother Thomas's wedding to Elizabeth Jackson of Tanton Hall on June 23rd 1843. A few days later he eloped with Hannah, who was only 16 to Edinburgh in order to marry. They returned to Great Ayton and married in the parish church on July 18th 1843 in the presence of William and Mary Ann Simpson of Pinchinthorpe Hall.

The following news item appeared in the Stokesley Reportary' 1843

'Elopement.

At the hamlet of Tanton a few weeks ago, an incident which is somewhat unusual n the district took place which caused considerable excitement in the neighbourhood. At a very early hour in the morning post-chaise drawn by four grey horses was observed to dash along at a rapid pace, in the direction of Stockton-on-Tees, which it afterward appeared contained a youthful pair, wending their way to Edinburgh. The nuptial knot was tied and they were on their return married at the Parish Church of Great Ayton. The lucky bridegroom was Wm Loy Esq. M.D. of Great Ayton, and the lovely bride Hannah second daughter of the late George Jackson of Tanton.'

The couple had only one daughter, Mary who was born in 1844. The entry in the 1861 census showed the family as follows:

William A Loy, 41, MD Jena, M RCS London. GP, born Yorkshire, Great Ayton

Hannah Loy, wife, 33, born Tanton Yorkshire

Mary Loy, daughter, unmarried, 17, scholar, Great Ayton

Elizabeth Loy, mother, widow, 76, landed proprietor, born Great Ayton

Fanny Weiss, unmarried, 21, governess, Bavaria

Ann Walker, single, cook, Great Ayton

Sarah Alan, 21, Ladies Maid, Castleton

Elizabeth Miller, unmarried, 19, Ladies Maid, Newcastle, Northumberland

Robert Fidler, unmarried, 16, groom, Stokesley

Dr Loy is listed in the Medical Directory as being part of the Poor Law Medical Service in Great Ayton in 1873 and 1883 at a salary o £19pa and £25pa.

He died in Great Ayton on the 10th November 1886 leaving an estate valued at £4,140 2s 7d.

Charles Stuart

Charles Stuart was born in 1858 and qualified LRCP&S. Edinburgh in 1880 and MB CM at the same University in 1881.

By 1886 he was assistant to Dr W A Loy in Great Ayton. In 1887 Dr Loy's widow died and left Dr Stuart a legacy of £100.

In 1890 he was listed as Medical Officer to Ayton District of the Stokesley Union Workhouse and in 1921 he was the Medical Officer and Public Vaccinator.

Dr Stuart was for a number of years a member f the Cleveland Naturalists Field Club.

He died on 21st July 1923 in somewhat unfortunate circumstances. He had developed a carbuncle on the back of his neck which resulted in septicaemia, the illness having only lasted four days. His sister Jessie L Stuart was present at his death at his home on High Green, Great Ayton. Dr R Murray his assistant, signed the death certificate.

There is a painted glass window on the south side of the nave in All Saints Church in memory of Dr Stuart.

Robert Murray

Robert Murray came originally from Duns in the Scottish Borders. He was educated at George Watsons College and graduated MBChB in 1901 from Edinburgh University.

He came to Great Ayton as assistant to Dr Stuart and when Dr Stuart died he purchased the practice from Dr Stuart's executors and leased the premises for £500. The slate in the surgery used to record messages had been in use since Dr Loys days.

Before coming to Great Ayton Dr Murray had had some obstetric experience in Barnsley. He recalled an experience he had locally with an expectant mother from Baysdale. The woman who was having her first child walked from Baysdale to Battersby to her mothers for the confinement. The day after the child was born Dr Murray returned to Battersby to visit only to find that the mother had walked back to Baysdale.

The notable feature of Dr Murray was his strong Scottish accent which was often difficult to understand.

Dr Murray retired after 48 years in Great Ayton at a ceremony in the Parochial Hall on 29th December 1951. Mr Roy Bradley, chairman of the Parish Council presented Dr Murray with a cheque, the result of a testimonial fund organised by the Parish Council. Mr Bradley had said that the people of Great Ayton had been most eager to subscribe to the fund. It had been hoped to present Dr Murray with a piece of antique furniture but this had not been possible. Mr Bradley as sure that Dr Murray would look upon the gift as a tribute of respect and real appreciation of his services.

The vicar, Reverend R. E. Bradshaw, speaking of Dr Murray's life of service said he had taken into the homes of the sick not only his skill but his friendship. They were a little sad at parting from Dr Murray in his professional capacity, but they could rejoice at the thought that he was to remain among them.

Tributes were also paid by Dr J. T. Waldie, Mr Harold Walker, the Rev F. J. Shreeve, Rector of Kildale and 94 year old Mr Edwin Johnson, a former parish councillor. Also on the platform were members of the Parish Council and the Clerk at the ceremony. The WI choir sang Scottish airs in honour of Dr Murray.

John Theodore Waldie

John Theo Waldie was born in Darlington on 29.11.1909, the youngest of three children, to William S Waldie and Jane Waldie. With his eldest brother Dick he went to Darlington Grammar School. He followed his brother to London as a dental student and then changed to a medical course at Guys Hospital. He took the Conjoint examination in 1935 and graduated MRCS Eng and LRCP London.

His first hospital appointment was at the North Riding Infirmary, Middlesbrough as third house surgeon and house physician. He worked under surgeons Sandy Belas, David Dickson and J.C, Clark and under physicians WynnWilliams and F.O Graham. His introduction to anaesthesia came when he gave anaesthetics for Mr Belas. He was asked to give anaesthetics at North Ormesby Hospital by Harold Walker, which he did for several years.

In July 1937 he resigned his post at the North Riding Infirmary and joined Dr Murray at Great Ayton as assistant. The area covered by the practice was quite large covering Easby, Kildale, Ingleby Greenhow, part of Broughton, Bilsdale and there was a Branch Surgery at Nunthorpe Station. The northern boundary of the practice was Marton Bungalow. Pre-

war surgeries were held at 9-10am, 2-4pm, 6-7.30pm and Saturdays. There was a heavy workload with midwifery cases which were time consuming. The fee to attend such cases would be 2-3 guineas.

He continued as anaesthetist at the Middlesbrough Hospitals and joined the staff of North Ormesby Hospital just after the war. In the mid 1960s he became part-time Consultant Anaesthetist.

Dr Waldie became senior in the practice in 1951. He was Medical Officer to the Friends School and on Dr Murray's retirement became Chief Medical Officer. He himself retired in 1978.

In 1938 he had married Gwendoline Brunton and had two daughters Angela and Rosalind. He was keenly involved in village activities succeeding Col. Harding as President of Great Ayton Cricket Club where he impressed as a fast bowler. He was governor of the Edward Kitching and Roseberry Schools and a trustee of the Thomas Richardson Foundation which made awards of scholarships to village children at Friends School. He had joined the local Conservative Club in 1937 and became its President in 1959. He was Past Master of the Zetland Masonic Lodge and a member at Brass Castle Golf Club. He died on 17th January 1981.

Reference: Dr Geoffrey Stout Archive