

Charlotte Brownfield

6. VI. CHARLOTTE BROWNFIELD was born on 27th February 1827 at Ballast Quay and was christened on March 26, 1827 at St. Alphege's Church.¹ In the 1861 census, she was recorded as still living at home with her parents at the age of 34. In his will made in February 1862, her father William made special provision for his disabled son William Henry and his two unmarried daughters Charlotte and Emily. However, Charlotte married GEORGE PHILIPS PARKER at Meopham later the same year on September 25.² The family had just moved to Alma Villas in Meopham because, when William made his will in February they were still at 2, The Grove, Gravesend. William must have been relieved to see another of his daughters married, but died some 5 weeks later on October 31. George was a widower and on the certificate, his occupation was given as a 'stationer' and his address as King Edward's Road, South Hackney, Middlesex. In the Post Office Commercial Directory for 1862, London Vol.2, an entry for a G. Parker under stationers, says "see Nissen and Parker". Nissen and Parker are recorded as "Exporting stationers, account book makers and printers of 43 Mark Lane, E.C. and at 68 & 69 Great Tower Street, E.C". Charlotte's address was given on the certificate simply as Meopham. George's father, George William Henry Parker was described as a gentleman. John Hooper carried out the marriage and the witnesses were C.J.Pinching (a doctor who was to certify Mary Ann's death in 1878), W.E.Fry and S.Brownfield (probably her brother Samuel, as her sister Sarah had married Windover Edmund Fry in 1855 and would presumably have signed herself S.Fry).

In 1881 a Florence Parker, recorded as a niece, born at Stratford near Bow, Kent and aged 21 was living with Emily and William Henry at Alma Villas, Meopham. This would mean that Florence was born before Charlotte's marriage and was probably the child of George Parker's earlier marriage.³ Charlotte and George had two children, George Philip born in about 1863 and Hilary B. Parker born in about 1865⁴.

George Parker died at Lambeth, Surrey in 1869⁵ aged 47. In 1881 Charlotte, a widow was living at 20 Selby Road, Penge, Surrey with her son George, who had become a solicitor's articled clerk and her daughter, who although only aged 15 was working as a West India Merchants Clerk.⁶ Emma Lane aged 22, who had been born in Meopham was a general servant. Charlotte was living 'on Income from Public Funds'.

Charlotte died on 14 April 1900 at Heathfield, Chislehurst.⁷

A notice in *The Times* read:

PARKER, On the 14th inst, at Heathfield, Chislehurst, the residence of G E Tolhurst, Esq., her brother in law, Charlotte Parker, the widow of George Philips Parker, late of 43 Mark Lane, E.O., aged 73."⁸ (George Tolhurst was the husband of Caroline Brownfield)

(i) GEORGE PARKER, the first child of George Philips Parker and Charlotte Brownfield, was born in 1863 at Hackney, London.⁹ On 16 April 1895 in Upper Norwood,¹⁰ George married Aida Maria De Vergara. Aida had been born in Spain in 1868, she was the daughter of Felix Jose' De Vergara of Jerez, Spain. In 1901 George and Aida were staying in a hotel at 11/12 Past Queen Hill, Brighton with their children Aida M (5), Irene M (2) and Ivan (9m) A nursemaid, Ada Ridge, who had been born in Gravesend, also accompanied them.¹¹

George was a solicitor and was an executor of the will of his Uncle Samuel, who died in 1912.¹² He was a partner of Woodcock, Ryland & Parker, 15 Bloomsbury Square, W.C. Solicitors. His partner Henry Ryland's wife was George's cousin, Sarah Louisa Fry.

Sir George died on 26 December 1943 in Caterham. His obituary read:

*Sir George Phillips Parker OBE, who was Mayor of Holborn, 1913-1919, and founded the Holborn Red Cross Hospital for discharged soldiers and sailors shell-shock cases, Roehampton, died at Caterham on December 26, at the age of 80. A solicitor by profession, he was knighted in 1919.*¹³

Lady Aida died in 1953 in East Grinstead, Sussex, and a notice in *The Times* read:

*Lady Parker, widow of Sir George Phillips Parker, OBE, died recently at her home near East Grinstead, Sussex, at the age of 84. She was Aida Maria, daughter of the late Felix Jose' De Vergara, and her marriage took place in 1895. Her husband died in 1943.*¹⁴

Irene Aida Maria Parker

A notice in *The Times* of 25 February 1965 under "Latest Wills" read:

*Miss Irene Aida Maria Parker of partridge Green, Sussex, left £38,445 gross, £38,293 net (duly paid £7,952). She left £3000 and any moneys passing under the will of her father to "Mr. Pastry Swimming Pool Fund", £3000 to Lady Margaret Hall, Oxford to provide a scholarship for an undergraduate who intends to qualify as a solicitor, and £250 to the Guide Dogs for the Blind Association.*¹⁵

Ivan Felix Parker, the third child of George Philips Parker and Aida Maria De Vergara, was born in 1900 in Marylebone, London.¹⁶ In March 1923 he passed his Final Examination of the Law Society and became a solicitor.¹⁷ He married Eileen Mary, who died on 9 November 1983.

Her death notice in *The Times* read:

PARKER, On November 9, 1983, peacefully in Tankerton Hospital, Eileen Mary, aged 82, wife of Ivan Parker. Funeral Private. No flowers or letters please, but donations if desired to Pestalozzi Children's Village Trust, Seddlescombe, Sussex.¹⁸

(ii) HILARY BROWNFIELD PARKER, the second child of George Philips Parker and Charlotte Brownfield, was born in 1865 at Hackney, London.¹⁹ The 1901 census states she was a West India Merchant clerk. She appears to have been married in the 3rd quarter of 1906 at Westminster,²⁰ but when she died at Colon in the Republic of Panama on 22 April 1912.

A death notice in *The Times* read:

PARKER, On 22 inst at Colon, Republic of Panama, Hilary Brownfield Parker of the Royal Mail Steam Packet Company died at Colon, in the Republic of Panama on April 22, 1912.²¹

Sources

Charlotte Brownfield

1. St Alphege Baptismal register entry for Charlotte Brownfield 26 March 1827.
Transcript in Greenwich Local History Library
2. Marriage certificate Meopham Parish Church Sept 25, 1862 No 91.
3. 1881 Census. CD set. PRO RG11 piece 0878, fol. 11, p. 16.
4. 1881 census RG11 0823 fol. 50 p38
5. GROl deaths 1869.3 Lambeth 1d 303
6. 1881 census RG11 0823 fol. 50 p38
7. GROl deaths 1900.2 Bromley 2a 301
8. Times Wed Apr 18, 1900 p1 Issue 36119 Col A Deaths
9. 1861 census
10. Times, Sat Apr 20 1885 Col A Marriages
11. 1901 Census PRO on-line RG13 piece 934, fol.71, p. 20
12. SOG Probate film No.42 B1912-1915, page 277
13. Times archive on-line April 25,1912
14. Times Sat Aug 8, 1953, page 8 Issue 52695, Col E Obits
15. Times (25 Feb 1965 page 14, Issue 56255, Col D Deaths
16. GROl births 1900.3 Marylebone 1a 592
17. Times Sat Mar 31, 1923 p10 I/43303 Col B News
18. Times Thurs Nov 10, 1983 p26 Issue 61686 Col A Deaths
19. 1881 Census
20. Free BMD marriage index Jul – sep 1906. Westminster.
21. Thurs Apr 25, 1912, page 1, Issue 39882, Col B Deaths