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Families

DOWNES

DOWNES - Revd. Richard Downes (1777-1855) arrived as rector of Berwick St John in 1826, following the death of his predecessor, the Revd. Peregrine BINGHAM, who had died shortly after an accident when his carriage overturned. Richard married the 44 year old Charlotte GROVE on 12th June 1827, at Berwick St John. Richard was born Ardley, Oxfordshire. He matriculated at New College, Oxford, in 1794, gaining his BA in 1797 and MA in 1801. He was closely associated with New College throughout the rest of his life. His father, Revd. Robert Downes, was born Ireland ca 1746. He had married Hannah YOUNG, at Ardley, in 1773.

Among Richard's known surviving siblings was Henrietta, born 1784. She is mentioned in the diaries and is not thought to have married. Also a brother, Revd. Robert, born ca 1795 at Wheatley, who became rector of Fetcham, Surrey, later vicar of Leamington, Warwickshire. In 1826 he married Philadelphia HOPPER, daughter of John Thomas Hendry Hopper of Durham.

There are connections via Richard's uncle, Revd. Andrew Downes, to Harley Street. Richard's cousin, Margaret, married Jonathan BULLOCK of Falkborne Hall, Essex.