

Elizabeth Wilks Parkinson nee Cordingley

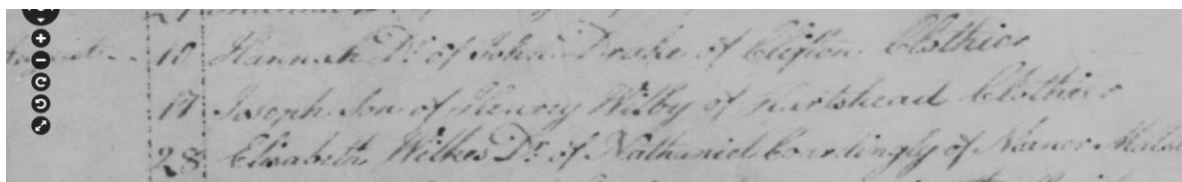
(before 28th August 1788 – before 29th March 1864)

and the Cordingley and Parkinson families of Hartshead and Lightcliffe

Elizabeth Wilk(e)s Cordingley was lady's maid to Anne Lister of Shibden Hall. She travelled with her mistress in this country and abroad spending considerable amounts of time in Paris. But who was Elizabeth Wilks Cordingley and what became of her?

Thanks to the efforts of people transcribing and decoding more of Anne Lister's diaries it is known that Elizabeth left Shibden Hall in January 1835 and then married a Mr Parkinson a year later. Further research revealed that Elizabeth Wilks Parkinson was buried in Lightcliffe churchyard as were a number of other members of the Parkinson family. This is their interweaved story.

From the Hartshead parish records for 1788. The last entry below reads:-



August 28 Elisabeth Wilkes D' of Nathaniel Cordingley of Manor Maltster

When the Hartshead records were transcribed the two first names caused confusion and Elizabeth was listed as if her surname was Wilkes. But maltster Nathaniel Cordingley had previously had several older children – with just one Christian name – baptised at St. Peter's Church, Hartshead; namely Joseph on 11th September 1777, Hannah on 3rd June 1779, Nathaniel on 3rd February 1782, Joshua on 23rd June 1784 and Edward on 27th June 1786. On each occasion Nathaniel was a maltster and / or a farmer and the abode was Manor Farm – with variously spellings! – and / or Hartshead Moor. Their parents Nathaniel Cordingley and Elizabeth Wilks had married at Hartshead on 30th December 1773. Hence a daughter was later named Elizabeth Wilk(e)s Cordingley. Elizabeth Wilks was 'of Ardsley' but Nathaniel Cordingley was a 'Maltster' of the parish of Hartshead where he had been churchwarden at St. Peter's Church in 1772.

Another maltster had his children baptised at St. Peter's Church at about the same time. James Parkin and Sarah Appleyard, both from Hartshead, were married by banns on 8th July 1771. They had a very large family as can be seen from the baptism records some of which when transcribed have recorded their surname as Perkin not Parkin. William Parkin was baptised on 10th November 1771, Hannah on 25th April 1773, Fanny on 25 April 1776, Joseph on 29th March 1778, Ann on 14th May 1779, James on 13th October 1782, Jeremiah on 25th December 1784, Mary on 1st April 1787, John on 5th July 1789, George on 30th October 1791 and David on 5th October 1794. Father James Parkin was usually a maltster but sometimes also a husbandman either of Bailiffe Bridge – with its old spelling of Belly Bridge or Bellebridge – and / or Birkby Lane. The eldest son William died on 24th May 1773 and was buried at Hartshead.

Other members of the Cordingley family were also buried at Hartshead as this memorial inscription details.

IN MEMORY OF NATHANIEL CORDINGLEY

WHO DEPARTED THIS LIFE APRIL 9TH 1793 AGED 53 YEARS.

ALSO OF ELIZABETH, WIFE OF THE ABOVE NAMED NATHANIEL CORDINGLEY,

WHO DEPARTED THIS LIFE ON THE 16TH DAY OF JULY 1833

IN THE 86TH YEAR OF HER AGE.

ALSO ANN CORDINGLEY, GRANDDAUGHTER OF THE ABOVE,

WHO DIED MARCH 18TH 1853 AGED 17 YEARS.

ALSO NATHANIEL, SON OF THE ABOVE NATHANIEL CORDINGLEY,

WHO DIED MARCH 20TH 1862 AGED 80 YEARS.

ALSO MARY, WIFE OF THE ABOVE NATHANIEL CORDINGLEY,

WHO DIED FEBRUARY 11TH 1881 AGED 86 YEARS.

But many of this Parkin / Parkinson family from Bailiffe Bridge were buried in Lightcliffe churchyard. The surname Parkin seems to have become Parkinson early in the nineteenth century although both surnames could be - and were - used within the same family.

James and Sarah's daughter Fanny Parkin married a Hoyle, but no record of the marriage has been found. The eldest surviving son Joseph Parkinson, a cardmaker of Hipperholme, married Mary Sunderland also of Hipperholme by banns on 13th February 1804 at St. John's Church Halifax. Mary was one of Rufus Sunderland's large family many of whom were also buried in the churchyard. Their story will be told later.

When the first three children Sarah, Rufus – presumably named after his maternal Sutherland grandfather– and William were baptised on 6th May 1804, 9th February 1806 and 13th November 1808 respectively at St. Matthew's Church, Lightcliffe just their father's name Joseph Parkin was recorded. But by the time Mary Ann was baptised on 13th January 1811 the register lists Joseph & Mary Parkinson as her parents. As they were when Joseph, Grace and John Parkinson were baptised on 17th July 1814, 9th May 1822 and 30th May 1824. For these last three baptisms the family abode was 'Pond'. Father James was a cardmaker in 1814 but a farmer by 1822. From subsequent census records there would appear to be a missing baptism for a daughter Hannah Parkinson born about 1816. Little Grace Parkinson died at 'Pond' in Brighouse on 16th February 1827. The burial entry records that she was 4 years 9 months old. She was buried in plot LL*27 on 20th February 1927. Hers is the first name on that ledger stone.

IN MEMORY OF GRACE

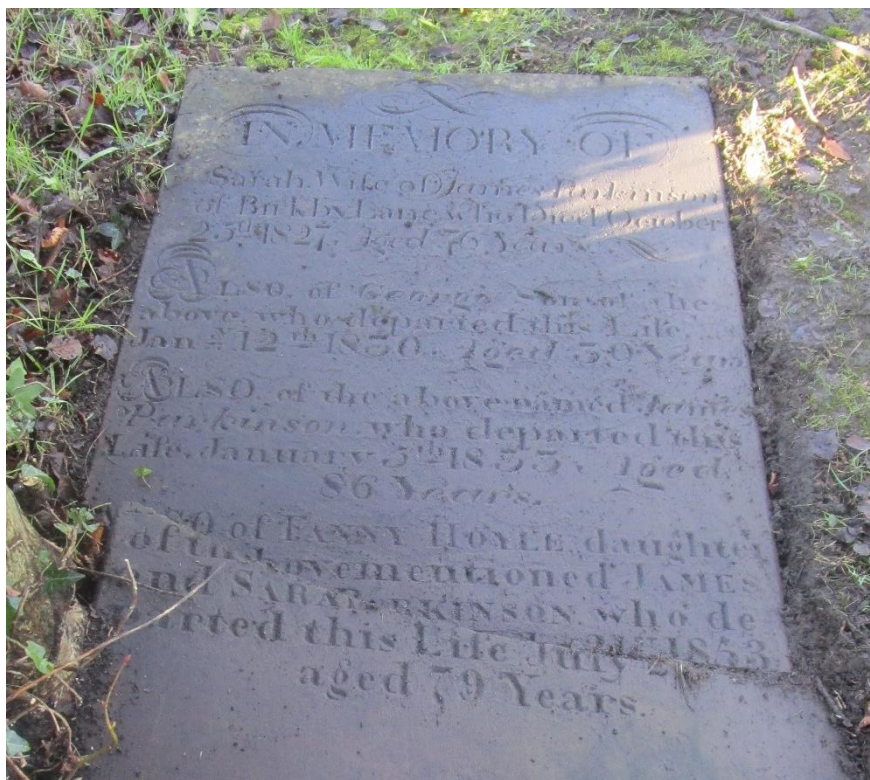
THE DAUGHTER OF JOSEPH AND MARY PARKINSON

OF POND IN BRIGHOUSE, WHO DEPARTED THIS LIFE

THE 16TH DAY OF FEBRUARY 1827 AGED 4 YEARS.

There were three more Parkinson baptisms at Lightcliffe at about this time. Farmer James Parkinson and his wife Sarah – I know too many Jameses and too many Sarahs! – of Bailiffe Bridge, Clifton and then Birkby Lane (possibly the same place) had William, Hannah and then Martha, born 15th August 1829, baptised at St. Matthew’s Church on 11th August 1822, 14th August 1825 and 24th January 1830 respectively. James was almost certainly the son of James and Sarah nee Appleyard born in 1782 i.e. a younger brother of Joseph. No marriage record has been found.

His mother 76-year-old Sarah Parkinson nee Appleyard of Birkby Lane died on 25th October 1827. She too was buried at St. Matthew’s Church, Lightcliffe on October 28th but in another plot B*3 near the wall by Wakefield Road. When son George Parkinson died on 12th January 1830 aged 39 years, he was buried with his mother in plot B*3. Eighty-six-year-old father James Parkinson must have been living with his eldest son Joseph and family at Pond Farm as this was his abode when he died on 5th January 1833. He joined his wife and son in plot B*3 on 15th January 1833. Their cracked ledger stone has recently been cleared.



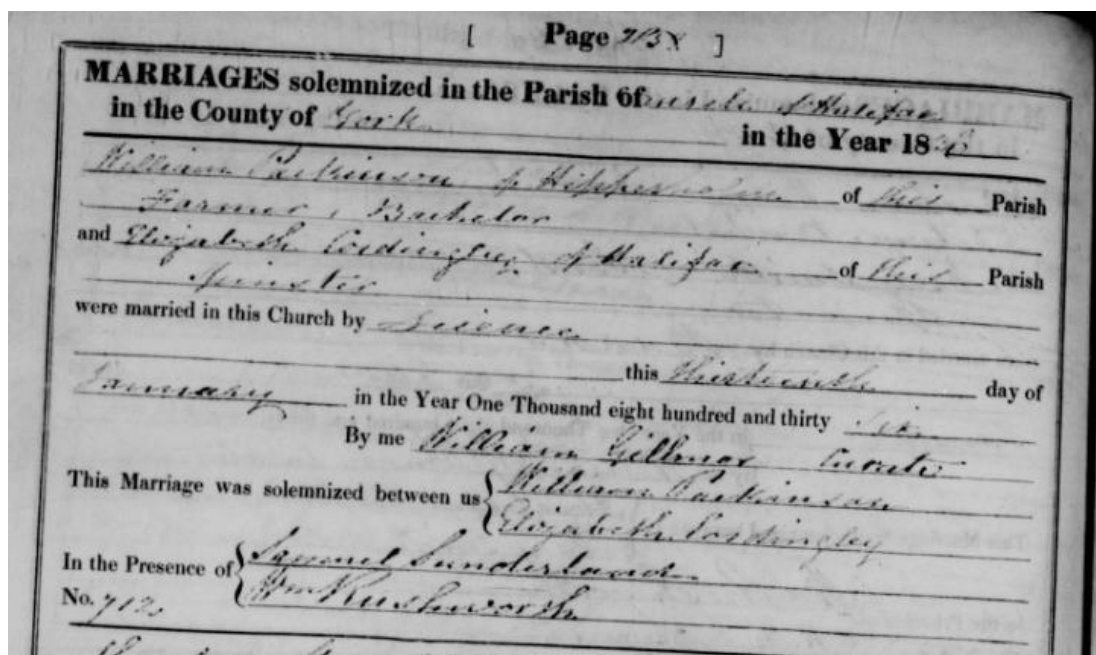
IN MEMORY OF SARAH THE WIFE OF JAMES PARKINSON OF BIRKBY LANE WHO DIED OCTOBER 25TH 1827 AGED 76 YEARS

ALSO OF GEORGE SON OF THE ABOVE WHO DEPARTED THIS LIFE JANUARY 12TH 1830 AGED 39 YEARS

ALSO OF THE ABOVE JAMES PARKINSON WHO DEPARTED THIS LIFE JANUARY 5TH 1833 AGED 86 YEARS

Forty-five-year-old Sarah Parkinson of Birkby Lane, the wife of son James was buried at Lightcliffe on 16th January 1835 in an unknown plot.

Meanwhile Elizabeth (Wilks) Cordingley had left her employment at Shibden Hall and married a William Parkinson as this 13th January 1836 marriage record shows.



They were married by licence which is listed on the Archbishop of York's Marriage Licence index dated 12th January 1836 i.e. the day before the marriage took place. Both Elizabeth's given age of 38 on the licence and William's 26 years seem to be not quite correct! Subsequent census ages are also (slightly) wrong. But the burial record age for Elizabeth Wilkes Parkinson is correct. And from family relationships noted on census forms it looks as if the 1808 born William Parkinson the second son of Joseph Parkinson and Mary Sunderland was indeed the husband. Notice that one of the witnesses to the marriage was Samuel Sunderland, possibly William's uncle.

William's mother Mary Parkinson nee Sunderland, the wife of Joseph, died on 27th December 1830. She was buried in plot NN*27 near her daughter Grace on the last day of 1830. Notice the words of the accompanying verse.



Rufus Parkinson married Mally Shaw on 10th September 1837 at Ashton-under-Lyme where he was a currier. They had two sons Joseph and John before the 1841 census.

The West Yorkshire 1841 census records show that his sisters, Mary Ann and Hannah, each had an illegitimate child by then. Both children appear on the 6th June census although they had not been baptised by then. Consecutive 1846 Christmas Day baptism records have been found for both of them at St. Martin's Church, Brighouse when about twenty other children of varying ages were baptised.

Mary Ann's son John looks to have been born on September 5th 1839 although there is no corresponding Halifax birth registered then. There is one in Q2 1838 Halifax for a John Parkinson but that does not quite work either. Perhaps the birth was registered out of the area. There is a clue as to who his father was on an 1862 marriage record!

West Yorkshire, England, Church of England Births and Baptisms, 1813-1910 for John Parkinson
Brighouse, St Martin > 1846

1846 25 No. 1111.	John son of	Mary Ann Parkinson	Brighouse Spinster	Edw. Walker Offic. 5 Min. 2
1846 25 No. 1114.	Mary son of	Hannah Parkinson	Brighouse Spinster	Edw. Walker Offic. 5 Min. 2

Hannah's daughter's birth date is easier to read, 23rd February 1839 although once more no corresponding Halifax registered birth has been found. Again, this may have occurred in another district.

Both grandchildren were with their mothers and their widower grandfather, Joseph, and Uncle Joseph on 6th June 1841. Uncle John Parkinson was with his brother Rufus in Lancashire. Other members of this Parkin(son) family have not been positively identified even though many were clearly around as they appear in subsequent censuses.

1841 census

Joseph Parkinson 65
Mary Parkinson 30
Joseph Parkinson 25
Hannah Parkinson 25
Mary Parkinson 2 [d/o Hannah]
John Parkinson 1 [s/o Mary (Ann)]

Address **Pond, Hipperholme**

1841 census

Rufus Parkinson 37 Currier
Malley Parkinson 36
Joseph Parkinson 2
John Parkinson 1
Mary Harth 20
John Parkinson 18 App Currier

George Widdop 16 ditto
Address Ashton under Lyme, LAN

William and Elizabeth nee Cordingley were at Lower Rookes with a Joshua Cordingley, - possibly Elizabeth's brother - next door. Again, their ages do not agree with those on their marriage licence four years before, but ages got rounded in 1841 and people did not always give their correct age!

1841 census

William Parkinson 35 Farmer
Elizabeth Parkinson 40
Address

Lower Rookes, Hipperholme cum Brighthouse

1841 census

James Pinder 13 Ag Ap
Betty Heap 15 F.S.
Joshua Cordingley 50 M.S.
Address

Lower Rookes, Hipperholme cum Brighthouse

It is not clear as to whether this was two separate households or whether these were their servants living with them.

A year later Sarah Parkinson of 'The Pond', the eldest daughter of Joseph and Mary, died on 13th March 1842. The thirty-nine-year-old was buried on 17th March 1842 with her little sister Grace in plot LL*27.

ALSO OF SARAH DAUGHTER

OF THE ABOVE MENTIONED JOSEPH AND MARY PARKINSON

WHO DEPARTED THIS LIFE MARCH 13TH 1842 AGED 39 YEARS.

Then her sister Hannah Parkinson registered twins, Joseph and Sarah – of course – Q3 1847 in the Halifax district. Hannah's cousin another Hannah Parkin(son), daughter of James and Sarah Parkin(son) also had a son William Parkinson Q1 1850.

Fanny Hoyle who was not found in the 1841 census turns up in 1851 as a widow living alone in Birkby Lane, presumably quite close to her brothers Joseph and James. Notice that brother James had reverted back to being just a Parkin. Her niece Mary Ann Parkinson, the mother of John, has not been found on the 1851 census.

In 1845 Rufus Parkinson's address on an Electoral register was Crickets Lane, Ashton under Lyme. But then from August 1846 there are numerous newspaper reports of the bankruptcy of Rufus Parkinson, currier and leather cutter, of Ashton under Lyme. However, he and his family – misrecorded as Parkingtons - were still in Ashton under Lyme on 20th March 1851 and Rufus was once again a currier.

1851 census

Joseph Parkinson Head 73 Farmer of 24 acres employing 3 men
Joseph Parkinson Son 38 Currier
Hannah Parkinson Dau 35 Farmer's Daughter
John Parkinson Son 27 Currier
John Parkinson Gdson 12 [s/o Mary Ann]
Mary Parkinson Gddau 12 [d/o Hannah]
Joseph Parkinson Gdson 3 [twin s/o Hannah]
Sarah Parkinson Gddau 3 [twin d/o Hannah]
William Robert Servant 18
Mary Brook Visitor 1

Address **Pond, Hipperholme cum Brighthouse**

1851 census

Rufus Parkington Head 46 Currier
Malley Parkington Wife 42
Joseph Parkington Son 12 Currier Son
John Parkington Son 10 Scholar
Charles Parkington Son 8 Scholar
Richard Bennett Lodger 45 Upholsterer
Address Hurst Brook, Ashton under Lyme

The birthplaces, Lightcliffe and Clifton, for William and Elizabeth nee Cordingley were correct even if their ages were not.

1851 census

James Parkin Head 72 Widower Lab
Hannah Parkin Dau 27 Employed at Mill
Martha Parkin Dau 22 Housekeeper
William Parkin Grdson 1 [s/o Hannah]
Address **Birkby Lane, Hartshead cum Clifton**

1851 census

William Parkinson Head 45 Farm Labourer
Elizabeth Parkinson Wife 55
Address **Hipperholme**

Rufus Parkinson buried a baby son also called Rufus on 9th November 1852 at Ashton under Lyme. But then Rufus Parkinson appears on the 1855 Slater's Directory of Manchester.

Parkinson Rufus Currier 10 & 12 Bradley St., Friday St.

When Fanny Hoyle died on 21st July 1853 at Bailiffe Bridge she was buried at Lightcliffe with her parents, James and Sarah Parkinson, and her brother George Parkinson in plot B*3 on 25th July 1853.

ALSO OF FANNY HOYLE DAUGHTER OF THE ABOVE MENTIONED
JAMES AND SARAH PARKINSON
WHO DEPARTED THIS LIFE JULY 21ST 1853 AGED 79 YEARS.

Hannah Parkinson's girl twin, another Sarah Parkinson died aged six and was buried in an unknown Lightcliffe plot on 6th August 1853. Three years later there was another Parkinson burial in St. Matthew's churchyard for Fanny's younger brother James Parkinson of Bailiffe Bridge. Like his wife Sarah who died in 1835 James was buried in an unknown plot on 14th February 1856.

John Parkinson, son of Joseph, previously a currier but then a farmer married a farmer's daughter Hannah Cotton on 8th February 1860 at Holy Trinity, Huddersfield. His sister Hannah Parkinson married widower Richard Sellers on the 12th August 1860 at St. Martin's, Brighouse. The relevant Parkinson households looked like this on 7th April 1861.

1861 census

Joseph Parkinson Head 84 Farmer
56 Days Work employing 2 men & 1 boy
Mary Ann Parkinson Dau 48
John Parkinson Son 36 Farmer
Hannah Parkinson Dau in law 32
Joseph Parkinson Grdson 13
George Brigg Servant 21 Ag Lab
Henry Sheard Servant 30 ditto
Address

Pond, Waring Green, Hipperholme cum Brighouse

1861 census

Thos Henry Mills Head 40
Stone Merchant's Clerk
Jans Mills Wife 33
Ada Mills Dau 1
Mary Parkinson Servant 21 House Servant
Address
Bonegate, Hipperholme cum Brighouse

The currier son Joseph Parkinson who would be 48 years old has not been found on the 1861 census.

1861 census

Richard Sellers Head 58
Cotton & Wool Card Maker
Hannah Sellers Wife 46
Address Flatts Lane, Cleckheaton

1861 census

William Parkinson Head 51 Ag Lab
Elizabeth Parkinson Wife 60
Address **Laverock Lane, Hipperholme**

Again, the birthplaces of William and Elizabeth nee Cordingley would suggest that this is the right couple, but the ages are as usual all over the place. They do not appear to have aged like everyone else since the previous census, a decade before!

1861 census

Reuben [sic] Parkinson Head 56 Currier
Mally Parkinson Wife 53
Joseph Parkinson Son 23 Currier
James Davis Lodger 21
Address 13 Ancoats St., Manchester

West Yorkshire, England, Church of England Marriages and Banns, 1813-1935 for John Parkinson
Mirfield, St Mary - 1862

1862. Marriage solemnized at the Parish Church in the Parish of Mirfield in the County of York

No.	When Married.	Name and Surname.	Age.	Condition.	Rank or Profession.	Residence at the time of Marriage.	Father's Name and Surname.	Rank or Profession of Father.
214	June 9	John Parkinson Sarah Anne Lee	22 24	Bachelor Spinster	Currier ---	Lee Green Brighouse City	Mary Anne Parkinson John Pearson Edward Lee	Butcher Butcher Butcher

Married in the Parish Church according to the Rites and Ceremonies of the Established Church, by John Parkinson or after James by me.

This Marriage was solemnized between us, John Parkinson in the Presence of us, Joseph Dallas
Abraham Lee

The marriage record for Mary Ann Parkinson’s son John Parkinson makes interesting reading. Twenty-two-year-old John Parkinson, a currier, married Sarah Ann Lee on 9th June 1862 at St. Mary’s Church, Mirfield. Two addresses were given for John as well as two entries in the father’s column. Mary Ann Parkinson with an unreadable ‘Rank or Profession’ is listed above the name of John Pearson, a Butcher – one question answered! But why the two addresses, Lee Green and Brighouse? Looking back at the 1861 census answers this question.

1861 census

Charles Parkinson Head 63 Currier Master Employing 1 man
also Farmer of 8 acres born Hartshead cum Clifton
Sarah Parkinson Niece 36 Housekeeper born Wike
John Parkinson 22 Journeyman Currier born Brighouse
Address 7 Lee Green, Mirfield

The ‘Journeyman Currier’ lived with Charles Parkinson in Lee Green, Mirfield some of the time but he also gave Brighouse where his mother and grandfather lived as another place of residence. The Mirfield housekeeper, yet another Sarah Parkinson, was a niece – there were so many possible brothers it is not surprising that there were more Sarahs named after their grandmother - but no relationship was given for John Parkinson.

When Charles Parkinson married Elizabeth Green at Mirfield on 18th December 1861 i.e. before his great nephew married, his father's name was given as James Parkinson. His burial record contains the same information.

West Yorkshire, England, Church of England Deaths and Burials, 1813-1985 for Charles Parkinson				
Mirfield, St Mary > 1876				
Charles Son James Parkinson No. 1814.	of Lee Green	Nov. 17 th years	79	Thos. In: Horsfall: Curate:

The Will of Charles Parkinson late of Lee Green Mirfield in the County of York Currier and Leather Dealer who died 13 November 1876 at Lee Green was proved at Wakefield by Robert Lee Rayner of Mirfield Gentleman the surviving Executor.
Effects under £6,000

It would appear that Charles Parkin(son) was yet another son of James Parkin(son) and his wife Sarah nee Appleyard of Hartshead cum Clifton although no baptism record has been found for him. His occupation also fits with that of some of his nephews and at least one great nephew who became curriers. The great nephew John Parkinson and his wife Sarah Ann baptised yet another Joseph Parkinson, born 29th September 1863, at St. Mary's Church, Mirfield on 24th January 1864. Again, the two addresses, Lee Green and Brighouse, were recorded suggesting that the family lived for some of the time with baby Joseph's great grandfather, Joseph. Little Joseph was an only child because his father John Parkinson died four years after he married in April 1866. He was buried at Mirfield on 29th April 1866 aged just 26. Once again, the Mirfield burial record helpfully states that he was the son of Mary Ann Parkinson.

Now read what happened to Elizabeth Wilks Parkinson nee Cordingley and the other Parkinsons back in Lightcliffe.

The Cordingley Parkinson story part 2

D.M.Barker
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