

## **JANE IRONSIDE-BAX**

Jane Ironside was born in 1807 in Houghton-le-Spring, County Durham. She was the sixth of nine children (eight female and one male) born to William and Catherine [née Maughan] Ironside. This particular branch of the Ironside family can trace their ancestry back to King Edmund Ironside.

On September 4<sup>th</sup> 1826 at the age of 19years, Jane married John Bax (parents John and Jane [née Bonham] Bax) of the East India Company. The early years of their marriage were spent in India where she accompanied her husband who was a representative of the (British Government), Bombay Civil Service. During this time in India and later upon their return to England seven children were born namely 5 male (John Henry; Alexander George; Gilbert; William; Edmund) all to pursue a career in the Army and 2 female (Jane Sarah; Ethel).

Upon their return to England (possibly about 1835) John took an appointment as J.P. and they resided at Twyford House, Thorley, Sawbridgeworth in Hertfordshire until his death in 1863. The local church of St. James, Thorley recently undertook restoration work and have discovered two brass plaques dedicated by Jane Ironside-Bax for Gilbert, their son, who died at Seetapore, Cawnpore, India in 1857 and the second being for John, her husband, who died in Wiesbaden, Germany in 1863.

Jane, in true matriarchal tradition upheld the Ironside name, (due to the fact that her only brother, William had died without issue) with allowing John Henry, their first son, to take the surname of Bax-Ironside and therefore retaining the family fortune and name for future generations.

Jane resided for a short time in Gloucester and would spend time visiting the homes of her children, all having married, with the exception of her youngest, Ethel.

However, at the time of her death in 1878 at the age of 71years, Jane is residing in the Isle of Wight at St. Anne's, Pelham Fields, accompanied by her daughter Ethel. Jane is buried in Ryde Cemetery.

Researched by Carol Kingsbury-Bax