

## 11. MEMORIAL TABLETS ON THE NORTH WALL



As well as this tablet in the church, the Goodrich men who were killed or who died later as the result of their wounds in the two World Wars are commemorated on the War Memorial. This is situated between the Village Hall and Castle Lane.



The most elaborate memorial on the wall is to George White, died 1765, whose father George built Goodrich House, where they both lived. The elder George was an ironmaster who rented a large iron-works from the 1680s from the lord of Goodrich manor. This was at New Weir, better known today as Symonds Yat, on the western side of the river. From the 1580s until about 1810 this was an industrial scene, with great hammers being driven by waterwheels fed by the weir.

The monument was erected by John Osborne, the husband of the younger George White's daughter Elizabeth. He notes in his diary in 1766: 'This year I put up a monument in Goodrich Church executed by Mr Hoare to the memory of Mr & Mrs White. Expence about seventy pounds' - about £11,000 today. Mr Hoare is Prince Hoare, brother of William Hoare the artist and uncle of Prince Hoare the playwright. In 1766 he was living in Bath, but few of his works have been identified. When he died he left 10 guineas to John Osborne for a mourning ring.

'Mrs' White is Mistress Mary White, George White's unmarried sister who died in 1762. She directed that she must be laid on her bed for at least 12 hours and watched all the time until she was buried, presumably to make sure she was dead.

There are a number of other monuments. The monument to Charles Ballinger and his wife Sarah is topped by an elegant coat of arms. Charles came from Chalford in Gloucestershire; his wealthy father was a clothier and his wife was the daughter of Edmund Jones of Poulston, Kings Caple. The value of their marriage settlement was the huge sum of £12,000 which, as they had no children was divided between them by Charles's will to leave to their respective heirs. Charles was living at Great Brampton in Madley when he died, Sarah at Weir End in Bridstow, but they're both buried at Goodrich.

In 1851 Thomas Brook of Pencraig Court left his Goodrich estate to his son Thomas, but he owned land and mining rights in South Australia, which went to his son Albert. He seems to have had relatively humble origins; he married his wife Sarah Rich in Bermondsey in 1818.

The Little family monument records the deaths of George Augustus Little, who died at Pencraig Court in 1821 aged 12, and his father George who died there in 1826. Louisa Little left Pencraig Court soon after the death of her husband, as it was immediately advertised to let. She died in London in 1834. George and Louisa had a number of other children, some born in Ireland, but it's not known why they came to Goodrich although there were a lot of other Littles in the area.