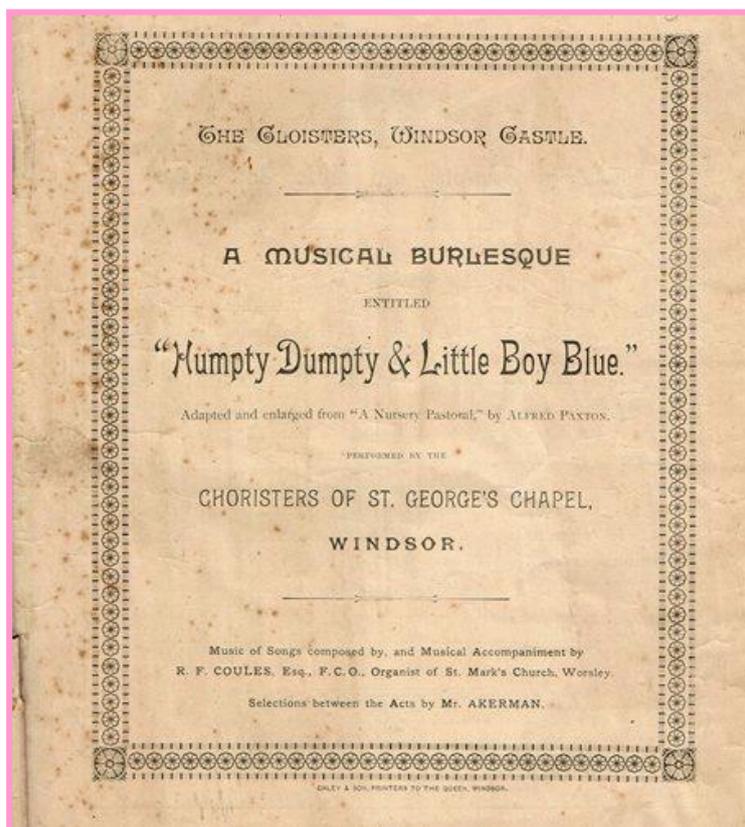


# Reginald Froude Coules

## COULES



Signature *Reginald Froude Coules.*

Postal Address *Egerton House, Worsley, W. Manchester*

Baptised: 25 December 1855

Died: 1 May 1926

PIANO TEACHER  
FIRST ORGANIST at ST. MARK'S



**Reginald Froude COULES** (1855-1926)

**Reginald Froude Coules** was born **1855** at Kempsford, Glos., and was baptised there on 25 December **1855**, the son of Henry Coules (schoolmaster) and Mary Anne (schoolmistress).

Christmas Day. Dec 25 No. 419.	Reginald Froude	Henry & Mary Anne.	Coules	Kempsford	Schoolmaster	J. R. Woodford Vicar
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Henry and Mary Anne Tovey were married in the 2/4 of **1855** at Clifton Registry Office, Glos.

In the census of **1861**, they were living at the school. Henry was 26, Mary Anne was 27, and their children were **Reginald** (5), Blanche (3), Florence (1) and Elinor (3mo.). All the children were baptised at Kempsford - **Reginald (25/12/1855)**, Blanche (20/6/1857), Florence Mary (22/6/1859), Elinor (31/1/1861), and later Annie Beatrice (3/2/1866). Sadly, Henry died early in 1870, aged 34. Henry was baptised in the parish of Siston, Glos. on 7 September 1834, the son of Abraham (a coachman) and Harriet.

In the **1871** census, Mary Anne was 38 and was living at Whelford, Kempsford, with Florence Mary (11), Eleanor (9), and Annie (5). **Reginald** (aged 15) was then a Boarder at the Vicarage House in Turweston, Buckinghamshire, the home of the vicar of Westbury, Alfred G. Hilton, and he was listed as an Organist. However, it would appear that he was Organist at St. Mark's from **1872**. He matriculated at New College, Oxford, on 18 October **1875**, aged 19. There, he was a pupil of Dr. John Stainer.

**Coules, Reginald Froude, rs. Henry, of Kempsford,  
co. Gloucester, gent. NEW COLL., matric. 18 Oct.,  
1875, aged 19. [40]**

In **1881**, he was 25, and in the census he was living as a lodger at the Vicarage, Worsley, with the Earl of Mulgrave and staff, his occupation being given as Organist of Worsley Church.. Ten years later, in **1891**, now aged 35, but still single, he was listed as a Professor of Music, and resident at the Aviary as a Boarder.

His name appeared in the Manchester Guardian of 29 July **1892** for successfully passing exams. at Trinity College London, in the Second Division with Honours. He received the letters F. C. O.. Later, on 21 April **1893**, it was reported that he had passed the exams. for the Associated Board at Senior Grade.

No. _____
Banns of Marriage between <u>Reginald Froude Coules, Bachelor</u> <u>of the Parish of Swanton, Manchester, &amp; Emily Beechey, Spinster</u> <u>of this Parish</u> were published on the Three Sundays underwritten ;
That is to say, { 1st, on Sunday the <u>March 25<sup>th</sup></u> by <u>G. D. Holliston Duddell,</u> 2d, on Sunday the <u>1<sup>st</sup> April</u> by <u>H. Beechey,</u> 3d, on Sunday the <u>8<sup>th</sup> April</u> by <u>G. D. Holliston Duddell.</u>

NEW YEAR  
74. Father, Let me Dedicate.  
L. TUTTIETT, 1825-97. (Dedicatio Anni.) R. F. COULES, 1881.

1. Fa-ther, let me ded-i-cate All this year to Thee,  
2. Can a Fa-ther's love re-fuse All the best to give?  
3. If in mer-cy Thou wilt spare Joys that yet are mine;  
4. If Thou call-est to the cross, And its shad-ow come,

1. In what-ev-er world-ly state Thou wilt have me be,  
2. Can a child pre-sume to choose Where or how to live?  
3. If on life, se-rene and fair, Bright-er rays may shine,  
4. Turn-ing all my gain to loss, Shroud-ing heart and home:

1. Not from sor-row, pain, or care, Free-dom dare I claim;  
2. More Thou giv-est ev-ry day Than the best can claim;  
3. Let my glad heart, while it sings, Thee in all pro-claim;  
4. Let me think how Thy dear Son To His glo-ry came,

1. This a-lone shall be my prayer: Glo-ri-fy Thy name.  
2. Nor with-hold-est aught that may Glo-ri-fy Thy name.  
3. And what-e'er the fu-ture brings, Glo-ri-fy Thy name.  
4. And in deep-est woe pray on, "Glo-ri-fy Thy name."

*See also:*  
Holy, holy, holy, 15. Christ is made the sure foundation, 97.  
Built on the Rock the church, 46. Now thank we all our God, 98.  
In the Cross of Christ I glory, 85. God is love; His mercy brightens, 142.  
A mighty fortress is our God, 95.

Then, in 1894, R. F. Coules married Emily Beechey, April 1894, at Downham, Hilgay, Norfolk. Their Banns had been read at Hilgay on 25 March, 1 April and 8 April. She was the granddaughter of St. Vincent Beechey, former incumbent of St. Mark's. The second reading of them was by St. Vincent Beechey.

By 1901, they were living at High Lea, Worsley. He was a Teacher of Music (45) and she was 24. They had children St. Vincent Froude (5, baptised 27 April 1895), Blanche Katherine Froude (3, born 4 Sept. 1897) and an infant son under 1 month old (this was Reginald Edward Froude Coules, born 18 March and baptised at St. Mark's on 27 April). Prior to her marriage, Emily had been living for some while with her maternal grandparents on Mill Brow. Her own father, Edward Beechey - third son of St. Vincent Beechey - had emigrated to Philadelphia.

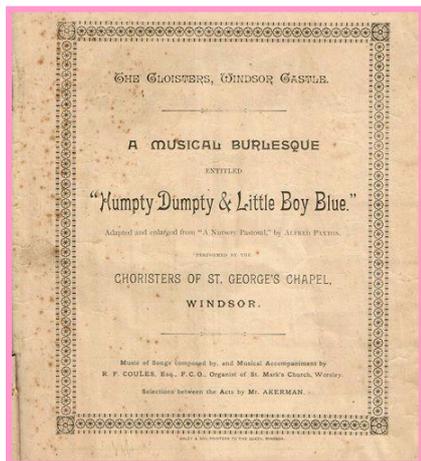
In 1911, the family was living at Egerton House, Worsley. **Reginald** was 55, **Emily** was 34, and the only child with them was Blanche, 13. The young boy Reginald Edward Froude Coules had died aged 16 months, and was buried in the churchyard on 16 August 1902. St. Vincent Froude Coules (15) was a scholar at Rossall School, the school founded by St. Vincent Beechey.

**R. F. Coules** died on 1 May 1926 and was buried on 4 May in the churchyard. In his will, his effects were left to his son, St. Vincent Froude Coules, Barrister-at-Law, and Robert Hugh Bindloss, Accountant. When Emily died on 31 October 1932, her home address was then Hilgay, Stratford Way, Watford, though she died at Watford Peace Memorial Hospital. Her effects were left to her surviving son. Reginald Froude and Emily are buried in the churchyard, with their son R. E. F. Coules, aged 1yr. 5mo.

### The Musical Times – 1 March 1884.

*Eccles, Near Manchester – On Monday Evening, the 4<sup>th</sup> Ult., the members of the District Vocal Union Under the conductorship of Mr. R. F. Coules, FCO, Organist to the Earl of Mulgrave, gave an Open Evening in the Town Hall. The programme was an attractive one, including Dr. Stainer's Cantata St. Mary Magdalen, and a miscellaneous selection of glees, part-songs, etc. ... Mr. Coules played two pianoforte solos, and was much applauded. There was a large and appreciative audience. The District Vocal Union has only been established twelve months.*

The *St. George's Chapel Archives*, Windsor, holds a copy of 'A Musical Burlesque', entitled "Humpty Dumpty & Little Boy Blue," donated to it in 2015.



Under the direction of Sir Walter Parratt, Organist at St George's Chapel from 1882 to 1942, choristers were expected to work hard to produce the exacting standard of music expected of them in the Chapel. However, even in the Victorian period, they were allowed the occasional lighter diversion. We know, from a programme donated to the St George's Chapel Archives and Chapter Library in 2015, that in the early 1890s the choristers took part in a musical burlesque performed in The Cloisters, Windsor Castle. Entitled 'Humpty Dumpty & Little Boy Blue', it was based on a 'A Nursery Pastoral' by Alfred Paxton, adapted for the Windsor choristers with music composed by **R. F. Coules, F.C.O.**, Organist of St. Mark's Church, Worsley.

The programme is undated but we can assume that the performance took place sometime between April 1891 and January 1893 since W. Layton (who played Tommy Stout) was a chorister from April 1891 to 1896 and W. Colyer (who played Humpty Dumpty) was a chorister from November 1889 to January 1893.

[by permission of Dr. Clare Rider – St. George's Archives]

References to both the church and its organist appeared in a book 'Dictionary of Organs and Organists,' by Frederick W Thornsby, 1921. It states that the organ was built in 1881 by Young. It consisted of 3 manuals, 31 sp. Stops, 7 couplers, with an electric bellows. The organist at the church was **R. F. Coules, F.R.C.O.**

He also wrote a hymn entitled '*Splendour of the Thoughts of God*' in the early part of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, but no copies, as yet, have been found. The hymn shown above, *Dedicatio Anni*, was written in 1881 and is a Dedication of the New Year to God the Father.

The inscription on the memorial reads:

**REGINALD FROUDE COULES** May 1st 1926 aged 69 yrs. **EMILY** wife of REGINALD FROUDE COULES died 31st October 1932 aged 56 yrs. **REGINALD EDWARD FROUDE COULES** 13th August 1902 aged 1yr & 5mths . (B1730) (B730) (Q1730) (Q1730B)

**COULES** Reginald Froude of Egerton House Broadoak-road Worsley **Cheshire** died 1 May 1926 Probate **Manchester** 17 June to St. Vincent Froude Coules barrister-at-law (civil service) and Robert Hugh Bindloss incorporated accountant (civil service). Effects £7786 7s. 1d.

Signature *Reginald Froude Coules.*  
Postal Address *Egerton House, Worsley, W. Manchester*

## EXTRACTS FROM MEWSPAPERS AND JOURNALS

From *The Buckingham Advertiser* Saturday 9 November 1872:

*WEBTBURY Concert.* A concert was given in the School-room of the above village on Wednesday evening last, the 6th inst., on behalf of **Mr. R. F. Coules**, the talented and energetic organist, who is leaving. The walls were very agreeably relieved by some very pretty banners containing suitable devices. The opening piece was a solo on the violin, by Mr. R. Ruff, with a piano-forte accompaniment by **Mr. R. F. Coules**. A glee followed, entitled "The Bells of St. Michael's Tower." Considering that all the performers were villagers, the piece was very well rendered. Mr. S. Bloxham, jun., next made his appearance in the character of "a darkie". He sang "The Whole Hog or None," which was encored, when he gave another equally amusing song. Mr. A. Bedden next came forward in the character of the "British Lion," with a long tail behind him, which caused great laughter. "The Canadian boat song" followed, by Miss Coules, Mrs. Chambers, and Mr. A. Bedden, which was nicely rendered, the harmony being very good. A solo entitled "Happy," by Miss Osborn came next, which was well received. Mr. J. Paxton next came forward, and sang "Trump tramp," which was sustained by a chorus. Miss Coules and Miss Osborn next sang a duet, which was followed by a solo given by Mrs. Chambers. Then came another comic song in character by Mr. S. Bloxham, jun., which was very amusing, and the audience demanded an encore returned and sang part of it again. Another trio, "The Minstrel Boy," followed by a glee, "Sweet and Low," brought the first part of the programme to a close. An interval of ten minutes followed, after which **Mr. R. F. Coules** opened the second part by a pianoforte solo. It is needless to say it was listened to with the attention it deserved, and at the close was warmly applauded. A solo, "Let kiss him for his mother," followed, by Miss Osborn, which was well sung, and the chorus well sustained. A song by Mrs. Chambers followed, entitled "Maggie's secret." and in this her voice appeared to be to her advantage than in her former solo. Mr. H. Galton's song, "The little wee dog," caused shouts of laughter. It was encored, but he seemed to weary the audience by singing the whole of it over again, instead of only repeating part of it. Mr. S. Bloxham, jun., then gave another of his comic songs in the character of sailor, entitled "Good bye, John," and it is needless to say was in no way behind his former ones. Miss Coules's song, "Jenny Lind's good night," was certainly the best solo of the evening, and thoroughly deserved an encore, and it is rather surprising it was not demanded. **Mr. R. F. Coules** played the accompaniments in a very effective manner, and his removal to a higher sphere will be a loss to the village of Westbury. The national Anthem brought the proceedings to close, after which three hearty cheers were given for **Mr. Coules**.

From *The Manchester Courier* 20 October 1877:

### WORSLEY CHORAL SOCIETY

*Patrons: The Earl and Countess of Ellesmere.— FIRST CONCERT of the Season, at the Court House, Worsley, Tuesday, October 30th. Principal Vocalists: Miss Salkeld, Miss Harrison, Mr. W. Hall (Manchester Vocal Society), Mr. F. H. Dale. Solo Pianist: Miss Robinson (pupil of Mr. Coules). Chorus of Fifty Voices. Conductor Mr. R. F. Coules, F.C.O.*

*The Musical Times* 1 January 1878:

*Mouton - The Choral Society gave its first concert of the season at the school-room on Tuesday evening, the 18th ult. The programme included three organ solos by the Conductor, Mr. R. F. Coules, F.C.O., of Worsley. The glees and part-songs were sung*

*with great taste and expression. The principal vocalists were Miss Harrison, Miss Leigh, Mr. Jales and Mr. Cunliffe. Mr. W. H. Ellwood accompanied the choruses and Mr. Coules conducted and accompanied the songs, &c.*

*The Musical Times* for 1 April **1878**:

*Worsley - The last concert of the Choral Society for the present season was given in the Court House on Tuesday the 5th ult. The principal soloists were Miss Marie Sutton, of Manchester; Miss Harrison, pupil of Mr. Coules; Mr. H. Yates and Mr. Cunliffe, of the Parish Church Choir, all of whom were generously applauded, the two latter gaining an encore. [The choir included 40 voices]. The instrumental pieces were excellently rendered, especially ... by Mr. R. F. Coules, F.C.O., (pianoforte) and Mr. W. H. Ellwood, assistant organist of the Parish Church. Mr. Coules conducted the Choir, accompanied the songs and played in four instrumental pieces.*

*The Isle of Wight Observer* on Saturday 7 October **1882** reported that **Mr. R. F. Coules**, F.C.O., was staying for a short holiday at Eastfield Villa, Ryde, with the Rev. W. C. Ketchley. Indeed, he spent about 4 months there.

*The Manchester Courier* Saturday 4 January **1888**:

*Pantomime at Worsley*

*On Monday evening the Christmas pantomime entitled "Little Red Riding Hood," was performed in the Girls' School, Worsley, under the management of the Earl of Mulgrave. The music, which is bright and pleasing, has been composed by Mr. R. F. Coules, F.C.O., who also conducts. The character of the Fairy Queen was taken by Miss Beechey, of Manchester, and that of Prince Hyacinth by Master Clement Williams, a leading chorister at Worsley Church. A feature of the performance was the introduction of Fairy Volunteer Corps, under the training of Sergeant-major Williams, of Worsley, one of the Balaclava heroes. The strongest character in the work, that of Blulette, was taken by Miss Polly Caine, of Winton.*

*The Manchester Courier* Monday 5 November **1888**:

*NEW CHURCH SCHOOLS ~ AT SPEECHES BY LORD ELLESMERE and THE HON.  
A. EGERTON.*

*On Saturday evening the Winton Church of England Sunday and day schools, erected at Lord Ellesmere's expense, formally opened. The Rev. the Earl of Mulgrave, of Worsley, presided. ...*

*A miscellaneous programme followed, which included an address from Mr. H. H. Howorth on education, and a pianoforte duet by Miss A. Egerton and Miss K. Egerton, and recitations by Mrs. Carrington of Eccles. Mr. R. F. Coules was the accompanist.*

*The Manchester Courier* Thursday 2 October **1890**:

*FUNERAL OF THE LATE HON. ALFRED EGERTON, M.P.*

*The funeral of the late Hon. Alfred Francis John Egerton, M.P. for the Eccles Division, who died on Thursday at Burwood, Surrey, the residence of his mother, the Dowager Countess of Ellesmere, took place yesterday at St. Mark's Church, Worsley. The remains of the hon. gentleman were laid beside those of his ancestors in the family vault beneath the Ellesmere Chapel, their final disposal being made the occasion for a simple yet eloquent manifestation of the grief which is felt by all sections of the community at the deceased gentleman's death. The villagers testified their respect for his memory by*

*drawing the blinds of their houses during the time the funeral ceremony occupied, and in many other ways they showed their sympathy with the bereaved family whose Lancashire home is at Worsley. [His body was the fifth to be laid in the vault. At some point, it must have been transferred to its current place in the churchyard]. ...*

*... The service was fully choral, **Mr. R. F. Coules, F.C.O.**, presiding at the organ, among the musical selections played during the time being Chopin's funeral march, in B flat minor, " Lift thine eyes," " Cast thy burden," " O, rest in the Lord," from Elijah, and "Blest are the departed" (Spohr).*

*The Whitby Gazette on Friday 3 August 1900 printed an article about a ...*

*"Garden Party at Mulgrave Castle. On Wednesday, on the invitation of the Rev. Canon the Marquess of Normanby, the members of the Board of Guardians, their officials, and the gentlemen holding offices in connection with them, along with their wives or lady friends, were entertained to a garden party at Mulgrave Castle. The weather was propitious, and very enjoyable time was spent until about eight o'clock. A couple of the pretty songs were composed **Mr. R. F. Coules, F.C.O.**, of Worsley".*

*The St. Andrews Citizen Saturday 17 January 1903:*

***Self-Help and Success.** An instance of that self-help which is the only secure ladder of success is reported by **Mr. R. F. Coules**, professor of music in the North of England. He states that one of the candidates who lately obtained the diploma of Licentiate of the Royal Academy of Music was a Lancashire youth employed as a newsboy. He has been in the habit of devoting his spare time, and what little money he could afford, to the study music, with the result that he has obtained this considerable success.*

*The funeral of Capt. Henry William Heaton took place on Wednesday 2 March 1904 at noon at the church. Worsley was in mourning on that day, all work being suspended during the funeral.*

*"The massive oak coffin, which was completely covered with beautiful wreaths, was conveyed from the residence to the church on a new farm lurry (sic) drawn by two Shire horses. A large congregation assembled in the church, where a choral service was conducted by the Rev. F. K. Hodgkinson, vicar, assisted by the Revs. W. J. Clarke and G. E. Body, curates. The 'Dead March' in Saul was played by **Mr. R. F. Coules**, organist, as the cortège left the church. The Vicar also officiated at the Interment, which took place in the family vault, , situated at the north-east corner of the churchyard. Among the mourners present, in addition to members of the deceased's family, were Lord Ellesmere, Messrs. E. Noden and W. E. Teale, churchwardens; Major Andrew, Sgt.-Maj. Williams, and Messrs. T. Stewart, W. Gardner, J. Roscoe, Councillor Smith, and representatives of the Worsley Lodge of Freemasons and other societies in which the deceased was interested". These words were printed in the Bolton Evening News of the same day.*

*The London and Provincial Entr'acte Saturday 20 May 1905:*

*A new three-act romantic comedy, by Mr. Neville Doone and **Mr. R. F. Coules**, entitled "Brooke of Brazenose," will be produced at a special matinée at the Criterion Theatre on June 8.*

*The Manchester Evening News Tuesday 12 February 1907:*

#### **MARRIAGE OF SIR WILLIAM STEPHENS.**

*This afternoon the usually quiet village of Worsley wore a very animated appearance on the occasion of the wedding of Sir William Stephens, ex-Mayor of Salford, and Miss*

*Emily Wilson, second daughter of Mr. William Wilson, J.P., auctioneer and valuer, of Old Warke, Worsley, and Manchester, at St. Mark's Church, Worsley. The sacred edifice was crowded by guests and ' ticket holders long before the time fixed for the ceremony, and hundreds of people gathered in the precincts notwithstanding the inclement weather. As the guests assembled Mr. R. F. Coules played " Erotik," by Greig, and " Serenade," by Alidor.*

The Bolton Journal of 10 December 1909 reported on the funeral of Samuel Chatwood at the church:

*The funeral of Mr. Samuel Chatwood took place on Monday when he was interred in the Family Vault at St. Mark's Churchyard, Worsley. The service was conducted by Rev. T. Harrison. Deputation representing the firm formed a procession at the Village Post Office from Manchester staff, Bolton office staff and Heads of Departments. There were six carriages:-*

1. Mr. and Mrs. S.R. Chatwood, Son and Daughter-in-law
2. Mr. and Mrs. Cumming-Craig, Son-in-law and Daughter
3. Mr. S. R. Chatwood, Junior, G. A. and A. B. Chatwood, Grandsons
4. Miss Chatwood, Granddaughter, Mrs. Burton and Mr. and Mrs. Wood, Nephew and Niece
5. Simeon Chatwood, Nephew, Miss Unsworth, Niece
6. Miss Walker, Mr T. J. Murray and Dr. Scowby (Worsley)

*The organist, Mr. R.F.Coules FRCO played Chopin and Beethoven's Funeral Marches.*

