

# John CLARIDGE



Born: c. 1820

Died: 15 May 1879

*RAILWAY CONTRACTOR*



## John CLARIDGE



In Memory of  
**JOHN CLARIDGE**  
 formerly of this parish  
 who died at Oxford  
 May 15<sup>th</sup> 1879  
 in the 60<sup>th</sup> year of his age  
 Also of  
**MARIA**, the beloved wife of  
 John Claridge of Swinton  
 who died May 30<sup>th</sup> 1869  
 Aged 55 years  
 Also of **ELIZABETH DRINKHALL**  
 daughter of the above  
 who died February 13<sup>th</sup> 1896  
 Aged 52 years

[Trying to trace the life story of **John Claridge** has proven to be a very difficult task. Although it is not a very common name, it has been enormously difficult to pinpoint him. He seems to have travelled widely across the country, being born and later dying in Oxford. Furthermore, there is only one verifiable record of a child being born. On top of that, there is evidence of 2 other John Claridges who were married to a Maria. What follows is a best guess, given the paucity of reliable evidence.]

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.
423	November 6	John Claridge Maria Helliwell	20 26	Bachelor Spinster	Labourer Servant.	Work Street in Longford Work Street Longford	Richard Claridge John Helliwell	white smith Cotton Spinner
Married in the <i>Lawrence Chapel</i> according to the Rites and Ceremonies of the <i>Church of England</i> by me, <i>William Lamb</i>								
This Marriage was solemnized between us,		<i>John Claridge</i> <i>Maria Helliwell</i> <i>her X Mark</i>		in the Presence of us,		<i>James Gump</i> <i>George Helliwell</i> <i>her X Mark</i>		

**1841** census: Alderley, Cheshire

Sarah Daniel	65	Independent	
<b>John Claridge</b>	20	Excavator	Not born in the county
<b>Maria</b>	25		Do.
Thomas	2 mo.		Do.

**1843:** Birth of **Elizabeth Maria Ann Claridge**, registered in Chorlton, in the 4th quarter of 1843.

1861 census: 59 Holywell Street, Holywell, Oxford.

Bruce ???	Head	M	51	Whitesmith	b. Edinburgh
Elizabeth ???	Wife	M	62		b. Watford
Thomas	Son	S	24	Whitesmith	b. Oxford
Mary Gibb	Daur.	M	26		b. Oxford
<b>Elizabeth Claridge</b>	G'daur.	S	16		b. Oxford

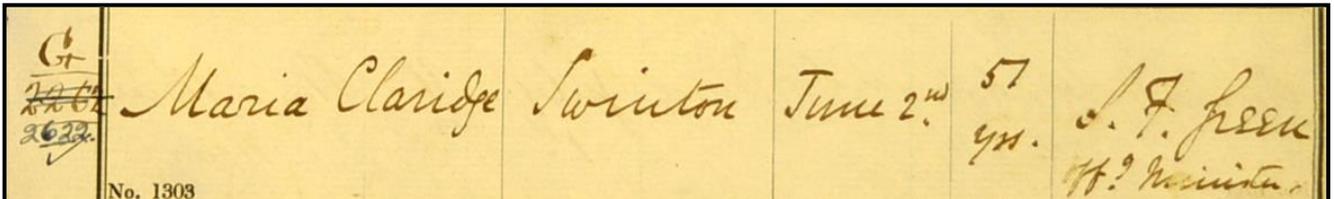
Burial: 2 June 1869 St Mark, Worsley.

**Maria Claridge**

Age: 51 yrs

Abode: Swinton

Buried by: S. F. Green Off. Min



It would appear that **John Claridge** may well have married a second time:

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.
96	December 22 <sup>nd</sup> 1869	John Claridge	47	Widower	Railway Contractor	1 Gydall Terrace Regent Road, Prestwich	Richard Claridge	Locksmith
		Ann Morris	40	Spinster			Thomas Morris	Market Gardeners

Married in the above Church according to the Rites and Ceremonies of the Established Church, by Licence or after \_\_\_\_\_ by me,

This Marriage was solemnized between us, John Claridge and Ann Morris in the Presence of us, Henry Thomas Edwards and John Thomas Edwards

1871 census: Highfield Lodge, Pendlebury.

Elizabeth Halliwell	Head	S	67	Lodgekeeper; Coachman	b. Hebden Bridge, Yorks.
<b>Elizabeth Claridge</b>	Niece	S	27	Dressmaker	b. Manchester
Eliza Claridge	Niece	S	14	Scholar	b. Brownhills, Staffs.

+ 1 visitor; 1 boarder.

Also in 1871, we find **John Claridge** married to **Ann**, with correct details given:

1871 census: Upton St. Leonard, Gloucester.

Alfred Hewlett	Head	M	50	Dairy Man	
Emma	Wife	M	38		
John Cook		S	19	Assistant Dairy Man	
<b>John Claridge</b>	Visitor	M	48	Railway Contractor	b. Oxford
<b>Ann</b>	Visitor	M	45		b. Gloucester

Marriage: 6 November 1871 Christ Church, Salford.

William Drinkall - (X), 31, Labourer, Bachelor, West Dean Street

**Elizabeth Maria Ann Claridge** - 27, Spinster, West Dean Street

Groom's Father: John Drinkall, Labourer

Bride's Father: **John Claridge**, Contractor

Witness: John Williams, (X); Mary Wright  
 Married by Banns by: Robert K. Judson

1872. Marriage solemnized at *Christ Church* in the *Parish of Christ Church* in the County of *Lincoln*

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.
304	<i>November 6<sup>th</sup></i>	<i>William Drinkhall</i>	<i>31</i>	<i>Bachelor</i>	<i>Suturer</i>	<i>Walkden Street</i>	<i>John Drinkhall</i>	<i>Suturer</i>
		<i>Elizabeth Maria Ann Claridge</i>	<i>27</i>	<i>Spinster</i>		<i>West Dean Street</i>	<i>John Claridge</i>	<i>Contractor</i>

Married in the *aforsaid Church* according to the Rites and Ceremonies of the *Established Church* by me, *Robert K. Judson* after Banns

This Marriage was solemnized between us, *William Drinkhall* & *his Wife Elizabeth Maria Ann Claridge* in the Presence of us, *John Williams* & *Mary Wright*

From the *Oxford Journal* on Saturday 24 May 1879:  
 DEATH - May 15, at Summertown, **Mr. John Claridge**, aged 59.

<b>CLARIDGE John.</b>	12 June.	The Will of John Claridge late of Summertown near Oxford in the County of <b>Oxford</b> Gentleman who died 15 May 1879 at Summertown was proved at <b>Oxford</b> by Ann Claridge of Summertown Widow the Relict and James Slatter Steane of the City of Oxford Wine Merchant the Executors.
Personal Estate under £1,500. Resworn May 1880 under £800.		
3	Y 2	171

From the *Oxford Times* on Saturday 31 May 1879:

**JOHN CLARIDGE**, Deceased. All persons having any claims upon or being indebted to the estate of **JOHN CLARIDGE**, late of Summertown. near the city of Oxford, Contractor, deceased, are requested forthwith to forward and pay the same respectively to us on behalf of Mrs. **Ann Claridge** and Mr. **James Slatter Steane**, the Executrix and Executor of the will of the said **John Claridge**, deceased.

<i>John Claridge</i>	<i>Oxford.</i>	<i>May 20<sup>th</sup></i>	<i>59</i>	<i>Widower</i>
No. <b>779</b>				

Burial: 17 February 1896 St Mark, Worsley.

**Elizabeth Maria Ann Drinkhall**

Age: 52 years  
 Abode: Walkden  
 Grave: G 2622  
 Buried by: F.K. Hodgkinson

<i>Elizabeth Maria Ann Drinkhall</i>	<i>Walkden</i>	<i>Feb 17<sup>th</sup></i>	<i>52</i>	<i>years</i>	<i>F.K. Hodgkinson</i>	<i>G 2622</i>
No. 300						

Given that **John Claridge** died in Oxford, it is possible that **Ann** may well have died in the county. There is a record of a will for an **Ann Claridge**, as follows:

**Ann Claridge**, of 10 Cherwell-terrace Banbury Oxfordshire widow died 7 April **1900**. Probate Oxford 28 May to John William Murray superintendent of insurance-agents and Harry Barfield solicitor's clerk. Effects £1402 2s. 5d.

