

## **BER**

### **Papers belonging to Ridley Hall Cambridge presented by members of the Gorham Family, mainly relating to John Berridge, with some related material**

**18 items, 1781-1978**

**The details of how this Collection came into the hands of the Centre are unclear, but they are believed to have been acquired by the Henry Martyn Library c.1995 (Acc. 19/6)**

**Catalogued c.1999 or earlier by Sue Sutton, Archivist. Format updated, introduction rewritten, and some entries, mainly in BER 3 revised and/or expanded by Philip Saunders, CCCW Archivist November 2016**

John Berridge (1716-1793) was a fellow of Clare Hall, Cambridge and later vicar of Everton, Bedfordshire\*. He made a collection of ‘divine songs’, designed chiefly “for the religious societies of churchmen in the neighbourhood of Everton”, in 1760. He was contemporary of John Wesley with whom he had a sympathetic relationship. For biography see article by J.S. Reynolds in *Oxford Dictionary of Biography* (online edition 2004) and Nigel Pibworth, *The Gospel Pedlar* (1987; copy in CCCW Library 920 BER). George James Gorham of St Neots, the principal addressee of these letters, was evidently a friend who came under his influence, and it may be through him that his better-known son, George Cornelius, came to enter the Church as a somewhat free-thinking evangelical. From G.C. Gorham they passed to his son George Martyn†, whence to his (GC Gorham’s) daughters Mary and Jane. The Gorhams were supporters of Ridley and its evangelical roots and donated these papers and a substantial number of books from their father’s library, as well as Berridge’s pastoral staff, to the college. The staff, though listed in Bullock’s *History of Ridley Hall* (1953) [for extract see MAR 4/9], cannot now be found.

\*Although most of the village and fields are in Bedfordshire, the church was formerly in a detached part of Huntingdonshire and of the Archdeaconry of Huntingdon (Diocese of Lincoln until 1837, thereafter Diocese of Ely).

†The second name probably refers to the family’s relationship with the Martyns of Pertenhall, not a particular veneration of Henry Martyn..

## **BER**

### **BER 1 Packet of letters labelled “John Berridge, Letters and Relics”**

Note on the front of the packet “I wish them and the staff [a horn handled walking stick] to be presented to Ridley Hall, Cambridge at my decease G.M.G. [G.M. Gorham],

March 7 1893". Some of these letters have been published in Nigel R. Pibworth, *The Letters of John Berridge of Everton. A Singular Spirituality* (2015; copy in CCCW Library, 920 BER)

**BER 1/1** John Berridge to George Gorham, St Neots, Everton, 10 November 1781 (2p)  
Published in *Letters*, ed. Pibworth, p.309.

**BER 1 /2** Same to same, Everton, 21 November 1781 (2p)  
Published in *Letters*, ed. Pibworth, p.310.

**BER 1/3** Same to same, Everton, 17 December 1781 (2p)  
Published in *Letters*, ed. Pibworth, p.315.

**BER 1/ 4** Same to Stephen Gorham and Co., St Neots, (3p) Everton, 12 September 1783  
Published in *Letters*, ed. Pibworth, p.328.

**BER 1/5** Same to George Gorham, Everton, 17 August 1792  
Published in *Letters*, ed. Pibworth, p.407.

**BER 1/6** George Gorham to the Rev. G.C. Gorham, his son, (4p) St Neots, 9 September 1820 (4p)  
Sends him the staff presented to the writer by John Berridge

**BER 1/7** Rev. H. Moule, to the Rev. G.C. Gorham [grandson of George Gorham], 4p) Ridley Hall, Cambridge, 5 October 1892,  
Returns to him the 'Berridge Papers'. Refers to some of the above letters. If he wishes to consign the letters to the college on a more permanent basis, they will be well taken care of. Also gives thanks for Gorham's sister's gift of books to the college. [see below, BER 3/3]

**BER 1/8**  
Mary Gorham to the librarian, Ridley Hall, (3p) Masham, Yorkshire, 21 April 1904  
Forwarding to them the Berridge staff and papers in accordance with the wishes of her late father, George Martyn Gorham, the son of G.C. Gorham. Encloses Moule's letter (above).

*In a separate small envelope labelled 'Relics of John Berridge of Everton'*

**BER 1/9** Eleanour Pallister to the Rev. G.M. Gorham, Masham (2p), Everton, 22 September 1881,  
Sends him a letter of Berridge.

**BER 1/10** Berridge to Selina, Countess of Huntingdon (4p), No date  
[This is probably the letter referred to in the above]

**BER 1/11** Photograph of the tombstone of John Berridge along with a transcription of the epitaph.

Notes on photograph 'From Mrs Pallister, 6 April 1881

**BER 2** Packet of letters labelled "Mss notes on John Berridge of Everton. These should be sent (along with my horned walking stick) to the librarian of Ridley Hall at Cambridge, as I promised Dr Moule (now Bishop of Durham)" G.M. Gorham

**BER 2/1** Notes by George C. Gorham on the life and work of John Berridge (7p)

### **BER 3 Other Papers, unrelated to Berridge**

**BER 3/1** [Revd] F[rancis] Close [evangelical clergyman] to Rev J[ohn] Barton [vicar of Holy Trinity Cambridge], forwarding a hurriedly written paper, probably that catalogued as BER 3/4 below (1p)

1 September 1879

**BER 3/2** Robert Sinker [Librarian of Trinity College] to Bishop [Moule, Principal of Ridley Hall 1881-99, still much involved as a Council member and Visitor] (4p)  
Cambridge, 11 August 1903

Forwarding two papers in the hand of Charles Simeon which he had purchased at an auction, where described by Huntingdon auctioneer as 'Simpson' hence able to purchase for a song. Unable to determine purpose of blue crayon additions.

**BER 3/3A-B** Jane Gorham to the librarian [Ridley College] (6p)

Leamington, [1910 ('6 years after death of brother' [George Martyn Gorham]]

Sends notes by her father G.C. Gorham from Bodleian Library for his *Extracts from the writings of [Peter] Martyr and [Heinrich] Bullinger on the effects of Baptism* (1849) which the library might like to have to accompany the books which she donated in 1893.

**BER 3 /4** Notes [?by Revd Francis Close – see above BER 3/1, apparently in same hand] of 'What caused the writing of the hymn *Just as I am* by Charlotte Elliott [1789-1871, poet and evangelical hymn writer raised in the Clapham Sect, daughter of Henry Venn] (2p). [?1879]

**BER 3/5** Correspondence between W.J. Roxborough and the Principal of Ridley Hall, (2p)

December 1977, March 1978

Enquiry about information on Thomas Chambers among letters of Charles Simeon at the College. Principal regrets delay in replying and inability to answer his query before end of the year.