3 Cragg Monument



SACRED
TO THE MEMORY OF
MARY THE WIFE OF JOHN
RICHARSON sic CRAGG OF
BIGGAR IN THE ISLAND OF
WALNEY. WHO DEPARTED
THIS LIFE ON THE 15TH
DAY OF DECEMBER 1854,
AT A QUARTER BEFORE
SEVEN IN THE EVENING,
AFTER A TEDIOUS ILLNESS
BORNE WITH CHRISTIAN
FORTITUDE, IN THE 52ND
YEAR OF HER AGE.

MARY TATTERSALL,
DAUGHTER OF
JOHN RICHARDSON
CRAGG senr
DEPARTED THIS LIFE ON the
12TH DAY OF
FEBRUARY 1857
AGED 2(.....)YEAR.

MARY TATTERSALL,
DAUGHTER OF
JOHN RICHARDSON CRAGG
JUNR.
DEPARTED THIS LIFE ON
THE
16TH DAY OF MAY 1860,
AGED 5 YEARS.
She is not dead, but sleepeth.

Three sides are inscribed:
East (above)
North (top right)
South (bottom right)
Presumably the West face was intended for one of the John Richardson Craggs. Where are they buried? A John R. Cragg died in 1868, and a John Richardson Cragg in 1919.



This is the largest and most distinctive of the Victorian memorials in the Churchyard. The Craggs were landowners in Biggar, and the cost of such a memorial must have been considerable.

It is unusual for a stone to record the *time* of death.

William Fisher's *Diary* records: Decr 15 1854 "Died at Biggar after a tedious illness, Mary Wife of Mr John Richardson Cragg aged 51 years.[1]

The Records & Archive Office have various documents relating to the John Richardson Craggs, and their forebears, of Biggar. For example, a draft document of 1880 reads:
"We, Joseph Dawson of Low Wood Stile near Broughton in Furness in the County of Lancaster, John Richardson Cragg of Biggar in the Island of Walney in the same County and Mary Cragg his wife, Eleanor Fell of Cartmel in the same Count, Spinster, Jeanne Susanne Ernestine Claudine Fell of *Ambleside in the County of Westmorland* (crossed out and replaced by *The Limes Harpenden in the County of Herts*) widow and George Remington of Ulverston in the said County of Lanc^{r} Gent^{n}, Agnes Woodburne Widow, John Woodburne, Thomas Woodburne, all of Biggar afsd, *(and named others)* …. Selling land called High Bank and part of Tummerhill amounting to 38a 3r 2p to the Corporation of Barrow.'

This is presumably the sale of Biggar Bank to Barrow Corporation. The a, r, p, in the measures are acres, roods and poles/perches.

[1] The Diary of William Fisher of Barrow 1811 to 1859 Centre of NW Regional Studies Occ Pap 15 *eds Rollinson & Harrison* 1986 p80