

John (d 14 December 1839) and Ann Marr (d 9 February 1842)

Here
Lie the Bodies of
JOHN MARR
of Scales in this Parish;
who died 14th December 1839,
in the Seventy second Year of his age;
and also of his Widow
ANN MARR,
during more than forty Years
the able, diligent, and respected Mistress
of the School at
Scales:
who departed this Life
the ninth day of February 1842,
in the Sixty ninth Year of her age.
THIS STONE
is Erected to her memory
by one who had long Experience
of her deserts.
I.S.



An interesting stone for its eclectic use of capital letters. Note especially the L in also in line six.

A death of this date is difficult to research without going back to Parish Records. The first Census of modern times was 1841, and had limited information collected.

Similarly, information about his wife, and her time as the school mistress, will be difficult to find unless the School Log Book has survived. Unfortunately, they go no further back than 1875.

Another challenge is to find out who I.S. was, who erected the headstone as a tribute. This proved beyond me. I have two suggestions: (a) that the "I" is an old-fashioned use replacing a "J", and it is Rev. John Stonard, who died in 1849 after nearly 35 years as Rector of

Aldingham. In this role he would have had close contact with Ann Marr, schoolmistress of Aldingham Parochial School at Scales. Alternative (b) is that it is Isabella Stables of Scales, who died in 1877. She was born Isabella Simpson in 1806 in Leece, married James Stables of Scales, Husbandman, in Aldingham on 23 August 1845, and was buried in Aldingham 4 September 1877, aged 71 yrs.

The *Lancashire Online Parish Clerk* records show John Marr, son of James Marr and Margaret, being baptised at St. Cuthbert's, Aldingham, on 26 September 1768. His brother William Marr, presumably his twin, was baptised with him. About 27 Marr's are recorded as being baptised at Aldingham between 1663 and 1812, with abodes including Sunbrick, Scales Park and Beickliiff (sic).

John Marr (43) Husbandman of this Parish, married Ann Jackson (40) Spinster of this Parish, on 26 December 1812, at St. Cuthbert's. Her baptism is not recorded. On Ancestry the Marriage Bond is dated 17 December 1812, and signed by Rev. Sunderland, after whom Sunderland Terrace in Ulverston is named.

From *Ancestry* we can find out that John Marr appears on various legal documents, e.g. Land Tax Redemption, for Lower Aldingham, 1798, occupying land owned by George Ashburner, of Holme Bank.

Ann Marr is living on her own in Scales in the **1841 Census**. Her occupation is unreadable.

John Marr's Will had Probate granted on 14 March 1842, i.e. after the death of his widow. He is described as a Land Bailiff.