

IMPERIAL GOVERNORS

ONE OF THE largest and grandest memorials in the crypt is to colonial governor Sir Henry Bartle Frere (fig. 68). The lengthy inscription records Frere's distinguished career in senior administration in India, his success in abolishing the slave trade in Zanzibar and his scholarly reputation within the Asiatic and Geographical Societies. Not mentioned, however, is that Frere's career ended ignominiously when he implemented a policy of confederation in South Africa, provoking the controversial Anglo-Zulu war of 1879. He was recalled to England in disgrace and died soon after. The monument is a massive alabaster apologia defending Frere's reputation against the charge of being an avaricious imperialist who brutally extended the British Empire at the cost of thousands of lives.

The monument was erected not by the state but by Frere's family, who had already received a polite rejection to their request to bury him in Westminster Abbey. His coffin was decorated with a large red cross, a motif given permanent form in the marble tombstone on the floor. Lady Frere received permission to 'decorate' the tomb further in 1885. Their daughter Catherine supplied a design based upon the sixteenth-century memorial to William and Katherine Walter in their local church in Wimbledon (fig. 67). Her neo-Renaissance wall monument combines architectural decoration, a family crest and strapwork, with a chequerboard design extending across the floor. The masons, Farmer & Brindley, used British alabaster, yellow giallo antico marble from Tunisia and red breche sanguine limestone from Algeria, stones used by the ancient Romans to add an extra imperial lustre.

If Frere's monument contains much rhetoric but no portrait, Edward Onslow Ford's 1901 monument to George Grey (1812–1898; fig. 72), funded by the government and people of New Zealand, adopts the opposite strategy, with a strikingly realistic portrait of a man whose head contemporary phrenologists considered noteworthy. Grey had been Governor of New South Wales before becoming New Zealand's longest-living Prime Minister. The white marble bust, in a signature ragged-edged format revealing tool marks



BELOW 67 Monument to William and Katherine Walter by an anonymous sculptor; alabaster and marble, c. 1587 (St Mary's Church, Wimbledon).

RIGHT 68 Monument to Henry Bartle Frere by Catherine Frere and Farmer & Brindley; marble, alabaster, limestone, paint and gilding, 1884–5.



ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

With sincere thanks to Andy Johnson, AJ photographic, for transforming our understanding of the appearance of the monuments; to our friends and colleagues at Scala, especially Johanna Stephenson and Ray Watkins; and in the St Paul's Cathedral Collections Department: Vanessa Bell, Simon Carter, Jonathan Hellyer, Sarah Radford and Jo Wisdom, and the Canon Chancellor, Dr Paula Gooder. Thanks also to York Art History Collaborations for all their support, and especially the invaluable, tireless work of Marjorie Coughlan, and to Janina Ramirez, for advising us at many moments along the way. This project is funded by the Arts and Humanities Research Council, part of the UK Research Institute. This book was written in the midst of the coronavirus pandemic, and is dedicated to the memory of all those who lost their lives or loved ones within it.

PICTURE CREDITS

Inside covers (photomontage): Greg Sullivan; back cover flap (cathedral plan): Amy Harris; front cover, p. 4, figs 3, 6, 10, 15, 19, 22, 33, 48: Peter Smith © St Paul's Cathedral; fig. 1: Private Collection, Look and Learn/Illustrated Papers Collection/Bridgeman Images; fig. 4: Private Collection; fig. 7: Elias Gayles, CC BY 2.0, <https://flic.kr/p/cLYVT7>; fig. 21: Courtesy of Terje Hartberg, www.flickr.com/photos/vikingman/; fig. 28: Collection of the Vancouver Art Gallery; photo: akg-images; figs 45, 46: Conway Library, The Courtauld, London © The Courtauld; fig. 51: © Victoria and Albert Museum, London; figs 52, 69: © National Portrait Gallery; fig. 67: Courtesy of Mary-Ann Turnbull; fig. 71 Wirimu Maihi Te Rangikāheke, also known as William Marsh. Thatcher, Frederick (Rev), 1814–1890: Album of portraits of clerics and Māori. Ref: PA1-q-232-10-2. Alexander Turnbull Library, Wellington, New Zealand: <https://natlib.govt.nz/records/22326884>; photo: National Library of New Zealand. All other photographs by Andy Johnson, AJ Photographic; © University of York and The Chapter of St Paul's Cathedral.

This edition © Scala Arts & Heritage Publishers Ltd, 2021

Text © St Paul's Cathedral, 2021

First published in 2021 by
Scala Arts & Heritage Publishers Ltd
27 Old Gloucester Street
London WC1N 3AX, UK
www.scalapublishers.com

ISBN 978-1-78551-360-2

Edited by Johanna Stephenson
Designed by Raymonde Watkins
Printed in Turkey

10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1

All rights reserved. No part of this book may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system or transmitted in any form or by any means electronic, mechanical, photocopying, recording or otherwise, without the written permission of St Paul's Cathedral and Scala Arts & Heritage Publishers Ltd.

Every effort has been made to acknowledge correct copyright of images where applicable. Any errors or omissions are unintentional and should be notified to the Publisher, who will arrange for corrections to appear in any reprints.

Front cover: monument to Florence Nightingale by Arthur G. Walker (detail), 1915.

Back cover: monument to Frederic, Lord Leighton, by Thomas Brock (detail), 1902.

Frontispiece: monument to Edwin Landseer by Thomas Woolner (detail), 1882.

Page 2: sleeping sentinel angel from the monument to William and Frederick Melbourne by Carlo Marochetti, after 1853.

Page 4: monument to John Howard by John Bacon (detail), 1795.