



EDWARD STERLING (1773-1847)

The Sterlings were living at Kames Castle on the Isle of Bute when their second son John was born in 1806. The Marquess of Bute was the lord lieutenant of Glamorgan and it may have been he who secured Edward Sterling an appointment in the East Glamorgan Regiment of Local Militia, based in Cardiff, and newly embodied in 1808-9. He later became the adjutant. (Bryn Owen, History of the Welsh Militia and Volunteer Corps, vol.3, part 2, pp.75-7.) However the appointment came about, it was this that brought Sterling from Scotland to Glamorgan in or about 1809.

The Sterlings settled in Llanblethian and remained there until 1814. There has been some doubt about which house in the village they lived in but in his contribution to Hilary M.Thomas, Historic Gardens of the Vale of Glamorgan, p.119, Jeff Alden was certain that it was Llanblethian Cottage. His article is illustrated by a watercolour by Col. W.H.Taynton c.1850 showing the house. (Taynton was an amateur artist living in Cowbridge.) Llanblethian Cottage was replaced by the Old Vicarage, built on the site in 1900.

One child, Edward, was born to the Sterlings while they lived in Glamorgan. He was baptised at St John's, Cardiff, on 24 March 1810, the father's occupation being recorded as 'Captain of Local Militia' and his address being given as 'North Gate Street'.

John Sterling was a pupil at the Eagle Academy in Cowbridge between the ages of 5 and 8, that is 1811-14. There is no indication that his brother Anthony, a year older, was ever educated there.