

Humphry Salwey (1803-1877)



The Cliff, Ludlow

Baptised: Orleton 13 July 1803

Died: Ludlow 21 January 1877

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1. Introduction

Humphry Salwey - Attorney at Law and Clerk of the Peace for the Borough of Ludlow - was a founder member of the Ludlow Natural History Society - he was also the nephew of botanist Thomas Salwey (1791-1877). Salwey was born at Ashley Moor House located about half a mile to the west of Orleton in Herefordshire and was baptised at St George's Church, Orleton on the 13th July 1803. He lived in North Herefordshire and South Shropshire, well within reach of Ludlow, for the remainder of his life.

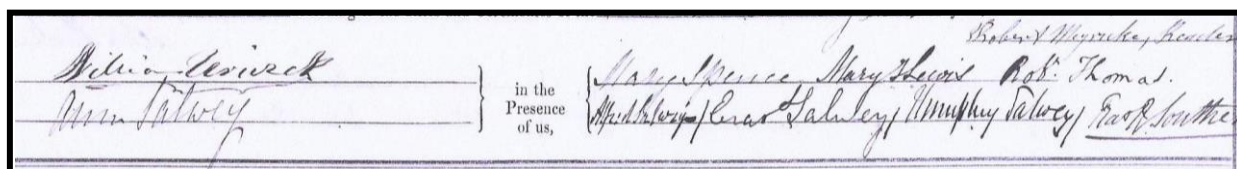
2. The Salwey Family

The Salwey name reaches far back in history, for example, Salwey's namesake Humphrey Salwey (1575-1652) was a Parliamentarian who sat in the House of Commons from 1640 to 1652 and Colonel Richard Salwey (1615-1685) was at one time secretary to Cromwell. The latter built Hayes Park House located under High Vinnals immediately to the west of Ludlow thus establishing a Salwey presence in South Shropshire.

In more recent time, Humphry Salwey's father Commander Theophilus Salwey RN (1774-1838), married Mary Davies of Ashley Moor Hall at St George's, Orleton on the 5th September 1802. Humphry was the first born of eight children. Commander Salwey was one of the '*The Moor Salweys*' to differentiate him from botanist Thomas Salwey who was one of '*The Lodge Salweys*'. The family split came when John Salwey (1745-1803), the elder son of Thomas Salwey, Rector of Richards Castle, inherited *The Moor* while the younger son, Theophilus Richard (1757-1837) father of Thomas, resided nearby in *The Lodge* at Overton, both houses being located within Shropshire.

Humphry Salwey's siblings were:

	<i>Baptism</i>	
Gilbert	21.12.1804	Lived at Ashley Moor House, died 1844, buried at Orleton.
Walter	01.05.1806	Died 26 th November 1814 and buried in the family tomb at St George's Orleton.
Mary	23.06.1808	Died 26 th May 1823 also buried at St George's, Orleton.
Erasmus	14.12.1811	Married Caroline Shelton in 1866 and lived at The Hall, Brimfield. A retired army captain, he died at Tenbury in 1891.
Ann	22.12.1812	Married William Urwick a solicitor in Ludlow 1851. The couple lived at Ludlow Castle, Ann died 15 th February 1887.
Herbert	04.04.1816	?
Alfred	27.04.1817	A Deputy Commissioner General in the Army Commissariat, He lived at Temeside, Ashford Carbonell and died unmarried in Ludlow 26 th May 1883.



The marriage of Ann Salwey and William Urwick at St Laurence, Ludlow on the 11th February 1851, showing the witness signatures of Alfred, Erasmus and Humphry Salwey.

Humphrey's father, Theophilus Salwey died in 1838 and was buried at St George's, Orleton on the 29th September of that year. Mary Salwey died in 1846 and is buried with her husband.

3. Humphry Salwey (1803-1877)

Humphry Salwey took to the law and was articled to Henry Milnes, a solicitor based in Broad Street, Leominster, on the 27th June 1823. On completion of his articles in 1828 he practised locally and eventually took up the position of Clerk of the Peace for the Borough of Ludlow. He married Louisa Rebecca Johnstone, daughter of Captain John Johnstone of Mainstone near Pixley, Herefordshire, on the 2nd December 1847. John Johnstone owned some 700 acres of land at Broncroft near Diddlebury in Shropshire – the Johnstone family purchased Broncroft Castle in 1824.



The couple initially lived in Dinham, Ludlow. Salwey then had his own house built, The Cliff, located just across the River Teme from Ludlow. Here he entertained his fellow geologists (the house is now the Cliffe Hotel and Restaurant).

There were five children. The one son, Theophilus John, and a daughter were born in Ludlow, the other three daughters were born after the move to The Cliff

The Cliff

3. Humphry Salwey and Ludlow Natural History Society

The Ludlow Natural History Society was established on the 12th October 1833 at a meeting held in the market hall with the following attendance;

Dr Lloyd, Rev T. Wellings, Mr Clark, Mr G. Morris, Mr H. Salwey, Mr Marston.

It was there agreed '*That there be a Museum and Library illustrative of the various departments of science for the use of the members*'. The affairs of the Society were to be regulated by a Committee of six members meeting quarterly. William Jones was appointed Treasurer and Curator, George Morris was appointed Secretary.

Humphry Salwey did not serve on the Society's committee but soon after the 'resuscitating meeting' of January 1844 (the society having been threatened with closure in the 1840s) he obviously took up an active role becoming an honorary curator and as noted at the annual general meeting held on the 2nd January 1847:

Mr H. Salwey having reported that he and his colleagues had completed, so far as the specimens would allow, the arrangement of the fossils of the "Silurian System" It was resolved that the members and others, be respectfully requested to forward donations of specimens intended to elucidate "The Geology of the Silurian System" and that Mr Salwey be requested to have the kindness to supply the Society with a list of the Specimens that are most wanted for this purpose defining the localities in which they are most likely to be found, so that it may be published for the guidance of donors.

Salwey stated at the January 1848 Annual General Meeting that there were still specimens wanted and 'a List of Specimens wanting to complete the Series of the productions of the Upper Ludlow Rocks, Aymestrey Limestone, and Lower Ludlow Rocks' was attached to the Report of the meeting. He also arranged the Baker Siwalik fossils in cases. Salwey was in regular attendance at committee meetings up to the mid 1850s. He proposed Robert Lightbody for membership in 1852.

Humphry Salwey donated over 100 fossil specimens to the museum. Many of the specimens are from unknown locations but the following list gives a guide to Salwey's wide ranging searches (specimens are numbered according to the La Touche Catalogue). All are Silurian fossils and a number are figured in contemporary publications

Silurian

D/c/28	Alveolites repens Linn.	Dormington, Woolhope
D/c/37	Halysites catenularia Linn.	Dormington, Woolhope
D/d/8	Dendroid graptolites	Church Hill, Leintwardine
D/d/44	Dendrocrinus sp.
D/d/62	Pentamerus gallatus n. sp.	Maryknoll
D/d/63	Spirifer (Eospirifer) plicatellus Linn.	Mocktree
D/d/73	Cardiola striata Sow.	Mocktree
D/d/75	Cardiola interrupta	Mocktree
D/d/107	Orthoceras filosum Sow. <i>figured Blake Mon. Brit. Foss. Cephalopoda Pl. X, fig. 8, p. 113</i>	Mocktree
D/d/160	Pterygotus arcuatus Salter <i>figured Huxley & Salter Monogr. I Mem. Geol. Survey UK Pl. XI, fig. 10, p.26 and H. Woodward Mon. Brit. Merost. Foss, text fig.21, p.89</i>	Church Hill, Leintwardine
D/d/173	Undetermined crustacean <i>figured Huxley & Salter Monogr. I. Geol. Survey UK Pl. XIII, fig.17, remarks " I know of only two crustacean structures with which this body can be compared, the one is a carapace, the other the swimming limb of a copepod, with its coalesced, lamellar, basal joints greatly developed.</i>	Church Hill, Leintwardine
D/e/62	Phacops stokesi Murch.	Above Shelderton
D/g/62	Orthoceras tracheale Sow. <i>figured Blake, Mon. Brit. Foss. Cephalopoda Pt.1, Pl. V, Fig.7, p.97</i>	Richards Castle.
D/g/86	Ilmalonotus (Koenigia) knightii	Batchcott
D/g/92	(Limuloides) Hemiaspis salweyi Salter	Stormer, Leintwardine

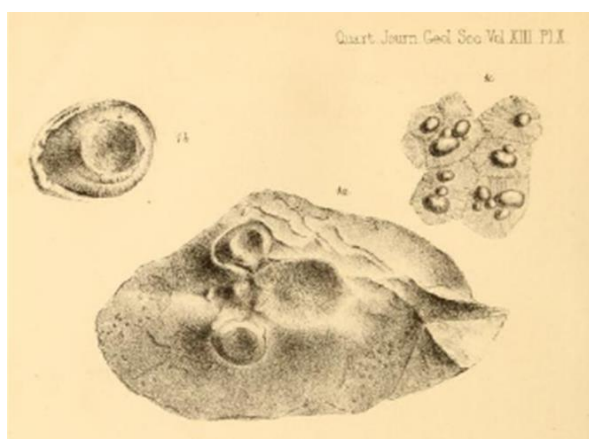
Old Red Sandstone

E/a/10	Pteraspis crouchii Salter	The Hills, Downton Hall
E/a/12	(Pteraspis) Seaphaspis lloydii	Whitbatch
E/a/18	Cephalaspis (Zenaspis) salweyi Egert.	Acton Beauchamp

The fossil specimens above were transferred to the Natural History Museum in the 1940s. Examples of fossils collected by Salwey do remain in the Ludlow Museum and Resource Centre:

G.00127	Espirifer plicatellus (Linn.)	Mocktree
G.00161/162	Strophonella euglypa (Hisinger)	-
G.03806	Ptrygotus punctatus	-
G.04496	Alveolites labechchii	Wenlock Edge

The numbers relate to W. J. Norton's Inventory of April 1963.



Perhaps the most favoured specimen would be the last one in the main list above, *Cephalaspis (Zenaspis) salweyi* Egert.

This specimen was described by John Harley in an article Description of two Cephalaspis, (QJGS 15, 503-505 1859) 'Mr Harley also described a more perfect specimen of *Cephalaspis salweyi* than the one on which Sir P. Egerton not long since determined the species.

It was found by Mr Salwey at Hinton near Bromyard about a mile from Acton Beauchamp. Humphrey Salwey did therefore appear in print courtesy of a fellow Society member.

C. salweyi QJGS 13 Pl. X

Humphry Salwey maintained his own private collection of fossils – he was visited by John William Salter with the aim of viewing and recording the specimens, see Huxley and Salter 1859 – but the disposal of the collection is not known.

Salwey's place as an amateur geologist and collector of fossils is best outlined through his Cambridge obituary:

HUMPHRY SALWEY BORN 1803 DIED 1877

Mr Humphrey Salwey, who died on January the 21st, at his residence, The Cliff, Ludlow, was one of the earliest pioneers of geological research in the Old Red Sandstone and Silurian districts; and he has formed an important collection of the fossils of the counties of Shropshire and Herefordshire, including many unique specimens. He derived his knowledge almost exclusively from observation, but he did not neglect the recorded observations of others, and his broad views and clear thought were most conspicuously displayed when, in the course of a day's work in the field, he would offer some friendly criticism of theories and conclusions which he could prove that less practical men had too readily admitted.

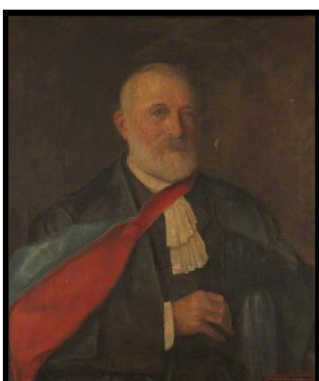
It was thus that Mr Salwey did much valuable teaching, and not a few of his numerous geological friends will be ready to admit that he has given them standpoints from which the vision could penetrate the obscurity in which geology of a district has been involved by too hasty a generation.

Mr Salwey's knowledge of the local geology of his native district was such as can only be obtained by life-long labour. Those who knew him well have cause to lament the loss of a sincere and warm-hearted friend; but the geologist from afar, to whom he was always ready to extend a cordial welcome, will sustain a loss which cannot easily be replaced – that of an experienced and sound expositor of the typical Ludlow District. It was always here that he delighted to welcome his fellow workers, and to offer to them his open and unassuming hospitality; and a cordial welcome with which he and his family received members of the Geologist's Association at The Cliff on the occasion of their visit to Ludlow in 1872, will ever be gratefully remembered by those who were present, several of whom have kept up the acquaintance then for the first time formed and have revisited more than once the beautiful neighbourhood, replete with geological interest, then for the first time seen.

Mr Salwey was one of the founders of the Ludlow Museum, which he has enriched with many valuable geological specimens. He has discovered several new pieces of fossils, principally collected in the Old Red Sandstone and the Ludlow Rocks, and his name as a Palaeozoic geologist is perpetuated in several species; but he was not a writer, and excepting a few addresses to the Field Clubs of neighbouring counties, his extensive knowledge of the geology of the district now, alas! lives only in the memory of those to whom he was ready to impart it, or is diffused in their writings – J.H.*

**Zenaspis salweyi*, Egerton; *Necrogammarus salweyi*, H Woodward and *Monograptus salweyi*, Hopkinson.

5. Death and Family



Humphry Salwey died on the 21st January 1899 at The Cliff. His will was proved by George Pardoe of Nash Court nr Tenbury, Worcestershire, fellow amateur geologist and fossil collector, and the Reverend Thomas Swinton Hewitt of Leysters, Herefordshire. His widow, Louisa Rebecca died on the 25th December 1906 also at The Cliff. Probate was to daughter Charlotte Louisa (Effects £4452 11s 6d).

*Theophilus John Salwey LMRS by Julia Folkhard
(Ludlow Museum Resource Centre)*

Salwey's five children survived him:

Theophilus John Salwey (1849-1927) married Canadian born Elizabeth Charlotte Mackenzie Ross at St Anne's, Soho in 1898. He followed his father's footsteps as a solicitor and also became Clerk of the Peace for Ludlow Borough. Of Salwey's four daughters, two were married in Calcutta; Agnes Mary to James Douglas White, a barrister, on the 8th January 1883 and Katherine to Philip Francis Frushard Hedger, a solicitor, on the 20th January 1883 (Philip Hedger died at Dinham Cottage 11th October 1896). Laura Salwey married artist Andrew MacCullum in Ludlow on the 9th February 1879. They were divorced in 1888 and Laura married John Thomas White of Hanham Court, Gloucestershire in 1891. Youngest daughter Charlotte Louisa married cigar merchant Herbert Gratton in Ludlow in 1902.

Humphrey Salwey is buried at St George's, Orleton in one of three tombs holding family members.

Dr J. A. Gosling
July 2018

Sources

Ludlow Natural History Society *Minute Book 1833-1845* Shropshire Archives.

Ludlow Natural History Society *Minute Books 1847-1897* Ludlow Museum Resource Centre.

Ludlow Natural History Society *A Catalogue of the Devonian, Silurian & Cambrian Fossils in the South Cases of the Museum of the Ludlow Natural History Society* Manuscript, Ludlow Museum Resource Centre.

La Touche T H D (1928) *Catalogue of the Palaeozoic Fossils in the Museum of the Ludlow Natural History Society* Typescript, Ludlow Museum Resource Centre.

Norton W J (1963) *Inventory of Geological Specimens at Ludlow Museum Shropshire.*

Findmypast findmypast.co.uk

Appendix 1: The Salwey Family

Thomas Salwey *Rector of Richard's Castle* m. Constance Biddulph *Ledbury* 01.07.1748

John (1745-1803) <i>of The Moor</i> m. Anne Baugh <i>Clungunford</i> 1768	Theophilus Richard (1757-1837) <i>of The Lodge</i> m. Anna Maria Hill 1787
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Theophilus (1774-1838) bd. <i>Orleton</i> 20.09.1838	Rev.Thomas (1791-1877) bd <i>Richard's Castle</i> 07.12.1877
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m. Mary Davies (1781-1841) *Orleton* 05.09.1802

Humphry Salwey
1803-1877
bpt. *Orleton* 13.07.1803
d. *Ludlow* 21.01.1877

m. Louisa Rebecca Johnstone *Pixley* 02.12.1847
1821-1906
bpt. *Pixley, Herefordshire* 07.10.1821
d. *Ludlow* 25.12.1906

Theophilus John 1848-1927 <i>c. Ludlow</i> 23.11.1848 d. <i>Pancras</i>	Agnes Mary 1853-1918 <i>c. Ludlow</i> 12.01.1853 d. 10.01.18	Laura Harcourt 1856- <i>c. Ludlow</i> 07.05.1856 bd <i>Orleton</i>	Katherine 1858- <i>c. Ludlow</i> 09.11.1858 21.10.1914	Charlotte Louisa 1860-1942 <i>c. Ludlow</i> 29.10.1860 d. <i>Lambeth</i>
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Theophilus John m. Elizabeth Charlotte Mackenzie Ross *St Anne, Soho* 1898
1855-1931 b. *Montreal, Canada* d. *Kensington* 13.12.1931.

Agnes Mary m. James Douglas White *Calcutta (St Paul)* 08.01.1883
1846-1927 Barrister d. 21.06.1927 *Bengal*.

Laura m. (1) Andrew MacCallum *Ludlow* 09.02.1879
1821-1902 Artist d. *Kensington* 22.01.1902

Katherine m. (2) John Thomas White *Kensington* 1891.
m. Philip Francis Frushard Hedger *Calcutta (St Paul)* 08.01.1883
1851-1896 Solicitor d. 11.10.1896 *Ludlow (Dinham Cottage)*.

Charlotte Louisa m. Herbert Tom Gratton *Ludlow* 03.02.1902.