

## REV. CHARLES HENRY BURTON

The Rev. Charles Henry Burton was the vicar of Dinton from 1869 to 1879 and the 1871 Census records that he lived in the Vicarage with his wife, Lydia and their four children, Emiline, Ernest, Hilda and Basil. They had a cook, a parlour maid, a housemaid and an under housemaid.

On the 23<sup>rd</sup> July 1871 Emiline died and her father and mother had a stained-glass window erected in her memory on the north wall.



TO THE GLORY OF GOD  
AND IN LOVING MEMORY OF EMILINE LYONS  
WHO DIED ON THE 23<sup>rd</sup> JULY 1871  
THIS WINDOW IS ERECTED BY HER PARENTS  
THE REV CHARLES HENRY AND LYDIA HELEN BURTON

In 1877 his wife Lydia Helen, aged 54, died and the Rev. Burton had a stained-glass window made and dedicated to her in Dinton Church.





Grave of Lydia Helen Burton

On 31st July 1879 the Rev. Charles Henry Burton and Emma Ripley Bland's niece, Julia Bland Holmes were married. He was 62 and she was 26. The witnesses were her brother James Piercy Holmes and her two sisters Emily Edith Seymour Holmes and Adela Anne Holmes. The couple moved to The Rectory, Huggate, Yorkshire with the Rev Burton's youngest son, Basil. Julius Henry Burton was born in 1880, Julia Caroline Burton in 1881 and Walter Holmes Burton in 1884.

On the 30<sup>th</sup> March 1885 the Rev Charles Henry Burton died aged 67 and his widow Julia Bland Burton had a stained-glass window made and dedicated to him in Dinton Church.





1871 census transcription details for: **Upton Farm, Dinton**

**National Archive Reference:**

**RG number:** RG10    **Piece:** 1412    **Folio:** 73

**Page:** 4

**Reg. District:** Aylesbury                      **Sub District:** Aylesbury  
**Parish:** Dinton                                      **Enum. District:** 8  
**Ecclesiastical District:**                      **City/Municipal Borough:**  
**Address:** Upton Farm, Dinton  
**County:** Buckinghamshire

Name	Relation	Condition	Sex	Age	Birth Year	Occupation	Where Born
CARR, Henry	Head		M	37	1834		Berkshire
CARR, Martha	Wife		F	33	1838		Buckinghamshire
CARR, Anne	Mother		F	84	1787		Oxfordshire
BUTLER, Anne	Niece		F	16	1855		Buckinghamshire
HOLMES, Julia Bland	Visitor		F	18	1853		Lancashire
BLAND, Emma Ripley	Visitor		F	45	1826		Middlesex

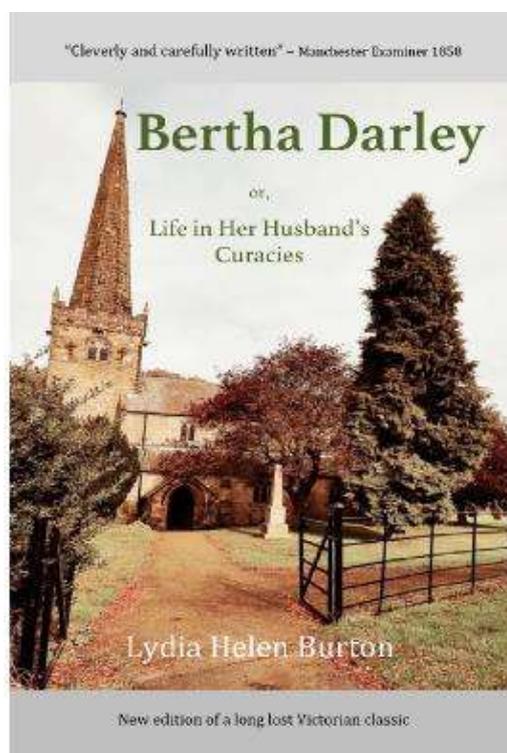
# Bertha Darley or, Life in Her Husband's Curacies

by Lydia Helen Burton

ISBN: 978-1-78876-819-1

Price £7.99

Available direct from [FeedAread.com](https://www.feedaread.com) and other outlets including [Waterstones.com](https://www.waterstones.com) and [Amazon.co.uk](https://www.amazon.co.uk)



A new edition of Lydia Helen Burton's fascinating first novel *Bertha Darley; or, Life in Her Husband's Curacies* has just been released.

First published in May 1858, *Bertha Darley; or, Life in Her Husband's Curacies* is a fictitious biography of a young Curate's wife living in various industrial towns of the north of England in the 1840s, a time of considerable political and social unrest.

Lydia Burton undoubtedly draws from her own experience as she describes Bertha Darley's every day life; the condition of marriage; her friendships; her parish visits; her views on religion. Burton also includes a vivid description of a Chartist riot that led one contemporary critic to write that it reminded him of Charlotte Bronte's 'graphic narratives of similar outbreaks' in her novel *Shirley*. Other critics of the time described *Bertha Darley* as 'cleverly and carefully written' and with no 'inconsiderable amount of humour.'

## Lydia Helen Burton

Born in Manchester in 1823, Lydia Helen Burton (nee Rothwell) married the Reverend Charles Henry Burton at All Saints Church Manchester in December 1841. During their married life Lydia and Charles lived in Bradford, Leeds, Liverpool and Dinton (Bucks), where Lydia died in 1877. Prior to the publication of this new edition of *Bertha Darley*, a search of the internet for 19th century women writers would have revealed such famous names as George Eliot, Elizabeth Gaskell and the Bronte sisters but, however hard you searched, not Lydia Helen Burton, even though she is known to have written at least two novels in her lifetime: *Bertha Darley; or, Life in Her Husband's Curacies*, published in 1858, and *Abbots Thorpe; or, The Two Wills*, which was published in 1864.

### The revised edition of *Bertha Darley*

This is the first new edition of *Bertha Darley* since the novel was first published in 1858. The original text has been left unedited. New readers will notice a copious use of commas, exclamation marks, question marks and dashes; the latter used by Burton to provide asides and further information during the telling of Bertha Darley's story.

### *Abbots Thorpe; or, The Two Wills*

In 1864, under the name of 'Mrs Charles Henry Burton', Burton published a second novel '*Abbots Thorpe; or, the Two Wills*.' This was a more conventional Victorian novel than *Bertha Darley*. The central story concerns the 'Two Wills' mentioned in the title. The hero of the book, Hugh Ethelstone, is denied his inheritance when his deceased grandfather's butler, Trapps, hides a revised Will and produces an earlier version, which did not benefit Ethelstone but did benefit Trapps. It is a complex story! But in the end, because Trapps makes a serious error in not destroying the later Will, it is eventually found and Ethelstone inherits as his grandfather wished. *Abbots Thorpe* has been made a 'Print on Demand' book by the British Library and is available (in two volumes, as originally published) from various online outlets.

### About Matthew Wells

Matthew Wells, who has written the Introduction to this new edition of *Bertha Darley* and provided the notes on the text, first became aware of Lydia Burton when researching his family history. Lydia's eldest son, Charles Tertius Burton, married a distant aunt, Rebecca Wells, in November 1888.

Matthew Wells published *The Reverend Doctor Charles Burton – A biography of Manchester's forgotten man of the cloth* in 2014 and *Rambling around Tudeley* in 2017. He hopes later in 2019 to publish *The Trial of Joseph Dale*, a true story about a young man who was hanged at Chester in 1824 for his part in one of the most notorious murders of the Georgian era.

### Contact

If you would like further information about *Bertha Darley* or about Lydia Helen Burton, please contact Matthew Wells by [email: matthewwells140@gmail.com](mailto:matthewwells140@gmail.com)

**NEW!** Follow Lydia Helen Burton on Twitter: [@1823Lydia](https://twitter.com/1823Lydia)