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John Marshall

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Royal Naval Biography

John Marshall (c.1784–1837) was a naval officer and biographer. He first went to sea at the age of nine, and by the end of the Napoleonic Wars in 1815 had reached the rank of lieutenant. After the war, he started to research the lives of contemporary high-ranking naval officers, some of whose service reached as far back as 1760. These volumes, first published between 1823 and 1830, contain the results of this monumental research, and demonstrate the new ‘cult’ of the navy in the early nineteenth century. Some of the biographies were contributed by the officers themselves, with others containing private or official letters and other records. Organised according to seniority in rank, these volumes contain a wealth of fascinating information on the careers of naval officers and battles and wars in which they took part. Volume 4, Part 1, contains the continuation of biographies of commanders.

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Frontmatter

[More information](#)

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John Marshall

Frontmatter

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Royal Naval Biography

*Or, Memoirs of the Services of
all the Flag-Officers, Superannuated
Rear-Admirals, Retired-Captains,
Post-Captains, and Commanders*

VOLUME 4 – PART 1

JOHN MARSHALL



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John Marshall

Frontmatter

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Frontmatter

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ROYAL NAVAL BIOGRAPHY;

OR,

Memoirs of the Services

OF ALL THE

FLAG-OFFICERS,
SUPERANNUATED REAR-ADMIRALS,
RETIRED-CAPTAINS,
POST-CAPTAINS,
AND COMMANDERS,

Whose Names appeared on the Admiralty List of Sea-Officers at the commencement of the year 1823, or who have since been promoted ;

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TO THE PRESENT PERIOD.

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By **JOHN MARSHALL (B)**,
LIEUTENANT IN THE ROYAL NAVY.

“Failures, however frequent, may admit of extenuation and apology. To have attempted much is always laudable, even when the enterprise is above the strength that undertakes it. To deliberate whenever I doubted, to enquire whenever I was ignorant, would have protracted the undertaking without end, and perhaps without improvement. I saw that one enquiry only gave occasion to another, that book referred to book, that to search was not always to find, and that to find was not always to be informed; and that thus to pursue perfection, was, like the first inhabitants of Arcadia, to chase the sun, which, when they had reached the hill where he seemed to rest, was still beheld at the same distance from them.” *Johnson*.

—◆—
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—◆—

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John Marshall

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

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Cambridge University Press

978-1-108-02271-2 - Royal Naval Biography, Volume 4 - Part 1

John Marshall

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

CONTENTS OF VOL. IV.—PART I.

COMMANDERS.

	Page		Page
Alcock, Richard	66	Burton, George Guy	334
Alexander, John	4	Burton, Richard	75
Alexander, Nicholas	360	Bury, Thomas	268
Annesley, Francis Charles	306 & 432	Campbell, John (<i>b</i>)	145
Anthony, Charles	147	Campbell, Lewis	416
Arrow, John Jordan	154	Canning, George	227
Arscott, Thomas	205	Carew, Thomas	207
Askey, James	249	Case, William	73
Athill, James	213	Chalmers, Charles William	239
Babington, James Boyle	411	Chiene, John	140
Baker, Francis	280	Christian, Jonathan	32
Baker, Henry (<i>a</i>)	224	Clarke, Fletcher Norton	328
Baker, Henry (<i>b</i>)	272	Clephan, James	6
Banks, Francis	120	Cobb, Smith	60
Banks, John	72	Cobb, William	214
Barrell, Justinian	343	Cochrane, John Dundas	307
Baumgardt, William Augustus	342	Colby, Thomas	196
Bazalgette, Joseph William	197	Collins, Edward	223
Benett, Charles Cowper	271	Conolly, Matthew	135
Berney, John	278	Copeland, Richard	370
Bignell, George	400	Corbyn, Joseph	224
Blackler, Robert Tom	27	Cotgrave, Edward Stone	359
Bluett, Richard	417	Cramer, John	5
Boss, John George	28	Crichton, James Aug. S.	75
Boswell, Walter	220	Croker, Richard	272
Bourchier, William	400	Crooke, Charles Henry	396
Bourne, Henry	132	Cumby, Charles	144
Bowden, Richard Booth	116	Curran, John Bartholomew H.	27
Bowen, George	240	Curzon, Hon. T. Roper	114
Boyd, David	341	Dalglish, James	135
Boyes, Henry	359	Dalyell, W. Cunningham C.	94
Boys, Edward (<i>a</i>)	283	Davies, James	409
Bremer, James	9	Davies, John (<i>b</i>)	415
Brett, Peirce	34	Davy, John	301
Brown, Adam	154	Dawkins, William Robert	398
Brown, Samuel	20	Debenham, John	312 & 432
Buchanan, Archibald	273	Delafons, Thomas	153
Buchanan, William	72	De Rippe, James	6
Buller, Thomas Wentworth	417	Devonshire, Richard	329
Burnaby, Sir William C. H.	199	Dickens, Samuel Trevor	153

Cambridge University Press

978-1-108-02271-2 - Royal Naval Biography, Volume 4 - Part 1

John Marshall

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

CONTENTS.

	Page		Page
Dickinson, Thomas (<i>b</i>)	251	Hatton, Henry John	397
Dickson, William Henry	376	Haultain, Charles	243
Dixie, Alexander	207	Haverfield, Robert T.	328
Domett, George	406	Hawkins, Abraham M.	91
Dougal, George	364	Hay, Patrick Duff Henry	398
Douglas, Pringle Home	199	Hay, Robert	411
Douglas, William Henry	140	Haydon, William	11
Drury, Henry	28	Haymes, Philip George	343
Du Cane, Charles	398	Heaslop, John Colpoys	419
Dunn, Nicholas J. C.	152	Herrick, William Henry	118
Dunn, Pascoe	271	Hewes, Thomas Oldacres	13
Dutton, Thomas	33	Hillier, Curry William	205
Duval, Francis	270	Hillyar, William	328
Eastwood, Joseph	371	Hilton, George	204
Edwards, John (<i>c</i>)	143	Hilton, John	250
Edwards, Richard F.	328	Hird, William	305
Edwards, Thomas A.	304	Hole, Charles	76
Elphinstone, Alexander F.	270	Holman, William	64
Elton, Henry	212	Holmes, William	375
Eyre, Thomas	73	Hood, Silas Thomson	357
Falkiner, Charles L.	116	Hore, Herbert W.	216
Farwell, Charles	65	Hore, Samuel B.	114
Felix, Robert R.	418	Horn, Philip T.	406
Fennell, John	220	Hoskins, Samuel	282
Ferris, Thomas	401	Howell, Joseph B.	407
Fisher, John	209	Huggins, James E.	273
Fitzmaurice, Gamaliel	33	Hutchinson, Charles	304
Fleming, John	337	Hutchinson, William (<i>a</i>)	198
Fleming, Richard Howell	412	Incedon, Robert	114
Forbes, John	65	Ingham, George	224
Forster, Thomas	151	Irons, John	12
Fuller, Rose Henry	277	Jackson, Robert M.	153
Gallwey, Thomas	65	Jackson, William R.	127
Gape, Joseph	151	James, Edwin	156
Gardner, James Baynton	359	Jekyll, John	65
Garrety, James Henry	7	Johnson, Edward	327
Giddy, Charles	331	Julian, John	223
Giles, Robert	64	Julyan, Robert	202
Gill, Thomas	239	Kains, John	148
Gilmour, John	8	Keenan, John	72
Glen, Nisbet	145	Keith, Sir George M.	152
Gordon, George	341	Kelly, William (<i>b</i>)	27
Gordon, James Gabriel	375	Kent, Bartholomew	354
Gordon, Robert James	201	Kent, William G. C.	161
Gordon, William	371	King, Henry	335
Greenaway, Richard	199	Kinsman, John K.	118
Greene, Charles	304	Kneeshaw, Joshua	148
Greenlaw, John P.	238	Knight, Hood	269
Gregory, William	5	Lambert, John	221
Griffinhoofe, Thomas S.	115	Lascelles, John F.	329
Groves, James	150	Laugharne, William	332
Hall, Edward	75	Lechmere, Charles	399
Hall, William	305	Le Hunte, Francis	275
Hamley, William	261	Leith, William F.	239
Hamlyn, Charles	330	Le Vesconte, Philip	415
Harness, Richard S.	330	Lewin, Richard J.	339
Harris, James	371	Lowcay, Henry	127
Harvey, Charles B.	301	Lowthian, Robert	145

Cambridge University Press

978-1-108-02271-2 - Royal Naval Biography, Volume 4 - Part 1

John Marshall

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

CONTENTS.

	Page		Page
Luke, George (<i>b</i>)	- - 283	Prickett, John	- - 75
Lynne, Henry	- - 5	Pyne, Henry	- - 301
M'Coy, Robert	- - 227	Radford, Samuel	- - 149
M'Culloch, Thomas	- - 80	Rayley, Charles	- - 135
M'Killop, John G. M'B.	- - 198	Revans, Thomas	- - 407
M'Konochie, Alexander	- - 399	Rich, Charles	- - 406
M'Meehan, Arthur	- - 70	Richards, William	- - 261
M'Pherson, George	- - 409	Rhodes, John H.	- - 271
M'Quhae, Peter	- - 272	Roberts, Daniel	- - 70
Maingy, Peter	- - 364	Roberts, Mitchell	- - 333
Mangles, James	- - 361	Roberts, Thomas	- - 1
Mansel, Thomas	- - 239	Roberts, William (<i>a</i>)	- - 406
Mapleton, David	- - 157	Roberts, William G.	- - 401
Marrett, Joseph	- - 71	Roberts, William P.	- - 69
Marshall, Henry M.	- - 278	Robinett, Roger	- - 335
Mason, Henry Browne	- - 369	Rokeby, Henry R.	- - 368
Mathews, Michael	- - 401	Rooke, Frederick W.	- - 69
Meade, John	- - 83	Rose, James	- - 119
Meara, James	- - 213	Roved, Henry	- - 218
Medlicott, John	- - 200	St. Clair, David Latimer	- - 83
Mercadell, Alexander	- - 331	Sanders, Thomas	- - 408
Methven, Thomas	- - 64	Sarmon, George Woods	- - 367
Molesworth, Bourchier	- - 154	Scobell, George T.	- - 34
Monilaws, William	- - 404	Scott, Edward F.	- - 401
Montgomery, Thomas	- - 363	Scott, Henry W.	- - 364
Moore, Charles (<i>b</i>)	- - 418	Scott, John	- - 359
Moorman, Richard	- - 268	Scriven, Timothy	- - 122
Morgan, John F.	- - 335	Seager, John	- - 221
Morgan, Thomas	- - 340	Seward, Charles	- - 340
Morris, John Row	- - 221	Seymour, Francis E.	- - 154
Murley, William	- - 132	Shaw, Isaac	- - 117
Nares, William H.	- - 281	Shed, Robert	- - 222
Neill, Joseph	- - 396	Shepherd, John (<i>a</i>)	- - 76
Newton, Vincent	- - 198	Shippard, William	- - 75
Nicholas, John	- - 198	Sibbald, James	- - 371
Ninis, George	- - 221	Simpson, Thomas (<i>a</i>)	- - 11
Norton, George	- - 217	Skipsey, Robert	- - 396
Oliver, James	- - 140	Smith, John Bernhard	- - 90
Oliver, Robert (<i>a</i>)	- - 329	Smith, Robert	- - 152
Otty, Allen	- - 373	Southey, Thomas	- - 11
Owen, Charles C.	- - 342	Squire, Charles	- - 32
Parker, Frederick A. H.	- - 240	Stanton, Anthony C.	- - 327
Parker, Henry	- - 280	Stewart, Allan	- - 221
Parson, John	- - 408	Stewart, Edward	- - 207
Patey, Joseph	- - 374	Stirling, James (<i>b</i>)	- - 273
Paynter, John P.	- - 416	Streatfeild, Richard	- - 199
Pearson, Charles	- - 305	Streatfeild, Robert	- - 363
Pearson, Hugh	- - 202	Street, Benjamin	- - 4
Pedlar, George	- - 334	Style, William	- - 37
Pengelley, Charles	- - 331	Suckling, William B.	- - 282
Penruddocke, George	- - 270	Sykes, John	- - 336
Phillips, John Geo.	- - 336	Sykes, Thomas	- - 133
Pickard, James	- - 209	Symonds, John C.	- - 312
Pigot, Richard H. H.	- - 200	Symons, James (<i>b</i>)	- - 411
Pilch, Robert	- - 139	Taylor, Henry	- - 242
Popplewell, Matthew J.	- - 132	Thomas, Abel W.	- - 238
Poyntz, Newdigate	- - 400	Thruston, Charles T.	- - 37
Price, John	- - 69	Tomlinson, Robert	- - 216

Cambridge University Press

978-1-108-02271-2 - Royal Naval Biography, Volume 4 - Part 1

John Marshall

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

CONTENTS.

	Page		Page
Townsend, James	277	Whitaker, Thomas	369
Tracey, John	214	White, Mark	405
Treacy, Joshua	66	Whyte Edward	147
Truscott, Francis	336	Wilbraham, Richard	224
Truscott, George	68	Williams, Peter	325
Tullidge, Joseph C.	15	Williams, Thomas	277
Turberville, Edmund	272	Wilson, Andrew	79
Tupman, George	405	Wilson, Thomas	312
Turnour, Hon. Arthur R.	401	Wilson, Thomas H.	217
Tyler, Charles	37	Windeyer, Walter	363
Undrell, John	361	Woodley, William	406
Valpy, Anthony B.	304	Worsley, Miller	374
Vassall, Nathaniel	217	Wriford, Samuel	405
Walker, James Robertson	376	Wright, Mayson	118
Walker, Robert	147	Wright, William E.	420
Watson, John	220	Wyatt, Henry B.	399
Weeks, John	71	Yates, Robert B.	340
West, Christopher	200	Young, Thomas B.	135
Weymouth, Richard	340		

ADDENDA.

‡ Annesley, Francis Charles	432	† Smith, Thomas	428
‡ Debenham, John	432	† Vincent, Andrew Atkins	429
* Littlehales, Bendall Robert	422	† Willoughby, Sir Nisbet J.	424
† Maude, Hon. James Ashley	424	‡ Young, Robert Benjamin	423
* Shirley, George James	421		

ERRATA.

- Page 20, line 7, for 17th, read 7th.
 — 115, — 16, for engineers, read engineers.
 — 137, — 5 from the bottom, for April 5th, read in April.
 — 138, — 7, after employed in, insert Egypt and.
 — 177, at the head of the page, insert 177.
 — 201, line 21, for safety, read safety, in 1812.
 — 222, last line but five of the small type, for Cain, read Cane.
 — 224, line 15, for INGRAM, read INGHAM.
 — 273, — 5, for JAMES HUGGINS, read JAMES EDWARD HUGGINS.
 — 278, — 4 from the bottom, for Elmoand, read Elmo and.
 — 324, — 14 of the large type, for a vessel, read a Papenbourgh vessel.
 — 328, — 7 from the bottom, after ROBERT insert TURNSTALL.
 — 337, — 3, for Fisguard, read Figard.
 — 344, — 8, after Clay insert a comma.
 — 12, for Whiteby, read Whitby.
 — 13, for Rachborne, read Rathborne.
 — 346, — 9 from the bottom, for Blaney, read Blamey.
 — 352, — 4, after there, insert also.

* Now Rear-Admirals.

† Captains.

‡ Commanders.