

Elizabeth Baseley: a village schoolmistress

On the north side of the church under the canopy of one of the lime trees is a large memorial stone over the grave of a lady called Elizabeth Baseley. She lived in the school house with her family and took up her duties as village schoolmistress on November 2nd 1891. She continued in her work educating the children of the village until she was suddenly taken ill in the middle of June 1893. She died on the 26th June aged only 52.

Reverend Polwhele, who lived at the Old Vicarage officiated at her funeral. No doubt that day Elizabeth's coffin was carried from her home along the little lane on the south side of the church. It is not difficult to imagine how much she was missed and how much impact her sudden death had on the small community of Quinton. Her headstone is large and ornate. Her husband lived to be 70 before he joined her in March 1909.