FRANCIS BACON

Although accurate parish records do not go back far enough to prove the fact, there is good authority which tells that Francis Bacon, the greatest Englishman of his time, was married in the church of St Mary-by-the-Bourne on 11 May 1606.

As a statesman and philosopher, he was in advance of his own day and it was his fate through life to give wise advice which was at the time usually rejected. As a courtier in early life, sometimes in favour, often not in favour, with Queen Elizabeth, he must have been on occasions at Marylebone Manor House which the Queen used as a Royal Palace.

LORD NELSON

Lord Nelson’s association with St Marylebone is perhaps chiefly to be found in the fact that his daughter Horatia was christened in the church on 3 May 1803, but apart from that Lord Nelson attended services there on a number of occasions and the old Parish Church was said to have a pew known as Nelson’s pew.

Horatia Nelson married the Rev Philip Ward in 1822, who later became Vicar of Tenterden in Kent. She had eight children and died in 1881.