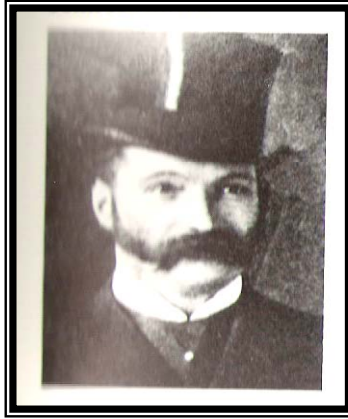


John Kirkness



1850 – 1912

from a letter, dated Oct 26, 1933 from Louisa Hingston Kirkness to Hilda Desborough -

“ . . . Thanks for all you say about . . . our dear brother Jack. It is now exactly 21 years since he died & I have never ceased mourning him. He was always such a dear, I never saw him do anything wrong in my life or heard him say a wrong word. You were always a favourite of his . . . ”

from “**The House of MAN**” –

- (p. 70) “John Kirkness, now about eighteen, had joined the firm recently and looked like promising management material.”
- (p. 72) “The firm, in 1869, had about ten employees, including Teddy’s [Edward Desborough Man] nephew John Kirkness (usually known as “Keck”) . . .
- (p. 73) “He [Teddy] began to take things more easily. This meant promotion for John Kirkness, now being groomed for partnership; . . .
- (p. 82) “ ‘Keck’ Kirkness became a partner in 1885 when he was in his late thirties.

from a letter written by Michael Kirkness in the 1980s –

John Kirkness was director of company (E.F. & D. Man [sic] – spice merchants of Mincing Lane), Secretary & died of a broken heart (1912) after paying off his company’s debts from his family fortune to the detriment of his surviving brothers & sisters (none married) but I think the Man family were [sic] not affected financially. I have some of the letters but burned much of it – distasteful correspondence.

from "The House of MAN" –

- (p. 83) "Fred was now senior partner , (. . .) not very active. . . . He took 75 per cent of the net profits while John Kirkness took the remaining 25 per cent.
- (p. 86) " . . . and John Kirkness, a pipe-smoking bachelor, liked by all the staff, handled correspondence with all the West Indian estates,
- (p. 89) " John Kirkness had £6,000 in the business.
- (p. 93) "the second partner was now John Kirkness. He came from one of those large late-Victorian families which always had a proportion of unmarried men and women who lived together in bunches and became professional aunts and uncles. John Kirkness lived at Kingston-upon-Thames with a brother and two sisters who seemed to get on his nerves and objected to his pipe; so he put in long office hours, . . . Another of his brothers farmed in Essex, . . .
- (p. 98) "The firm enjoyed record profits in 1908, when the partners were able to share more than £10,000. . . . while 'Keck' Kirkness, entitled to 40 percent, had to shoulder a loss of £875, . . . Poor 'Keck' had made a loss, enormous for the firm as it then was, of £2,500, which he paid off by 1912. His health was failing, and the worry of those last years probably hastened his death in that year, aged sixty-four. The firm arranged small pensions for his spinster sisters.

JOHNSON, of Oporto, Portugal.
: KIRKNESS.—On the 1st Oct., suddenly, at his
residence, 2, Queen's-road, Kingston-hill, Surrey, JOHN,
third son of the late Rev. Mr. KIRKNESS, Rector of
, Forrabury and Minster, Boscastle, Cornwall, and of Mrs.
: Kirkness, and eldest surviving grandson of the late Mr.
and Mrs. Edward Man (née Georgiana Desborough).
• Service at St. Peter's, Norbiton, on Saturday, October 5,
• at 2.45 p.m.; and Kingston Cemetery, at 3.30 p.m.
• Friends, please to accept this intimation.