THE LIMNER COMPANY

GEORGE HARGREAVES (1797 - 1870)

Portrait miniature of John Abraham Francis Hawkins (1803 - 1879) wearing dark blue buttoned coat, black waistcoat and white standing collar, his red hair curling and parted; sold with a portrait miniature of his sister, Henrietta Alicia Aldersley, née Hawkins (1806-1855), wearing white dress with puffed sleeves and lace décolléte trim, dark blue sleeveless overdress, and a brown fur stole, gold necklace and earrings, her hair upswept in an Apollo knot

Circa: circa 1825

circa 1825

Watercolour on ivory (his licence: DYU4RACN, hers: WH44BX91)

Both: Rectangular, 91 mm (3 $^{5}/_{8}$ in) high

Inscribed to the reverse, His: 'John Abraham Francis Hawkins/ Civilian (Honble East India Co)/ Son of Col Thomas Hawkins & Elizabeth Friell (See Boileau Ch)/ Married 1836 Margaret Edmonstone McLeod', and Hers: 'Henrietta Alicia Hawkins/ 2nd daughter of Coll Thomas Hawkins H.E. and Elizabeth Friell 4th daughter of Anne Charlotte Boileau & Peter Friell. (See 'Boileau' Ch)/ Born 1806. Married in 1831 Joseph Stephens Aldersey/ Died Jan 1885'

Born in Bengal to Colonel Thomas Hawkins (1774-1818) of the Bengal Army and his second

wife, Elizabeth Friell (b.1781), John Abraham Francis Hawkins received his education in Hertfordshire. He returned to India as a young man, where he entered the service of the East India Company. There, he became a judge of the Calcutta Supreme Court and a founding member of the Bengal Athletic Club. He was married to Margaret Edmonstone McLeod in 1836, with whom he had two sons. When he was appointed to his judicial role, the Prime Minister, Lord Palmerston (1784-1865), is said to have called him ‘trusty and well-beloved’.

John’s sister, Henrietta, was two years younger than him, and married Joseph Stephens Aldersey in London in 1831. She had four children, and little else is known about her life.