

The Provisions

The official newsletter of
Simon de Montfort 2014

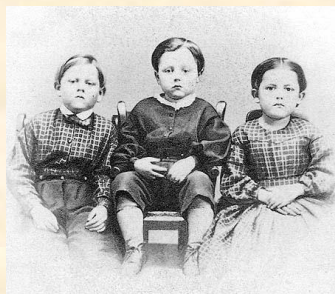
November 2013

It would seem the famous interview between Henry and Simon on the banks of the Thames – ‘I fear thee more than all the thunder and lightning in the world!’ – occurred at some point close to Charing Cross station. Simon was then in residence at the palace of the Bishop of Durham, which probably stood in and around today’s Durham House Street. Since any proposal to place a memorial to Montfort at Westminster is going to create a lot of grumbling, perhaps a simple marker recalling that interview in context would be a harmless and inexpensive gesture. It could be a plaque, elegantly crafted and conveniently placed without competing with the replica Eleanor Cross. The cross itself is a memorial to the funeral procession for Edward’s wife Eleanor, the grandest ever given to a slumlord. It was more of Edward doing what he wanted and hardly reflected the feelings of the nation, not like the stately farewells given to Louis IX and, in modern days, Abraham Lincoln.



Eleanor’s tenants likely didn’t pay their respects

In fact, Lincoln delivered his Gettysburg Address 150 years ago this month at the dedication of the Soldiers’ National Cemetery. Lying in an unknown grave at the time was a soldier whose identification was revealed on the very day Lincoln declared that “these dead shall not have died in vain.” He was Amos Humiston, a thirty-three year old New Yorker who fell on the first day of battle as the Union



The Humiston children – a father’s dying devotion

army retreated before the Confederate onslaught. When he was found, all that could be determined was that he was the father of three little children, for clutched in his hand was a photograph of them. He had spent what little time he had left gazing at the most precious thing in the world to him. “I got the likeness of the children,” he wrote to his wife before the battle, “and it pleased me more than eney thing that you could have sent me how I want to se them and their mother is more than I can tell I hope that we may all live to see each other again if this war dose not last to long.” The photo was used in a campaign to find out who he was and what if any help could be rendered to his family. Read more about it [here](#).

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