

## Zammit

Zammit, Sir Giuseppe Nicolò, K.C.M.C., LL.D. - Judge - (1771-1823).

Born on 9th April 1771, during the rule of Grand Master Pinto; a republican pro-French sympathizer in 1798, and was a member of the deputation which forced Grand Master Ferdinand Honapeth to surrender the island to Napoleon on June 10; (Hardman) Zammit accepted office under the French Republican Government; changed his coat and sympathies after the capitulation and was highly patronized by the Civil Commissioner Sir Alexander John Ball, and who appointed him "Pro-Segretario" and also "Uditore di Sua Eccellenza il Reale Commissario" (Foglio d'Avvisi No. 3, 1803) appointed one of Hon. Judges by Sir Thomas Maitland on 27 May 1814; Member of the Supreme Court of Justice, Jan. 1, 1819; Vice-President of the High Court of Appeal, Jan. 1, 1821; K.C.M.C. on Dec. 16, 1818. Died at his home in Valletta aged 52 years on Sept. 7, 1823. Hearing of his death on his arrival in Valletta from the Ionian islands, Sir Thomas Maitland directed that Sir Giuseppe Zammit be buried in the Chapel of Assumption, St. John Co. Cathedral and that a monument be erected to his memory at Government expense.

E. B. Quire in "Letters from the Mediterranean" charges Sir Giuseppe Zammit with embezzlement of public funds or at least with having enriched himself in an unbecoming manner (p. 390 et.). It is a fact that for a long time after his death his memory was exalted by his countrymen. It was also hinted that he had been one of the foundation members of Walter Rodwell Wright's masonic lodge of St. John and St. Paul.

Zammit Sir Themistocles, Kt., C.M.G., M.D., D.Litt. (Oxon). - Analyst - biologist - archæologist - historian - Rector of the University & Director of the Museum - (1864-1935)

Born in 1864; graduated M.D. at the Malta University in August 1889; attended a post-graduate course at King's College and Paris; appointed Analytic Chemist, Medical & Health Dept., on January 1st, 1891; Curator of the Museum 1st June 1903; Professor of Chemistry, Malta University, 1905-1920) Rector of the University, 1st August 1920; retired on pension on April 1, 1926; he helped in the excavation of the Hypogeum, and excavated on modern scientific lines the newly discovered Dierxien Dimples in 1915-20 and Imqar Dimples in 1925-26; he collaborated in the discovery of the micrococci of what

was erroneously called "Malta Fever" and its relation to unboiled goats milk. An experimental farm and laboratory was established at great expense in Marsa for the purpose of experiments on the immunization of goats, in 1935, but the Crown Colony Administration preferred to entrust the matter to a young veterinary surgeon fresh from College, who contracted the "Malta" fever within three months and the scheme was a costly failure and was discarded in favour of pasteurization advocated by Prof. Bernard, in 1938.

His "Zemi" Zammit was also one of the founders of the official Maltese orthography. He died aged 71 years in <sup>(St. Maria)</sup> ~~St. Maria~~, on the 2nd November 1935 and was buried in the Addolorata Cemetery. He wrote his own simple epitaph in Maltese.

His "Zemi" married Aloisia nee Barbara de San Gregorio, widow of E. Lafolla by whom he had a daughter and a son, Charles (later Director of the Museum). He died in 1930 and his name is listed.

#### Zammit "Hammet", Salvatore — Photographer & politician — (1883-1940)

Born in Sliema, in 1883, son of Paolo Zammit and Regina nee Vella; employed in the Dockyard and owner of a photographic establishment in St. John's Square, Valletta; entered politics in 1921 and joined the Labour Party; Trade Union Member of the Senate in 1921 and elected member for the 6th Division (Legislative Assembly) in 1924; was strongly opposed to his party's collaboration with the Constitutional Party, and sided with Camille D'Amico to give the Nationalist Party a majority, but in 1927 voted against and defeated the Government for purely personal motives; at the subsequent election was one of those responsible, — behind the scenes — for the publication of the infamous "Scrinii" affidavit issued on Election Sunday, and helped in the production of witnesses during the Criminal libel case instituted by Lord St. Vincent to clear himself of the charge of having been a Freemason.

Salvatore Zammit "Hammet" died aged 57 years at 40, 19 St. Providence, Balganz on August 20, 1940 and was buried on August 21, in Vault East T.H.5, Addolorata Cemetery.

Zammit, Hon. Giuseppe, L.P. - Solicitor & politician - (1869-1921)

Born in Valletta in 1869, son of Salvatore Zammit and Grazia Meli; took his warrant of legal Procurator at the Malta University; elected member of the Council of Government; died at his residence in Qrendi, No 7, Sta. Ann. Matteo, aged 52 years on the 2nd March 1921 and was buried in the Cemetery "Ja Hal Manin" Qrendi - He was a bachelor.

Zammit, Rev. Giuseppe <sup>LL.D</sup> <sub>22 April</sub> <sup>D.D.</sup> - celebrated Latinist - (1802-1890)

Born in Valletta on <sup>22 April</sup> 1802, son of Andrea and Rosa Zammit; chose the church for his profession after graduating in laws; was a celebrated Latinist in Malta as well as abroad and the author of thousands of elegant Latin epigraphs; known in Malta as "Brighella"; was a regular contributor to the <sup>ecclesiastical</sup> political paper "l'Ordine" and on December 18, 1850 was charged with criminal libel in the Criminal Court presided by the Signorino Bonarich assisted by judges F. Chapelle and G.P. Bruno, for an article printed in this paper on Sept. 14th Sept. 1850, which the Rev. Francesco C. Soucliet held to be defamatory to his good name and reputation. The Rev. Zammit was defended by Dr. Adriano Dingli and was condemned to 4 months imprisonment, three of which were commutable to a fine of £8. In later life the Rev. Zammit was in receipt of a special government pension awarded in consideration for his special merits. He died <sup>on 14 Feb. 1890</sup> aged 88 years at his residence No 39, Sta. Vellone, B'kara and was buried in the parish church there; he retained until the last his marvellous lucidity of intellect which had made his name famous in Europe and had cast lustre on his native island.

Zammit, Fra Dr. Giuseppe, M.D. - Surgeon & botanist - (1646-1740)

Born in 1646, and entering the service of the Order was to the post of Professor of Anatomy, Botany, Surgery and Medicine in the Hospital of the Medici. Established a botanic garden in St. Elias ditch, close to the Hospital; founded a Medical Academy; and at his own expense provided it with a library of scientific text books. Died aged 94 years in 1740.

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Zammit, Dr Alessandro LL.D. - (1804-1833) - Son of Judge Sir Giuseppe Nicolo Zammit K.C.M.G., LL.D., and brother of Jonna Maria Teresa first wife of Baron Vincenzo Azopardo Count. LL.D. (1798-1823). He died at Palermo, Sicily, aged 29 years on February 25, 1833, and was buried in the Church of the Trinity, Palermo. Survived by his young wife, the daughter of the Marchese di San Giacomo.

Zammit, Dr Enrico, LL.D. - (1856-1906) - Lawyer - journalist and author and politician. Born in 1856; graduated in law at the Malta University in August 1880; took part in the political movement of his time; published "Documenti Storici" Primo Inglese (1878); Il Plebiscito (1884); Sciuggi (1886) Cardinal Lavignac (1887); Poiche (1887); L'indietro dello zo d'Algeria (1888) Bureau de la Mediterranee - Storia e regolamenti (1886). Died in (Piemonte), aged 50 years on Sunday, 22nd July 1906.

Zammit, Giorgio - (1845-1931) - Former Head-gardener, San Antonio Gardens. - died aged 86 years on the 1st October 1931. Survived by his children among whom Ugo Salvatore Zammit, the present (1931) head gardener of His Excellency's private gardens, his grand children and great grand children.

Zammit, Dr Filippo, M.D. - (1720-1796) - distinguished Italian mathematician - Born in Luricy in 1720 of well-to-do parents; studied medical science and mathematics in Naples, and was chiefly known for his deep knowledge of the latter subject; died aged 77 years in 1796 and was buried in St. Augustine Church, Rabat.

Zammit, Dr Joseph M.D. - (1880-1936) - Medical practitioner and District Medical Officer, B'kara; died suddenly, aged 56 years on Thursday, the 8th October 1936; survived by his wife, Amalia née Maempel and eight children. Buried at the Addolorata Cemetery on October 9.

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Zammit, Prof. Nicola, M.D. - (1815-1899) - Professor of Philosophy, journalist editor, & author) - Born in Siggiewi in <sup>20-11-</sup>1815 <sup>(a)</sup> graduated in medicine at the Malta University in May 1837; endowed with a superior intelligence he was a medical doctor, a philosopher, a man of letters and an architect; while still very young he was a principal collaborator of various local papers; later he assumed consecutively the editorship of "la Rivista" "la Guice" and "l'Arte"; he was Professor of Philosophy at the Malta University from 1870 to 1890; during this time he delivered two memorable lectures - "Dio e la Scienza" and "Dio e la Vita". He published lectures, monographs and biographies, among which may be mentioned: "Sulla provvista d'acqua" - which obtained for him a government fringe; "Memorie del Conservatorio del Manfragio di S. Vito" (1858); "Memorie sull'Esposizione d'Industria & Arti" (1864); "Discorso sui rapporti colla vita, colla sanità e coll'economia"; - "Memorie del Conservatorio Vincenzo Bugija" and his masterpiece "Ludibri di un Retrogrado" (1888). Died at his residence at <sup>no 25 St. Marina,</sup> Sliema, aged 83 years on the 29th July 1899, and was buried in parish church, Siggiewi (Death Certificate, Pub. Reg: Nicolo Zammit, husband of Melita Schiavuz Author of Medicine and Govt. pensioner - Age: 83 years - Born: Siggiewi - Residence: Sliema. - Parents: Gio Nicolo Zammit & Vincenza née Villa both dead - Died of acute exhaustion at Sliema, Sta. Marina Vin Signi, no. 25, at 12.15 a.m on the 29th July 1899 - Buried in the parish church, Xgħajet - Reg. no 2444 of Sliema, 2 Aug. 1899. (See: list of wks. p. 1209)

Zammit Gio Maria - (1823-1899) - was employed for many years in H. M. Dockyard, and was due for promotion to a higher post which he had earned by merit. When this was given to a pet of the Naval authorities he resigned his post indignantly and retired to his villa in Mellieha and dedicated the remaining years of his life to establish the tunny fish industry in the bays of the north side of Malta and Gozo which he left in a flourishing condition. Died aged 76 years on Monday, 27th February 1899; survived by a numerous family.

Note (a) Prof Zammit was younger son of Gio Nicolo Zammit & Vza. Villa, m. Sigg. 26-9-1823.

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Zammit, Bernard - (1873-1954) - owner of the firm "Prince of Wales Engineering Plant, Marsa" - died aged 81 years at his residence, No. 839 St Joseph Rd. Hamrun, on March 20, 1954, and was buried at the Addolorata Cemetery. Survived by his daughter, Mrs Giuseppina Squirello.

Zammit Tabona, Arthur - (1903-1956) - Clerk, G.T.C., and of independent means. - died at the Blue Ladies Hospital aged 53 years on January 28, 1956, and was buried in the family vault at the Addolorata Cemetery. Survived by his wife, Mary de Atkinson; his sons Charles and Neville, and his daughters, Helen; his brothers Edwin, Tony, Francis and Joe; his sisters Mary, Ethel, Agnes and Doris.

Zammit Prof. N. (cont)List of principal works:

- 1 - The new facade & belfry of St. Paul, Valletta
- 2 - The new facade and belfry of parish church, Żurriq (1861)
- 3 - The new facade, portico, belfry and side chapels of the parish church, Floriana, (1885-92); and Siggiewi (1862-84)
- 4 - Reconstruction of St. Peter's, Marsaxlokk
- 5 - Mortuary Chapel of Conte Messina in Addolorata Cemetery
- 6 - The "Cappella Ardente" constructed for the memorial service of Pope Pius IX, in Coospicua.
- 7 - The Triumphal Arch of St. Paul, Valletta
- 8 - The design for the main altar canopy of the Cathedral and the parish churches of Siggiewi, Qormi & Coospicua.
- 9 - Design of altar front, tapestry, two confessionals and the decoration of the vault of Coospicua parish church.
- 10 - The design for the altar festive linen and standards of the parish church, Qormi.
- 11 - The design for the pavement of Żitun parish church  
Several altars, monuments, ornamented furniture and the coats-of-arms of the towns and villages of Malta & Gozo.

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Zammit Gerry - (1931-1961) - A staunch socialist from his early youth, he became a member of the General Workers Union in 1946 at the age of 15; after the Labour Party split in 1949 he became an active member of the Labour Party under Don Wintoff. He was a foundation member of the Ghazda Zghazgh Laburisti, and as Secretary of the Gzira Labour Party District Committee he was chiefly instrumental in founding the Gzira Labour Party Club, the most influential in the Fifth District and until 1955 the only one founded on a solid basis and enjoying a wide patronage and influence in the district which it served. After 1950 Gerry Zammit was the energetic Assistant Secretary of the Executive Committee of the Labour Party, attending all the meetings till late at night, which often meant a walk home to Gzira. He helped actively in all the propaganda activities of the Party and the distribution of "Is-Sobh" the Party organ, which he regularly carried home with him to Gzira. On September 23, 1953 he was appointed Secretary of the Government Section, G.W.U. and ex-officio member of the General Council. On the occasion of the National Protest Strike of April 28, 1958, which followed the resignation of the Wintoff Government and the suspension of the 1947 Constitution, Gerry Zammit, a G.W.U. official, legally supervising the spirit of the strike, was arrested by the Police, charged with intimidation before Magistrate Gouder and by him sentenced to one month's imprisonment. Some 100 labourites, including ex-Minister Agatha Barbara and Albert Hyzler M. D. were imprisoned during the reactionary regime of terror. Shortly after his release, Gerry Zammit's special talents were recognized by the G.W.U. and he was sent to study at Ruskin College, England, where in the first year of his two year course he obtained the diploma in Economic & Political Science. One of his teachers described him as "above average level in all subjects and brilliant in some." During his sojourn in England he wooed and married a fellow student, Miss Ann Johnson. He was considered so promising that the Board of the University awarded him a two-year scholarship to qualify for the Degree of Politics and Philosophy. In 1960 while on a visit to his parents in Malta, Gerry Zammit accompanied

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The Malta Labour Party Goodwill Mission to our Mediterranean neighbours - Italy - Yugoslavia - Greece - Cyprus and Egypt, together with Don Wintoff and Dr. Anton Buttigieg.

He was already at this time a doomed man and he knew it, a unique form of cancer affected his system and his days were numbered. Prof. Joseph Debono whom he consulted during his last visit to Malta in 1961 could only confirm the diagnosis. It had been Gerry Zammit's dream to return with his young wife to Malta on the conclusion of <sup>his</sup> ~~his~~ course of studies, <sup>as highly qualified, first class economist,</sup> and he was regarded as the only Labourite who could step with competence into the post of leader of the Malta Labour Party; and Don Wintoff himself entertained the greatest hopes in Gerry Zammit. Fate, however decreed otherwise. On receiving Prof. J. Debono's confirmation of his coming death sentence he returned to Waltham College Oxford to continue his studies, and he died in a London clinic on Thursday 6 July 1961, aged 30 years, leaving his body to the surgeons who had battled in vain to save his life, in a last effort to benefit humanity, <sup>by post-mortem & original dissection.</sup> The sad news of his death was conveyed to his sorrowing parents, brothers and numerous friends in Malta by his young widow Ann Johnson Zammit, who had promised him to carry on his work and ideals.

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## Zahra

Zahra Michelangelo (1824-1907) - Son of Michele and Joseph Zahra, and widow of Louisa Lewis; died of cerebral congestion at his son's residence, no. 45 Via S. Ursola Valletta, aged 83 years, on the 22nd March 1907. Buried at 10.15 a.m. on the 23rd March 1907 in grave East S.C. 10, Addolorata Cemetery.

Zahra Dr Michele, M.A., M.D. (1872-1916) - Medical practitioner and District Medical Officer - Born in Sliema in 1872, only son of Michelangelo Zahra and Louisa Lewis; he graduated in medicine at the Malta University in October 1898; was for some time physician to the Marine Police and later B. M. O. first in Valletta and later in Għajnsielem; one of the clearest medical practitioners of his times he ruined a most promising career by his eccentricities and his venereal addiction to drink. Died at his residence, Villa Zahra, Għajnsielem, Għajnsielem, aged 44 years of blood poisoning from cancer of the neck, at 2.35 pm on the 19th September 1916, and was buried at 6 pm. on the 20th September, 1916, in grave East S.C. 10, Addolorata Cemetery. Survived by his widow Mrs Concetta Zahra ne' Għallal (aunt of the author of this work) and his two daughters Digna and Lactina.

Zahra, Mgr Antonio (15? - 1582) - a member of the Dominican Order he accompanied Inigo A. Balthazier on his mission to Mesopotamia and later to India, where after the death of the latter he continued with his mission accompanying Archbishop Gemete Elia. On his return to Rome to report to Pope Pius V (1566-72) he was created Bishop of Vico, and ruled his diocese for many years with great zeal. Died at Naples in 1582 and was buried in the Church of the Sma Annunziata. An inscription in the bishop's palace at Vico records how he repaired this building in 1567.

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Zondadari, Marc'Antonio - Grand Master - Italian nationality and nephew of Pope Alexander VII - Elected on Jan. 22, 1720; refused to take the customary oath at his election to respect the rights and privileges of his Maltese subjects - which by his time, were now-obsolete having been repealed and destroyed by his predecessors - and just perjuring himself. His rule was short but he was a benevolent ruler - died in June 1722.

Zarb Mallin, Capt. Gioacchino - Superintendent of Ports - (1853-1922)  
Born in 1853; appointed Asst. Capt. of Police in the reformed Force on 25th August 1890, divided again in 1903-04 into Landward and Marine Police and attached to the Customs Dept; promoted Superintendent of Ports. Died aged 69 years in London on Thursday February 10, 1922 at 7.30 am. Survived by his only daughter Maria, a sister and five brothers.

Zarb, Capt. Lorenzo, Bey - navigator and diplomat - (1812-1890)  
- A born seaman & navigator, at 12 years was in charge of the sailing vessel "Gloria" and later in charge of the vessels of the merchants Jagliuffo, Sciclunso and Bugija, and in 1848 was sent by the latter to Britain to purchase the sailing vessel "Lone" which he brought over to Malta, and of which he was master until 1859. He then emigrated to Egypt and was put in charge of the sailing vessels Medjedie, Aziezie, and finally Frederie in Suez. He was then sent to Bombay to take charge of the repair of the same vessels on behalf of the Egyptian Government, and was created a Bey of Alexandria. In 1869 he was chosen to accompany the important foreign visitors at the opening of the Suez Canal; he was later entrusted with an important mission to Italy and was created Knight of the Order of St. Maurice & St. Lazarus by the King of Italy. In 1883 he retired on pension and died in Alexandria, Egypt, aged 78 years on the 2nd February 1890.

Zimelli Hector - (1815-1891) - Superintendent of Police and Impresario - Born in 1815; entered the civil service on May 1, 1838; served in the Audit Office and was appt. Superintendent of Public Works and shortly afterwards, Superintendent of Police on Jan. 1, 1859; entered on pension on 11th November 1869; Impresario of the Royal Theatre (Lanzoni) from 1871-50 and of the new Royal Theatre from 1870-81; on Sunday night, 20th May 1873, during the final rehearsal of a new opera "La Vergine del Castello" under the direction of its author, Mrs. Pascher, the stage took fire and within a few hours the theatre went up in flames and was destroyed. Mr. Zimelli took over the old Manzoni Theatre where the opera season continued to be held until the restoration of the Royal Theatre and its re-opening on the 11th October 1878 with the new opera "Aida" by Verdi. Mr. Zimelli gave up the impersa at the termination of the 1880-81 season, and left the island shortly after, residing in Milan, where he died, aged 76 years on the 28th February 1891.

Zarb, Joseph - (1886-1944) - Merchant, and former owner of the "Palmarium Restaurant" in Palace Square, Valletta. Born in Copruca in 1886, son of Emanuele Zarb and Giuseppa Ajuss; in January 1929 was arrested on suspicion of having murdered his aunt, Grazia Attard, aged 81 years who was found dead in her house in Sta. J. Micheli, Copruca, on December 25, 1928, but was released when a woman subsequently was persuaded to depose on her knowledge of the identity of the true murderer, Gian Mitost Degiorgio "la Cippitatu" who was convicted of the crime on March 28, 1930 and sentenced to life imprisonment; Joseph Zarb afterwards recovered the expenses incurred in his defence (£80) from Inspector Leone <sup>Bonifacio</sup> who had carried out his wrongful arrest on slight

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circumstantial evidence. He died in Sienna, at his residence no. 61 New Street, aged 58 years, on the 23rd October 1944 and was buried in the Addolorata Cemetery.

Zimmerman Barbaro, Maria Dolores — (1875-1929) — co-founder of the Madonna Church, Sienna — died at her residence, Palazzo Armeria, Zurigo, aged 54 years, on Saturday, 9th November 1929; survived by her only son, the noble Massimo Zimmerman Barbaro di Marchesini Nam Giorgio, and her brother, Major G. Galgon Sant'Antonio, P. U. A.

Zammit Gauci, Noble Giuseppina — (1901-1929) — died at Zebbug after a very short illness, aged 28 years, on Wednesday, 25th Sept. 1929. Survived by her parents, a sister and a brother.

Zerafa Rev. Benigno — (1717 - 1804) — Maltese musician, composer and Maestro di Cappella — Having as a young lad sang in church choirs, he decided to embark on a musical career and for this purpose went to Naples to continue his studies. Returned to Malta in 1744 and was appointed Maestro di Cappella of the Cathedral, Mdina. His career had its ups and downs, including his suspension in 1754 by order of Bishop Don Paolo Affarano; but he was re-instated by Bishop Mgr. Gaetano Rull. He was rigid and inflexible in his character, and this was the cause of his suspension and frequent troubles after his re-instatement when he came in conflict with several of the Canons of the Cathedral Chapter, who desired to have him substituted by Don Agostino, who had been appointed Organist and Co-adjutor of the Rev. Zerafa in 1744; but he held his post until his death in 1804. He wrote a quantity of sacred compositions which he gave to the Cathedral library in 1787 and are still preserved there.

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Zimmerman, Noble Comm. Carlo, de' Marchesi Barbaro di San Giorgio - (1859-1917)

Built at his own expense the Maggioro Church, Stena - died at Palazzo Xhara, Mdina, after a short illness, on Wednesday, 25th January 1917 aged in his 58th year, and was buried at the Addolorata Cemetery on Jan. 25. Survived by his wife and his only son, Reno.

Zarb, Fra Pietro - distinguished Maltese Carmelite, who flourished during the rule of the Order of St. John; <sup>(16th cent.)</sup> he was a renowned professor of Theology and consultant of the Tribunal of the Holy Office in Malta; it was through his efforts that the Carmelite convent was established in Valletta; he was several times elected Vice General of the Carmelite Order in Malta.

Zanghi, Dr Carlo A., M.D., B.A. - (1883-1955) - Medical Practitioner

- graduated in medicine at the Malta University; died aged 71 years, on January 2, 1955, and was buried at the Addolorata Cemetery. Survived by his sister, Stella.

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