|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 1764–65? | Born |
|  |  |
| <6/1784 | Pupil at the Latin school in Portarlington, Ireland, run by Rev. Donald Baggs |
| 30/6/1784 | Admitted pensioner to Trinity College, Dublin |
| spring 1789 | Graduates B.A. from Trinity College |
| 1790 | Ordained in the Church of Ireland |
| 9/1790 | Marries Albertina Sarah Blow (*c*1771--1829) |
|  |  |
| 9/6/1791 | Son Donald Alexander James born (he dies in India, 18/12/1846) |
|  |  |
|  |  |
| 15/4/1793 | Named curate of New Ross, Co. Wexford, diocese of Ferns |
| 31/5/1793 | Licensed as curate of New Ross |
| 1793--4 | Subscribes from New Ross to Volumes I--IV of the *Anthologia Hibernica* (all published) |
| 24/3/1794 | Daughter Albertina Susannah baptised in New Ross |
| 6/8/1795 | Son Robert baptised in New Ross |
|  |  |
| 11/7/1797 | Wexford Monthly Quaker Meeting receives letter from Hex, ‘an inhabitant of Ross, expressing his being desirous for a considerable time past of being admitted as a member of our Society’ |
| 9/1/1798 | Hex’s membership of Wexford Friends Society approved |
| <2/1799 | Removes from Co. Wexford to Waterford (Wexford Monthly Meeting, 2/1799) |
|  |  |
|  | Works as a grain importer, but venture ends because of the failure of a Waterford merchant (Hex→Helpman, 21/7/1806) |
|  |  |
|  | Sets up academy for a limited number of scholars, but this venture also fails (Hex→Helpman, 21/7/1806) |
| 30/12/1800 | As Hex has removed from Waterford to London to reside within the compass of the Peel Monthly Meeting, a certiﬁcate of migration is to be prepared (Waterford Monthly Meeting). Certiﬁcate signed 24/2/1801 states that he resided in Waterford for ‘upwards of one year’, and is noted in the Peel Monthly Meeting record dated 22/4/1801. |
| *c*1801 | Son William born in London |
| 1801 | Seller at 77 Fleet Street of *The Myvyrian Archaiology of Wales, collected out of ancient manuscripts*. |
|  |  |
| 1/5/1801 | His *The Elements of English Metre*, printed and sold by William Phillips, advertised as ‘printed for and sold by’ by him this day at 77 Fleet Street (Advertisement, *The Morning Chronicle*, 1/5/1801, p. 2; *The Times*, 29/7/1801, p. 2) |
| 1/5/1801 | Principal seller of *Remonstrance: with Other Poems* by his sister Catherine Blow *née* Hex (1771–1839), advertised in *The Morning Chronicle*, 1/5/1801, p. 2. The book states that several odes in the book were ‘supplied by a friend’. The translation of Horace’s ode from the 34th of Anacreon was made by Donald Hex (Hex→Helpman, 22/12/1805). |
| 14/6/1801 | At Hex’s request, and with the consent of his wife, their son Donald, aged 10, will be considered for membership of the Peel Monthly Meeting |
| 15/7/1801 | Seller of *An Account of the Emancipation of the Slaves of Unity Valley Pen, in Jamaica* by David Barclay, printed and sold by William Phillips (advertised as just published in *The Star*, 15/7/1801, p. 1) |
|  |  |
| 25/9/1801 | His furniture and effects at 77 Fleet Street sold, as he is ‘removing into the country’ (Advertisement, *The Morning Chronicle*, 18/9/1801, p. 4) |
| 16/10/1801 | Son Donald admitted to Ackworth School, Yorkshire, which he leaves on 12/10/1802 |
| *c*10/1801 | Hex removes to Dublin, where for about 18 months he works as a private tutor to four families (Hex→Helpman, 21/7/1806) |
| 1802 | His *A New System of Short-Hand* printed and sold by Darton & Harvey, London. Author named Donald Hex. The title-page illustration is drawn by him. |
| 24/3/1802 | As Donald Hex and his son Donald having settled in Dublin, Peel Monthly Meeting approves sending certiﬁcate to Dublin Monthly Meeting if nothing appears to prevent this. |
| 21/4/1802 | Peel Monthly Meeting sends certiﬁcate to Society of Friends in Dublin, noting that Hex and his son Donald Jr are removing ‘to reside within the compass of the Lurgan monthly meeting’ in Ireland (Co. Down), presumably referring to Hex’s Stramore plans. |
|  |  |
| 1/1/1803 | Removes to Stramore, Gilford, Co. Down, Ireland where, for a salary of £200 per year plus a rent-free house, he instructs four children of a country gentleman, presumably James Christy (1762--1820), a Quaker in the linen trade (Hex→Helpman, 21/7/1806; Hex writes ‘commencement of the year 1802’ for the start of this position, a mistake for 1803, given the 18 months mentioned for his tutoring in Dublin) |
| 15/3/1803 | Dublin Monthly Meeting prepares certiﬁcate on behalf of Donald Hex and his son Donald to be forwarded to the Lurgan Monthly Meeting; this is noted at that Meeting on 16/4/1803 |
|  |  |
| 23/12/1803 | In a letter to John Rickman, the poet Robert Southey states that he does not know ‘Hex’s direction’ but ‘George I’ (George Dyer, 1755–1841) can obtain it from Robert Cottle at Hoare’s Bank |
|  |  |
| 14/6/1805 | Writes to John Helpman from Stramore |
| 6/10/1805 | Writes from Stramore to the Lurgan Monthly Meeting of the Society of Friends, saying that a change of sentiments on his part has induced him to request ‘that you will consider me no longer a member’. |
| 6/5/1806 | Sends Helpman, for comment, a manuscript of a revised edition of *The Elements of English Metre*. |
|  |  |
|  |  |
|  |  |
| 7/12/1806 | Helpman→Editor of the Monthly Magazine (published 1/2/1807, pp. 28-31) writes (p. 31) that his ‘learned and very ingenious friend, Mr Hex, of Stramore, in Ireland, will, I trust, oblige the public with his systematic and admirable work on the genius and elements of English metre’, noting that this meditated work will enlarge upon his *Elements of English Metre*. |
| 7/12/1806 | In a long letter from Helpman to the surgeon Henry Cline (1750–1827), dated 7/12/1806 and published as a booklet in 1810, Helpman repeats his above comments about Hex, stating that ‘the musical notation adopted’ in Hex’s meditated enlarged dissertation will be ‘much more satisfactory to the scientiﬁc student’ than the notation in his *Elements*. |
|  |  |
| 27/1/1807 | Arrives with family in Milford, South Wales, as tutor to the children of Benjamin and Elizabeth Rotch, a Quaker family living at Castle-Hall (Hex→Helpman, 18/2/1807). John M. Bullard, *The Rotches* (New Bedford, Mass., 1947), states (p. 131) that Hex returned to Ireland after the education of four Rotch children was completed. |
|  |  |
| 1/9/1808 | With letter to Helpman Hex returns Helpman’s copy of Jonathan Odell’s *Essay.* Hex asks Helpman to forward an enclosed letter to John Wall Callcott, and asks Helpman for Odell’s address. |
| 8/12/1808 | Writes to Odell from Milford |
|  |  |
|  |  |
| 1/9/1810 | Helpman, ‘On the application of the principles of musical proportion in the treatment of impediments of speech’, *Monthly Magazine*, 1/9/1810, pp. 104-108, hopes (p. 106) that ‘his enlightened friend and correspondent, Mr Donald Hex … will yet be prevailed upon to oblige the world with an improved and more ample development’ of his *Elements of English Metre*. |
|  |  |
|  |  |
|  |  |
| *c*1812–13 | Contributes to *The Phenix*, newspaper published by William West (1770-1854) in Cork |
|  |  |
|  |  |
| 25/2/1817 | Commences course of seven lectures on *The Principles of Rhythm, both in Speech and Music* at the theatre of the Dublin Society (advertisement, *Saunders’s News-Letter, and Daily Advertiser*, 22/2/1817, p. 2). |
| 15/3/1817 | Appointed clerk and mace-bearer of the Royal Irish Academy, Dublin. Lives in the Academy building, 114 Grafton Street. |
|  |  |
| *c2*/1818 | Royal Irish Academy accepts that his forthcoming book *The Principles of Rhythm* may be dedicated to them (after Academy Council minutes 9/2/1818; Hex→Royal Irish Academy, 25/2/1822) |
| *c*7/1818 | Helpman writes to an editor (presumably William Jerdan (1782–1869), editor of *The Literary Gazette*), stating that he has received from ‘the author in Ireland’ the prospectus (of *The Principles of Rhythm*)which he encloses, and recommending that it be noticed in the editor’s journal (undated draft of letter, wmk 1817, in New York Public Library, Pforzheimer Collection, MISC 2278) |
| 1/8/1818 | Prospectus of *The Principles of Rhythm* noted in *The Literary Gazette, and Journal of Belles Lettres, Arts, Politics, etc.*, no. 80, 1/8/1818 |
|  |  |
| 20/5/1819 | Ofﬁciates at the marriage in St Peter’s Church, Dublin, of the solicitor Peter George du Moulin (*c*1784–1864) to Susanna Beeby (*c*1798–1882) (Saunders’s News-Letter, 22/5/1819, p. 2) |
|  |  |
|  |  |
| 12/1819 | Submits to Charles Chetwynd-Talbot, 2nd Earl Talbot (1777–1849), from 1817 to 1821 Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, a Memorial stating that his situation as Assistant Secretary to the Royal Irish Academy provides a ‘comfortable provision for himself, his wife, and daughter’, but is insufﬁcient to support his two grown-up sons [Robert Hex and James Hex; the eldest son Donald Andrew James Hex was then in India], for whom he seeks employment in Dublin Castle, the Custom House, Stamp Ofﬁce, or ‘any other public institution’. He notes that he previously maintained his family ‘by successive engagements in the line of private tuition’. Hex’s Memorial is endorsed by Charles William Bury, 1st Earl of Charleville (1764–1835), from 1812 to 1822 president of the Royal Irish Academy, and by other signatories. |
| 22/12/1819 | Writes from 114 Grafton Street to Charles Grant (1778–1866) MP, from 1818 to 1821 Chief Secretary for Ireland (and from 1835 1st Baron Glenelg), enclosing his Memorial and also a copy of his Proposals for publishing *The Principles of Rhythm* by subscription, which has been ‘abandoned for want of encouragement’. |
| 25/12/1819 | Grant replies, regretting that Hex’s Memorial is unlikely to succeed owing to the number of claims upon the Government and the large number of retrenchments presently in progress. |
|  |  |
| 1821 | His *Radiography, or a System of Easy Writing, Comprised in a Set of the Most Simple and Expeditious Characters…*, published in London by Harvey and Darton and advertised at least from 15/12/1821. Author named The Rev. Donald Hex, A. B. In his preface, dated Grafton Street, Dublin, 1/1/1821, Hex states that his *The Principles of Rhythm* is ‘ready for the press’. |
|  |  |
| 25/2/1822 | Writes to Royal Irish Academy saying that he has so far obtained only about 60 subscribers to *The Principles of Rhythm*, but if each Academy member would patronise his proposal the number of subscribers would likely reach 200 ‘which would be sufﬁcient to clear the expense of publication’. |
|  |  |
| 12/1822 | Writes to Henry Goulburn (1784–1856), from 1821 to 1827 Chief Secretary for Ireland, estimating the sum necessary for support of the Royal Irish Academy in 1823, and forwarding a petition for submission to the House of Commons. Hex will provide, soon after 5/1/1823, an account of the Academy’s expenditure for the year ending then. |
|  |  |
| 1823 | His *The Principles of Rhythm, both in Speech and Music; especially as exhibited in the mechanism of English verse* published in Dublin, printed by R[uth] Graisberry |
|  |  |
| 29/11/1823 | Royal Irish Academy moves ‘that 100 copies of Mr Hex’s works be given him, in addition to the 75 already given’ |
|  |  |
| 3/1825 | His article ‘Description of an improved camera-obscure exhibiting the image in the same position as the object’ published in *The Dublin Philosophical Journal* v. 1, March-November, 1825. Author named the Rev. Donald Hex. |
| *c*10/1825 | His *An Introduction to Book-Keeping; consisting of Twelve Short Rules for keeping merchants’ Accounts by Double Entry… for the use of schools* printed and published in London by Harvey and Darton (advertised as ‘published this day’ on 29/10/1825). Author named Donald Hex. |
|  |  |
|  |  |
| 1/4/1829 | Wife Albertina Hex dies. |
|  |  |
| 1829 | His *An English Spelling-Book, containing all the common words in the language…*, printed by R[uth] Graisberry, published by William Curry Jun. & Co., Dublin. Author named The Rev. Donald Hex, A. B. Advertised as *A Spelling Book, on a New Plan* (advertisement, *Belfast News-Letter*, 11/9/1829, p. 3) |
|  |  |
| 1830 | Subscribes to Owen Connellan, *The Gospel according to St John, in Irish…* (Dublin, 1830) |
|  |  |
|  |  |
| 13/1/1831 | Marries Charlotte Donaldson at St Andrew’s Church [Anglican], Dublin |
|  |  |
| 16/12/1833 | Royal Irish Academy resolves that Donald Hex’s son James can substitute for his father and can succeed him in 1834. James Hex holds this position until 1840. |
| 1834 | His *An Analytical Arrangement of the Apocalypse, or Revelation Recorded by Saint John; according to the principles developed under the name of Parallelism…* published in Dublin. Author named Donald Hex. |
| 1835 | Living at 3 Richmond Avenue, Dublin (*Dublin Almanac and General Register*). A Donald Hex also listed as living in Rathmines (*Pettigrew & Oulton’s Dublin Almanac*) |
| 1835 | His *A Short Help and Incentive to an Unbiassed Inquiry into the Scripture Truth of Universalism…* published, under the name R. Hex, in Dublin by W. Curry, Jun. & Co. |
| 3/7/1835 | Daughter Albertina Susanna marries Coote Thunder at St Andrew’s Church, Dublin |
|  |  |
| 1836 | His *Notes in Answer to Certain Parts of Three Recent Publications on Future Punishment* published in Dublin, under the name R. Hex |
|  |  |
|  |  |
|  |  |
| 20/7/1837 | Writes (from 2 Winneﬁeld Place, Upper Rathmines, Dublin) to Rev. Thomas Jefferson Sawyer (1804–1899), Secretary of the Universalist Historical Society (letter printed in *The Universalist Union*, v. 3 no. 1 (11/11/1837) pp. 4–5) |
| 9/1837 | Elected, as Corresponding Secretary for Ireland, to the Universalist Historical Society at its meeting in Philadelphia |
| 1838 | Declines appointment as Corresponding Secretary to the Universalist Historical Society (*Universalist Union*, v. 3 no. 50 (20/10/1838) p. 397) |
| 18/12/1838 | Writes (from 2 Winneﬁeld Place) letter explaining why he declined appointment and commenting on universalism and unitarianism (*Universalist Union*, v. 4 no. 16 (23/2/1839) pp. 250–251) |
|  |  |
| 5/1840 | Article in *The Expositor and Universalist Review*, v. 4, published in Boston, says (p. 190) ‘Mr Hex is the most distinguished Universalist in Ireland. He was for many years a clergyman in the Established Church, but some time since seceded’. |
|  |  |
| 1843 | At 2 Winneﬁeld Place, Rathmines (*Pettigrew & Oulton’s Dublin Almanac*) |
|  |  |
| 1/1844–1/1846 | Edits, with William John Playters Wilkinson (1787–1849, wine and spirit merchant, mayor of Exeter 1837--8), *The Biblical Inquirer*, to which he contributes several articles signed ‘R. R.’. This periodical, issued in 12 numbers, was printed by W. C. Pollard in Exeter and published by Longman, Brown, Green & Longmans in London. Hex lived in Exeter at this time. |
|  |  |
| 1847 | A Donald Hex listed as a member of the Clerical Library, located in London |
|  |  |
| 1/5/1848 | Writes (from 5 Norfolk Road, St John’s Wood, London) to the Literary Fund in support of William West, whom he has known since 1800 and to whose journal *The Phenix* he contributed |
| 29/5/1848 | David Thom’s *The Number and Names of the Apocalyptic Beasts*, published by H. K. Lewis, includes in part 1 his very praising letter to Hex (‘formerly of Dublin, now of London’), noting that Hex’s book published in 1851 is ‘almost ready for the press’, and that ‘on account of real or supposed deﬁciencies’ Hex has ‘withdrawn from circulation and suppressed’ many of his pamphlets |
|  |  |
| 1850 | Listed in 1850 *Post Ofﬁce London Directory* as living at Adelaide Villa, 5 Norfolk Road, St John’s Wood |
| 1850–51 | Edits *The Universalist*, to which he contributes several short articles signed ‘R. R.’ (‘Brief Memoir of the Life of David Thom’ in Thom’s posthumously published *Sermons*, p. xli) |
|  |  |
| 1851 | His *An Analytical Arrangement of the Holy Scriptures, according to the principles developed under the name of Parallelism*, published in two volumes by H[enry] K[ing] Lewis in London, who had published *The Universalist* periodical. The author is named Donald Baillie Hex, B.A. |
|  |  |
| 30/3/1851 | Census records that Donald Hex (aged 86) and Charlotte Hex (aged 63), annuitants born in Ireland, live at 4 Eton Villas, St John Parish, Hampstead. Next door (5 Eton Villas) live Coote and Albertina Susanna Thunder (Donald Hex’s son-in-law and daughter). |
|  |  |
|  |  |
|  |  |
| 21/3/1855 | Dies at Walworth, London (*Dublin Evening Mail*, 2/3/1855) |
| 24/3/1855 | Buried at All Souls, Kensal Green. His address given as 12 Onslow Terrace, Lorrimer Road, Newington. |
|  |  |