

Captain Nicholas Tetterseel helped the future monarch Charles II to escape to France when he was on the run. The good ship Surprise was used to carry Charles safely across the English Channel. Later when Charles had become King, he rewarded the man who had helped preserve his life; Tetterseel received a pension from Charles II (on his restoration) of £100 a year for 99 years. With the money from the monarch, Tetterseel bought what is now the Old Ship Hotel in King's Road. Tetterseel became a captain in the navy before leaving the service and later became High Constable of Brighton, but was noted for his persecution of non-conformists.

His tomb is thought to be the oldest recorded monument in the church gardens



P. M. S

Captain NICHOLAS TETTERSELL through whose prudence, valour and Loyalty,
CHARLES THE SECOND, KING OF ENGLAND, and after he had escaped the sword of
his mercil ess rebel s and his forces received a fatal overthrowe at Worcester
September 3rd 1651 was ffaithful ly preserved and conveyed into Ffrance.

Departed this life the 26th day of July 1674

Within this marbl e monument doth l ye
Approved faith, honor and Loyalty
In this col d cl ay he hath now tane up his station
At once preserved ye church ye Crowne and Nation
When Char l es ye greate was nothing to a breath
This val iant Soul stepped between him and death
Usurpers threats nor tyrant rebel s froune
Coul d not afright his duty to the Crowne
Which gl orious act of his for Church and State
Eight princes in one day did congratul ate
Professing al l to him in debt to bee
As al l the worl d are to his memory
Since earth coul d not reward his worth have given
He now receivest it from the King of Heaven

In the same chest one jewel l more you have, the partner of his vir tues, bed and
grave SUSSANA his wife who deceased ye 4th day of May 1672. To his pious memory
and his owne honor. NICHOLAS THEIRE only son and trust inherite of his Ffathers
vir tues hath payd his l ast duty in this monument 1676 Here al so lieth interred the
body of CAPTAIN NICHOLAS TATTERSELL his son who departed this life the fourth
of the cal ends of October 1701 in the 57 year of his age