

Portrait of Dame Emily Frances Smyth by James Sant



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This portrait of Dame Emily Smyth by James Sant (1820-1916) was donated to Bristol Museums by her daughter Esme in 1930. It is currently 'In Store.'

Who was James Sant?

James Sant was a British painter (1820-1916) who specialised in portraits particularly those of women and children.

Who was Dame Emily Smyth?

Emily was born in 1835 and was the daughter of Henry Way, her grandmother was Mary Smyth (daughter of Thomas Smyth and Jane Whitchurch). Emily married George Edwards and had 2 children, a son Greville Edwards, and a daughter Esme Edwards (later Smyth).

After her first husband died Emily married her first cousin, Greville Upton (later Smyth). Greville Upton was thought to be the father of her daughter Esme.

Emily was an acknowledged beauty and was said to have entertained the Prince of Wales (later Edward VII) at Ashton Court. She died in 1914 and the Estate passed to her daughter Esme.