

Married

Oct. 10, at Corsham, George Smith, aged 15 Years ! to Honour Sumbler, age 13 years and 9 months. [We have copied the above from a Bath paper, but if the respective ages of the parties be as represented, we can scarcely conceive that they were suffered to be married.]

Devizes and Wiltshire Gazette, Thursday 10 October 1824

OPC NOTE

Originally the age of consent in England was set at 12. However, in 1875 the Offense Against the Persons Act raised it to 13 in Great Britain and Ireland. The Criminal Law Amendment Act of 1885 raised it to 16. In 1917 a bill raising the age of consent in Great Britain and Ireland from 16 to 17 was defeated by only one vote. In Northern Ireland in 1950 the legislature of Northern Ireland passed a law called Children and Young Persons Act in 1950 that raised the age of consent from 16 to 17.

The marriage took place in the parish church at Corsham and the entry is recorded in the parish registers