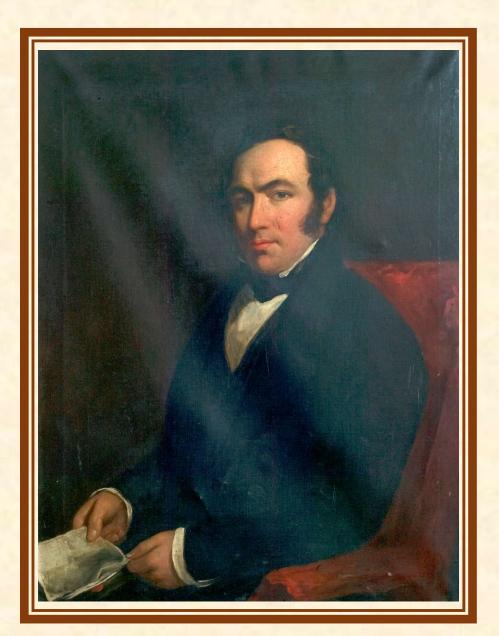
JOHN BROWN (1815-1882)



John Brown lived at Rose Hill, Chesterfield. Brown played an active role in the 'Baron de Camin' riots of 1862 in Chesterfield.

Andre Massena ('Baron de Camin') was a French man who travelled to towns and cities in England during the 1850s and 1860s delivering anti-Catholic lectures. On his visit to Chesterfield during June and July 1862, Massena was met by hostile crowds in High Street, the Market Place and many other areas of the town. Refusing to cancel his lecture, unrest erupted and the local police were unable to deal adequately with the escalating situation. The Mounted Volunteers were called to quell the riots, with John Brown acting as Captain:

'The command was given – "Disperse the mob!"
...Mounted volunteers with their bright sabres drawn, and their eyes flashing with the fierce light of battle, soon dislodged the fugitives, several of whom were marched ingloriously to the lock-up...'

John Pendleton, 'Old & New Chesterfield' (1882)

John Brown served as Mayor of Chesterfield from 1879 until his death in 1882.