

NEWSLETTER

Volume 2021 No 3

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EDITORIAL

I had lunch with a fellow member of the CTFHS the other day and as we were chatting, she said that the lock-down nearly drove her crazy and if it wasn't for researching her family history, it would have. Over lock-down she has made huge strides in her tree. I am sure that many other members are in the same boat. Being stuck at home meant more time to research and once the bug bit, we all became addicted to genealogy all over again. Now is the time to look back over what you have found about your family from March 2020 till now - September 2021 and turn that into a short article for the December Newsletter.

As I prepared this Newsletter, I realised that I often come across something that fascinates me and so my research goes off at a tangent and these tangents become articles for this Newsletter. Proof of this is the article on **John William COPSON**, the convict arrested for theft of £1's worth of clothing and linen and sentenced to seven years transportation to Australia. The victim of this theft was a Mr Robert RIPP. I was searching for a Robert RIPP buried at St Paul's Rondebosch graveyard but born in London. Although the victim was not the same Robert RIPP I was looking for, I thought it might be interesting to explore the thief, **John William COPSON**'s 'new life' in Australia. Then I became interested in the ship that took him there. But, from being sentenced until his departure from Britain there was some nine months and he spent these months in the Prison Hulks - prisons on old Navy ships. You might remember *Great Expectations* where Pip meets convict Abel Magwitch who had escaped from a Prison Hulk on the Thames. Besides Dickens's extreme imagery of poverty, prison ships and chains, I knew nothing about the hulks so I explored those too.

But all of these were **my** interests. What about **yours**? I must admit I am quite tempted to say to you, "Send me your brick walls and maybe if I break them down I will write a story about this and then you won't get only **my stuff** all the time."

Here I must acknowledge and thank David Slingsby for submitting a delightful story of researching a spoon! This is exactly the sort of story we need for these Newsletters.

All this is a long way of saying, "Please send me articles for the next Newsletter." They can be as short as you like.

Derek Pratt

SEEING DOUBLE AND SEEING A MIRROR IMAGE

Derek Pratt

For a change, I was researching some of my own family. In a distant branch an ancestor, **Eva Emily SMITH** born **PALMER**, after being widowed, married for the second time to **Alfred Thomas THORP** who was a widower. I found Eva Emily THORP's Death Notice from 1946 which, after giving the names of her two adult children, **Clifford Palmer SMITH** and **Doris Emily SMITH**, stated very firmly: 'The above are the only children and were born of the first marriage.' Now I knew that Eva was 44y when she married Alfred Thomas THORP so I suspected that this statement was correct, but I wondered why **Clifford Smith**, the oldest child who had filled in Eva's DN, had said so firmly, 'the above are the **only** children...'? I thought it best to check Alfred Thomas THORP's Death Notice as well, in case there was some family feud over step-children and the like.

Alfred Thomas THORP died in 1935 and his Death Notice listed three children - all daughters and all married. They were **Mabel**, **Constance** and **Winifred** so clearly not the children of **Eva Emily THORP** but no mention is made of any

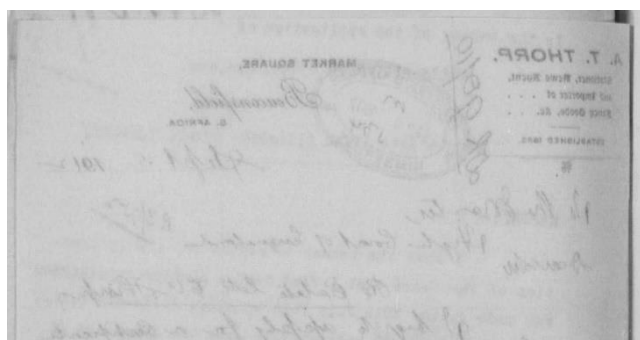
previous spouse on Alfred's Death Notice. A quick search produced **Caroline Amelia THORP** dying in 1890 and her Death Notice showed only two of the three daughters - **Mabel** and **Constance**. My immediate response was to think that **Winifred** must have been a child of Eva Emily and Alfred THORP; but then why did Eva's son from her first marriage state 'the above are the **only** children...' if Winifred was also a child of Eva? Or was she? Perhaps Alfred had another wife between the death of Caroline Amelia in 1890 and his marriage to Eva in 1912.

My earlier search had brought up what I thought initially was an error on www.familysearch.org. There appears to be a duplicate entry for Caroline Amelia THORP; one Death Notice saying she had died in 1890 and another saying she had died 1909. So, when did she die? But now my searches produced two marriages for **Alfred Thomas THORP**. The first was in 1882 to **Caroline Amelia CHERRY** in Kimberley and the second to **Caroline Amelia KELLY** in Jacobdal, Orange Free State. I must admit, my immediate response to this was a feeling that I had uncovered a case of fraudulent death. I thought perhaps Alfred and Caroline decided to have Caroline "die" but meanwhile she moved to Orange Free State, Alfred wound up the estate got the money and then moved to Jacobdal to "marry" Caroline Amelia again. I mean the surnames **CHERRY** and **KELLY** are fairly similar - so this must be the case! Surely?

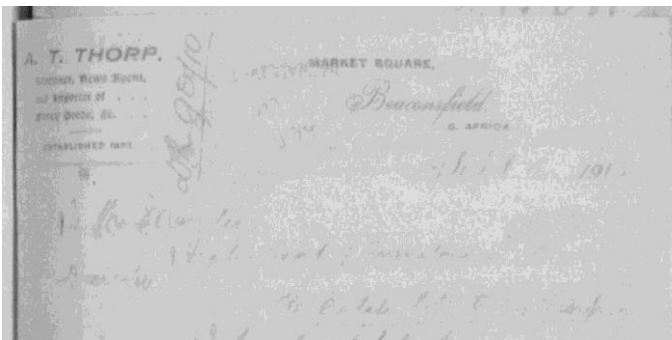
I went through the 1890 Estate File of Caroline Amelia THORP and saw that she owned with her husband two houses in Kimberley. They were married in Community of Property so on her death, husband Alfred got 50% of the estate and the remainder was placed in the Government-run **Guardian Fund** for the two minor daughters. All this took time and Alfred wrote to the Master's office in 1891, a year after his first wife's death, to say he wished to marry again and needed his share of the inheritance. But he only married Eva in 1912 so this must have been his marriage to **Caroline Amelia KELLY** in Jacobsdal in 1891. I then found the marriage certificate and could see that this Caroline Amelia KELLY was only 23 years old and her handwriting was more child-like and completely different from the signature of **Caroline Amelia CHERRY** on the 1882 marriage certificate. I concluded that the two Caroline Amelia's were in fact **two different people**. I then re-looked at the estate file of Caroline Amelia THORP for 1909 which I had thought was a mistake in www.familysearch.org index. Here **ONLY** Winifred is listed as a child. So that explains the three daughters on Alfred Thomas THORP's Death Notice in 1935.

Mirror Images

While looking at this 1909 Death Notice, I spotted that on the opposite page there was a letter typed on thin carbon-copy type paper which was see-through-able and so I could see the mirror image writing and although I could not really read it, I could definitely read 'A. T. THORP' in dark bold print. I wondered what the rest of the letter said. I asked google if it was possible to make a mirror image of a jpg image. A website offering online conversion came up and I uploaded the page in jpg, converted it and downloaded it. It was a light copy but now certainly readable. [See below] It was basically a covering letter from Alfred Thomas THORP's submission of his wife's Death Notice. That was in the file before the Death Notice, was there possibly anything following it on the next page?



(L) the original as seen in the file



(R) after manipulation of image as mirror image

The next page was someone else's Death Notice but on the opposite page was the back of another letter also on thin carbon copy-type paper. On this page I could clearly see the fairly large signature of '**Winifred Kate Thorp**'. So, I uploaded this page too and obtained another mirror image. Unfortunately, it was two pages on top of each other. The one was a letter from Winifred asking if the Master had received her previous letter asking about her inheritance, if not she was attaching another copy. The first letter covered most of the second but I could read the following:

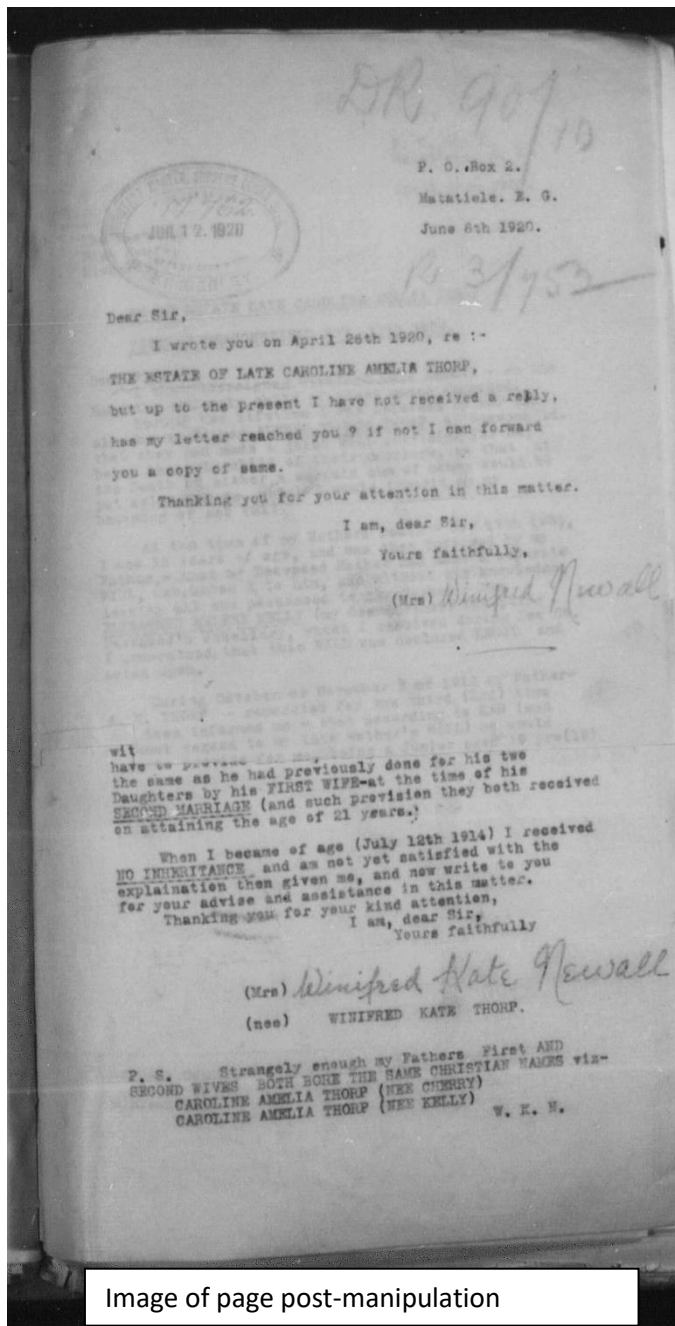


Image of page post-manipulation

P.O. Box 2
Matatiele C. E.
June 6th 1920

Dear Sir

I wrote to you on April 20th 1920 re:
THE ESTATE OF LATE CAROLINE AMELIA THORP.
but up to the present I have not received a reply.
Has my letter reached you? If not I can forward
you a copy of same.

Thanking you for your attention in this matter.
I am, dear Sir,
Yours faithfully
(Mrs) [signed] Winifred Newall

Then peeping out is the original letter but only the bottom
quarter can be read.

... the same as he had previously done for his two
Daughters by his **FIRST WIFE**- at the time of his
SECOND MARRIAGE (and such provision they both received
on attaining the age of 21 years.)

When I became of age (July 12th 1914) I received
NO INHERITANCE and am not yet satisfied with the
explanation then given me, and now write to you
for your advise and assistance in this matter.

Thanking you for your kind attention,
I am, dear Sir,
Your faithfully
(Mrs Winifred Kate Newall [signed])
(nee) Winifred Kate Thorp

**p.s. Strangely enough my Fathers First AND
SECOND WIVES BOTH BORE THE SAME CHRISTIAN NAMES viz-
CAROLINE AMELIA THORP (NEE CHERRY)
CAROLINE AMELIA THORP (NEE KELLY)**

W. K. N.

This proved that **Alfred Thomas THORP** was married not
twice but three times. Firstly, to **Caroline Amelia CHERRY**

with whom he had two daughters, then **Caroline Amelia KELLY**, with whom he had one daughter, Winifred Kate and
finally with my distant relative (by marriage), **Eva Emily PALMER** who was the widow of **William Daniel SMITH** when
she married **Alfred Thomas THORP**. There were no children from this marriage.

I think Winifred's plea for an inheritance would not have been successful because when **Caroline Amelia Thorp (#1)**
died, she and Alfred were married in community of property so on her death, their estates were combined. There was
no will in the MOK (Kimberley Master's Office) estate file but reading into the documents there, I think that Caroline
had left a third of her share of the estate to her husband and another two thirds to the two daughters. The total estate
came to over £2000 but once the expenses were deducted it left £1760 for distribution. Being in Community of
Property, half of this was Alfred Thomas's share (£882-19-2) and he also received a third of the balance £294-6-6. The
two daughters being minors had their inheritance placed in the Guardian Fund i.e. 2 x £288-8-10 = £576-17-8. This
would only become available when they turned 21 years. The Estate File also had six monthly interest pay outs to
Alfred THORP to cover the care and education expenses of the girls. It amounted to about £11 bi-annually. Just as a
ballpark figure, the £1760 in 1890 would have purchasing power of £231 000 today! So those two daughters would
have got the equivalence of about £38 000. No wonder Winifred, a few years later, was looking for her inheritance!
But when her mother died, was the estate similar?

Caroline Amelia KELLY married Alfred Thorp in 1891 in Jacobsdal in the Free State. They lived in Beaconsfield, in
Kimberley. In 1893 **Winifred Kate** was born. Although the Marriage Certificate does not say it, **Caroline Amelia (#2)**
THORP's Death Notice has "Married by antenuptial contract to Alfred Thomas THORP". At the bottom its states that

she had a will – but it was neither in the Kimberley nor the Cape Master's Estate Files. I suspect she left all to husband Alfred Thomas THORP. It also stated that she owned two houses on stand 2345 in Rectory Street, Beaconsfield. This Stand No. does not match any from the previous Caroline Amelia THORP's Estate. This means it was bought by Caroline #2 (or at least in her name) and she must have left all to husband, Alfred Thomas THORP. Reading the bit of the letter from Winifred that I could see; I get the impression that Alfred must have said to her that she would inherit from her mother when Winifred came of age.

By 1912 **Alfred Thomas THORP** had married widow **Eva Emily SMITH** born **PALMER**. Winifred would have been 19 years old by then. Three years later (1915), Winifred married David NEWALL and I suspect that 'out of sight, out of mind' meant that when Alfred and Eva THORP drew up their joint will in 1929, they left all to the surviving spouse. Besides which, when **Alfred Thomas THORP** died in 1935 his estate was worth only £485 or in 2021 term around £35 000 - much lower than the £155 000 when his first wife died. Alfred was listed as a Book keeper when he married Carol Amelia #1 and when she died, he had 'Stock-in-trade' of £250 - it does not state what stock or what trade he was involved in. When he married Caroline Amelia #2 he is listed in Afrikaans as a 'Koopman' which could be a shopkeeper or merchant. When he married wife #3 Eva Emily SMITH born PALMER in 1912, he was listed as a Stationer, so it looks like he was a newsagent and stationery store owner. He died aged 80 years and is listed as 'Retired'. Most shopkeepers in the Cape Colony seemed to spend their time going bankrupt and even if he didn't, he would have needed his money as a retirement income for himself and Eva Emily THORP.

Unfortunately, it looks like youngest daughter, **Winifred Kate NEWALL** born **THORP**, lost out! Who says youngest children are always spoiled?

A week later and after some more research....

I suddenly noticed that both Caroline Amelia CHERRY and Caroline Amelia KELLY had Northampton as their birthplace on their Death Notices. So, I went to www.findmypast.co.uk and searched the births. I battled a bit with Caroline Amelia CHERRY because her Death Notice said she was thirty-six years and eleven months when she died in 1890. This means she was born July 1854. I did finally find her born in Third Quarter 1849 – so the July was correct but she was six years older than her husband gave on her Death Notice. Alfred Thomas THORP was born in 1854, so maybe he felt embarrassed having a wife six years older than him or maybe he was just confused, mourning the death of his wife and gave his own year of birth.

I also checked the Census records. Caroline Amelia CHERRY was born in 1849 and was the daughter of William CHERRY and Sarah born WRIGHT. She appeared in three Census Records – 1851, 1861 and 1871. In 1851 she was one year old and the seventh of eight children. In 1861 she was eleven years old and the fifth of six children – presumably an older child had left home. In 1871 she was twenty-one and a shoe-fitter and the only child still living at home with parents.

Caroline Amelia KELLY was also listed as being from Northampton and her parents were given as John and Elizabeth Hannah KELLY. The name Elizabeth Hannah rang a bell so I went to the General Registration Office website <https://www.gro.gov.uk/gro/content/>. I don't know if you are aware of this site but it offers an index of births online which also contain the mother's maiden name from 1837 onward, which sites such as www.freebmd.org do not. There I found that Caroline Amelia KELLY's mother's maiden name was Wait for it!....CHERRY! So that was where I had seen the name Elizabeth Hannah – Elizabeth Hannah CHERRY who in 1851 was fifth child of William and Sarah CHERRY. In the Second Quarter of 1866 she married John KELLY in Northampton and two years later they had a daughter who was named after Elizabeth Hannah's younger sister, Caroline Amelia (b1868).

Now for some conjecture. I think that Caroline Amelia KELLY came out to South Africa, perhaps because her aunt, Caroline Amelia THORP born CHERRY was poorly and needed nursing. When her aunt died, she and widower, Alfred Thomas THORP decided to marry. This was a marriage between an uncle (through marriage) and his niece. Perhaps the 'Deceased Wife's Sister' controversy (see below) arose in their minds and so, although both from Beaconsfield, Kimberley in Griqualand West, they crossed the border into the Oranje Vrystaat (at that point independent from Great Britain) to marry at Jacobsdal Landrost Court. I do not think that the law applied in the Cape Colony at the time¹ but public opinion might have resulted in someone raising an objection during the marriage ceremony where the marriage officer asks if anyone knows any just cause or impediment why they should not be lawfully married. So, a marriage outside of British legal jurisdiction was perhaps wise.

¹ In 1898 a bill was proposed in the Houses of Lord 'COLONIAL MARRIAGES (DECEASED WIFE'S SISTER) BILL' which would make any marriage of a deceased wife's sister, legal in the colonies also legal in UK

A TABLE of KINDRED and AFFINITY.
wherein whosoever are related, are forbidden in Scripture, and our Laws, to marry together.

<i>A Man may not marry his</i>	<i>A Woman may not marry with her</i>
1 GRANDMOTHER.	1 GRANDFATHER.
2 Grandfather's Wife.	2 Grandmother's Husband.
3 Wife's Grandmother.	3 Husband's Grandfather.
4 Father's Sister.	4 Father's Brother.
5 Mother's Sister.	5 Mother's Brother.
6 Father's Brother's Wife.	6 Father's Sister's Husband.
7 Mother's Brother's Wife.	7 Mother's Sister's Husband.
8 Wife's Father's Sister.	8 Husband's Father's Brother.
9 Wife's Mother's Sister.	9 Husband's Mother's Brother.
10 Mother.	10 Father.
11 Step-mother.	11 Step-father.
12 Wife's Mother.	12 Husband's Father.
13 Daughter.	13 Son.
14 Wife's Daughter.	14 Husband's Son.
15 Son's Wife.	15 Daughter's Husband.
16 Sister.	16 Brother.
17 Wife's Sister.	17 Husband's Brother.
18 Brother's Wife.	18 Sister's Husband.
19 Son's Daughter.	19 Son's Son.
20 Daughter's Daughter.	20 Daughter's Son.
21 Son's Son's Wife.	21 Son's Daughter's Husband.
22 Daughter's Son's Wife.	22 Daughter's Daughter's Husband.
23 Wife's Son's Daughter.	23 Husband's Son's Son.
24 Wife's Daughter's Daughter.	24 Husband's Daughter's Son.
25 Brother's Daughter.	25 Brother's Son.
26 Sister's Daughter.	26 Sister's Son.
27 Brother's Son's Wife.	27 Brother's Daughter's Husband.
28 Sister's Son's Wife.	28 Sister's Daughter's Husband.
29 Wife's Brother's Daughter.	29 Husband's Brother's Son.
30 Wife's Sister's Daughter.	30 Husband's Sister's Son.

THE END.

**A TABLE OF
KINDRED AND AFFINITY**
WHEREIN WHOSOEVER ARE RELATED
ARE FORBIDDEN BY THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND
TO MARRY TOGETHER

<i>A man may not marry his:</i>	<i>A woman may not marry her:</i>
Mother	Father
Daughter	Son
Father's mother	Father's father
Mother's mother	Mother's father
Son's daughter	Son's son
Daughter's daughter	Daughter's son
Sister	Brother
Father's daughter	Father's son
Mother's daughter	Mother's son
Wife's mother	Husband's father
Wife's daughter	Husband's son
Father's wife	Mother's husband
Son's wife	Daughter's husband
Father's father's wife	Father's mother's husband
Mother's father's wife	Mother's mother's husband
Wife's father's mother	Husband's father's father
Wife's mother's mother	Husband's mother's father
Wife's son's daughter	Husband's son's son
Wife's daughter's daughter	Husband's daughter's son
Son's son's wife	Son's daughter's husband
Daughter's son's wife	Daughter's daughter's husband
Father's sister	Father's brother
Mother's sister	Mother's brother
Brother's daughter	Brother's son
Sister's daughter	Sister's son

Old Version of Table of Kindred & Affinity with 'Wife Sister'

Newer Version without Wife Sister'

Post Script: More on Deceased Wife Sister Controversy

The marriage of a widower to his deceased wife's sister was illegal in the UK. This prohibition had derived from a doctrine of canon law whereby those who were connected by marriage were regarded as being related to each other in a way which made marriage between them improper. Although initially a Church (Canon) Law the 1835 Marriage Act made it illegal.

In the Book of Common Prayer there is ***The Table of Kindred and Affinity***. It prohibited marriage between certain degrees of kindred or close family and thus outlawed what is known as incest. But Deceased Wife Sister had no consanguinity but perhaps it was society that viewed that the idea of close affinity was a similar taboo.

Widowers' desires to marry their sisters-in-law became the subject of particular agitation from the 1860s onwards and strong feelings were roused on both sides. However, it was to be nearly 50 years before the campaign for a change in the law was successful², despite the introduction of draft legislation in Parliament on many occasions. The lengthy nature of the campaign was referred to in the Gilbert and Sullivan opera *Iolanthe* (1882), in which the Queen of the Fairies sings "He shall prick that annual blister, marriage with deceased wife's sister".

² By the Deceased Wife's sister's Marriage Act of 1907

INHERITANCE and FAMILY HISTORY

by David Slingsby



Having our house painted necessitated the removal of all pictures, furniture and the emptying of all cupboards. Once the painting had been completed, all had to be returned. Now I don't know how families operate but certainly in our home there are some items I don't concern myself with, one of these, the family silver display cupboard. My wife, Annette, finds cleaning and maintaining these items a bit of a chore - so as I attended to "the man's work" such as re-hanging pictures, Annette placed all the decorative pieces and declared some items which were excessive for our needs needed to be disposed of, thus a box of these objects was deposited in the spare room.

I thought I had better check, so armed with a bottle of 'Silvo' and the appropriate cloth, picked up a few items to check the hall marks etc. then check online the monetary value. I started with a few spoons one of which attracted my initial attention. After cleaning I found these dates. The top date is 1862 - the bottom one visible '4 September 1887', 25 years gap suggesting a possible 'Silver Wedding' celebrating 25 years of marriage - was this the case? I cannot make out the initials.

I immediately assumed this was in all possibility from my mother's family, as I recognised the dates would not match with my Slingsby forebears. After scrolling through my mother's East and Harsant relatives the dates did not match. My wife was a Versfeld. Knowing this was not part of that family, what about

Granny on Annette's mother's side?

Not granny but what about great granny? Annette shares great-grand parents with Derek Stuart Findlay. I dived into Derek's family pamphlet and there was Stephen Trill married to Emily Findlay - no date of marriage. A quick check of Family Search revealed the marriage document - bingo it fits.

No.	When married	Names and Surnames	Ages	Condition	Rank or Profession	Residence at the Time of Marriage	After Banns or License	Consent, by whom given, or Judge's Order
140	Sept 4 1882	Stephen Trill Emily Curtham Findlay	full Bachelor and Spinster			Cape Town	Banned	

Married in Trinity Church at Cape Town aforesaid after Banned by me.

This Marriage was solemnized between us... *I did* *Emily Curtham Findlay*

In the presence of { *Isabel Hambro* *Isabella Findlay* *Mrs. A. Hambro* *J. Hambro* }
Robert G. Lamb *Col. Chaplain*

Examined, with the Original Register, by me, and found to be correct.



It is known as a Sugar shaker or shifter spoon about 180 millimetres long. So, as we all know sugar is a no-no as far as the modern diet is concerned, I suppose it's only use now is as a talking point.

There is a mark on the back. From - "A Dictionary of Marks" by Margaret Donald-Taylor, "Four marks are usually found stamped on silver, namely the hall or town, assay office mark, the makers mark, the annual mark or date letter." I was thus able to determine the maker, date etc.



The maker's 'mark' was attributed to a Thomas Bamford, a specialist castor maker with workshops in Gutter Lane, London. He was apprenticed to the castor maker Charles Adams and his apprentice, Samuel Wood also specialised in the production of castors.

According to the Hall Mark this spoon was made 1781/2. The Marks have to a large extent become a bit worn out by cleaning, but with the aid of a mini-microscope I was able to read them. We have no idea as to why the dates are so far apart, maybe the spoon was an import of Emily's father George Findlay, or a family possession that was presented as a gift, or maybe an 'antique' purchased for the special occasion.

1759-1791				
TM	LP	LHC	DL	
				1759/60
				1760/68
				1769/70
				1779/80
				1780/81
				1781/82
				1782/83

An introduction to the couple celebrating the 'silver wedding anniversary'



STEPHEN TRILL – Adapted from an article by Derek Stuart – Findlay

Annette Slingsby (née Versfeld) and Derek Stuart-Findlay share mutual Great-Grandparents Stephen and Emily Trill (née Findlay)

Stephen Trill was Annette's Great Grandfather. His father, also Stephen, was a coal merchant based in Greenwich Kent, England. Young Stephen was born there in 1830. His father died when he was 19. After qualifying as an engineer Stephen sailed to South Africa with his younger brother George. By 1859 he had been appointed assistant Government Surveyor based in King William's Town. Captain John's grand-daughter Margaret wrote the following to her brother John in December that year; "Did I tell you in my last that it is likely to be a case between Emily and Mr. Stephen Trill. I believe his prospects are good. He is very intelligent, very agreeable indeed, quite a gentleman, about one and a half years older than George Trill. He proposed to Emily when he was in Town. I think he is dotingly fond of Emily; she appears very partial to him. He is not very good looking but that does not signify so long as he is good".

Stephen and Emily were married on the 4th September 1862 in the Trinity Church Cape Town (see certificate). The following year (1863) he had been appointed Colonial Engineer for British Kaffraria 'by her majesty's command (Queen Victoria)'. He undertook the challenge of building numerous buildings, bridges and the breakwater at East London harbour.

On Captain George's Death (George James Findlay) in 1870, the shares in George Findlay & Co were left to Emily and Stephen. The Trills returned to Cape Town, where Stephen took up the position of Managing Director of George Findlay & Co. They purchased a large house, Bellevliet, in Trill Road (named after Stephen), Observatory. The core of Bellevliet was a Cape Dutch farmhouse which had been extensively re-modelled in the 1830's. The house looked out over what is now Hartleyvale soccer stadium, Observatory. Today it is occupied as a YMCA house. (As an aside as Director of Slingsby & de Jager (Pty) Ltd we did major alterations and additions during the 1980's.)

Stephen and Emily had nine children. Annette's maternal Grandmother Ida, was born in 1869, and married Alfred Precious (Ida lived to be 100)

Stephen Trill bought Villa Capri in St James from his bother-in-law George James Findlay in 1889. The property stretched from the present Main Road on each side of Capri Road to well above Boyes Drive. George Findlay & Co thrived with Stephen at the helm and in 1890 the company purchased premises in Boom (now Commercial) street, Cape Town to set up a wholesale operation. He became a very wealthy man and retired from business in 1897.

In 1898, the Trills purchased Glenara, a home in Rondebosch upon his retirement. This house had been built by the Vincent family in 1882, standing of huge acreage which stretched from Main Road to the Woolsack (the home Cecil Rhodes had built for Rudyard Kipling). There were orchards and vineyards behind the house with paddocks for cows and horses. Glenara still stands today on the hillside behind the Baxter theatre, now part of U.C.T housing the Vice-Chancellor.

JOHN WILLIAM COPSON (1806-1889)

Derek Pratt

I was searching for Robert RIPP – one of those buried in the St Paul's Graveyard. In my search in the UK records I came across a reference to a Robert RIPP (whom I don't think was the one I was looking for) being the victim of a crime. The Old Bailey website <https://www.oldbaileyonline.org/> gave the following report of the case:

Proceedings of the Old Bailey, 27th May 1830.

1115 JOHN WILLIAM COPSON was indicted for stealing, on the 1st May, 1 sheet, value 5s; 4 shirts, value 6s; 1 gown, value 5s; 1 petticoat, value 6d; 1 shift, value 4d; 1 yard of muslin, value 6d; 1 shawl, value 6d; 2 pinafores, value 1s, and 1 veil, value 2s, the goods of Robert Ripp.

ELIZABETH RIPP: I am the wife of Robert Ripp, and live in Chester-place, Bethnal-green. The prisoner's uncle lodged with me fourteen years - he used to come and see him; he was very good to him - he used to sleep with his uncle at night, and go out in the morning as a journey man shoemaker; he was there on Saturday night, the 1st of May - I went upstairs to find a little bedgown for my child, and this property was in my bed-room - I asked the prisoner's uncle to lend me a light, and the prisoner came and brought it; he saw me take these clean articles, and put them in a chair - it was then rather late: I came down after I had put the child to bed - he came and asked if I had heard of the new Act that was about to pass, that no one was to be hung for housebreaking unless they committed murder; I said, "I hope, John, you will never do it;" soon after I heard him go into the yard - he went up again; soon after I heard him run down stairs very fast, and went through the passage - I said, "Who is that?" he said, "It is I;" I knew his voice, and my daughter said, "That is John, run down, you had better go and see if all is right;" I went up, and saw my drawers shut - I did not look further; I did not miss those things till Sunday morning, when I had not a clean thing to put on; the prisoner did not return that night - he was taken the week afterwards.

ROBERT CULLEY. I am an officer. I took the prisoner on the 8th May, in Windmill Street, from information I received from a person named Hawkins: he said he knew nothing about it - I took him to Marlborough-street - he said in going along, "It is a d---d good job you took me tonight, you would not have had me to-morrow; I was going in the country on a tramp;" the magistrate sent him to Worship-street, and in going along I asked him who the person was who had been robbed - he said, "Ripp, No.2 Chester-place, Bethnal-green;" I did not know who it was.

Prisoner's Defence. I know nothing about the things - I went home that night, and went into the passage without anyone letting me in; the door was sometimes bolted but not always.

ELIZABETH RIPP. I am the daughter of the prosecutor. I let the prisoner in that Saturday night - he did not come back to sleep, nor come any more till he was taken.

GUILTY. Aged 22 - Transported for Seven Years.³

I thought it might be interesting to follow-up on this twenty-two-year-old John William COPSON as he was 'transported' and see if he survived, see if he returned UK, and see if his sentence reformed his 'thieving ways'.

I found that he was transported to Australia in 1831 on board the *Georgiana*⁴ which arrived in New South Wales 27 July 1831. The list of Male Convicts transported on the *Georgiana* had the following information on John William COPSON: He was 25years old, he was able to read but not write, he was protestant and single. He came from Nuneaton and had been a shoemaker for seven years. His crime was that of stealing linen and he had been in the Middlesex Gaol from 27 May 1830. His sentence was (as stated above) for seven years and he had no previous convictions. He was five feet tall, his skin pale and pock marked with light brown hair, grey eyes and no distinctive marks, scars or tattoos.

There are many references to John William COPSON's arrival in Australia in 1831 on www.ancestry.com. In 1835 he was granted a *Ticket of Leave*. This is a permit for a prisoner who had behaved well to travel with limited freedom throughout the Colony of New South Wales. I also found two applications for marriage.

³ Out of interest – he stole £1-0-10d worth of linen. It doesn't seem much. If we extrapolate this to 2021 buying power, it is £117 worth

⁴ More about the *Georgiana* in another article below.

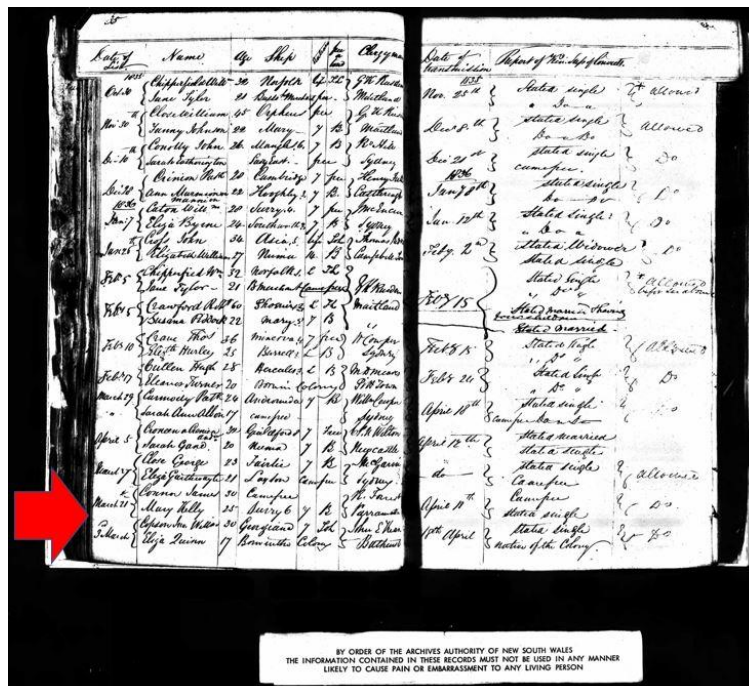
New South Wales Registers of Convicts' Applications To Marry 1825-1851

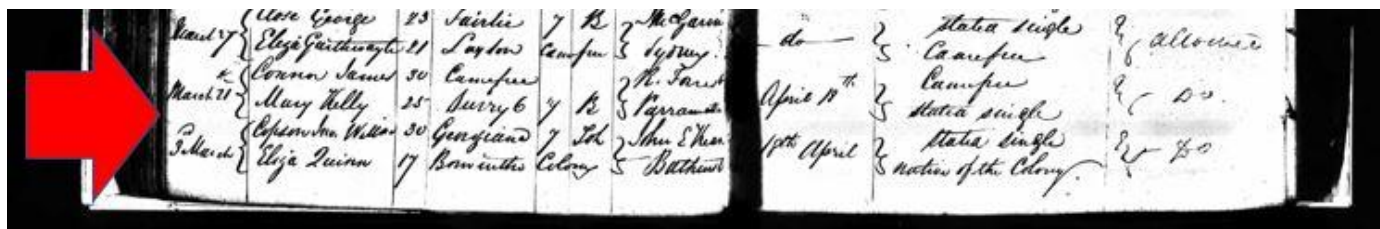
First name(s) John Wm
Last name Copson
Age 30
Birth year 1806
Year 1836
Spouse's first name(s) Eliza
Spouse's last name Quinn
Spouse's age 17
Spouse's birth year 1819
Year permission granted 1836
State New South Wales
Country Australia
Record set New South Wales Registers Of Convicts' Applications To Marry 1825-1851

However, I also found this record

New South Wales Registers Of Convicts' Applications To Marry 1825-1851

First name(s) John Wm
Last name Copson
Age 31
Birth year 1806
Year 1837
Spouse's first name(s) Fanny
Spouse's last name Martons Or Macready
Spouse's age 30
Spouse's birth year 1807
Refused? Yes
Year permission refused 1837
State New South Wales
Country Australia
Record set New South Wales Registers Of Convicts' Applications To Marry 1825-1851





Date	Name	Age	Ship	Sentence	Free or bond	Clergyman	Date of Transmission	Report of kinship of convicts	Permitted
3 Mar	Copson Jhn William	30	Georgiana	7	Free	John E Kean	1 April	States single	Allowed
	Eliza Quinn	17	Born in the colony	-				Native of the Colony	

So did he marry Eliza QUINN or Fanny MARTONS or MACREADY? To make matters more complicated there is a family tree online which has his wife as Catherine EVANSTON. Furthermore, when he was on trial in 1830 his age is given as 22y, so born 1808 but a year later his age is 25y so born 1806. I suspect that both of these marriages did not take place but merely applied for and, in fact, he married Catherine EVANSON on 10 Aug 1839. The family tree online that gave this marriage date had no source for it. Three children had been born before this.

CHILDREN OF JOHN WILLIAM COPSON AND CATHERINE born EVANSON

1. Catherine 1837-1911
2. Charles William 1838-1842
3. George Henry 1839-1840

Born after his marriage to Catherine EVANSON

4. Susannah 1842-1914
5. Sarah 1844-1883
6. Jane 1846-1929
7. Mary 1847-1929
8. Edward John 1849-1911
9. John William 1851-1928

I came across this interesting entry for 1840 which appeared in the New South Wales Government Gazette **Indexes 1832-1863**.

First name(s) John William
 Last name Copson
 Year 1840
 Date 15 Dec 1840
 Entry Convict Indulgences
 Place Sydney
 State New South Wales
 Country Australia
 Record set New South Wales Government Gazette Indexes 1832-1863

As a good Church Historian, I knew all about Martin Luther and his objection to the Roman Catholic Church selling Indulgences but what were these 'Convict Indulgences'? A quick google search revealed that normally 'convict indulgences' were given out for good behaviour, one had to be blemish free to apply to return to England or for the English Government to bring one's wife and family out to Australia free after sentencing had expired. So presumably in 1840 John William COPSON had completed his sentence and he could return to the UK but by that time he had married.

In May 1840 he received his Certificate of Freedom – he had served his term and some two more years

John William Copson in the New South Wales, Australia, Certificates of Freedom, 1810-1814, 1827-1867

Name: John William Copson

Age: 34
 Birth Year: 1806
 Native Place: Nuneaton
 Arrival year: 1831
 Vessel: Georgiana
 Certificate Date: 22 May 1840

The online family tree described John as follows: "Journeyman Shoemaker as young man, later after granted his freedom was employed as a Shepherd, then returned to original craft as a Shoemaker. Purchased land later in life and followed career in Farming."



Above is a map of the Lachlan County just below the town of Cowra. The Lachlan River is on the right and Back Creek now called Cowper Creek is the wiggly line on left-side. John COPSON owned two portions of land on either side of Back Creek marked with blue arrows. A more detailed is below.



His wife of his nine children, Catherine EVANSON was born in 1816. Her life is described in the online family tree: "Came to Australia aged 19 years - on board the *James Pattison*, voyage from Ireland left 28 April 1835, carrying 324 female emigrants. Mrs Grant of Mount York near Hartley selected Catherine and engaged her as a general servant. It was at Lowther House, in Hartley that John William COPSON and Catherine EVANSON married."

John William COPSON died on 15 Apr 1889. He was ninety years old and was buried in Cowra, NSW. His residence was described as Back Creek, Cowra. Catherine COPSON born EVANSON died in Boorowa, NSW on 4 Dec 1890.

 **DEATH REGISTERED IN NEW SOUTH WALES, AUSTRALIA.**

CERTIFIED COPY FURNISHED UNDER PART V OF THE
REGISTRATION OF BIRTHS, DEATHS AND MARRIAGES ACT, 1973.

No.	Date and place of death	Name and occupation	Sex and age	Cause of death Duration of last illness; medical attendant; when he last saw deceased	Name and occupation of father Home and maiden surname of mother	Informant	Particulars of registration	When and where buried; name of undertaker	Name and religion of Minister and names of witnesses of burial	Where born and how long in the Australian Colonies or States	Place of marriage, age, and to whom	Children of marriage
4	4 December 1890	Catherine Copson	Female 74 years	(1) Old age (2) 2 months (3) (4)	(1) John William Copson (2) John William Copson (3) John William Copson (4) John William Copson	Thomas Grant	William Grant	5 December 1891	Rev J. Grant	County Cork Ireland	(1) Richard 50 years (2) Sarah 47 years (3) John 42 years (4) John 37 years	
	Boorowa Creek				Back Creek							

I, JOHN BRETTLE HOLLIDAY, HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THE ABOVE IS A TRUE COPY OF PARTICULARS RECORDED IN A REGISTER KEPT BY ME.

ISSUED AT SYDNEY. 30TH MAY, 1980.

J. B. Holliday
PRINCIPAL REGISTRAR.

Catherine COPSON born EVANSON's Death Certificate.

From evidence online at *ancestry*, I would say that John William COPSON had reformed and became a pillar of the Cowra community.

FROM SENTENCE TO SYDNEY: John William Copson's Journey to Australia

Introduction

I am sure that many of you who are descendants of 19th Century settlers here in the Cape will find your ancestors came to the Cape in a very small ship in modern terms, usually a Barque⁵. For many, all you are interested in is their date of departure from the UK and the date of arrival in the Cape (whether Cape Town or Port Elizabeth) but what was it like for them to travel here?

In the preceding article in this Newsletter, I wrote a bit about **John William COPSON**, his trial in the Old Bailey and then his life in New South Wales. I wondered what his sea journey round the Cape to Australia was like? Was it simply 'a cruise' once they were at sea? Were the prisoners allowed to wander around the deck at will? I decided to follow up on John William COPSON, a shoemaker from Nuneaton who ended up stealing linen in Bethnal Green in London and being sentenced to transportation to Australia for seven years (see the article elsewhere in this Newsletter). What was his time from sentencing until he reached Australia really like?

Timeline

Before we look at his journey, before he even boarded the ship he was going to travel to Australia on, we need to see where and what he was doing. So here is a timeline – with a few digressions along the way

⁵ What is a barque? See the short additional item in this Newsletter on *Barques and Brigs*

1 May 1830: John COPSON stole linen from Robert RIPP of Chester Place, Bethnal Green, London

8 May 1830: Arrested by Robert CULLEY

22 May 1830: Appears in the Newgate Calendar of Prisoners under "Transportation for Seven Years" although the Old Bailey Trial records his trial as being on 27 May. Presumably the register was a dynamic document, being added to as events happened

27 May 1830: Appear before Judge Serjeant Arabin⁶

28 May 1830: Sentenced to 7 years transportation to Australia.

14 Jun 1830: According to the Newgate Prison Calendar John William COPSON was sent to the 'Hulks'. This occurred on 14 Jun 1830

Let me stop my timeline at this point and tell you something more about the **Hulks**. The National Library of Australia (<https://www.nla.gov.au/research-guides/convicts/convict-hulks>) tells me that after sentencing, some convicts spent time on a prison hulk awaiting transportation. Prison hulks were decommissioned Royal Navy ships used for housing prisoners. Hulks were moored in the Thames, Plymouth Harbour and other ports including Portsmouth. After a bit of a search, I found that John COPSON was sent to the prisoner hulk, **HMS Hardy** in Portsmouth Harbour. The Register for HMS Hardy⁷ states in its final column 'How dealt with', that he was sent to 'NSW 24 March 1831'



Louis Garneray (1783-1857) Prison Hulks in Portsmouth Harbour – National Maritime Museum, Greenwich

COPSON was aboard the hulk from 14 Jun 1830 till 24 Mar 1831, nine months and ten days onboard the prison hulk. Prisoners kept in the hulks were set to work as hard labourers in the dockyard. The rations provided were meagre, not providing the convicts with the energy or nutrition required to perform the arduous work. Convicts frequently went hungry and often became malnourished. After a short time, men became demoralized, weak and susceptible to disease. The poor sanitation and cramped conditions meant that infection could spread particularly quickly. Diseases such as cholera, dysentery and typhus were rife. The convict mortality rate was exceptionally high. Discipline was severe. Convicts were frequently locked in irons, in part to prevent the possibility of swimming for their freedom. At night, they were locked in below deck and the prisoners were simply left to their own devices among the rows of hammocks. Transgressions were punished with flogging, extra irons and, for the worst offenders, confinement in the "black hole".

Criticisms of conditions in the hulks, in terms of diet, medical care and mistreatment by officials, continued throughout their existence. Moreover, with growing use of reformatory regimes in land-based prisons, the hulks were increasingly seen as things of the past. In the newer land-based prisons, prisoners were able to freely associate among themselves, visitors were allowed and there was no religious and moral instruction. With the opening of Pentonville Prison and increased use of Millbank Prison from 1843, fewer convicts were sentenced to the hulks, which were increasingly only used for old and infirm prisoners and those in poor health. After 1852, only two hulks survived, and the Hulks Act was finally allowed to expire in 1857. But many prisoners were held in hulks in Bermuda until 1863 and in Gibraltar until 1875.

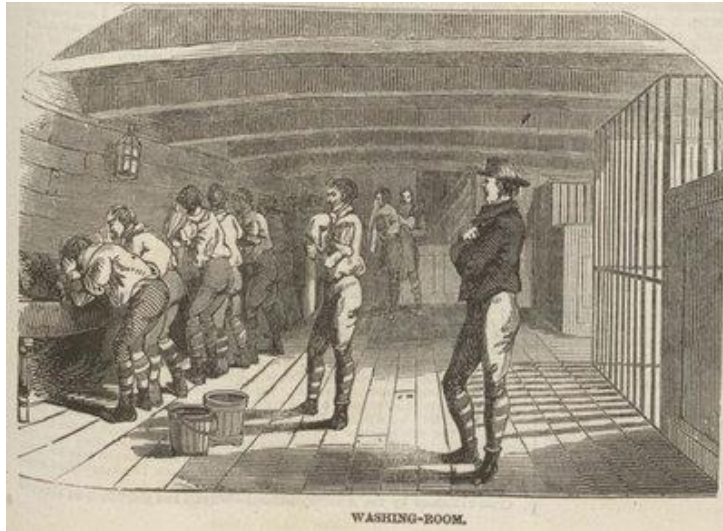
In 2017 Carrie Crockett from Leicester University wrote a blog on 'A Day in the Life: Convicts on board Prison Hulks' <https://staffblogs.le.ac.uk/carchipelago/2017/10/10/a-day-in-the-life-convicts-on-board-prison-hulks/>

⁶ Real name William St. Julien Arabin judge in the Old Baily in the 1820s and 1830, who has an article on his own below. Also see https://www.abajournal.com/magazine/article/incoherence_of_serjeant_arabin/P1

⁷ On www.ancestry.com

Morning

Up at five in the morning, convicts rolled up and stored their hammocks. The wards were then unlocked and the men washed themselves in water troughs and dressed. Uniforms were important



as they distinguished convicts from common labourers in the dockyards. Breakfast consisted of 12 ounces of bread and one pint of cocoa. Eating was a silent affair: in 1862, Henry Mayhew visited the Defence hulk. He remarked, "The men were all ranged at their tables with a tin can full of cocoa before them, and a piece of dry bread beside them, the messmen having just poured out the cocoa from the huge tin vessel in which he received it from the cooks; and the men then proceed to eat their breakfast in silence, the munching of the dry

bread by the hundreds of jaws being the only sound heard". After breakfast, the men were employed in a thorough cleaning of all decks of the ship until 7.30am. With the ship in good order, men were mustered out of the hulks in gangs and rowed out to work in the dockyards. They were received on shore by officers, quartermasters and guards. Old and infirm convicts stayed behind to cook, clean and repair worn out shoes and clothes. Across the water in the dockyards, the work of healthy men varied. Generally, convicts were put to work unloading ballast and timber from ships. They moved cables, dredged channels and shifted rubble. All men were required to wear a heavy chain on one or both ankles at all time. If they misbehaved, the weight of their leg irons would be increased.

Afternoon

At lunchtime, all convicts returned to the hulks to eat. After one hour they were ferried back to the yards to continue their work. The process of loading, unloading, and marching convicts to work twice a day generated criticism. An 1831 Select Committee report pointed out that so much time was lost in the process that convicts actually worked two hours less than free labourers every day. Unlike their counterparts in land prisons, convicts moored on hulks and stationed in the dockyards were able to converse with free labourers. Efforts were made to separate convicts from fellow workers but interaction was near impossible to avoid due to the nature of labour. Without communication, work could not be carried out effectively, and many men suffered terrible injuries when safety was compromised. The falling of stone and timber resulted in broken arms, legs and amputations. Death was not uncommon, and was often covered up by officials.

Evening

Work finished at 5.30pm. Convicts were rowed back to the hulks and were permitted to wash before supper was served. The average dinner allowance of each convict on the *Defence* hulk at Woolwich in the 1860s was listed as "6 ounces of meat, 1 pound of potatoes, 9 ounces of bread". Convicts regularly complained of bad provisions; contractors were often corrupt, and general mismanagement meant that complaints could go unheeded for many months. After dinner, convicts were expected to participate in evening prayers and schoolwork. Men could leave the hulks with more skills than they had arrived with. In 1817, William Tate, the Chaplain on board the *Captivity* and *Laurel* hulks at Portsmouth, wrote to superintendent of the hulks, John Henry Capper, that the schools in both his hulks were flourishing. Tate declared that many prisoners under his care were now writing "a good hand, who were unable to read when they first gave their attendance". The drive for education came from the belief that it could prevent reoffending, but learning to read and write after a day of back-breaking labour in the dockyards was hardly relished. By eight o'clock, the weary men were mustered one last time before bed. Lamps were extinguished and hatches locked at nine. Until the later years of the convict hulk establishment, ships were not divided into cells. Prisoners could therefore roam the deck freely at night, engaging in conversations, sexual relations and arguments, as well as buying and selling illicit goods such as alcohol and tobacco.

John William COPSON was on board *HMS Hardy* in Portsmouth Harbour. She was a 12- (some references say 14-) gun Brig⁸ She was built in 1804 and used as a storeship from 1818 and a hospital ship from 1821, before becoming a prison-hulk (1824) and finally sold in 1835. He would have worked in the Portsmouth Dockyard as he waited to be transported to Australia.

Back to the timeline

24 Mar 1831: Discharged from *HMS Hardy* and sent to the Barque *Georgiana*. Wikipedia tells me that the *Georgiana* was a merchant ship built in Quebec, Canada in 1826. She made three voyages transporting convicts from England to Australia. *Georgiana* was last listed in Lloyd's Register in 1841. In *Lloyd's Register of Shipping* her Master is given as J. Thompson, and her owner was Thompson (is this the captain himself, I wonder). **John William Copson's** name appears in the list of convicts onboard the *Georgiana* on her second convict voyage. She was under the command of John Thompson, and the surgeon was John Tarn.

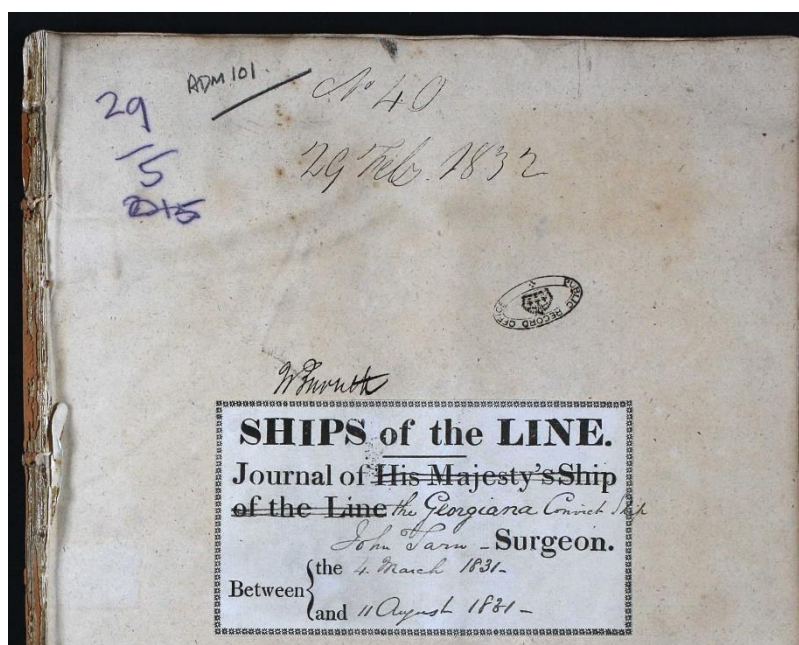
1 April 1831: *Georgiana* departed England

The *Georgiana* had 182 Convicts on board but two died on voyage. The voyage took 117 days. Besides prisoners she was also carrying a military guard, needed in case of trouble with the prisoners. They were a detachment of the 11th Dragoons and 16th Regiment, consisting of 3 officers and 29 men, 4 women and 1 child, who were embarked at Deptford on 10 March 1831. Surgeon John Tarn considered them chiefly young healthy recruits.

Convicts Embarked on the 24 March 1831, 182 convicts from the *Leviathan* and *York* hulks were received on to the *Georgiana* at Portsmouth, having first been examined as to their state of health and capability of performing the voyage to New South Wales. According to the surgeon, the prisoners were generally young men and lads and appeared in a tolerable state of health although not in full vigour in consequence of confinement, scanty diet and other causes.⁹ Cabin Passengers included Captain Clements of 16th regiment; Lieutenant Minter, 45th regiment; Lieutenant Reynolds 11th Light Dragoons; and Assistant-Surgeon Newton.

Surgeon John Tarn

John Tarn kept a Medical Journal from 4 March to 11 August 1831. It states that during the detention of the ship at Spithead in the early part of the voyage a good deal of cold damp and changeable weather was experienced ...



Surgeon John Tarn's Medical Journal

⁸ A Brig is a two-masted sailing ship with square rigging on both masts. Brigs were used for both naval and mercantile purposes. See other article *Barques and Brigs*

⁹ The Australia site that I got this information from does not mention the *Hardy* hulk. John William COPSON's entry clearly stated that he departed 24 Mar 1831, the date the prisoners were boarded so perhaps he first went to join the others on either the *Leviathan* or *York* and then boarded the *Georgiana* as a single group.

...occasioning a few catarrhs and pneumonia attacks of moderate severity, and easily manageable. On approaching the warmer latitudes, a corresponding increase took place in the temperature of the atmosphere and many of the prisoners complained of lassitude, want of appetite and general debility. During the latter part of the voyage the weather was cool and changeable, often boisterous in consequence of which the prison was at times exceedingly damp for leakage. Catarrhs inflammatory throats and rheumatic attacks were the diseases which then made their appearance but they were few and of little importance. There were two deaths on the voyage - Charles Perkins who died on 9th May 1831 and Dennis McCarthy who died on the 5th June 1831.

The Surgeon John TARN Medical Journal makes some interesting reading, especially if you have worked in the medical field. It is available on www.ancestry.com It is basically a medical treatment book with columns headed: *Nature of Disease; Case No. ; Man's name, qualities, when and where etc.; Symptoms, history, treatment progress etc.* This diary is 38 pages long and written in typical 'doctor's handwriting'. Two prisoners died on the journey to Sydney. Here is a condensed version of one, Charles Perkins who died on 9 May 1831.

Nature of Disease: Synochus¹⁰

Case No.: # 12

Name Etc.: Charles Perkins 26y Convict.

Where, When etc.: 1 May 1831 at Sea

Symptoms & Treatment: Complained last night of pain and fullness at the epigastrium - his pulse was rather quickened - skin moist, tongue furred. Is subject to cough and mucus expectoration. Took the following draught Rx...(followed by long list of Pulv's [powders] and Mist [mixed liquid])

2 May. This morning has headache though is still uneasiness and fullness at the epigastrium - no pain on (?)pussine Bowels well evacuated - Stomach irritable - frequent pulse, moist cool skin, tongue furred - constant thirst -

As the days passed these symptoms seemed to worsen including Perkins become delirious and listless. Finally on 9 May...

9 May. Is sinking gradually. lies quite insensible - pulse extremely rapid and small and often muttering - respiration quick and ???oppressed - skin cool & clammy. Tongue lips and teeth black and dry. Mouth and eyes half open - bowels not open since evening - makes no attempt to swallow - constant convulsion motions of extremities. Blisters were applied to the extremities last night - the same treatment was continued but he sunk gradually & expired at 4pm.

Nature of Disease.	N ^o . of Case.	Men's Names, Ages, Qualities, Time when and where taken ill, and how disposed of.	The History, Symptoms, Treatment, and Daily Progress of the Disease or Hurt.
Synochus	12	Chas. Perkins Continued =	9 May - Sinking gradually. Lies quite insensible - pulse extremely rapid & small - & often muttering - respiration quick & oppressed - skin cool & clammy - Tongue lips & teeth black & dry - Mouth & eyes half open - bowels not open since evening - makes no attempt to swallow - constant convulsion motions of the extremities - Blisters were applied to the extremities last night - The same treatment was continued, but he sunk gradually & expired at 4 P.M.
		9 May 1831 Died =	

¹⁰ An archaic medical word for continous fever

Among the thirty-eight pages I could find no entries for John William COPSON so presumably he had a good and healthy voyage.

The Australian Website on convict ship voyages quotes the Surgeon saying that 'the general healthy state of the ship during the voyage may be attributed mainly to the regulation invariably adhered to in fine weather viz, that of having the whole of the convicts on deck during the day. By this means, the prisons became thoroughly ventilated and dried and all accumulation of effluvia was effectually prevented. Great attention was also paid to cleanliness both in the prison and habits of the convicts and dryness was promoted by the frequent use of the stoves provided for that purpose.' John Tarn.

The *Georgiana* arrived in Sydney on 27 July 1831. The prisoners of the *Georgiana* were landed on Monday 8th August 1831. The *Sydney Gazette* reported that the men generally appeared robust, able men, and a considerable portion of them were distributed to various applicants in the town.

The *Georgiana* sailed on to Mauritius in October 1831.

FAMILY HISTORY: DNA TESTING part 1



BARQUES AND BRIGS: WHAT'S THE DIFFERENCE

Derek Pratt tries to explain what he doesn't fully understand.

If you had any of your ancestors coming to SA during the time of sail, I can bet my bottom dollar that they came on a BARQUE and if they were merchants sailing up and down the Cape coast for trade, they would most probably have used a BRIG.

So, what's the difference? Looking at pictures on Google of them both, seem to produce ships that look extraordinarily alike with maybe the BRIG being smaller. The answer all lies in the rigging - that is the sails, what they looked like and where they lie (square on or from front of boat to back – fore-and-aft).

The site **wikidiff.com** - yes there is a website which lets you type in two things to see what the difference is between them - tells me "As nouns the difference between barque and brig is that barque is a sailing vessel of three or more masts, with all masts but the stern-most square-rigged, the stern-most being fore-and-aft-rigged while brig is a two-masted vessel, square-rigged on both foremast and mainmast and with a gaff-rigged spar on the mainmast. Well! I'm sure you followed that and now you know!

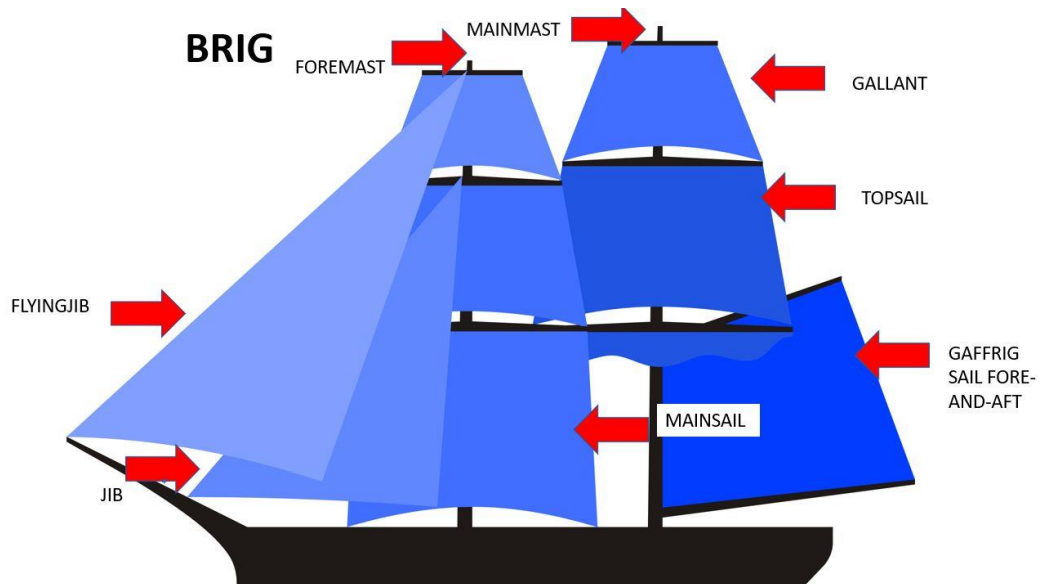
BRIGS

Wikipedia says:

A brig was a sailing vessel with two square-rigged masts, one fore, one main; although some large brigs had three masts. During the Age of Sail, brigs were seen as fast and manoeuvrable and were used as both naval warships and merchant vessels. Their use dated back to before the 1600s, but were especially popular in the 18th century.

Rigging

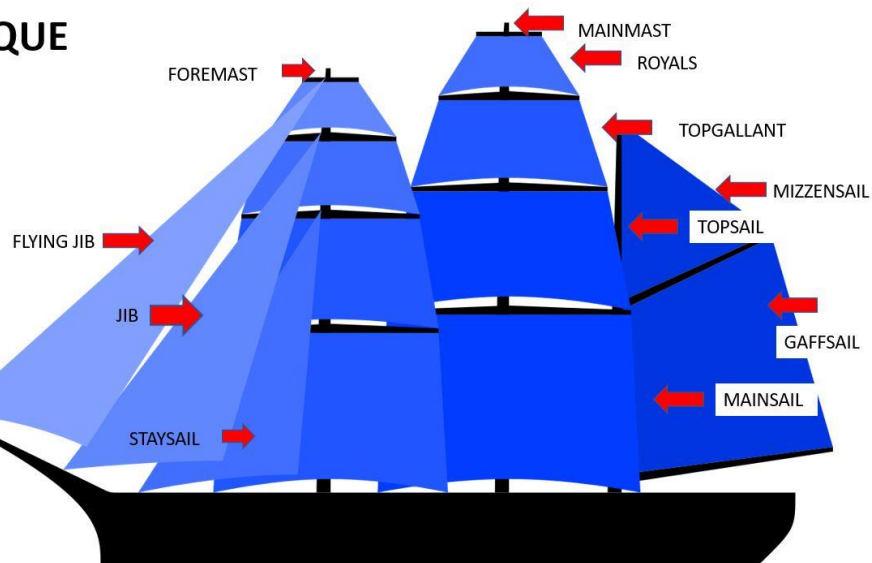
Two masted brigs were generally square rigged, carrying jib sails hanging from the bowsprit, a square mainsail, topsail, and topgallant, also carrying optional royals. The mainsail has one of two sail plans; either a gaff-rigged mainsail, topsail, and topgallant (like the illustration below), or a square-rigged mainsail, gaff rigged spanker sail, topsail, and topgallant. Optional staysails can be put between the two masts.



BARQUE

A barque, barc, or bark is a type of sailing vessel with three or more masts having the fore- and mainmasts rigged square and only the mizzen (the aftmost mast) rigged fore and aft. Sometimes, the mizzen is only partly fore-and-aft rigged, bearing a square-rigged sail above.

BARQUE



FAMILY HISTORY: DNA TESTING part 2



Both the cartoon strips came from

<https://www.cartoonistgroup.com/cartoon/Pickles/2016-10-03/148868>

William St Julien Arabin

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopaedia and other sources including https://www.abajournal.com/magazine/article/incoherence_of_serjeant_arabin and Sir Robert Megarry, (31 December 1969). *Arabinesque at Law*. Wildy & Sons. ISBN 978-0854900107.

William St Julien Arabin (1773 – 15 December 1841) was a British lawyer and judge who served as the Judge-Advocate-General of the Army for a three-and-a-half-month period (6 November 1838 – 21 February 1839).

Arabin was born abroad, the only surviving son of General William John Arabin of Ireland, who left him significant estates in Essex and Middlesex. He was descended from one of the oldest families in Provence. His Huguenot ancestor Bartholomew d'Arabin fled to Holland after the revocation of the edict of Nantes in 1685, and came over to England with King William III in 1688. Arabin attended St Paul's School, London and Corpus Christi College, Cambridge. He was admitted to Inner Temple in 1793, and was called to the bar in 1801. He was appointed serjeant-at-law¹¹ in 1824.

He was Deputy Recorder of the City of London. He served as Judge-Advocate-General of the Army 1838–39. He was a judge of the Central Criminal Court and of Sheriffs' Court, London [during which time he sentenced John William COPSON to seven years transportation to Australia.] He was a Verderer of the forests of Epping and Hainault.

As a judge, Arabin was known as an eccentric figure who was notorious for his confused pronouncements. Some examples from Sir Robert Megarry's book:

The Judge: Yes. When I sit here, I fancy myself on the top of Mount Breeze; and the first thing I do every morning of the session, is to go to the glass and see if my eyes have not been blown out of my head.

The Judge: My good man, don't go gabbling on so. Hold your tongue, and answer the question that is put to you.

The Judge, to witness: Woman, how can you be so stupid? You are tall enough, to be wise enough.

The Judge: I assure you, gentlemen, they will steal the very teeth out of your mouth as you walk through the streets. I know it from experience.

The Judge, in charge: If ever there was a case of clearer evidence than this of persons acting together, this case is that case.

Judge Serjeant Arabin, would have been seen as politically incorrect in our day and age. In statement to a convicted woman: You must go out of the country; you have disgraced even your sex.

And
I cannot suggest a doubt; she goes into a shop, and looks at several things, and purchases nothing; that always indicates some guilt.

¹¹ A Serjeant-at-Law, commonly known simply as a Serjeant, was a member of an order of barristers at the English bar. The position of Serjeant-at-Law is said to be the oldest formally created order in England. The order rose during the 16th century as a small, elite group of lawyers who took much of the work in the central common law courts. With the creation of Queen's Counsel (QC) during the reign of Elizabeth I, the order gradually began to decline, with each monarch opting to create more King's or Queen's Counsel. The Serjeants' exclusive jurisdictions were ended during the 19th century and, with the Judicature Act 1873 coming into force in 1875, it was felt that there was no need to have such figures, and no more were created. The Serjeants had for many centuries exclusive jurisdiction over the Court of Common Pleas [these are civil cases rather than criminal], being the only lawyers allowed to argue a case there. Serjeants were created by Writ of Summons under the Great Seal of the Realm and wore a distinctive dress, the chief feature of which was the coif, a white lawn or silk skullcap, afterwards represented by a round piece of white lace at the top of the wig.