

Mary Bannan

(uxor Mary Baker, Mary Poulter, Mary James)

POLICE NUMBER 485 ¹	LITERACY read only
TRIAL DATE 26 October 1840	AGE ON EMBARKATION 16
TRIAL PLACE Lancaster (Liverpool) Quarter Sessions	AGE ON ARRIVAL 18
OFFENCE stealing print (a gown piece)	HEIGHT 5' 2"
SENTENCE 7 years	COMPLEXION pale
GAOL REPORT twice in prison before, bad, single	HEAD oval
PREVIOUS CONVICTIONS 1 month for stealing a pair of boots, 7 days for breaking a window	HAIR black
SURGEON'S REPORT quiet	VISAGE oval
ON THE TOWN 1 week	FOREHEAD medium
MARITAL STATUS single	EYEBROWS brown
CHILDREN 0	EYES hazel
FAMILY father Patrick Bannan; mother Catherine Morris; sister Mary Ryan (aka Ellen Bannan)	NOSE medium
NATIVE PLACE Liverpool, England	MOUTH small
TRADE ON EMBARKATION servant	CHIN round
TRADE ON ARRIVAL house servant	MARKS M and 7 dots on left hand

c1823	Sister Mary Ryan (aka Ellen Bannan) born at Liverpool, Lancashire, England; father Patrick Bannan; mother Catherine Morris. ²
c1824	Born at Liverpool, Lancashire, England; father Patrick Bannan; mother Catherine Morris. ³
26 October 1840	Tried at Lancaster Quarter Sessions, Liverpool, Lancashire, England indicted for stealing print (a gown piece); sentence 7 years transportation. ⁴
5 April 1841	Departed Woolwich, England on the <i>Rajah</i> . ⁵
19 July 1841	Arrived at Hobart on the <i>Rajah</i> . ⁵
c24 July 1841	Upon arrival at Hobart, assigned to Mrs Barnett, Melville Street, Hobart. ⁶
31 December 1841	Mustered in the service of Mr Barnett, Hobart. ⁷
21 June 1842	Charged at the Police Court, Hobart on the complaint of District Constable Bine ⁸ with misconduct in being out after hours at ½ past 8 o'clock last night; in the service of Mr Barnett, Collins Street, Hobart; plea guilty; reprimanded and returned to her service. ⁹
21 September 1842	Charged at the Police Court, Hobart on the complaint of her mistress Mrs Barnett with stealing certain articles; remanded. ¹⁰
20 January 1843	Mother Catherine Bannan and sister Mary Ryan arrived at Hobart as prisoners on board the <i>Garland Grove</i> ; Mary stole a watch which Catherine received. ²
3 March 1843	Charged at the Police Court, Hobart on the complaint of Mrs Barnett with being insolent to her yesterday morning; in the service of Mr West; sentence 4 months hard

¹ TAHO, CON40/1/2 p.86 No.485 [image 84] (Mary Bannan); TAHO, CON19/1/1 p.229 [image 118] (Mary Bannan); ML, CY 1282 p.145 (Mary Bannan); ML, CY 1197 p.155 (Mary Bannan); ML, CY 958 p.442 (Mary Bannan)

² TAHO, CON40/1/8 p.279 No.282 [image 228] (Mary Ryan); TAHO, CON15/1/2 pp.122–123 [images 124–125] (Mary Ryan); TAHO, CON40/1/2 p.126 No.603 [image 124] (Catherine Bannan); TAHO, CON15/1/2 pp.92–93 [images 94–95] (Catherine Bannan)

³ VIC Marriage Certificate 1869/992 (Mary Poulter & George James); TAHO, CON19/1/1 p.229 [image 118] (Mary Bannan)

⁴ TAHO, CON40/1/2 p.86 No.485 [image 84] (Mary Bannan)

⁵ AJCP, ADM 101/63 *Rajah*

⁶ ML, CY 1282 p.145 (Mary Bannan); ML, CY 1274 p.254 (Mary Bannan)

⁷ AJCP, HO 10/51 p.350 No.485 (Mary Bannan)

⁸ This name is difficult to decipher, so it may not be *Bine*.

⁹ TAHO, AC480/1/1, 21 June 1842 (Mary Bannan)

¹⁰ TAHO, AC480/1/1, 21 September 1842 (Mary Bannan)

This biography supplements our book *Patchwork Prisoners* available from www.researchtasmania.com.au.

labour at Cascades Female Factory, Hobart, and on no account to be again assigned in or near Hobart.¹¹

Statement of witness Mrs Rachael Barnett:

*The prisoner came to me yesterday morning for the clothes she left at my house when she went to the Factory. She was extremely insolent and said that she had robbed me, how did I like it for she liked it well, and on my stating that I would have her taken before Mr Spode she said she did not care for Mr Spode, or any one else that I had given her seven months and could do no more. I had brought her to this Office on a charge of robbing me but the case could not be proved in consequence of the things not being found.*¹¹

Statement of witness Sarah Byrne (Hope):

*I am assigned servant to Mrs Barnett, and was present when the prisoner came for her clothes yesterday. I heard her say to my mistress I took your property and liked it well. She admitted to me on one occasion that she took two bottles of wine from her mistress, and stated that there was a key lying about which would open the store room.*¹¹

- 8 August 1843 At Launceston.⁴
- 19 December 1843 Sister Mary Ryan married William Kendrick at Christ Anglican Church, Longford; Mary aged 21, assigned servant, illiterate, spinster; William aged 33, free, illiterate, bachelor; witnesses C Clemens¹² and S Dowsett (clerk).¹³
- 11 April 1844 Classified as a 3rd class probation pass-holder; gazetted 12 April.¹⁴
- 14 July 1844 At Launceston.⁴
- 1 October 1844 Hired in private service for 4 months as a probation pass-holder to Henry Keach, *Weobley*.¹⁵
- 2 November 1844 Application for permission to marry Richard Baker¹⁶ (*Augusta Jessie*) sent to the Secretary; approved.¹⁷
- 9 December 1844 **Married** Richard Baker at St Luke's Anglican Church, Campbell Town; Mary aged 20, prisoner; Richard aged 27, holding a Ticket of Leave; witnesses brother-in-law William Kendrick (illiterate) and Harriet Nash (illiterate).¹⁸
- 21 January 1845 Mother Catherine Bannon married James Porterfield at Christ Anglican Church, Longford; Catherine aged 38,¹⁹ assigned servant, illiterate; James aged 27, free, bachelor, illiterate; witnesses John Wright and S Dowsett (clerk).²⁰
- 6 February 1845 **Daughter** Ellen Baker²¹ born at Campbell Town; father Richard Baker, shepherd; mother Mary Bannon; informant aunt Ellen Kendrick,²² illiterate, resident of Campbell Town.²³
- 2 April 1845 Nephew Thomas Kendrick born at Campbell Town; father William Kendrick; labourer; informant mother Ellen Rion, illiterate, resident of Campbell Town.²⁴
- 5 July 1845 Nephew Thomas Kendrick died of marasmus at Campbell Town; aged 3 months; informant William Valentine, surgeon, Campbell Town.²⁵

¹¹ TAHO, AC480/1/1, 3 March 1843 (Mary Bannon)

¹² This name is difficult to read so it may not be Clemens.

¹³ TAHO, RGD37/1/3 1843/622 Launceston (William Kendrick & Mary Ryan)

¹⁴ *Hobart Town Gazette*, 12 April 1844 p.424 (Mary Brannon)

¹⁵ *Hobart Town Gazette*, 12 November 1844 p.1421 (Mary Brannon)

¹⁶ Richard Baker was tried at Suffolk Quarter Sessions for stealing wearing apparel from a wagon and transported for 14 years on the *Augusta Jessie* in 1836; ploughman and farm labourer, aged 23, native place Suffolk; Ticket of Leave 8 December 1844; Conditional Pardon recommended 23 June 1846; died at Campbell Town on 16 January 1847 (TAHO, CON31/1/3 p.261 No.2953 [image 265] (Richard Baker alias Cooper), TAHO, CON18/4 p.328 [image 175] (Richard Baker))

¹⁷ TAHO, CON52/1/2 p.275 (Mary Bannan & Rich^d Baker)

¹⁸ TAHO, RGD37/1/4 1844/1495a Campbell Town (Richard Baker & Mary Bannan)

¹⁹ Age given as 45 years on death certificate.

²⁰ TAHO, RGD37/1/4 1845/2195 Launceston (James Porterfield & Catherine Bannon)

²¹ Descendant Meg Naylor has this child as Annie Matilda Baker, later known as Ellen Poulter.

²² This is Mary's sister who was transported as Mary Ryan on the *Garland Grove*, but later used the names Ellen Bannon, Ellen Ryan and Ellen Kendrick.

²³ TAHO, RGD33/1/26 1845/650 Campbell Town (female Baker); TAHO, AD960/1/5 p.286 No.878 (John Polter)

²⁴ TAHO, RGD33/1/26 1845/657 Campbell Town (Thomas Kendrick)

²⁵ TAHO, RGD35/1/18 1845/20 Campbell Town (Thomas Kendrick)

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- 1 November 1845 Ticket of Leave granted; gazetted 4 November.²⁶
- 2 October 1846 **Son** Richard Baker born at Campbell Town; father Richard Baker, labourer; informant mother Mary Bannan, illiterate, resident of Campbell Town.²⁷
- 16 January 1847 Husband Richard Baker died at Campbell Town.²⁸
- 17 January 1847 Husband Richard Baker buried at St Luke's Anglican Cemetery, Campbell Town; Richard aged 29, shepherd, a ticket-of-leave holder, resident of Campbell Town.²⁹
- 15 February 1847 Son Richard Baker baptised at St Luke's Anglican Church, Campbell Town; father Richard Baker, shepherd, dead; mother Mary Baker.³⁰
- June 1847 Resident in the Campbell Town district with N Hendricks;³¹ a ticket-of-leave holder.³²
- 1 July 1847 Niece Ellen Kendrick born at Launceston Female Factory; father not named; mother Ellen Kendrick; informant J Fraser, Launceston Female Factory.³³
- 9 July 1847 At Launceston.⁴
- July 1847 Resident in the Campbell Town district, at Oatlands; a ticket-of-leave holder.³²
- 26 October 1847 Free by servitude; Certificate of Freedom available for collection.³⁴
- 10 January 1848 **Married** John Poulter at St Luke's Anglican Church, Campbell Town; Mary aged 22, widow; John aged 30, labourer, bachelor; witnesses brother-in-law William Kendrick and sister Ellen Kendrick^{35,36}
- c1849 **Son** Thomas Poulter born at Campbell Town.¹¹⁹
- 30 January 1849 Certificate of Freedom issued.⁴
- 30 August 1849 Nephew William Kendrick born at Campbell Town; father William Kendrick, labourer; informant mother Ellen Bannan, illiterate, resident of Campbell Town.³⁷
- 10 January 1851 **Son** Emmanuel Poulter born at Campbell Town; father John Polter, labourer; mother Mary Bannan; informant William Valentine, accoucheur, Campbell Town.³⁸
- 23 June 1851 Nephew Joseph Kendrick born at Campbell Town; father William Kendrick, labourer; informant mother Ellen Bannan, illiterate, resident of Campbell Town.³⁹
- 19 September 1851 Husband John Poulter departed Launceston for Melbourne as a steerage passenger on the screw steamer *City of Melbourne*; John a conditional-pardon holder, ship to colony *Stakesby*^{40,41}
- 30 September 1851 Stepfather James Porterfield departed Launceston for Melbourne as a steerage passenger on the screw steamer *City of Melbourne*; James free by servitude, ship to colony *John Barry*.⁴²
- 12 January 1852 Mother Catherine Bannan and brother-in-law William Kendrick departed Launceston for Melbourne as steerage passengers on the brig *William*; Catherine free by

²⁶ *Hobart Town Gazette*, 4 November 1845 p.1386 (Mary Bannan)

²⁷ TAHO, RGD33/1/26 1846/728 Campbell Town (male Baker); personal communication, Meg Naylor, 22 October 2006

²⁸ TAHO, CON31/1/3 p.261 No.2953 [image 265] (Richard Baker alias Cooper)

²⁹ TAHO, RGD34/1/2 1847/1656 Campbell Town (Richard Baker); TAHO, NS1190/15 p.11 No.159 (Richard Baker)

³⁰ TAHO, NS1190/1/1 p.24 (Richard Baker)

³¹ This is possibly William Kendrick.

³² TAHO, PO 47/1/4 (Mary Bannan)

³³ TAHO, RGD33/1/23 1847/1812 Launceston (Ellen Kendrick)

³⁴ *Hobart Town Gazette*, 12 October 1847 p.1021 (Mary Bannan)

³⁵ This is Mary's sister who was transported as Mary Ryan on the *Garland Grove*, but later used the names Ellen Bannan, Ellen Ryan and Ellen Kendrick. William Kendrick is her husband.

³⁶ TAHO, RGD37/1/7 1848/1455 Campbell Town (John Poulter & Mary Baker)

³⁷ TAHO, RGD33/1/26 1849/931 Campbell Town (William Kendrick)

³⁸ TAHO, RGD33/1/29 1851/103 Campbell Town (Emmanuel Polter)

³⁹ TAHO, RGD33/1/29 1851/121 Campbell Town (Joseph Kendrick)

⁴⁰ John Poulter was transported as John Potter on the *Stakesby* in 1833; tried at Surrey 25 March 1833 for sheep stealing, sentence life; received another 7 years sentence on 17 July 1834; married with 1 child, ploughman, aged 18, native place Farnham, Surrey; Conditional Pardon approved 23 November 1847 (TAHO, CON31/1/35 p.145 No.963 [image 147] (Jn^o Potter); TAHO, CON 8/1/20 p.313 [image 166] (Jn^o Poulter)).

⁴¹ TAHO, POL220/1/1 p.425 (John Poulter)

⁴² TAHO, POL220/1/1 p.435 (James Porterfield)

- servitude, ship to colony *Garland Grove*; William arrived free, ship to colony *City of Melbourne*.⁴³
- 31 January 1852 Husband John Poulter departed Launceston for Melbourne as a steerage passenger on the schooner *Vixen*; John a conditional-pardon holder, ship to colony *Stakesby*.⁴⁴
- 17 May 1852 Mother Catherine Bannan and brother-in-law William Kendrick departed Launceston for Melbourne as steerage passengers on the steamer *Shamrock*; Catherine free, ship to colony *City of Melbourne*; William free by servitude, ship to colony *Garland Grove*.⁴⁵
Step-father James Porterfield departed Launceston for Melbourne as a steerage passenger on the brig *Triton*; James free, ship to colony *City of Melbourne*.⁴⁶
- 8 October 1852 Husband John Poulter departed Launceston for Melbourne as a steerage passenger on the *Yarra Yarra*; John free, ship to colony *Swift*.⁴⁷
- 31 August 1853 **Son** John Henry Poulter born at Campbell Town; father John Polter, labourer; mother Mary Bannan; informant Ellen Crawley, illiterate, resident of Campbell Town.⁴⁸
- December 1853 Mother Catherine Bannan, stepfather James Porterfield and brother-in-law William Kendrick departed Melbourne for Launceston on the *Yarra Yarra II*; Catherine aged 30; James aged 35.⁴⁹
- 19 January 1854 Sister Mary Ryan and brother-in-law William Kendrick departed Launceston for Melbourne as steerage passengers on the *Pirate*; Mary free by servitude, ship to colony *Garland Grove*, formerly Mary Ryan; William free.⁵⁰
- 1855 Nephew William Kendrick died in Victoria, aged 6.⁵¹
- 3 August 1855 **Son** James William Poulter born at Campbell Town; father John Polter, labourer; informant mother Mary Bannan, resident of Campbell Town.⁵²
- 2 September 1855 Son James William Poulter baptised Roman Catholic at Campbell Town.⁵³
- 4 November 1856 Husband John Poulter injured when he caught his foot against the upper step descending a ladder at the brewery of Hubert Kean and fell to the ground, fracturing his left wrist.⁵⁴
- 19 November 1856 Husband John Poulter made a will.⁵⁵
- 20 November 1856 Husband John Poulter died of tetanus as a result of his injuries from falling from a ladder at Campbell Town; John aged 35, labourer; informant William Valentine, surgeon, Campbell Town.⁵⁶
- 21 November 1856 Inquest held into the death of husband John Poulter at his house at Campbell Town.⁵⁴
- 23 November 1856 Husband John Poulter buried at the Old Anglican Cemetery, Church Street, Campbell Town; John aged 41, resident of Campbell Town, landholder.⁵⁷
- 10 March 1857 Tried at the Quarter Sessions, Oatlands with Jane Waring indicted for stealing in the dwelling house of William Pain; found not guilty; acquitted; Mary and Jane free by servitude.⁵⁸

⁴³ TAHO, POL220/1/1 p.522 (Mrs Porterfield)

⁴⁴ TAHO, POL220/1/1 p.553 (John Poulter)

⁴⁵ TAHO, POL220/1/2 p.36 (Mrs Porterfield & William Kendrick)

⁴⁶ TAHO, POL220/1/2 p.33 (James Porterfield)

⁴⁷ TAHO, POL220/1/2 p.193 (John Polter)

⁴⁸ TAHO, RGD33/1/31 1853/131 Campbell Town (male Polter); TAHO, AD960/1/5 p.286 No.878 (John Polter)

⁴⁹ PROV, 'Online Indexes: Index to Outward Passengers to Interstate, UK, NZ and Foreign Ports 1852-1923', December 1853 p.1 (Mrs Porterfield, J Porterfield & W Kendrick)

⁵⁰ TAHO, POL220/1/3 pp.436-437 (Mary Kendrick & William Kendrick)

⁵¹ VIC Death Record 1855/5001 (William Kendrick)

⁵² TAHO, RGD33/1/33 1855/195 Campbell Town (James Polter)

⁵³ CCMA, EC5 p.2 (James Poulter)

⁵⁴ TAHO, SC195/1/39 No.3877 (John Poulter)

⁵⁵ TAHO, AD960/1/5 p.286 No.878 (John Polter)

⁵⁶ TAHO, RGD35/1/25 1856/347 Campbell Town (John Poulter)

⁵⁷ *Linc Tasmania*, 'eHeritage' No.LFH_03331 (John Polter); TAHO, NS1190/1/15 p.19 No.270 (John Polter)

⁵⁸ *Hobart Town Courier*, 11 March 1857 p.2 (Mary Poulter)

- 10⁵⁹ August 1857 **Daughter** Mary Jane Poulter born at Campbell Town; John Polter, labourer; informant mother Mary Bannan, resident of Campbell Town.⁶⁰
- 5 October 1857 Daughter Mary Jane Poulter baptised Roman Catholic at Campbell Town.⁶¹
- 25–27 September 1860 Tried at the Supreme Court, Oatlands indicted for feloniously uttering etc well knowing etc; found not guilty, verdict not guilty; Mary free by servitude, ship to colony *Rajah*.
George Nathaniel Silwood⁶² tried with Mary, indicted for forging on 3 August a promissory note for £1 with intent to defraud; verdict not guilty; held at Oatlands Gaol during trial.⁶³
Newspaper report:
SUPREME COURT.
CRIMINAL SITTINGS, OATLANDS.
Thursday, 27th September 1860.
Before His Honor, the Chief Justice Sir Valentine Fleming, Knt.
George Nathaniel Silwood stood charged with forging on the 3rd August last a promissory note for £1 with intent to defraud and Mary Poulter was charged with uttering it, well knowing the same to be a forgery.
Mr. Moriarty defended the prisoner Poulter.
The prisoners lived at Campbell Town. On the day named the female sent a young man named "Allard" to Mr. Neale's public house for two bottles of rum, giving the note in question to pay for it. He got the rum and 10s. change which he gave to the female prisoner, who offered him 2s. 6d. for his trouble but he declined to take it.
Thomas Rodney Purdon – Knows the prisoner Silwood; has had many opportunities of seeing his handwriting; he is one of the best penmen in the colony; this is his writing (a book produced); this paper purporting to be a bank note to the best of my belief the handwriting is Silwood's; I have not the slightest doubt of the date, 1st October, 1859, being in his handwriting; this date (1st September, 1858) I fully believe is also in Silwood's handwriting; the words "one pound" resembles the words in this book.
Cross-examined by Silwood – I reside in Hobart Town; I was summoned up to give evidence against you at Campbell Town; I saw Mr. Propsting at the Police Office for the first time in my life; had some conversation with him about handwriting before I was examined at the Police Office; it did touch upon the writing in the book which I saw at that time; I examined through every leaf; the prisoner's name appears in the title page which purports to be compiled by him; if the book had been put into my hands without any name appearing in it I should have said it was in your handwriting.
By the Court – Have had frequent opportunities of seeing the handwriting when I was clerk in the Commandant's Office at Port Arthur when prisoner was undergoing a sentence, and his writing was consistently passing under my eye.
*Other witnesses were called to prove the forged note and Mr. Moriarty having addressed the jury on behalf of Poulter, the Judge charged the jury with his usual minuteness, and the jury acquitted both prisoners.*⁶⁴
- 28 January 1861 Probate of will of husband John Poulter presented in the Supreme Court; executors Joseph Brickhill, storekeeper, Campbell Town, and John Coombe senior, farmer, Campbell Town; beneficiaries wife Mary Poulter (unless she remarries) and their children Ellen Baker, Richard Baker, Thomas Poulter, Emmanuel Poulter, John

⁵⁹ Date given as 3 August on baptism record.

⁶⁰ TAHO, RGD33/1/35 1857/182 Campbell Town (male Polter); CCMA, EC5 p.19 (Mary Jane Poulter)

⁶¹ CCMA, EC5 p.19 (Mary Jane Poulter)

⁶² George Nathaniel Silwood died of bronchitis and cardiac disease on 24 May 1890 at New Town Charitable Institution, late of Bathurst Street, Hobart, no occupation, aged about 78, born England, cloak dispenser; informant undertaker John McLoughlin, (TAHO, RGD35/1/12 1890/1302 Hobart (George Nathaniel Silwood)).

⁶³ *Examiner*, 29 September 1860 p.3 (Mary Poulter & George Nathaniel Silwood); TAHO, SC41/1/6 No.4 Oatlands (George Nathaniel Silwood & Mary Poulter (Bannon))

⁶⁴ *Examiner*, 29 September 1860 p.3 (Mary Poulter & George Nathaniel Silwood)

- Poulter and James Poulter; the executors to be the guardians of the infant children; estate under the value of £125, including a house in Campbell Town.⁶⁵
- 8 April 1861 Daughter Ellen Poulter charged at the Police Court, Campbell Town by CDC Mr Propsting with having at Campbell Town on 5 April so furiously ridden a horse that the safety of some other person was likely to be endangered; plea guilty; fined £2 and costs 7/6, or in default 14 days imprisonment with hard labour at the House of Correction, Launceston, paid £2.7.6; aged 16, free, native, read and write imperfectly.⁶⁶
- 11 May 1861 Charged at the Police Court, Campbell Town upon complaint of Sergeant Shea with being drunk and incapable of taking care of herself in a street at Campbell Town on 10 May; plea guilty; fined 10 shillings, paid; aged 33, free by servitude, read and write.⁶⁷
- 18 May 1861 Daughter Ellen Poulter charged at the Police Court, Campbell Town by CDC Mr Propsting with disturbing the public peace in a street at Campbell Town on 17 May; plea guilty; fined 5 shillings, paid; aged 17, native, read and write imperfectly.⁶⁸
- 24 August 1861 Charged at the Police Court, Campbell Town by CDC Mr Propsting on oath of JP Parr⁶⁹ with having on 22 August feloniously stolen a keg of ale containing 5 gallons; discharged; aged 34, free by servitude, read and write imperfectly.⁷⁰
- Daughter Ellen Poulter charged at Campbell Town Police Office by Mr Richard Propsting with having on 15 August unlawfully and maliciously cut a tree growing on land at *Carnelford*⁷¹ to the damage of 10 shillings to John Moulson⁷² Esquire; defendant not appearing; fined £2 over and above the sum of 10 shillings for the injury done and costs, or in default 1 month hard labour at the House of Correction, Launceston, costs 16/6 paid.⁷³
- Thomas Morris charged with the same offence; same sentence.⁷³
- 9 September 1861 Charged at the Police Court, Campbell Town by Constable James Flecker⁷⁴ with being an idle and disorderly person in being a common prostitute wandering in the streets and behaving in an indecent manner at Campbell Town on 7 September; plea not guilty; case dismissed; aged 34, free by servitude, read and write imperfectly.⁷⁵
- 10 October 1861 Charged at the Police Court, Campbell Town by Mr Richard Propsting with having at Campbell Town on 3 October knowingly harboured William Smith, a hired servant to CH Harrison Esquire, before the lawful termination of his hire; charge allowed to be withdrawn; aged 33, free by servitude, read and write imperfectly.⁷⁶
- December 1861 Owner and occupier of a house and 8 acres of land at Franklin Street, Campbell Town; annual value £25.⁷⁷
- 7 April 1862 Daughter Ellen Poulter charged at the Police Court, Campbell Town by CDC Mr Propsting with using indecent language in a street at Campbell Town on 5 April; plea guilty; fined 5 shillings, paid; aged 18, free, read and write imperfectly.⁷⁸
- 14 May 1862 Witness with daughter Ellen Poulter at the Police Court, Campbell Town in the case of William Smith charged with burglary on 13 April in the dwelling house of Arthur Leake Esquire, *Ashby*.⁷⁹

⁶⁵ TAHO, AD960/1/5 p.286 No.878 (John Polter)

⁶⁶ TAHO, LC83/1/13 p.17 (Ellen Poulter)

⁶⁷ TAHO, LC83/1/13 p.27 (Mary Poulter)

⁶⁸ TAHO, LC83/1/13 p.29 (Ellen Poulter)

⁶⁹ This name is difficult to decipher and so may not be Parr.

⁷⁰ TAHO, LC83/1/13 p.54 (Mary Poulter)

⁷¹ This place name is difficult to decipher and so may not be *Carnelford*.

⁷² This name is difficult to decipher and so may not be Moulson.

⁷³ TAHO, LC83/1/13 p.53 (Ellen Poulter & Thomas Morris)

⁷⁴ This name is difficult to decipher and so may not be Flecker.

⁷⁵ TAHO, LC83/1/13 p.59 (Mary Poulter)

⁷⁶ TAHO, LC83/1/13 p.70 (Mary Poulter)

⁷⁷ *Hobart Town Gazette*, 3 December 1861 p.1807 (Mrs E Poulter)

⁷⁸ TAHO, LC83/1/13 p.133 (Ellen Poulter)

Newspaper report:

... The prisoner asserted his innocence of the charge, and said he could prove an alibi, for which purpose he called Mary Poulter, and her daughter Ellen, in whose house he resided at the time of the burglary.

Mary Poulter deposed that Smith was in her house on the night of the 18th April.

Ellen Poulter deposed that she was in the watchhouse on that night, and knew nothing about it.

The prisoner was then remanded.⁷⁹

24 June 1862

Witness at the Supreme Court, Oatlands in the trial of William Smith charged with burglary on 13 April in the dwelling house of Arthur Leake Esquire, *Ashby*.⁸⁰

Newspaper report:

... The prisoner called a Mrs. Poulter as a witness, who stated he was in her service, and on the night of the burglary he went to bed about 9, and did not get up till 7 next morning. He could not leave his bed-room without passing through hers. – The jury, after a short deliberation, acquitted the prisoner.⁸⁰

9 August 1862

Daughter Ellen Poulter charged at the Police Court, Campbell Town by Mr C Englebert with larceny under £5 in stealing at Campbell Town on 8 August 11 eggs, value 2/8, his property; remanded; aged 18, free, read and write imperfectly.⁸¹

11 August 1862

Daughter Ellen Poulter brought up at the Police Court, Campbell Town charged as before; plea not guilty; witnesses C Englebert, B Palliser and D Gearen, 1 summoned; discharged.⁸²

21 October 1862

Charged at the Police Court, Campbell Town by Acting CDC Scott with using indecent language in a street at Campbell Town on 20 October; plea guilty; fined 5 shillings, paid; aged 34, free by servitude, read and write imperfectly.⁸³

c1863

Daughter Elizabeth Poulter born at Campbell Town.¹⁵⁵

4 March 1863

Granddaughter Mary Jane Poulter born at Campbell Town; illegitimate; father John Davis, prisoner⁸⁴ (*Pestongee Bomangee*); informant mother Ellen Poulter.⁸⁵

4 May 1863

Daughter Ellen Poulter charged at the Police Court, Campbell Town by CDC Mr C Scott with having at Campbell Town on 2 May cruelly beaten a horse; plea guilty; fined £3, paid; aged 18, free, read and write imperfectly.⁸⁶

29 May 1863

Charged at the Police Court, Campbell Town by CDC Mr C Scott with using indecent language in a public place at Campbell Town on 28 May; plea guilty; fined 5 shillings, paid; aged 40, free by servitude, read and write imperfectly.⁸⁷

7 September 1863

Daughter Ellen Poulter charged at the Police Court, Campbell Town by John Nicolson Esquire with having on 29 August entered upon land of which he was the occupier without any reasonable or lawful excuse and without his consent; case adjourned until Thursday next; aged 19, free, read and write imperfectly.⁸⁸

10 September 1863

Daughter Ellen Poulter brought up at the Police Court, Campbell Town charged as before; fined £1 and costs, 13/6 paid.⁸⁹

21 September 1863

Charged at the Police Court, Campbell Town by CDC C Scott and JE Chambers for having at Campbell Town on 12 September kept a dog within the boundaries of the police district of Campbell Town for a period of 14 days without causing a

⁷⁹ *Mercury*, 17 May 1862 p.3 (Mary Poulter & Ellen Poulter)

⁸⁰ *Examiner*, 28 June 1862 p.35 (Mrs Poulter)

⁸¹ TAHO, LC83/1/13 p.166 (Ellen Poulter)

⁸² TAHO, LC83/1/13 p.166 (Ellen Poulter)

⁸³ TAHO, LC83/1/13 p.186 (Mary Poulter)

⁸⁴ John Davis was sentenced to 8 years imprisonment on 5 October 1865 at Port Arthur, having become free by servitude on 10 April 1860. When transported in 1846 on the *Pestongee Bomangee* he was aged 35, native place Hamburg, read and write German (TAHO, SWD26/1/12 No.33 (Mary Jane Baker or Poulter); TAHO, CON 33/1/84 No.19428 [image 40] (John Davis)).

⁸⁵ TAHO, RGD33/1/41 1863/150 Campbell Town (Mary Jane Polter); TAHO, SWD26/1/12 No.33 (Mary Jane Baker or Poulter)

⁸⁶ TAHO, LC83/1/13 p.246 (Ellen Poulter)

⁸⁷ TAHO, LC83/1/13 p.252 (Mary Poulter)

⁸⁸ TAHO, LC83/1/13 p.271 (Ellen Poulter)

⁸⁹ TAHO, LC83/1/13 p.272 (Ellen Poulter)

- description of such dog so kept to be registered; plea not guilty; fined 10 shillings and costs 7/6, paid; aged 40, free by servitude, read and write imperfectly.⁹⁰
- 13 June 1864 Charged at the Police Court, Campbell Town with being drunk and disturbing the peace in a street at Campbell Town on 11 June; fined 10 shillings, paid; aged 36, free by servitude, read and write imperfectly.⁹¹
- 29 August 1864 Charged at the Police Court, Campbell Town by John Nicolson Esquire with having on 16 August as the owner of a certain dog become liable for damages to the amount of £5, such damage having been done on his sheep on various occasions by the said dog and more especially upon 18 August; plea not guilty; ordered to pay 18 shillings damages and costs 9/6, paid 14/6; aged 34, free by servitude, read and write well.⁹²
- 25 January 1865 Daughter Ellen Poulter charged at the Police Court, Campbell Town by CDC Mr C Scott with using indecent language in a street at Campbell Town on 21 January; plea guilty; fined 5 shillings and costs, 7/6 paid; aged 19, free, read and write imperfectly.⁹³
- 27 January 1865 Charged at the Police Court, Campbell Town by CDC Mr C Scott with using indecent language in the Police Office on 25 January; plea guilty; fined 5 shillings, paid; aged 36, read and write.⁹⁴
- February 1865 Owner and occupier of a house and 8 acres of land at Franklin⁹⁵ Street, Campbell Town; annual value £20.⁹⁶
- 19 April 1865 Son Richard Poulter charged at Launceston with Charles Addison with riding on their wagons without having anyone to guide the horses; each fined 5 shillings and costs.⁹⁷
- 5 September 1865 Charged at the Police Court, Campbell Town by CDC Mr C Scott with using indecent language in a street at Campbell Town on 4 September; plea guilty; fined 5 shillings, paid; aged 37, free by servitude, read and write imperfectly.
Thomas Barrick (free) charged with the same offence; same sentence; aged 32, read and write imperfectly.⁹⁸
- 6 September 1865 Stabbed and injured by John Williams at Campbell Town.⁹⁹
Newspaper report of charge at Campbell Town Police Office:
*Stabbing. – John Williams was brought up charged with having on the 6th instant maliciously stabbed one Mary Poulter, and otherwise injured her. The woman not being sufficiently recovered to appear in Court, prisoner was remanded.*⁹⁹
- 25 September 1865 John Williams charged at the Police Court, Campbell Town with aggravated assault upon Mary; sentence 2 months hard labour.¹⁰⁰
Newspaper report:
*AGGRAVATED ASSAULT UPON A FEMALE. – John Williams was charged upon oath of C.D.C. C. Scott, with having at Campbell Town, on the 6th September inst., committed an aggravated assault upon Mary Poulter, by violently beating her and breaking her leg. He pleaded guilty, and was sentenced to two months' hard labor.*¹⁰⁰
- 8 January 1866 Daughter Ellen Poulter charged at the Police Court, Campbell Town by CDC Mr Scott with having used indecent language in a street at Campbell Town on 28 December 1865; plea guilty; fined £1 and costs, 7/6 paid; free.¹⁰¹

⁹⁰ TAHO, LC83/1/13 p.274 (Mary Poulter)

⁹¹ TAHO, LC83/1/13 p.328 (Mary Poulter)

⁹² TAHO, LC83/1/13 p.339 (Mary Poulter)

⁹³ TAHO, LC83/1/13 p.369 (Ellen Poulter); *Mercury*, 30 January 1865 p.2 (Ellen Poulter)

⁹⁴ TAHO, LC83/1/13 p.369 (Mary Poulter); *Mercury*, 30 January 1865 p.2 (Mary Poulter)

⁹⁵ The street name is given as Frankland Street in the valuation roll.

⁹⁶ *Hobart Town Gazette*, 28 February 1865 p.456 (Mrs E Poulter)

⁹⁷ *Examiner*, 20 April 1865 p.45 (Richard Poulter)

⁹⁸ TAHO, LC83/1/13 p.403 (Mary Poulter & Thomas Barrick)

⁹⁹ *Examiner*, 16 September 1865 p.35 (Mary Poulter)

¹⁰⁰ *Mercury*, 27 September 1865 p.3 (Mary Poulter)

¹⁰¹ TAHO, LC83/1/13 p.430 (Ellen Poulter)

Newspaper report:

*Ellen Poulter was summoned by the Chief District Constable for having, on the 29th December, whilst riding in a chaise cart in High-street, Campbell Town, used obscene and disgusting language. She was fined £1 and costs, which were paid.*¹⁰²

5 February 1866

Daughter Ellen Poulter charged at the Police Court, Campbell Town by District Constable JB Chambers with larceny under £5 in stealing at Campbell Town on 31 January 3 ducks, value 1 shilling each, the property of RW Kean; plea not guilty, consents to be tried by the Bench; discharged; aged 21, free, read and write imperfectly.¹⁰³

Newspaper report:

PETTY LARCENY. – Ellen Poulter was charged upon oath of D. C. Chambers, with having on the 31st ult., stolen three ducks of the value of 1s. each, the property of R. W. Kean.

Mr. Kean deposed that he kept ducks which were in the habit of swimming in the river near his house. The ducks produced were to the best of his belief his property. He had a black duck with a broken leg which corresponded exactly with the black duck with the broken leg now produced. On the following morning he found his duck house had been broken open and three ducks missing. The ducks were worth 1s. each.

Constable Callaghan deposed that on the night in question he was standing on the bridge in High-street close to Mr. Kean's house. The prisoner came from Mr. Kean's with her dress bound up in front, and a bundle of something apparently underneath; she passed over the bridge in the direction of her house. He (Callaghan) then walked up the street in consequence of hearing something, he returned, passed over the bridge, and down to the river bank, where he found the three ducks produced quite warm, though dead. The prisoner was sitting on the bank about 40 yards off. He went to her, struck a match, and upon examining her dress discovered a quantity of down and feathers now produced, corresponding exactly with those on the ducks, sticking to her dress.

Constable Maloney corroborated Callaghan's evidence.

The prisoner made no defence, and declined to cross-question the witness.

Mr. Kean was recalled and stated that the prisoner was hanging about his bar that evening.

*Discharged.*¹⁰⁴

12 February 1866

Son Thomas Poulter charged at the Police Court, Campbell Town by JB Chambers with having on 6 February aided Henry Coxhill¹⁰⁵ to assault a constable in the execution of his duty; adjourned; aged 17, free, illiterate.¹⁰⁶

19 February 1866

Son Thomas Poulter brought up at the Police Court, Campbell Town charged as before; plea not guilty; fined £3 and costs 9/6, or in default 1 month imprisonment, 1 week's time allowed.¹⁰⁷

23 April 1866

Daughter Ellen Poulter charged at the Police Court, Campbell Town by CDC Mr C Scott with using indecent language in a street at Campbell Town on 17 April; plea guilty; sentence 14 days hard labour; aged 21, free, read and write imperfectly.¹⁰⁸

20 August 1866

Daughter Ellen Poulter charged at the Police Court, Campbell Town by CDC Charles Scott with having at Campbell Town on 9 August committed a larceny under £5 in stealing 1 child's pinafore and other articles the property of Mary Bishop; adjourned until Monday next for the attendance of a second justice; aged 22, free, read and write imperfectly.¹⁰⁹

¹⁰² *Examiner*, 13 January 1866 p.35 (Ellen Poulter)

¹⁰³ TAHO, LC83/1/13 p.438 (Ellen Poulter)

¹⁰⁴ *Mercury*, 9 February 1866 p.3 (Ellen Poulter)

¹⁰⁵ Henry Coxhill was free by servitude, transported on the *Marion*, aged 37, read and write imperfectly.

¹⁰⁶ TAHO, LC83/1/13 p.439 (Thomas Poulter & Henry Coxhill)

¹⁰⁷ TAHO, LC83/1/13 p.440 (Thos Poulter)

¹⁰⁸ TAHO, LC83/1/13 p.451 (Ellen Poulter)

¹⁰⁹ TAHO, LC83/1/13 p.463 (Ellen Poulter)

- 27 August 1866 Daughter Ellen Poulter brought up at the Police Court, Campbell Town charged as before; plea not guilty; sentence 3 months hard labour at the House of Correction, Launceston.¹¹⁰
- Newspaper report:
*Ellen Poulter a young female well-known to the police, was charged under the Petty Larceny Act with stealing a pinafore and other articles, the property of Mrs. Bishop, on 18th August last. The evidence was conclusive, the article being found in the possession of the prisoner. Sentenced to three months' hard labor. – Another charge was preferred against the prisoner (she having been admitted to bail on the former charge) for having on the 21st August last, been found on the premises known as the Campbell Town Mill, for the purpose of committing a felony. Mr Joseph Coombe's manager stated that on entering the room he found her in the act of abstracting money from the desk, and gave her in charge. The evidence being satisfactory prisoner was sentenced to six months' additional hard labour in the House of Correction.*¹¹¹
- Daughter Ellen Poulter charged at the Police Court, Campbell Town by CDC Mr C Scott with being an idle and disorderly person in being a reputed thief frequenting a public place with intent to commit a felony at Campbell Town on 21 August; plea not guilty; sentence 6 months hard labour at the House of Correction, Launceston.¹¹²
- 10 October 1866 Grandson stillborn at the House of Correction, Launceston; mother Ellen Poulter.¹¹³
- 11 October 1866 Inquest held into the death of a new born son to Ellen Poulter at the House of Correction, Launceston; verdict – died from natural causes.¹¹³
- 13 September 1868 Daughter Mary Jane Poulter was carnally known and abused by Samuel Harrison¹¹⁴ at Cleveland; Mary Jane aged 11; Samuel a labourer, aged about 50, resident of Epping Forest.¹¹⁵
- Newspaper report:
Samuel Harrison, a labourer, aged about 50, and residing in Epping Forest, about three miles from Cleveland, was charged with having at such place, on Sunday, the 13th instant, carnally known and abused Mary Jane Poulter, aged 11 years.
- Dr. Valentine, Registrar of Births, &c., produced register showing the girl's age. He then proceeded to state that he had examined the girl, and that she had been abused, but at what time he could not say.*
- The girl, the daughter of John and Mary Poulter, formerly of Campbell Town, said she knew the nature of an oath, she could not read or write, knew some of the alphabet; resides with Joseph Danks¹¹⁶, charcoal burner in Epping Forest, and his wife. She detailed the particulars of the offence. When she was out in the bush looking for a horse the prisoner had promised her a brooch, which he did not give her; if he had she would not have told; she did tell Mrs. Danks on the Tuesday following.*
- Mrs. Danks, a very old and infirm woman, stated that on the Sunday in question she sent the girl out to look for a horse after dinner, that she saw prisoner follow, and saw him commit the offence charged. [This she was obliged on further examination to deny; the old woman's memory is evidently affected, she believes the man to be guilty, and therefore says too much.]*
- Joseph Danks, aged about 70, whose memory is not good, stated that the girl was sent after the horse on the day in question; she was away about an hour and a half. When she came back he noticed something about the girl which caused him to question her, when she told him what prisoner had done. His wife told him to report to the police; he did not do so because he could not make up his mind to believe the girl's statement.*

¹¹⁰ TAHO, LC83/1/13 p.464 (Ellen Poulter)

¹¹¹ *Examiner*, 28 August 1866 p.3 (Ellen Poulter)

¹¹² TAHO, LC83/1/13 p.465 (Ellen Poulter)

¹¹³ TAHO, SC195/1/50 No.6136 (Ellen Poulter)

¹¹⁴ Samuel Harrison was transported for 10 years on the *Candahar* in 1842; tried at Warwick Birmingham Borough Quarter Sessions on 22 October 1841 for stealing in a dwelling house and former conviction; aged 24, native place Inkley, Leicester, single (TAHO, CON33/1/23 No.5540 [image 108] (Samuel Harrison)).

¹¹⁵ *Examiner*, 1 October 1868 p.3 (Mary Jane Poulter)

¹¹⁶ Joseph Danks was transported on the *Blenheim* in 1837. No marriage has been found for him.

Sub-Inspector Stevens proved the matter being reported to him on Saturday, and the arrest of prisoner.

Prisoner stated in defence that Danks owed him some money, and the charge was got up out of spite.

Fully committed for trial.¹¹⁵

- 23 October 1868 Samuel Harrison tried at the Supreme Court, Launceston indicted for carnally knowing etc a girl under 12 years of age; acquitted.¹¹⁷
- 26 February 1869 **Married** George James at the Congregational Parsonage, Castlemaine, VIC; Mary aged 38, widow, 8 living children, servant, resident of Newstead, VIC; born Liverpool, England; father Patrick Bannan, labourer, dead; mother Catherine Morris now Porterfield; James aged 31,¹¹⁸ bachelor, labourer, resident of Newstead, VIC; born London, England; father George James, painter and glazier, dead; mother unknown; witnesses Sarah Greenwood (illiterate) and Christina Morton (illiterate).¹¹⁹
- 20 May 1869 Daughter Ellen Poulter charged at the Police Court, Campbell Town by the Superintendent of Police with using indecent language in a street at Campbell Town on 19 May; plea guilty; sentence 14 days imprisonment at the House of Correction, Launceston.¹²⁰
- 29 May 1869 Daughter Mary Jane Poulter charged at the Police Court, Campbell Town by the Superintendent of Police with disturbing the peace in a street at Campbell Town on 20 May; plea guilty; fined 10 shillings, paid 5 shillings.¹²¹
- 1 October 1869 Son Emmanuel Poulter married Barbara Robson in the dwelling house of Gideon Robson at River Don Saw Mills, district of Port Sorell; Congregationalist ceremony; Emmanuel aged 20, labourer, bachelor; Barbara aged 21, house servant, spinster; witnesses John Robson and Alexander Smith.¹²²
- 18 October 1869 Granddaughter Mary Jane Poulter charged at the Police Court, Campbell Town under Section 5 of 31 Victoria No.37¹²³ by the Superintendent of Police; plea not guilty; sent to reform about 2 years.¹²⁴
- 4 January 1870 Mother Catherine Bannan died of paralysis and debility at Newstead, VIC; aged 69, parents unknown, born Enniskillen, Ireland, 20 years in Tasmania, 24 years in Victoria; married, no children;¹²⁵ informant husband James Porterfield, illiterate, resident of Newstead.¹²⁶
- 7 January 1870 Mother Catherine Bannan buried at Newstead Cemetery, VIC.¹²⁶
- 16 May 1870 Grandson Gideon Poulter born in the Port Sorell district; mother Barbara Robinson; informant father Emanuel Potter, labourer, resident of Don Saw Mills.¹²⁷
- 26 July 1870 Daughter Ellen Poulter a witness at the Police Court, Launceston in a case against William Stanley charged with inflicting grievous bodily harm on Mary Ann McNeill.¹²⁸

Newspaper report:

... He then called Ellen Poulter, who stated the disturbance was caused by the defendant's refusing to lend McNeill a pipe, when she struck him with an iron bar. Mary Ann Armstrong was also called, but she stated that she could remember nothing of the affair as she was too drunk. Mr. Mason observed that they could not believe the evidence of the woman Poulter,

¹¹⁷ TAHO, CON33/1/23 No.5540 [image 108] (Samuel Harrison); *Mercury*, 26 October 1868 p.2 (Samuel Harrison)

¹¹⁸ Age given as 32 years on death certificate.

¹¹⁹ VIC Marriage Certificate 1869/992 (Mary Poulter & George James)

¹²⁰ TAHO, LC83/1/13, 20 May 1869 (Ellen Poulter)

¹²¹ TAHO, LC83/1/13, 29 May 1869 (Mary Poulter)

¹²² TAHO, RGD37/1/28 1869/582 Port Sorell (Emanuel Polter & Barbara Robson)

¹²³ Another girl, Elizabeth Ringrose, was charged under the same law on 25 June 1879; she was found wandering and not having any means and was sent to the Female Industrial School, Military Barracks, Hobart for 3 years.

¹²⁴ TAHO, LC83/1/13, 18 October 1869 (Mary Poulter)

¹²⁵ This seems to refer to James Porterfield and Catherine Bannan having no children.

¹²⁶ VIC Death Certificate 1870/2209 (Catharine Porterfield)

¹²⁷ Gunn & Kippen, 'Household and Family Formation in Nineteenth-Century Tasmania' No. 164442 (Gideon Potter)

¹²⁸ *Examiner*, 28 July 1870 p.5 (Ellen Poulter)

This biography supplements our book *Patchwork Prisoners* available from www.researchtasmania.com.au.

*who was a notorious prostitute, and had been almost constantly in the watchhouse, as her mother had before her. ...*¹²⁸

- 25 January 1871 Granddaughter Mary Jane Poulter admitted to Cascades House of Correction, Hobart.¹²⁹
- 5 June 1871 Application for granddaughter Mary Jane Poulter to be admitted to the Queen's Orphan Schools; illegitimate, Roman Catholic; mother Ellen Poulter, free, resident of Launceston, an abandoned woman; father John Davis, prisoner at Port Arthur, ship to colony *Pestongee Bomangee*.¹²⁹
- Letter from TH Power of Campbell Town to William Tarleton Esquire dated 17 January 1871:
My dear Sir
*Mr. Swan will see you in the course of a day or two relative to the enclosed Memo. I have not upon this occasion used the usual form of application as from the scanty information possessed regarding the child it could not be filled up.*¹²⁹
- Memorandum from TH Power, Council Clerk of Campbell Town to William Tarleton Esquire dated 17 January 1871:
*I am entrusted by the Warden to state the case of the Child named in the margin (Jane Baker or Poulter, aged 7 years), with the view of obtaining admission for her to the Orphan School. She is the illegitimate child of a female named Ellen Baker, more generally known as Ellen Poulter. The mother is a common Prostitute in Launceston at present under sentence of 6 mo^s imprisonment as an idle and disorderly. She long since deserted the child who has been living with a couple themselves living in adultery, and in the midst of scenes calculated to utterly ruin the child's moral character. She has been removed from this residence by order of the Warden and is now in charge of the watch house keeper & his wife.*¹²⁹
- Note by W Tarleton dated 23 January 1871:
*The child Jane Baker had better be sent down to Hobart Town where she will be received into the Cascades pending decision as to her disposal. Transport order to be sent.*¹²⁹
- Transport order sent to Warden at Campbell Town 23 January 1871.
- Note by RT Edwards dated 25 January 1871:
*I beg to report the child named in the margin was admitted into the Cascades this day 25th inst.*¹²⁹
- Note by Alfred Jones, the Superintendent, Gaol, Launceston dated 26 January 1871:
*Jane Baker or Poulter is now under a sentence of six months at Launceston (from Campbell Town) her child has been admitted into Cascades. Information is requested of the mother, as to the name & ship arrived in: name of child as baptized, date of birth, and parentage, as requested on other side.*¹²⁹
- Note by John Pox, Launceston dated 27 January 1871:
*Ellen Baker or Poulter was discharged from House of Correction on the 17th ultimo. I have however ascertained her residence and obtained from her the particulars as requested on the other side.*¹²⁹
- Note by RA Atkins, Superintendent Cascades dated 31 January 1871:
*Admitted on 25th inst. her conduct since her arrival here has been extremely good.*¹²⁹
- Note by W Tarleton dated 2 February 1871:
*Admission approved, report as to her conduct to be supplied at the end of the current month.*¹²⁹
- 9 June 1871 Application for granddaughter Mary Jane Poulter to be admitted to the Queen's Orphan Schools approved.¹²⁹
- 25 June 1871 Grandson Thomas William Poulter born at Launceston; father Thomas Poulter, mother Louisa Ann Buttifant^{130, 131}

¹²⁹ TAHO, SWD26/1/12 No.33 (Mary Jane Baker or Poulter)

¹³⁰ Louisa Ann died on 6 July 1871 at Launceston aged 19. This may have been the adulterous couple with whom Mary Jane Poulter was living in Launceston as there is no marriage recorded for Louisa Ann and Thomas.

¹³¹ TAHO, RGD33/1/49 1871/514 Launceston (Thomas William Poulter)

- 5 January 1872 Son Thomas Poulter charged at the Police Court, Launceston by Margaret Buttifant with having on and from 26 December 1871 left his infant son by the complainant's daughter Louisa Ann Buttifant (now dead) without means of support; plea guilty; ordered to pay complainant 4 shillings on every Monday, commencing from 8 January.¹³²
- 21 June 1872 Granddaughter Susan Murdie Poulter born at Port Sorell; father Emmanuel Poulter, labourer, River Don; mother Barbara Poulter; informant HH Davis for father.¹³³
- 22 May 1873 Husband George James died of pleuro pneumonia at Newstead, VIC; aged 36, labourer, born England, parents unknown, 12 years in Victoria, married, no issue; informant Police Constable Charles Webb, present at inquest.¹³⁴
- 24 May 1873 Inquest into death of husband George James held at Newstead, VIC before coroner George Smyth Esquire.¹³⁵
- 25 May 1873 Husband George James buried at Newstead Cemetery, VIC.¹³⁴
- 23 August 1874 Grandson John Emmanuel Poulter born at Port Sorell; father Emmanuel Poulter, puntman; mother Barbara Robson; informant grandfather Gideon Robson, groom, resident of River Don.¹³⁶
- 25 July 1877 Granddaughter Mary Jane Poulter, in care, sent to the service of Reverend PR Hennebry; Roman Catholic.¹³⁷
- 29 July 1877 Granddaughter Isabella Poulter born in the Port Sorell district; father Emanuel Pottor; mother Barbara Robson; informant grandfather Gideon Robson, carpenter, resident of River Don, illiterate.¹³⁸
- 18 June 1878 Granddaughter Barbara Poulter born at Port Sorell; father John Poulter, labourer; mother Isabel Robson; informant grandfather Gideon Robson, labourer, resident of Don.¹³⁹
- 30 July 1878 Daughter Ellen Poulter charged at the Police Court, Launceston with stealing from the person; discharged.¹⁴⁰
- Newspaper report:
*Stealing from the Person. – Ellen Poulter was brought up, charged on the information of John Hammersley, with having on the previous evening stolen from him a purse containing seven £1 notes. The prosecutor did not appear, and the Superintendent of Police having intimated that he had no evidence to offer, prisoner was discharged.*¹⁴⁰
- 10 December 1878 Son James William Poulter married Elizabeth Phoebe Culph at Holy Trinity Church, Wangaratta, VIC; James aged 23, labourer, bachelor, illiterate, born Campbell Town, TAS, resident of Oxley; father John Poulter, farmer; mother Elizabeth Porterfield;¹⁴¹ Elizabeth aged 18, spinster, born Collingwood, VIC, resident of Oxley; father William Culph, blacksmith; mother Elizabeth Webber; witnesses Charles Culph and Eleanor Jones.¹⁴²
- 1879 Grandson Thomas Poulter born at Oxley, VIC; father James Poulter, mother Elizabeth Culph.¹⁴³
- 30 May 1879 Property of late husband John Poulter at Campbell Town sold.¹⁴⁴

¹³² *Examiner*, 6 January 1872 p.5 (Thomas Poulter)

¹³³ TAHO, RGD33/1/50 1872/1387 Port Sorell (Susan Murdie Poulter)

¹³⁴ VIC Death Certificate 1873/5032 (George James)

¹³⁵ PROV, VPRS 24 1873/462 (George James)

¹³⁶ TAHO, RGD33/1/52 1874/1480 Port Sorell (John Poulter)

¹³⁷ TAHO, SWD54/1/1, 25 July 1877 (Jane Poulter); TAHO, SWD52/2 pp.1249, 1363 (Jane Poulter)

¹³⁸ Gunn & Kippen, 'Household and Family Formation in Nineteenth-Century Tasmania' No.200657 (Isabella Pottor)

¹³⁹ TAHO, RGD33/1/56 1878/1583 Port Sorell (Barbara Poulter)

¹⁴⁰ *Examiner*, 31 July 1878 p.3 (Ellen Poulter)

¹⁴¹ Mary's mother Catherine married in Tasmania to James Porterfield.

¹⁴² VIC Marriage Certificate 1878/4184 (James Poulter & Elizabeth Phoebe Culph)

¹⁴³ VIC Birth Record 1879/10995 (Thomas Poulter)

¹⁴⁴ *Mercury*, 31 May 1879 p.2 (John Poulter)

Newspaper report:

Under instructions from the representatives of the late John Poulter, Mr. W. T. Bell sold some property at Campbell Town today, Mr. W. H. Westbrook officiating as auctioneer. Lot 1, containing an area of 6 acres 2 roods 1 perch, bounded by Franklin and Calder-streets, and land belonging to Messrs. Nicolson, Davidson and Whitney, with a small four-roomed cottage, was sold to Mr. James Robertson for £150. Lot 2, one acre, bounded by High and Montagu-streets, purchased by Messrs. Gray and Son, for £100. Lot 3, 2 roods 39½ perches, bounded by Montagu and Bridge-streets, same purchasers at £100.¹⁴⁴

- 20 June 1879 Grandson Thomas Poulter born in the Port Sorell district; father Emanuel Potter, labourer; informant mother Barbara Robson, resident of River Don.¹⁴⁵
- 4 September 1879 Daughter Ellen Poulter charged at the Police Court, Launceston with disturbing the public peace; sentence 14 days imprisonment.¹⁴⁶
- 4 November 1880 Granddaughter Mary Jane Poulter married Thomas Manion at St Joseph's Catholic Church, Hobart; Mary Jane aged 18, spinster, servant; Thomas aged 23, bachelor, labourer; witnesses John Carey and Elizabeth Manion.¹⁴⁷
- 24 December 1880 Daughter Ellen Poulter charged at the Police Court, Launceston with drunkenness; fined 5 shillings, in default of payment the usual alternative.¹⁴⁸
- 1881 Granddaughter Alice Elizabeth Poulter born at Oxley, VIC; father James Poulter; mother Elizabeth Culph.¹⁴⁹
- 5 February 1881 Daughter Ellen Poulter called as a witness at the Police Court, Launceston; not appearing, a warrant was issued for her apprehension.¹⁵⁰

Newspaper report:

Unlawfully Wounding. – Mary Ann Payne, on remand from the 28th ult., was charged on the information of Thomas Kelly, with having on the night of 27th ult., unlawfully and maliciously wounded him, with intent to do grievous bodily harm. The prisoner pleaded not guilty.

Thomas Kelly deposed, that he had just left the employ of Mr Kirkland, of the West Tamar, and had at present no fixed place of abode; he was in Launceston on last Saturday night, and in company with a woman named Ellen Poulter; he went to the house of the prisoner in a lane off Elizabeth-street; he had no quarrel with her, and whilst in her house he met a man named Con. Sullivan; the conversation turned upon the subject of work, and Sullivan said he was going to take "Badger" for a mate; witness expressed his surprise that Sullivan should take such a man; the prisoner became excited, and picked up some weapon, but threw it down, saying "I have better than that;" she afterwards became quiet, and Sullivan having left, witness went also, but just as he was going through the door, she struck him a severe blow on the head with a sharp instrument, and he turned round just in time to prevent her striking him a second one; he wrenched a tomahawk out of her hand, and went to the police station, gave information, and left the tomahawk.

Mary Hooper remembered being in the prisoner's house on the 27th ult.; she saw Kelly there and heard him talking to another man; she did not hear Kelly give the prisoner any provocation, but she seemed annoyed at some remarks that had been made with reference to a man named Badger; when Kelly was going out, the prisoner took up a tomahawk from under her bed, and followed him as he left the house, and immediately afterwards she hear him call out "don't kill me, don't kill me;" witness left the house then.

Charles Alfred Stewart, House Surgeon in charge of the Launceston General Hospital, deposed to having dressed a wound on Kelly's head on Monday last; it was about two inches long, and corresponded with the cut in the hat produced; it could have been caused by the tomahawk produced; he did not apprehend any danger from the wound, unless erysipelas set in, as it frequently did in such cases.

¹⁴⁵ Gunn & Kippen, 'Household and Family Formation in Nineteenth-Century Tasmania' No.205953 (Thomas Potter)

¹⁴⁶ *Examiner*, 5 September 1879 p.3 (Ellen Poulter)

¹⁴⁷ TAHO, RGD37/1/39 1880/744 Hobart (Jane Poulter & Thomas Manion); Gunn & Kippen, 'Household and Family Formation in Nineteenth-Century Tasmania' No.32946 (Jane Poulter & Thomas Manion)

¹⁴⁸ *Examiner*, 25 December 1880 p.3 (Ellen Poulter)

¹⁴⁹ VIC Birth Record 1881/4598 (Alice Elizabeth Polter)

¹⁵⁰ *Examiner*, 7 March 1881 p.3 (Ellen Poulter)

Sub-Inspector Sullivan deposed to Kelly having reported the assault to him on the night of the 27th ult., when he left a blood-stained tomahawk at the lock-up.

A witness named Ellen Poulter was called for the defence, but did not answer to her name, and a warrant was ordered to be issued for her apprehension.

In reply to the usual question, the prisoner stated that she was in bed when Kelly went to her house on the night of the 27th ult; he opened the door of her bedroom, and put an improper question to her, and she got up and put her dress on; Kelly then caught hold of her, and in the struggle that ensued she was kicked and bruised in several places; finding that no one came to her assistance, she took the tomahawk and struck the complainant, and he let her go; a woman named Ellen Poulter went to the door and saw the struggle, but rendered no assistance.

The case was adjourned till Wednesday next.¹⁵⁰

7 March 1881

Daughter Ellen Poulter appeared as a witness at the Police Court, Launceston.¹⁵¹

Newspaper report:

Cutting and Wounding. – Mary Ann Payne was again placed in the box upon this charge, the case for the prosecution having been previously closed, and a remand granted to secure the attendance of witnesses for the defence.

Ellen Poulter deposed that she was present when the assault took place; Kelly, the man who was wounded, was endeavouring to force the prisoner's door open, and the latter was resisting the intrusion and screaming; witness did not know what prisoner hit Kelly with.

In Cross-examination by Mr Coulter, witness stated that it was the front door of the house Kelly was trying to push open; there was a conversation about a man known as "Badger," and prisoner appeared to be annoyed at it; she struck Kelly with "something in the shape of an axe; she was in a very bad temper when she did it, in consequence of what Kelly said about "Badger;" she told Kelly to leave the house; witness thought Sullivan and his wife were in the bedroom at the time; Kelly had been ordered out twice, and was coming back the third time, and endeavouring to get in when he was struck; witness admitted she was too drunk to know much of what really did take place.

The prisoner was committed for trial.¹⁵¹

Daughter Ellen Poulter charged at the Police Court, Launceston with disobeying a summons; discharged.¹⁵¹

11 April 1881

Daughter Ellen Poulter charged at the Police Court, Launceston with being drunk and disorderly; fined 10 shillings, in default of payment the usual alternative.¹⁵²

16 November 1881

Grandson William Poulter born at Port Sorell; father Emanuel Poulter, labourer; mother Barbara Robson; informant aunt Isabella Robson, Don Heads.¹⁵³

29 November 1882

Daughter Elizabeth Poulter married Thomas Neighbour at Wangaratta, VIC; Elizabeth aged 19, born Campbell Town, TAS, spinster, living with brother, resident of Oxley Town, VIC; father John Poulter, farmer; mother Elizabeth Poulter, now Barron nee Porterfield;¹⁵⁴ Thomas aged 27, born Campbell Town, TAS, bachelor, labourer; resident of Oxley Town; father William Neighbour, gardener; mother Ann Adams; witnesses brother James Poulter (illiterate) and mother Elizabeth Poulter; written consent of Elizabeth Barron formerly Poulter, mother of the bride.¹⁵⁵

1883

Granddaughter Alice Maud Neighbour born at Oxley, VIC; father Thomas Neighbour, mother Elizabeth Poulter.¹⁵⁶

13 March 1884

Grandson David Stuart Poulter born at Port Sorell; father Emmanuel Poulter, labourer; mother Barbara Robson; informant brother Gideon Poulter, resident of Don.¹⁵⁷

1884

Granddaughter Ethel Mary Poulter born at Oxley, VIC; father James Poulter, mother Elizabeth Culph.¹⁵⁸

¹⁵¹ *Examiner*, 8 March 1881 p.3 (Ellen Poulter)

¹⁵² *Examiner*, 12 April 1881 p.2 (Ellen Poulter)

¹⁵³ TAHO, RGD33/1/59 1881/1887 Port Sorell (William Poulter)

¹⁵⁴ John Poulter died several years before Elizabeth was born.

¹⁵⁵ VIC Marriage Certificate 1882/5049 (Elizabeth Poulter & Thomas Neighbour)

¹⁵⁶ VIC Birth Record 1883/25513 (Alice Maud Neighbour)

¹⁵⁷ TAHO, RGD33/1/63 1884/2598 Port Sorell (David Stuart Poulter)

- 1885 Granddaughter Lucy Gertrude Neighbour born at Oxley, VIC; father Thomas Neighbour, mother Elizabeth Poulter.¹⁵⁹
- 8 May 1885 Granddaughter Rose Poulter born at Hobart; father not named; mother Mary Jane Poulter; informant Flo Lutten, resident of Goulburn Street, Hobart.¹⁶⁰
- 5 November 1885 Daughter Mary Jane Poulter married James Belcher at the house of James Belcher, New Norfolk; Wesleyan ceremony; Mary Jane aged 28, spinster; James aged 60, storekeeper, widower; witnesses James Reynolds and S Reynolds.¹⁶¹
- 1886 Granddaughter Eva Georgena Poulter born at Oxley, VIC; father James Poulter, mother Elisabeth Culph.¹⁶²
- 24 October 1887 Granddaughter Catherine Stewart Poulter born at Port Sorell; father Emmanuel Poulter, engine driver; mother Barbara Robson; informant brother Gideon Poulter of Torquay.¹⁶³
- 23 May 1888 Son John Henry Poulter married Harriet Whatley at the residence of Mr Charles Archer, Formosa, Cressy; Wesleyan ceremony; John aged 34, shepherd, bachelor; Harriet aged 33, laundress, widow; witnesses Fanny Tucker and Walter Bound.¹⁶⁴
- 1889 Grandson Arthur William Poulter born at Oxley, VIC; father James Poulter, mother Elizabeth Culph.¹⁶⁵
- 9 September 1889 Grandson (unknown) Poulter¹⁶⁶ severely cut his hand on a chaffcutter at Formosa, Cressy.¹⁶⁷
- Newspaper report:
- CRESSY.
- A chapter of accidents occurred on Monday, the 9th inst., two of them resulting from children playing with chaffcutters. A son of John Poulter in the employ of Mr. Chas. Archer, of Formosa, in company with his brother, was playing with one of these machines, when he had the fingers of his left hand cut so badly that Dr. Haines, of Longford, found it necessary to amputate the little finger at the third joint. The third finger, it is thought, will be saved.*¹⁶⁷
- 1890 Grandson Walter James Poulter born at Oxley, VIC; father James William Poulter, mother Elizabeth Culph.¹⁶⁸
- 1891 Granddaughter Mary Ann Neighbour born at Oxley, VIC; father Thomas Neighbour; mother Elizabeth Poulter.¹⁶⁹
- 1 October 1891 Son John Henry Poulter died of influenza at Longford; aged 40, labourer; informant WE Wright, undertaker's son, Longford.¹⁷⁰
- 1893 Grandson Jack Poulter born at Oxley, VIC; father James William Poulter, mother Elizabeth Culph.¹⁷¹
- Grandson George Neighbour born at Raywood, VIC; father Thomas Robert Neighbour, mother Elizabeth Poulter.¹⁷²
- 30 June 1893 Grandson (unknown) Poulter¹⁷³ burnt in an accident at Formosa, Cressy.¹⁷⁴

¹⁵⁸ VIC Birth Record 1884/11830 (Ethel Mary Poulter)

¹⁵⁹ VIC Birth Record 1885/27755 (Lucy Gertrude Neighbour)

¹⁶⁰ TAHO, RGD33/1/13 1885/2983 Hobart (Rose Poulter)

¹⁶¹ TAHO, RGD37/1/44 1885/868 New Norfolk (James Belcher & Mary Jane Poulter)

¹⁶² VIC Birth Record 1886/28541 (Eva Georgena Poulter)

¹⁶³ TAHO, RGD33/1/66 1887/2852 Port Sorell (Catherine Stewart Poulter)

¹⁶⁴ TAHO, RGD37/1/47 1888/488 Longford (John Henry Poulter & Harriet Whatley)

¹⁶⁵ VIC Birth Record 1889/15178 (Arthur William Poulter)

¹⁶⁶ This is a son of John Henry Poulter and Harriet Whatley. No birth has been found for this child.

¹⁶⁷ *Mercury*, 12 September 1889 p.3 (John Poulter)

¹⁶⁸ VIC Birth Record 1890/26132 (Walter James Poulter)

¹⁶⁹ VIC Birth Record 1891/36010 (Mary Ann Neighbour)

¹⁷⁰ TAHO, RGD35/1/60 1891/433 Longford (John Henry Poulter)

¹⁷¹ VIC Birth Record 1893/15761 (Jack Poulter)

¹⁷² VIC Birth Record 1893/34617 (George Neighbour)

¹⁷³ This is a son of John Henry Poulter and Harriet Whatley. No birth has been found for this child.

¹⁷⁴ *Mercury*, 8 July 1893 p.15 (Mrs Poulter)

Newspaper report:

CRESSY.

*On Friday, 30th ult., a distressing accident happened to a young son of Mrs. Poulter, a widow, residing on the Formosa Estate. During the temporary absence of this mother the lad became possessed of a flask of powder, which an elder brother had left on the table, and taking it near the fire the powder became ignited and an explosion followed, the boy's hands and face being terribly burned. It was at first feared that the sight of both eyes were seriously effected, but happily such proved not to be the case.*¹⁷⁴

- 1894 Stepfather James Porterfield died at Ballarat Benevolent Asylum, VIC; aged 92, father William, mother Elizabeth.¹⁷⁵
- 1895 Granddaughter Ada Maizie Poulter born at Oxley, VIC; father James William Poulter, mother Elizabeth Culph.¹⁷⁶
- Granddaughter Amy Elizabeth Neighbour born at Raywood, VIC; father Thomas Robert Neighbour, mother Elizabeth Poulter.¹⁷⁷
- 1898 Grandson John Thomas Neighbour born at Raywood, VIC; father Thomas Robert Neighbour, mother Elizabeth Poulter.¹⁷⁸
- 1 March 1898 Granddaughter Susan Murdie Poulter married John Andrew Bates at West Devonport, Baptist ceremony; Susan aged 25, spinster; John aged 29, bachelor, baker; witnesses George S Eastman and sister Isabella Poulter.¹⁷⁹
- 1901 Granddaughter Lynda May Neighbour born at Raywood, VIC; father Thomas Neighbour, mother Elizabeth Poulter.¹⁸⁰
- 1905 Granddaughter Winifred C Tina Neighbour born at Raywood, VIC; father Thomas Neighbour, mother Elizabeth Poulter.¹⁸¹
- 1907 Grandson William James Neighbour born at Raywood, VIC; father Thomas Robert Neighbour, mother Elizabeth Poulter.¹⁸²
- 12 November 1915 Son Emmanuel Poulter died at 52 Tamar Street, Launceston; aged 66.¹⁸³
- November 1915 Son Emmanuel Poulter buried at Don Congregational Cemetery. ¹⁸⁴
- 18 October 1928 Will read of son Emmanuel Poulter, formerly of Devonport but late of Launceston, engine driver; beneficiaries wife Barbara Poulter and after her death his 8 children: Gideon Poulter, Susan Murdie Bates wife of John Andrew Bates, John Emanuel Poulter, Isabella Poulter, David Stewart Poulter, Catherine Stewart Poulter, Thomas Poulter and William Poulter.¹⁸⁵

Notes

- Mary's brother-in-law may be the William Kendrick who died of rupture aneurysm at Kyneton, VIC in 1869, aged 58. There was an inquest into his death.¹⁸⁶

¹⁷⁵ VIC Death Record 1894/4665 (James Porterfield)

¹⁷⁶ VIC Birth Record 1895/14983 (Ada Maizie Poulter)

¹⁷⁷ VIC Birth Record 1895/32180 (Amy Elizabeth Neighbour)

¹⁷⁸ VIC Birth Record 1898/5931 (John Thomas Neighbour)

¹⁷⁹ TAHO, RGD37/1/60 1898/841 Mersey (Susan Murdie Poulter & John Andrew Bates); Gunn & Kippen, 'Household and Family Formation in Nineteenth-Century Tasmania' No.50704 (Susan Murdie Poulter & John Andrew Bates)

¹⁸⁰ VIC Birth Record 1901/29480 (Lynda May Neighbour)

¹⁸¹ VIC Birth Record 1905/13126 (Winifred C Tina Neighbour)

¹⁸² VIC Birth Record 1907/21644 (William James Neighbour)

¹⁸³ TAS Death Record 1915/602 (Emmanuel Poulter)

¹⁸⁴ *Linc Tasmania*, 'eHeritage' No.DFH_07330 (Emmanuel Poulter)

¹⁸⁵ TAHO, AD960/1/52 p.703 No.16927 (Emmanuel Poulter)

¹⁸⁶ PROV, VPRS 24 1869/271 (William Kendrick); VIC Death Record 1869/1629 (William Kendrick)