

## ELIZABETH BARTON FROM FEMALE CONVICT TO PIONEER 1810 – 1889

Author David Barton<sup>i</sup>

### PART 1

### ELIZABETH IN IRELAND 1810 -1837

#### ELIZABETH'S BIRTHPLACE



(L) Kingdom of Holland in 1810

Deutsche Wikipedia

Elizabeth was born in 1810, in the Kingdom of Holland, Koninkrijk Holland, at a time when Napoleon Bonaparte had incorporated the Netherlands into the French Empire imposing economic controls and conscripting young men as soldiers.

It is difficult to know whether Elizabeth's father was a Dutch born conscripted soldier that took part in one of three ill-fated British troop expeditions from 1799-1814 to recover parts of the strategic coastline of the French occupied Low Countries<sup>ii</sup>.

Whatever her Dutch background, Elizabeth was born at a time of major warfare in Europe when the British army had Dutch Units and soldiers from Ireland that made up 42% of the British army. Some soldiers lived with wives and children in their regiments.

Elizabeth's father also could have been a trader from Holland that came by ship to Newry in County Down. An interesting lead on Elizabeth's maiden name is shown on William Barton's death certificate which gives Layman, a surname commonly found in Holland, as her birth name (see pages 27-28)

#### NEWRY COUNTY DOWN

(R) Merchants Quay in Newry County Down.

Photo National Library of Ireland

Trial records and newspapers place Elizabeth home as Newry in County Down. A strong maritime connection existed between Holland and Newry in the 1800s when the town was a busy port trading with America and Europe. By 1815, thanks to a canal built in 1742, Newry had become the premier port in Ulster and fourth in all Ireland. As a trade centre Newry had a built a new Customs House and Merchants Quay. Many merchants in the town were responsible for building the so-called 'Dutch houses'



## SEAMORE SEAMOUR SEYMOUR SEYMORE

R) Dutch style houses in Newry  
Photo: National Library of Ireland

From 1820-1837 Elizabeth's married name gets spelt different ways. In Newry in 1830, when she is aged 21 years, it is spelt *Seymour* and then again in 1834, when the Belfast Commercial Chronicle reports her name as Seymour (see sources later on). This spelling of the name Seymour was commonly found in County Down, among towns people, navy and military personnel alike.

From the British Newspaper Archives, for the period 1830-1837 (Belfast, Dublin, the Newry Telegraph in County Down) we can comfortably discard the spelling *Seamore*. This version appears once when it is written down by a clerk in the Convict Transportation register. Perhaps, when asking Elizabeth *how do you spell your name* Elizabeth replied she did not spell, and in a whimsy the clerk spelt it Seamore as she was to be transported *beyond the seas*.



In 1839, on Elizabeth's Marriage Banns in the Colony of New South Wales, her surname is spelt *Seymour* as well as *Seamour*, with both versions appearing in the same document.

### 1834 ELIZABETH IMPROPER FEMALE CHARACTER



(L) Elizabeth's home in Newry, County Down. Source BBC News

Elizabeth was charged in Newry with Vagrancy when in 1834 Special Constables, sworn in by the Board of the Newry Workhouse, were authorised to *take into custody all prostitutes they found on the streets at an unseasonable hour*. Elizabeth Seymour was among a group of eleven women arrested at night. A Special Constable, a man called Brannigan, is accused by one of the apprehended women, in front of the trial judge, of being in cahoots with his mother *who keeps a common brothel in Newry*.

At the start of the trial the Hon Justice Moore makes a statement to the Grand Jury about the nature of vagrants, women like Elizabeth, of whom the jury will hear evidence about their behaviour.

#### **County Down Assizes Downpatrick Friday March 21 1834**

##### **IMPROPER FEMALE CHARACTERS**

Before the Hon Justice Moore - His Lordship proceeded to call the attention of the Grand Jury to another offence, of which he perceived several charges in the calendar – he meant vagrancy. It ought to be remembered, that the charge was one involving consequences of a high penal nature. If the party found guilty, under a pre-assignment of this description, did not, at or before the expiration of 6 months, for which they were in the first instance to be imprisoned, find respectable securities in the sum of £5 each, for their subsequent good conduct, they must be according to the law, as it now stood, be transported for 7 years. This was a great punishment and one which should not be lightly visited on anyone. He did not hesitate to say that *improper female characters*, were not the objects

of the law; which directed itself exclusively against the sturdy vagrant who might have work, if he thought proper, but preferred idleness.

***Belfast Commercial Chronicle Monday 24 March 1834 pages 2-4***  
**Persons Of Bad Character**

Saturday morning before His Lordship and Petty Jury

*On trial:* Ellen Reilly, Mary Johnston, Margaret O'Hara, **Elizabeth Seymour**, Margaret Rellett, Mary Anne Atkinson, Ann Carey, Ann Smith, Mary Roxberry, **Ann Curtis\*** and Sarah Courtney

Were severally, by presentment from the Grand Jury, given in charge to the Jury as Vagrants, they being persons of bad character and having no fixed place of abode. These actions arose in consequence of the Board of Newry Workhouse having Special Constables, whom they authorised to take into custody all prostitutes they found on the streets at an unseasonable hour. One of the prisoners (O'Hara) brought the charge against the principal witness Brannigan, whose mother she said, kept a common brothel in Newry, which he acknowledged.

His Lordship said it would be a disgrace to the proper authorities of Newry if they allowed such a character to retain his present position (that of a constable for the above institution). In the case of Johnston and Smith the Jury found in favour of presentment – all the rest was discharged. These cases occupied the Court a great part of the day

\*Ann Curtis will accompany Elizabeth to Sydney and will become an important part of Elizabeth's story, when she seeks permission from the Governor of the Colony to marry William Barton

(R) map showing Newry, where Elizabeth was arrested, and Downpatrick, in County Down, where Elizabeth was put on trial for being an improper female character

Source: Graphicmaps

**ELIZABETH AND HER FRIEND ANN CURTIS**

We know we have the right Elizabeth Seymour because she keeps the company of a friend named Ann Curtis. They both come from Newry and appear together in the Downpatrick Assizes on two separate vagrancy charges – in 1834 and then again in 1836.

They are found together on two other occasions when they embark on the *Sir Charles Forbes* convict ship and work together in the Parramatta Female Convict Factory after arriving in Sydney. Elizabeth is also documented as giving to the Reverend John Vincent the name of *her friend Ann Curtis* when he asks for proof she is not married.



(L) Ann Curtis name is written on the 1839 Marriage Banns by the Rev John Vincent. Source: Ancestry

(L) Transcribed by David Barton  
and in support of her assertion that she is not a married woman she [Elizabeth] refers to Ann Curtis from the Sir Charles Forbes who was in the Factory [the Female Convict Factory Parramatta NSW] in September last [1838] where Elizabeth Seymour was assigned to my Services

Elizabeth knew her friend Ann Curtis in Newry, when she was 17 years old, and then Ann was convicted and imprisoned for 12 months with hard labour for stealing a purse and 10s. In 1834 Ann appears on trial with Elizabeth, both accused of vagrancy, and then two years later they face similar charges and this time both get sentenced to 7 years transportation<sup>iii</sup>

The background of the other *improper female characters*, mentioned with Elizabeth in her 1834 trial, can give us a better idea of night life on the streets in Newry.

**Mary Johnston:** she has a prior conviction (1831) where she is charged with stealing *from the person of a man in the street at night the sum of £2 in silver.*

*Northern Whig Monday 31 March 1834*

Sentences Pronounced at Down Assizes on Saturday last: Mary Johnston and Ann Smith, vagrants to be transported for 7 years, unless bail, in 6 months, to be of the peace for 7 years

**Sarah Courtney:** in 1838 Sarah is charged with associating with a group of men who rob items from a church in Newry, which the Constables later find in Sarah's house - *Sarah Courtney guilty and to be transported 7 years*

**Mary Ann Atkinson:** she had a prior conviction in 1830, when she is fined by a Police Magistrate 5s - *also 5s 6d, proceeds of sale of goat detained, supposed to be stolen*

#### DEFINITIONS ON VAGRANCY

Suppression of individual women, like Elizabeth working on the streets, was mainly reliant on special constables, sworn in by a magistrate at a per diem rate of 3s 6d per day in 1834. They enforced vagrancy and curfew laws and women who came before the local courts were often arrested for crimes other than soliciting, such as stealing, pickpocketing, indecency or public disturbance<sup>iv</sup>.

Magistrates usually sentenced first time offenders (vagrants) to one or two month's hard labour and if they appeared again on a similar charge they were sentenced to transportation. Court clerks, from time to time, would write down in the magistrate's register additional comments besides a name of a convicted vagrant. Below are some examples sourced from a trial register in the years 1830 -1849.

*Sentence of Vagrancy with the clerk writing a remark against the vagrants name:* begging and disorderly conduct; being found in a yard; being found in a garden; being found in wagon; exposing himself; exposing herself; leaving family chargeable to the parish; lodging without permission in a barn; lodging without permission in an outhouse; lodging in the open air; has no visible means of support; not giving a good account of themselves; has a bad character; is a prostitute; is a rogue; is a vagabond; is charged for being a lewd woman.

### 1836 ELIZABETH'S 2<sup>ND</sup> CONVICTION



(L) Downpatrick Courthouse where Elizabeth was tried twice for vagrancy. A tunnel went directly from the courthouse to the basement of the nearby Downpatrick gaol where Elizabeth was incarcerated—  
Source: Downpatrick News

Elizabeth was brought before a judge and jury on the 11 July 1836 at the Downpatrick Court House at the County Courts of Down. The Court House had several chambers and

offices for judges, jurors, barristers, public officers and prison apartments where Elizabeth was kept before she appeared in court. On the same day she was tried the court sentenced eight other women for vagrancy including her friend Ann Curtis.

#### ***Belfast Commercial Chronicle Wednesday 30 July 1836***

County of Down Assizes Downpatrick Monday 11 July 1836

The judges arrived in town this morning – and the Court was for some time occupied with the ordinary routine business. There are not more than 30 cases altogether in the calendar so the Assizes is expected to be over tomorrow night

(R) The old Downpatrick jail was surrounded by a high curtain wall. Here prisoners awaiting transportation sometimes remained in prison for months or even several years before being transferred to a convict ship.  
Source: Irish Antiquities



Elizabeth was presented before the judge and jury as a vagrant, found guilty, and *sentenced to 6 months imprisonment [Downpatrick gaol] and to give security at the end of that time, to be of peace for 7 years, or to be transported*

### SENTENCED TO 6 MONTHS AND TO GIVE SECURITY OR BE TRANSPORTED

When Elizabeth sought permission to marry William Barton in Sutton Forest, she told the Rev John Vincent that *she was never married but cohabited with a man of the name of Macfarlane/Macfasten who died in Belfast two years before her conviction.* (see discussion on his name on page 15)

The consequence of him dying in Belfast in 1834 and then followed by her sentencing in 1836, becomes clearer. When Elizabeth is found guilty, she is given a 6 month period to raise £5 from a *respectable security* or otherwise face transportation. Macfarlane, if he had lived, would have been the most likely person to have helped. Having served 6 months imprisonment or more in Downpatrick gaol, and still unable to provide £5 security, Elizabeth's transportation sentence is triggered and she is transferred to Dublin awaiting female convict transport.

## GRANGEGORMAN WOMEN'S PENITENTIARY DUBLIN

July 1837 to August 1837



(L) The Grangegorman Women's Penitentiary in Dublin where Elizabeth was imprisoned before boarding the *Sir Charles Forbes*  
Source: Ireland reaching out

Elizabeth was taken from the Downpatrick gaol to the Grangegorman Women's Penitentiary, in Dublin, a short distance of 8 miles from Kingstown Harbour where she would embark on a female convict ship.

Opened in 1836 Grangegorman was the Female Convict Depot and the first all-female prison in the British Isles. It housed women with prison sentences as well as those sentenced to transportation. As part of her transportation sentence, Elizabeth was trained in knitting, sewing, cooking and laundry work so she would be useful, as a cook, maid and house servant to free settlers in New South Wales. Prison cells were used exclusively for women waiting transportation. They did not mix with ordinary prisoners and exercised and ate separately<sup>v</sup>.

### ELIZABETH'S TWO MALE CHILDREN

Elizabeth was left a widowed woman with two small children. Life for many women in similar circumstances led to theft and prostitution. Elizabeth had been arrested on vagrancy charges in 1834, when *found on the streets at an unseasonable hour*, and by 1836 she had a previous vagrancy conviction. At the time of her sentencing in 1836, it was commonly accepted that a child was an adult by aged 10 years and it was not uncommon to find young children convicted of theft being whipped in prison, or even hanged or transported by the authorities.

#### ***Northern Whig Belfast Monday 10 March 1834***

In 1834, a little urchin aged 14, was found guilty of stealing 3½d from another child who was returning from a shop on an errand. He was sentenced to 7 years transportation

Elizabeth exiled from Ireland left behind her *two male* Seymour children. We do not know what became of them. On occasions a convict, after arriving in the Colony, was permitted through an application process to have their families brought to Australia. When arriving in the Colony the children were mostly placed in a male or female Orphan School in the Parramatta area managed by the Colonial Secretary's Office

#### ***Trove 1836 Application for Free Passage for Families of Convicts 1835-1842***

Applications from a prisoner that their Wives and Families may be sent to the Colony at the Expense of Government

Elizabeth's children, likely were left behind in Newry, orphaned, homeless and in poverty. If found begging or being a nuisance, the Special Constables would have been given authorisation to take the boys off the streets and place them in the Newry Work House. There they would be given work breaking stones and corn grinding from 7.30am to 8pm. If convicted of stealing, they would be transported.



### 1837 TRANSPORTATION RECORDS

(R) photo of Earl of Mulgrave Lord Lieutenant of Ireland  
Free Source: historyhome.co.uk

Seven days before the *Sir Charles Forbes* set sail for Sydney the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland authorised Elizabeth Seamour's transportation.

The Warrant, for Elizabeth's transportation, was signed by Constantine Henry Phipps, 1<sup>st</sup> Marquess of Normandy, the Earl of Mulgrave and Lord Lieutenant of Ireland (1835-1839). He was a Whig politician, Home Secretary (1839-1841) and British Ambassador to France (1846-1852).

Whereas the several Persons named in the annexed List has been convicted of offences against the Laws of Ireland and have been ordered to be Transported for the Term annexed to their name respectively

[Item 69: Elizabeth Seamour Vagrancy 7 years  
Elizabeth's entry is on the annexed list attached to the Warrant]

And whereas the said several Persons have been put aboard the Ship *The Sir Charles Forbes* in order so their being Transported to His Majesty's Colony at New South Wales. We do hereby in pursuance of the Authority vested in Us by the Law, transfer the Service of the several Persons to His Majesty's Governor of His Majesty's said Colony of New South Wales and his Assigns, respectively ordered to be Transported. Given at His Majesty's Castle

of Dublin the Fourth day of August. By His Excellency's Command. [Below the warrant is written] Service of 150 convicts transferred to the Governor of New South Wales.

## PART 2

### THE SIR CHARLES FORBES CONVICT SHIP

(L) painting of convict ship, a similar build to the *Sir Charles Forbes*, and a typical merchantman that was chartered as convict transport.  
Source: coastmonkey.ie

The *Sir Charles Forbes*, before arriving in Ireland, had been chartered and fitted out in Liverpool as a convict ship and departed from there on 27 July 1837 bound for Kingstown Dublin where female prisoners were to be embarked.



(R) Kingstown (Dunleary) on the southern shore of the bay of Dublin and the place from where the *Sir Charles Forbes* sailed for Sydney  
Source: British Library photo



**Gores Liverpool General Advertiser  
Thursday 20 July 1837**

We understand that Lieutenant Low R.N Government Agent for Emigration has been appointed likewise agent to the Irish Government for the purpose of taking up and fitting convict ships at this port, and that this officer has chartered the ships *Sir Charles Forbes* and *Neptune*, both vessels are now in a forward state, the former will proceed in a few days to Kingstown to embark 170 females.

**PROVISION OF STORES FOR THE SIR CHARLES FORBES**

**Saunders's Newsletter Saturday 1 July 1837**

PROVISION OF STORES WANTED before 10th day of July for supplying two Convict Ships after arrival in Kingston Harbour

20 ton of Biscuit	6 ton of Flour
18 cwt of Raisins	10 cwt of Suet
230 bushels of Pease	50 cwt of Sugar
450 lbs of Tea	8 cwt of Chocolate
50 tierces of Mess Beef	63 barrels of Mess Pork
720 gallons of Fort Wine	300 gallons of Lemon Juice
360 gallons of Vinegar	220 gallons of Rum
10 cwt of Cocoa	

SAMPLES of Biscuit, Flour, Tea, Sugar, Chocolate and Cocoa are to accompany Tenders, and all articles to be the best quality such as supplied to the Navy. Proposals to be sealed and directed under cover to the Under Secretary of State Dublin Castle –  
To the Commissioner for Conducting the Convict Service of Ireland

**FEMALE PRISONERS ABOARD THE SIR CHARLES FORBES**

Female prisoners embarking on the *Sir Charles Forbes* were transported for the following crimes: uttering base coin [passing forged coins and notes]; highway robbery; picking pockets; arson and home breaking; attempted murder of a child, vagrancy and theft.

Items stolen by the women included: boots, canvas, a cheese, a cow, an eyeglass, fowls, a gun, hair brush, hair comb, hay, meat, money, a pig, potatoes, a quilt, a sheep, thread, a watch, socks, frock, a sheet, handkerchief, cotton, coat, plate, a tub, shirt, blanket, a cloak, calico, curtains, a cap and trousers.

All the prisoners were born in Ireland other than three women - two were born in Scotland and Elizabeth Seamour born in Holland. Elizabeth is entered in the register as among 16 widows on the voyage. The youngest female prisoner was 15 years old and the oldest was aged 55 years<sup>vi</sup>.

### 1837 THE VOYAGE TO SYDNEY

In steerage on the *Sir Charles Forbes* were 5 free women and 6 children with a company of soldiers from the 51<sup>st</sup> Light Infantry<sup>vii</sup>.

#### ***Freemans Journal Dublin Friday 4 August 1837***

Major Elliott, Lieutenant Baker and the first detachment of the 51<sup>st</sup> Light Infantry have embarked at Chatham to take convicts from Kingstown to New South Wales

The *Sir Charles Forbes* departed Kingstown on 11 August 1837. The following journal notes were written by the ship's surgeon, William Clifford, who had previously served as a surgeon on other convict ships. He began treating the women's illnesses on the *Sir Charles Forbes*, while the vessel still lay in Kingston Harbour

The Irish convicts desponding, indolent and disposed to dirt, required every exertion to keep their minds in a fit state<sup>viii</sup>.

The female convicts had much to contend with during the voyage. The *Sir Charles Forbes* was in a *very crowded state* and was nearly constantly wet owing to being low in the water. There was an outbreak of scurvy which was treated with vinegar and sugar. William Clifford had found in previous voyages, that early doses of nitrous were effective. After the Cape the weather turned cold and there were several cases of catarrh. An infant George Kelly, age 17 months was treated for dysentery on 11 October 1837 and died on 29 October. Margaret Peggy Fallon from Galway died at sea on 2 December 1837 *of a broken constitution after a life of prostitution and dissipation*.

### ELIZABETH TAKEN SICK ON VOYAGE

A few weeks before the voyage ended Elizabeth was taken ill with *synocha*, a continuous fever, thought then to be caused by pestilential air or corrupt food. She was nursed by the ship's surgeon in the sick bay.

#### ***National Archives Kew Medical Journal William Clifford Ref ADM 1010/67/92***

Folio 3: Elizabeth Seymour, age 29, convict; sick or hurt, synocha; put on sick list 24 November 1837, discharged 1 December 1837

Ann Curtis, Elizabeth's friend, also became sick on the voyage<sup>ix</sup>

## PART 3

### ELIZABETH IN SYDNEY AND PARRAMATTA 1838 -1839

(L) 1839 Sydney Cove looking north. Frederick Garling. State Library NSW.

While Elizabeth was on the high seas to Sydney, the Sligo Journal wrote the following news piece describing the population of the Colony of New South Wales that included 2,257 female convicts.



**Source: Sligo Journal Friday 1 September 1837**

COLONY OF NEW SOUTH WALES. There is a total of 77,096 persons, namely 30,285 free males, 25,257 male convicts, 18,980 free females and 2,257 female convicts. Of the entire population of the Colony 54,621 are Protestants, 21,898 Roman Catholics, 477 Jews and 100 Pagans

#### **ELIZABETH IS DESCRIBED IN THE CONVICT INDENTURE**

Convicts in Ireland were transferred from the custody of gaolers to merchant shipping contractors whose agents signed legal agreements and provided financial bonds guaranteeing that they would transport named convicts to Australia, prevent escapes and deliver them into the custody of the colonial government. These indentures, commonly known as convict indents, always recorded the convict's name, date and place of trial and sentence. Elizabeth's record is as follows:

**Name:** *Elizabeth Seamore*; **Age:** 27; **Education:** *Read [not write]*; **Religion:** *Protestant*

**Marital status:** *Widow* **Children:** *2 male* **Native Place:** *Holland*

**Trade or calling:** *General House Servant* **Offence:** *Vagrancy* **Where offence:** *Down*

**When:** *11 July 1836* **Sentence:** *7 years* **Former conviction:** *2 months*

**Height:** *5 4¼* **Complexion** *Ruddy* **Hair** *Brown* **Eyes** *Grey to blue* **Particular Marks** *None*



(L) Sydney Heads with a ship coming into Sydney harbour. Artist unknown. Art Gallery NSW

#### **1837 CHRISTMAS EVE**

After a 136 days voyage the *Sir Charles Forbes* sailed through the Sydney Heads and dropped anchor on Christmas eve.

***The Sydney Gazette***

***Thursday 25 December 1837***

Arrived last night, the *Sir Charles Forbes*, Captain Leslie, with female convicts from Ireland. She brought up and anchored in Neutral Bay

The following day, Christmas day, the 147 female convicts would have awoken to clear, pleasant weather with winds from the north-west and temperatures of around 26C. They would remain aboard the ship for another eleven days waiting to land.

Two days after the *Sir Charles Forbes* arrived, on the 27 December 1837, an advert was published in the Colony that families who were in need of Female Servants, supplied from the prisoners aboard the *Sir Charles Forbes*, could apply according to the established rules.

***NSW Government Gazette Wed 27 Dec 1837 pg.954***

Colonial Secretary's Office Sydney 22 Dec 1837

#### **FEMALE SERVANTS**

Notice is hereby given that Families who are in the want of Female Servants may be supplied from the Prisoners arriving by the ship the *Sir Charles Forbes*, from Ireland, provided they apply according to the established Forms on or before twelve o'clock on Saturday inst. The Assignees will be required to enter into the usual engagement, under a penalty of Forty Shillings to keep their servants for one month, unless removed to due course of the law. Printed Form of Application may be obtained at the Office of Principal Superintendent of Convicts.

By His Excellency's Command. E. Deas Thomson

## CONVICT ASSIGNMENT AND THE LADIES COMMITTEE

With a much lower number of female to male convicts in the Colony (2,257 female convicts to 25,257 male convicts) the issue of who got the pickings of female convict labour in 1837 was hotly debated in the Colony. A *Ladies Committee* who met the arrival of female convict transports, as the *Sir Charles Forbes*, came in for some sharp criticism.

*Sydney Herald Thursday 26 April 1838*

What are the duties of the Ladies Committee who generally attend the disembarkation and assignment of female convicts? From one or two circumstances that has come to our knowledge, we have no hesitation in risking the charge of being ungallant, by saying that they do little else than 'job' in the disposal of women. For instance, a lady who is a particular friend to one on the Committee has a woman assigned to her – Nay, we have heard of an instant where one of the Committee had the effrontery to erase the name of an assignee from the list and substitute her own. We trust when the next female convict ship arrives His Excellency will not allow the interference of any jobbing ladies

Later that year, with further complaints about female convict assignments, the Governor announced that a closer inspection would be made by the Governor's Office of the whole assignment process whereby further applications for a female convict made by free settlers had to be certified by both a Magistrate and a Clergyman.

## PART 4

### ELIZABETH AND THE FEMALE FACTORY PARRAMATTA

January to September 1838



(L) the Female Factory at Parramatta c 1826 by Augustus Earle  
Courtesy NLA

Five months after leaving Ireland, on Thursday morning 4 January 1838 at the Sydney dockyard, Elizabeth put her feet on dry land again after a voyage that must have seemed a purgatory.

*Sydney Monitor Friday 5 January 1838*

The female prisoners per the ship *Sir Charles Forbes* were landed at the Dockyard yesterday morning, Bishop Polding, and a Committee of ladies were in attendance; after being exhorted to behave in their new places in a becoming manner, the females were assigned to the various applicants.

On disembarking Elizabeth, along with her friend Ann Curtis, did not get assigned to a family and both were sent directly to the Female Factory at Parramatta<sup>x</sup>. There they were inspected, searched, then after bathing, supplied a uniform dress. In the Factory, Elizabeth worked at weaving, spinning, needlework, making clothes and taking in washing. If any of the female convicts in the Factory broke the rules, they were made to do hard labour by breaking stones to pave the streets of Parramatta. Some of the work they did was provided to the general public at a cost.

**Colonial Secretary's Office. Sydney 26 Feb 1839**

Plain Needlework of all kinds, including jackets and trowsers will be taken in at the Female Factory

We know which week Elizabeth arrived at the Female Factory, and the exact numbers of female convicts being held there, as she is among those counted in a report made to the Governor on the 7 January 1838.

**New South Wales Government Gazette Tuesday 9 January 1838 pg.41**

**STATE OF THE FEMALE FACTORY, PARRAMATTA ON THE 7<sup>TH</sup> DAY JANUARY 1838**

Under Colonial Sentence: 374

*In Solitary Confinement:* 5

*Confined by Order of the Keeper:* 0

*Nursing children:* 55

*Number Assignable:* 70

*Number not Assignable:* 70

*In Hospital:* 31

Total Number of Women: 543

Total Number of Children: 127

After Elizabeth's arrival at the Female Factory the *Sir Charles Forbes* left Sydney harbour for Chile

**Sydney General Trade List Sat 27 January 1838**

Jan 22 *Sir Charles Forbes*, 363 tons, Leslie, Master for Valparaiso and Liverpool. 112 pieces of Cedar

The Matron at the Female Factory, a Julia Leach in 1838, was responsible for matching a free settler, called a Master, with a female convict available for an assignment.

***Twelve Years' Wanderings in the British Colonies, from 1835 to 1847 (extract), J.C. Byrne.***

A man desiring a wife, and being unable to suit himself elsewhere, proceeds to the female factory at Parramatta, and presents himself to the matron and master of that institution... Notice is here given that a wife is required, and such as are willing to be married step forward, and are marshalled in batches into the presence of the would-be Benedict. On they pass, the man speaking to individuals as they attract his attention, inquiring their age, etc. till someone is met with who pleases his taste, and possesses the required perfection's

Elizabeth remained in the Female Factory for nine months, before being assigned to a free settler. In September 1838 Elizabeth was sent to the Rev. John Vincent, as a house servant. He lived, with his large family, at the parsonage in Sutton Forest, 80 miles south of the Female Factory in Parramatta. There when working in his household, as a Bond servant, Elizabeth would meet William Barton.

## **PART 5**

### **ELIZABETH IN SUTTON FOREST 1838-1849**

#### **1838 SUTTON FOREST**

The places called Sutton Forest and Bong Bong can be confusing. They are 4 miles apart. Whenever news for Sutton Forest in the 1830's was reported in the Colony's newspapers and journals it would have covered the area known as Bong Bong.

***The Colonist Thursday 29 August 1835 Pg.4***

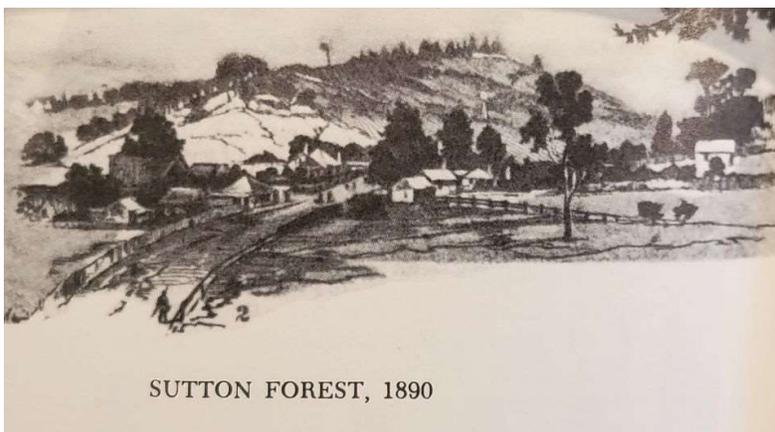
To the Editor of the Colonist. I take leave, however, to acquaint 'A Constant Reader' that Sutton Forest and Bong Bong are one and the same district – at the former place there is a slab building named All Saints Chapel wherein divine service is regularly performed by the Rev John Vincent.

Europeans discovered Sutton Forest on the 20 March, 1798 when they first described the place as the *most beautiful country, having nothing but fine large meadows with ponds of water in them, fine green hills but very thin of trees*<sup>vi</sup>. The area was named after a visit made by Governor Macquarie on 2 November, 1820, when he named it Sutton Forest after the Rt Hon. Charles Manners Sutton, then Speaker of the House of Commons and son of the Archbishop of Canterbury

**Source: Visitor Journal March 1832**

SUTTON FOREST a most luxurious spot...there is as much of the English village in miniature about this township as any I know of - a homeliness of scenery that strikes the attention, and induces a second pause to look again at the neat cottages, the snug little church [where Elizabeth married], the light timber with its umbrageous foliage, and the refreshing lagoons on the roadside which incite the weary horse, or bullock to slake his thirst on a sultry summer's day.

When Elizabeth arrived in Sutton Forest, in September 1838, it was still regarded as the outer limits of the Colony. Convict labour here was used by free settlers to clear land and there is no doubt that Elizabeth would have seen convict gangs building the road that went through Sutton Forest, heading further south, known as the Great South Road. The district could be a dangerous place to live with a



robbery at the parsonage that threatened the household of the Rev John Vincent.

(L) old postcard of Sutton Forest

**Sydney Times Saturday 18 November 1837**

The outrage of the Rev Mr. Vincent, the father of a family of daughters besides others. One of our own children was among those who were shut up in a room with her female

friends at the parsonage at Sutton Forest, while the ruffians were threatening Mr. Vincent with loaded pistols at his head, and all but pulling the trigger. They were put off, from their purpose by a faithful convict of Mr. Vincent, at the risk to his own life, shooting one of the bushrangers, who stood sentry outside. It excited the surprise of the Colony, and our personal grief, as the warm friend and admirer of Governor Burke, that this faithful servant was not even rewarded with a ticket of leave for his admirable tact in escaping from the house, procuring assistance, and killing one of the ruffians; himself a convict, and hitherto a dissatisfied and rather insubordinate one.

**BOTH WILLIAM AND ELIZABETH WORKED FOR THE REV JOHN VINCENT**

The Rev John Vincent was assigned convict labour on a regular basis with his convict labourers gazetted in the Colony.

**Sydney Government Gazettes 1832-1837 Assigned to Rev J Vincent**

Bridget Connor, a needlewoman from the Female Factory- June 1832

Honor Stephens, a laundress - November 1832

Kelly James, an Ostler - Feb 1833

Two farm labourers -22 March 1834

1 farm labourer and 1 stable boy- June 1835

1 indoor servant, C & F Wilson. Total 3 laborers – Sep 1837

Not all convicts assigned to the Reverend proved successful. In August 1837 William Walker, an indoor servant and jeweller from Jamaica, is listed as having absconded from Sutton Forest and his full description is publicised in the NSW Government Gazette.



(Above) the Old Rectory in Sutton Forest built in 1842. Fund raising and requests for building tenders had been managed by Henry Badgery, William Barton's former employee. Source old postcard

From 1838 -1849 Elizabeth would work as a house servant, inside the old parsonage and then move into the newly built rectory, while William worked outside as a labourer on the chaplain's farm land.



(L) Located near the rectory an example of a typical early bark hut that would have served as a home for Elizabeth and William. Photo Keasbury Gordon

As an early chaplain in the Colony the Rev John Vincent, born in Ireland (1789 -1854), was a Civil Officer of the Crown, and appointed by the Governor on the recommendation of the Archdeacon.

In 1831 he was sent to Sutton Forest by Bishop Broughton. In 1838, the year Elizabeth arrived to work in his household, the Reverend would perform 19 baptisms, 14 marriages and 17 burials in Sutton Forest<sup>xii</sup>. He would remain in the

parsonage till March 1841 when he was sent by the Bishop to work in the districts of Penrith and Castlereagh.

### **1839 ELIZABETH MARRIES WILLIAM BARTON**

As a female prisoner of the Crown, Elizabeth required permission from the Governor of the Colony to marry William Barton who now was an emancipated convict.

#### ***The Colonist Saturday 17 February 1839 pg.4***

For the female convicts there is a greater demand than even for the males, but the Government endeavours only to portion them out to the reputable families of the colony; they also marry readily, and – there is some curious circumstances of the eagerness on the part of emancipated convicts [William Barton was one] and free settlers to take these women as their wives, and sometimes to forget that there is a husband at home to whom the banished woman legally belongs

39/1633 14<sup>th</sup> February 1839 CONVICT.

**LIST of Persons applying for the Publication of Banns, at Sutton Forest**

NAME	AGE	Widower, Widow, Bachelor, or Spinster.	Ship arrived by.	Year of Arrival.	Sentence.	Free or Bond.	Present Service.
William Barton	30	Bachelor	1832	1832	7 years	Free	Rev. J. Vincent
Elizabeth Seamour	29	Widow	1837	1837	7 years	Bond	Rev. J. Vincent
<del>Elizabeth Seymour</del>	<del>38</del>	<del>Spinster</del>	<del>1837</del>	<del>1837</del>	<del>7 years</del>	<del>Bond</del>	<del>Rev. J. Vincent</del>

(Above) Publication of Banns at Sutton Forest, 14 February 1839

On the *List of Persons applying for the Publication of Banns*, the Rev John Vincent notes: William Barton, 30 years, *free by servitude* is in the *Present Service* of the Rev J Vincent (William had gained his Certificate of Freedom in March 1839). Elizabeth Seamour, 29 years, Widow, is in Bond and a servant *assigned to the Rev J Vincent* in September 1838 from the Female Factory Parramatta. He crosses out that Elizabeth is a *Spinster*, and confirms she is a *Widow*. The Reverend notes that William's request to marry Elizabeth comes *with the consent of his assignee*.

#### IS ELIZABETH MARRIED, WIDOWED, OR A SPINSTER

(R) the Rev John Vincent's hand written memo on Elizabeth's Marriage Banns in 1839.

Source: Ancestry

#### MACFASTEN OR MACFARLANE

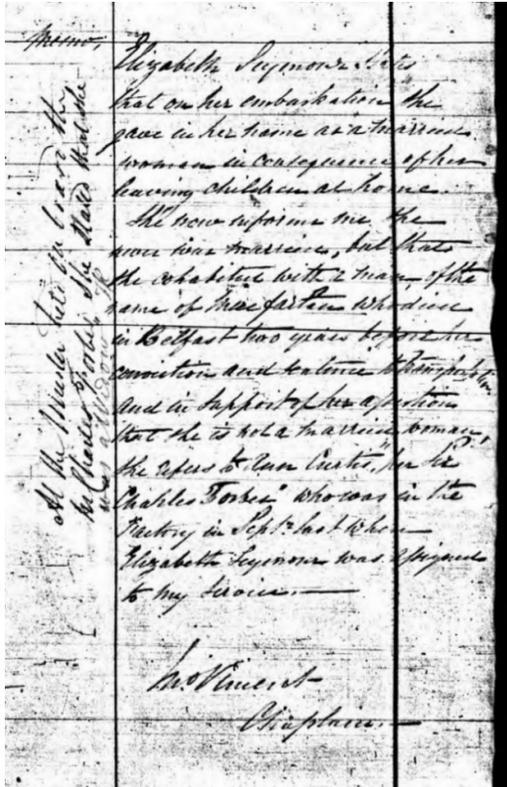
The Rev John Vincent then writes in his Memo :

*She [Elizabeth] now informs me she never was married but cohabited with a man of the name of 'Macfasten' who died in Belfast two years before her conviction and sentence to transportation.*

Sourcing the *Macfasten* name in Irish records, newspaper archives and in Ancestry, is difficult as nothing appears. The name penned here could read as *Macfarlane* – with the open loop, above the horizontal pen stroke, making the letter into an *L* – a practice done at the time. There is the letter *e* at the end of the name, following the letter *n*. *Macfarlane* is a surname, that appears frequently in the Belfast and County Down records and newspapers.

On Elizabeth's Marriage Banns, there are crossing outs, showing the Rev John Vincent attempts his best to line up Elizabeth's story to match the official record written in the convict indenture now in the keeping of the Colonial Government. He crosses out Seymour and writes instead Seamour. He then crosses out *Spinster* and writes instead *Widow*. He then adjusts Elizabeth's age. He initials the changes. Then comes a late change of mind from Elizabeth who says she is able to marry William as a spinster, and not as a widow, as *she is not a married woman*.

Researched by David Barton, Australia, 2023



(L) Reverend John Vincent's Memo trying to establish Elizabeth's marital status. Here he spells Elizabeth's surname as 'Seymour'

Source Ancestry

(L) Transcribed by David Barton

At the Muster Fete\* on board the *Sir Charles Forbes* she stated that she was a widow. Elizabeth Seymour states that on her embarkation she gave her name as a married woman in consequence of her leaving children at home. She now informs me she never was married but cohabited with a man of the name of Macfarlane who died in Belfast two years before her conviction and sentence to transportation and in support of her assertion that she is not a married woman she refers to Ann Curtis<sup>xiii</sup> from the *Sir Charles Forbes* who was in the Factory in Sept. 1838 where Elizabeth Seymour was assigned to my Services. J Vincent Chaplain

\*Muster Fete – Elizabeth when arriving in Sydney, and before going ashore, was assembled on board the *Sir Charles Forbes* at a Muster Fete where her details were checked and recorded for the Convicts

Office. Elizabeth was physically examined and interviewed by Government officials to help them create her own identifying record. She at this point answered questions about her marital status as the Colonial Office was interested about this information especially with any newly arrived female convict.

#### The Sydney Monitor Friday 22 February 1839

The Government, it is notorious, encourage the marriage of female convicts

Children of convict marriages were born *free*, and the Colony needed population. Female convicts were *encouraged*, to marry as soon as possible by the Church and Colonial authorities so as to receive that protection and happiness which is hoped for in the marriage state<sup>xiv</sup>

Why was it important for Elizabeth to tell the Rev J Vincent *that she is not a married woman*?

When it came to prisoners of the Crown the Colony's laws covering bigamy recognised that no felony was committed with a second marriage. This meant that couples separated by transportation could legally re-marry *after* serving their sentence. To put it simply, if Elizabeth had told the Reverend she was *still married* she would have had to wait and complete her 7 year sentence before gaining the Governor's permission to marry. It is unlikely, under those circumstances, William Barton would have waited that period of time. Elizabeth also knew from conversations with Ann Curtis and other female convicts at the Factory, what questions a clergyman would ask her and what stories *needed to be told* so that an emancipated convict, like William Barton, could ask for her hand.

#### 1839 MARRIED AT ALL SAINTS CHAPEL SUTTON FOREST

Elizabeth and William were married on 8 May 1839 in the old chapel of All Saints in Sutton Forest. Details on the marriage certificate are different from what was entered on the Banns, ten weeks earlier. The marriage certificate acknowledges Elizabeth, no longer a *Widow*, is now a *Spinster* supporting the assertion, she has made to the Chaplain, *that she is not a married woman*.

**BACKGROUND TO WILLIAM BARTON**

(R) Henry Badgery (1803 -1880).

William Barton’s first assignment, as a convict, was to work for Henry Badgery a close friend of the Reverend John Vincent

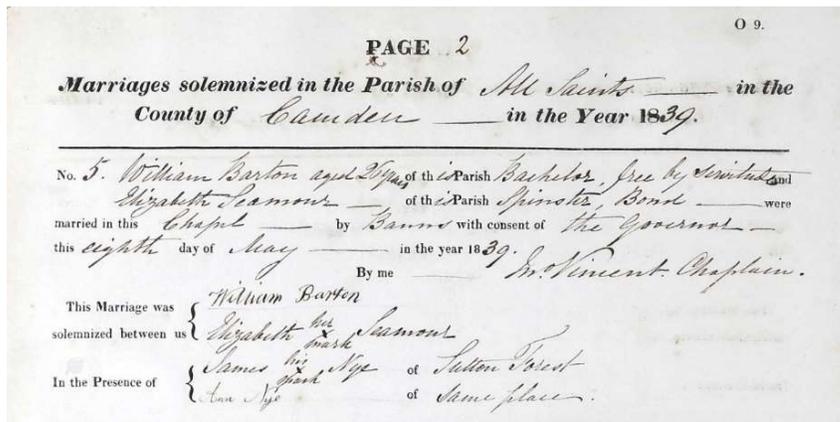
Photo National Library



William Barton arrived in 1832 on the *Lady Harewood* and was assigned, the morning after arriving in Sydney Cove, to Henry Badgery whom lived at Sutton Forest. William got his Ticket- of- Leave in October 1836, and then under convict law was allowed to work for whom he chose but had to remain in the Sutton Forest police district. It was his first step towards freedom. In March 1839 he gained his Certificate of Freedom and was no longer controlled by any convict laws and regulations.

**NSW Government Gazette Wednesday 28 November 1832**  
2677 Barton, William, Lady Harewood, ploughman to Henry Badgery Camden

**MARRIAGE CERTIFICATE ELIZABETH AND WILLIAM**

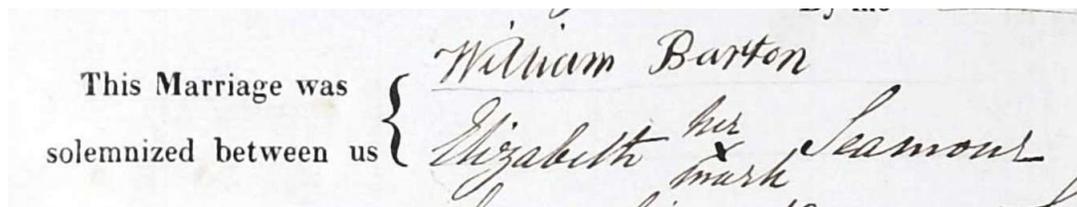


(L) Elizabeth’s Marriage Certificate signed by John Vincent Chaplain.

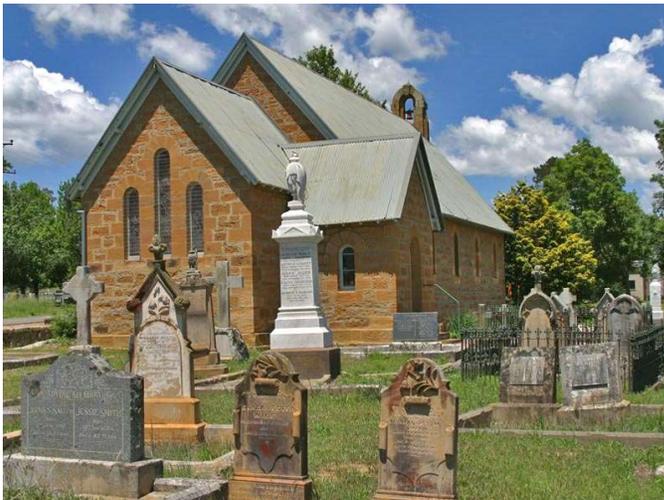
In January 1837 the Lord Bishop of Australia appointed the Rev John Vincent at Sutton Forest to be one of his Surrogates for granting Marriage Licenses within the Colony<sup>xv</sup>.

The marriage Witnesses are James Nye and his wife Ann Nye nee McDonnell. James Nye, born in Sussex was transported in 1818 on the convict ship *General Stewart* and by December 1836 had received a Conditional Pardon. James and his wife worked as labourers in Sutton Forest and probably were working with William and Elizabeth at the rectory which had its own farm lands.

On the marriage certificate William Barton signs in his own hand and Elizabeth makes her X mark.



## ELIZABETH MARRIED BUT STILL A BOND SERVANT



(L) All Saints Church Sutton Forest built on the same piece of ground, where the old wooden chapel stood. NSW Tourism

Elizabeth had found a degree of protection by marrying William Barton who was a free man. However, the couple were aware when they got married that Elizabeth had not completed her sentence and therefore enjoyed few rights.

### ***The Sydney Monitor Wednesday 18 April 1838***

Female convicts gain no civil rights by their marriage with freemen. She remains equally under the control of the Governor and if she misbehaves herself, she will be taken from her husband and assigned in any part of the Colony, within the present limits that the Magistrates may think most fitting for the promotion of the public peace and welfare

The year in which Elizabeth and William got married, misinformation had spread throughout the Colony about what rights Female Convicts enjoyed when marrying, and this general confusion was enough for the Governor to issue the below proclamation

### ***NSW Government Gazette Wed 8 May 1839***

Colonial Secretary's Office Sydney 1<sup>st</sup> May 1839

#### **FEMALE CONVICTS**

It appearing to the Governor that the condition of Female Convicts who are permitted to marry is imperfectly understood, His Excellency directs that the following particulars be published for general information viz.

**1<sup>st</sup>** The marriage of a female Convict with a Free Man operates neither as a pardon, remission of sentence, nor revocation of assignment; and notwithstanding her marriage, she continues subject to all the consequences of her sentence, and bound to serve and obey the master or mistress Whom she is assigned [Elizabeth's master is the Rev John Vincent]

**2<sup>nd</sup>** The Free Husband, who has taken a Convict Wife is not entitled to bring her before a court, or a Magistrate, to be tried and punished at his instance, for offences, for which Convicts alone are punishable; inasmuch as by the effect of the marriage the condition of the convict has merged in that of his wife, and with respect to her husband she remains amenable to the law for those offences only, which if she were free, might be made a matter of complaint against him by her. With regards to the complaints of all other persons, the convict wife, notwithstanding her marriage, remains subject to the summary control of the Magistracy, as other prisoners of the Crown  
By His Excellency's Command E. Deas Thomson

Elizabeth still had to attend Convict Musters held in her district of Sutton Forest and non-attendance could lead to punishment and a cancellation of a Ticket of Leave<sup>xvi</sup>

### SEARCHING FOR A CERTIFICATE OF FREEDOM

By 1844, Elizabeth would have completed her seven year sentence, the time period set from the trial date in July 1836 in Downpatrick County Down, and she was eligible to request a Certificate of Freedom. Her record of this would be in the period 1844 -1847, and likely close to the time when she and William baptised their first three children in 1846 at the All Saints chapel in Sutton Forest.

### RECORDS WERE DESTROYED<sup>xvii</sup>

Having checked through the *listings* of Female Prisoners who obtained Tickets of Leave, and notices published in the NSW Gazette by the Principal Superintendent of Convicts Office, and having searched variations on the spelling Seamour there is no record of Elizabeth's Ticket of leave or Certificate of Freedom in the NSW State Archives & Records. In the belief that records were no longer of value *many* of NSW's convict records were destroyed in 1863 and 1870.

### OTHER POSSIBILITIES SEARCHING FOR ELIZABETH'S RECORDS

#### 1. *Correspondence between the Church authorities and the Colonial Secretary's Office*

Elizabeth, when working as an assignee at the parsonage for the Rev John Vincent, was transferred as a Bond servant to the next two Chaplains appointed in Sutton Forest – the Rev George Vidal in 1841 and Rev William Stone in 1843. Elizabeth could have known about her Certificate of Freedom through correspondence, between the Church authorities and the Colonial Secretary's Office. The Certificate was passed on to her but the record was destroyed.

The Certificate of Freedom system was poorly policed and administered by the time Elizabeth left Sutton Forest in 1849. Transportation to New South Wales had ceased in 1840, two years after Elizabeth had arrived in the Colony, when an Order-in-Council was issued removing New South Wales from the list of places to which convicts could be sent.

#### ***Sydney Morning Herald Friday 10 Nov 1848***

NEWS FROM THE INTERIOR – Certificates of Freedom.

We have within the last few months heard numerous complaints and delays in procuring these documents from the Police Office here: having made enquiries on the subject we find that this blame does not rest with authorities here – we find they are not forwarded with any degree of regularity from the Office of the Principal Superintendent of Convicts; this is much to be regretted, presenting many from shifting from this district – [preventing persons] sometimes from doing so for many months often to their serious loss and inconvenience.

#### ***Sydney Morning Herald 8 Feb 1850***

With regards with Certificates of Freedom we understand on good authority, that only two small lots have been received in the last 18 months

2. *Elizabeth would need to make a declaration* for her Certificate of Freedom in front of the local magistrate in Sutton Forest, who then would send away to Sydney to check the indents. If all was in order a certificate was issued after Elizabeth paid a fee. All of this took time. If Elizabeth thought this process would end in a long waiting period, then maybe she and William just gave up on the idea itself. Deciding to get on with their lives, they started on the journey down the Great South Road heading into the Bega valley.
3. *Elizabeth showed little interest in requesting her Certificate.* If Elizabeth had gone to the magistrate, in the Sutton Forest Police District, her declaration had to be in the name Seamour, to match her convict records, and the Certificate would be issued in that name. Since 1839 her married name was Barton and her maiden name was not Seamour. Requesting the Certificate would have left a trail, a family record, that could raise curiosity about her past life in Ireland.

## 1846 ELIZABETH'S CHILDREN BAPTISED IN SUTTON FOREST

PAGE 20

*Baptisms solemnised in the Parish of All Saints in the County of Queensland in the Year 1846.*

When Baptised.	When Born.	Child's Christian Name.	Parent's Name.		Abode.	Quality or Profession.	By whom the ceremony was performed.
			Christian.	Surname.			
8 March 1846 No. 281	Probably about 1845	Jane Mary	William	Barton	Sutton Forest	Labourer	W. Stone
8 March 1846 No. 282	1842	William	William	Barton	Sutton Forest	Labourer	W. Stone
8 March 1846 No. 283	1839	Fanny	William	Barton	Sutton Forest	Labourer	W. Stone

(Above) Baptism records 8 March 1846 at All Saints Church Sutton Forest

Elizabeth's first three children were born in Sutton Forest and were baptised on the same day. They were *Jane Mary Barton* aged 1 year; *William Barton* aged 4 years and *Fanny Barton* aged 7 years. The baptisms were performed by the Rev. William Stone<sup>xviii</sup> in the old wooden chapel where Elizabeth and William had married seven years before.

### ELIZABETH'S FOUR CHILDREN

**Fanny Barton (Francis)** b.5 June 1839. Baptised at All Saints Church Sutton Forest in 1846. On 27 May 1856 Fanny is married by the Rev William Stone at All Saints Sutton Forest to Michael Fitzpatrick, aged 24 years from Dublin. Michael Fitzpatrick, on the marriage certificate, gives his usual occupation as *stock keeping* [shepherding]; his present abode is Sutton Forest but his usual abode is *Maneroo* (Monaro). An interesting item on Fanny's wedding certificate is her mother's maiden name is entered as *ignota* meaning not known<sup>xix</sup>.

On the baptism certificate of Fanny's first child in 1857 it mentions Michael is a farm servant in Sutton Forest. The couple's first 4 children, out of a total of 13 children, will be born in Sutton Forest. After 1862, the Fitzpatrick family move to Bombala and close to where Elizabeth and William are living.

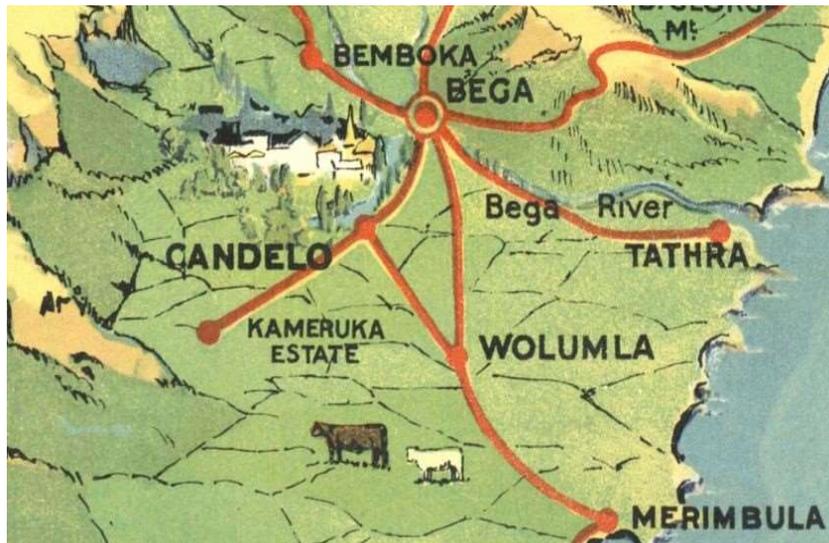
**William Barton** born in May 1842 in Sutton Forest. Baptised at All Saints Church Sutton Forest in March 1846. There is a reasonable chance that a *William Barton* who marries Catherine Langan in Queanbeyan in the Monaro district of New South Wales in 1873, is one and the same William who was born in Sutton Forest in 1842 - Queanbeyan being close to the place where the Bartons had settled

**Jane Mary Ann Barton** born May 1845 in Sutton Forest, baptised in 1846 at All Saints Church Sutton Forest. We know Jane leaves Sutton Forest by 1867 as she marries Henry Stewart in Eden in 1867. Her first child Norah is born in Candelo, where Elizabeth and William were living.

**Charles Barton** born in the Bega, 12 miles from Candelo, in 1849. In January 1865, when aged 16 years, Charles is baptised in Candelo with his parents abode given as Candelo on his baptism certificate. The service is performed by the Rev J L Knight from Bega. I have gone through church notices and found that the Reverend Knight was the first Rector of Bega, his residence was at Daisybank in Bega, and in 1865 he had visited Kameruka and Candelo to perform church services. Advanced notice of the church services, dates and times, were published in the Bega newspapers. Charles will meet his wife Jane Elizabeth Melville in Candelo – she was born there in 1859.

## PART 6

### FAMILY LIFE IN THE BEGA VALLEY



(R) Candelo, in the Bega Valley, where Elizabeth and William settle

Source: Mt Kosciusko Sydney to Summit map 1930s

#### BEGA AND CANDELO

By 1849 Elizabeth and William had left the Sutton Forest district<sup>xx</sup>, moving 240 miles further south to the Bega valley and to the town of Candelo.

William found employment in the Bega valley and probably worked for Henry Badgery who owned vast pastoral holdings in the area which he used for fattening cattle. If not, having worked for him and the Rev John Vincent, two well-known persons in the Colony, Elizabeth and her husband would have good references to give to a local employer.

***Sydney Morning Herald Sat 7 October 1848***

[Henry Badgery] 16,000 acres with 500 cattle and 3,000 sheep at McLeay's Flat with further run of 16,000 acres at Dry River with 200 cattle and 300 sheep

(R) Candelo situated in the centre of a rich dairying district adjoining the nearby Kameruka Farm Estate.

Old postcard Bega Archives

Candelo is situated about 15 miles from Bega, in the County of Auckland, in a parish of about 333 acres.

By the time Elizabeth and

William settled in Candelo all their children had grown up. Fanny was aged 26 years; William aged 23 years; Jane aged 20 years and Charles aged 16 years. Their children, like others in Candelo, would have found work on the Kameruka Farm Estate or on many of the surrounding farms.



**Empire Sydney Mon 7 Nov 1870 pg. 3**

CANDELO -Among the rising townships of the Colony Candelo stands pre-eminent. It is situated about 15 miles from the sea coast and shipping port of Merimbula. It has but recently been marked out, and the allotments. Two years since scarcely a house was erected, now it can boast of stores, blacksmith's shop, post-office and public school.

**Bega Gazette Sat 23 Sep 1865 pg.2**

Land Sales Bega -The sale by auction of Crown lands will be held in the Bega Court -house. The township of Candelo lately surveyed forms the principal Lots for sale



(Above) Main street in Candelo NSW Archives

Sales of Crown Land in Candelo were advertised in the early 1860's and then the village rapidly developed. The first general store operated as a stopping point for people carting goods through the pastoral district of Monaro with Candelo providing an important service centre for local farmers from the many dairy farms, three miles away in Kameruka. A public school opened in Candelo in January 1869.

(R) Candelo on the banks of the Candelo river

Bega Archives

A visitor to Candelo in 1877 writes:

**Australian Town and Country  
Sat 27 October 1877**

Dairying is the occupation carried on - 400 to 500 servants (male and female) could easily find employment at the different dairy farms, the rate of wages offered being from 15s to £1 per week with rations





(L) 1871 early view of Bega Town and Country Journal

Bega was 12 miles from Candelo, and the big centre close to where Elizabeth and William lived. The town had about 600 population, public buildings, churches, stores, inns and a district court with a judge and eleven magistrates.<sup>xxi</sup>

During Elizabeth's time living in Candelo, she would have seen bullock wagons and eight horse wagons passing through the township, from the coastal ports, to farms and the sheep and cattle stations further up on the Manaro plains. In 1867 the mail from Sydney, arriving on a steamship at the port of Merimbula 25 miles away on the coast, was taken once a week to Candelo and Kameruka

## 1872 ELIZABETH'S FAMILY AND LAND

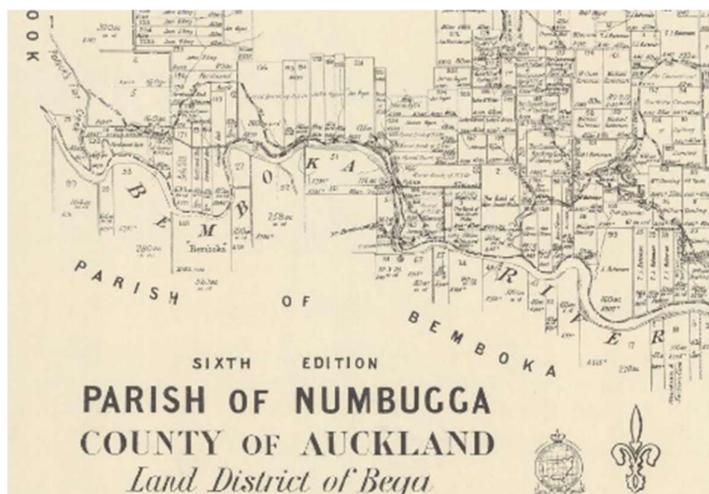
### NUMBUGGA

(L) Photo of countryside in Numbugga, 20 miles from Candelo and Kameruka, situated at the base of the Monaro dividing range.

NSW Tourism

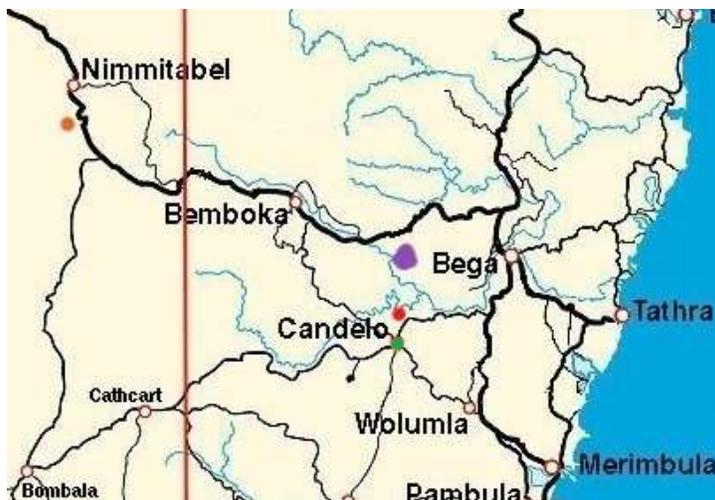


They [the NSW Government] promised to put the small man, the 'poor man', on the land. They promised to break up the big squatting runs and parcel the land into small freehold farms<sup>xxii</sup>.



(L) Map showing the Bemboka River where William and Charles Barton held land . Dept of Lands 1943

The Crown lands Occupation Act 1861 saw large pastoral properties broken up and sold into small Lots of land for sale. This Act enabled William and his son Charles Barton to lease land in Numbugga, a distance of 9 miles from Bega and 20 miles from Candelo. Looking through the Crown Land Records, the three Lots purchased for £120 were adjacent with some frontage to the Bemboka River.



(L) Numbugga marked by the purple spot on the Bemboka River. Candelo, the green spot, is close by to Kameruka marked by a red spot. The orange spot marks Spring Flat station where William died.

Bega Archives

William and Charles made their pre-emptive land purchases at the Crown Lands auctions held in Bega and paid a deposit for each Lot with a balance period within 3 years of the date of conditional purchase.

William and Charles were the original selectors, with a total of 120 acres of land<sup>xxiii</sup>.

Charles selected 40 acres on the 23 March 1871 and another 40 acres on the 20 June 1872. William selected 40 acres on the 15 August 1872. While paying annual interest instalments, they made good use of the land by grazing and fattening stock.

Improvements to the land were made by William and Charles by falling timber, clearing and fencing with additional funds needed for those improvements. The land purchases could lapse, or be declared void, through non-payment of interest prescribed by the Act, and then offered for re-sale by competition at another auction.

Whether Charles or William ever built a dwelling on their Lots is not known. Those who bid for land in Numbugga were called *grazing farmers*<sup>xxiv</sup> as they provided agistment by taking in and feeding horses and fattening stock belonging to other property owners.

#### ***The Bega Gazette Thursday 22 August 1872***

##### **Selections on 15<sup>th</sup>**

Ann Moran, 40 acres, parish of Numbugga; Daniel Langan\*, 40 acres Kameruka, adjoining his former selection, Edward Connor 40 acres, Ooranook adjoining last selection; Philip Collins 164 acres, Bemboka; James Power's forfeited selection; Adeline Jane Kiss, 40 acres, Numbugga between **Charles Barton's** and Edward Connor's taking frontage to river; **William Barton, 40 acres Numbugga** adjoining Edward Connor's. Deposit £81

\*Note: there may be a family connection with Daniel Langan, mentioned above, and William Barton junior's wife called Catherine Langan whom he married in 1873

Another notice placed in the Bega newspaper in 1866, by the same Philip Collins cited above in Selections on the 15,<sup>th</sup> may show the Barton family also held land earlier on in Candelo

#### ***Collins Candalo Feb 1st 1866***

Notice: All Cattle, Horses, and Sheep found trespassing on my pre-emptive lease of 960 acres adjoining my conditional purchase at Candalo will be impounded after this date. The boundaries of my pre-emptive are North, **Barton's**, Allan's and my purchases. Henry Philip Collins

## PART 7

### NIMITYBELLE AND SPRING FLAT STATION

(R) looking back down on the Bega Valley on the journey up Spring Flat, Mount Cooper and Nimitybelle and looking back down on the Bega Valley.

CSIRO image Carl Davies

The next part of Elizabeth's story takes us to the high country, behind the Bega Valley, and to the Monaro Plains.

#### THE MONARO

The Monaro pastoral district was described in 1848 as one of the squatting districts in New South Wales

#### *William Henry Wells' 1848 Geographical Dictionary or Gazetteer of the Australian Colonies*

MANAROO, MENAROO or Monaroo - One of the squatting districts of NSW - This country is called by the natives Moneroo - it is not exactly a plain as generally denominated, but is a series of gentle undulations, the soil rich and fertile, and the land gently diversified with hill and dale lightly timbered, and remarkably well watered. The level of the plains is an elevated tableland or terrace parallel to the coast, and affording a firm basis for the Snowy Mountains, Australian Alps, or the Great Warragong chain to spring from. The district of Menaroo contains a larger extent of land available, whether for pasture or agriculture, than the whole island of Tasmania.



The name Monaro has Aboriginal origins, meaning a high plateau or high plain. Because of the cold temperatures and lack of game it is likely that Aborigines did not stay year round in the higher parts of the Monaro. The area, known as a treeless plain, was not over grazed, as it was treeless when settlers first came to the region. The soil in the region is thin, the temperatures are cold and the plain falls in a rain shadow area between the Eastern Escarpment and the Snowy Mountains<sup>xxv</sup>.



(L) Map showing the road going from Candelo to Bega and then further up to Nimitybelle (Nimmitabel) on the Monaro Plains.

The red spot marks Spring Flat station where William Barton died.

Mt Kosciusko Sydney to Summit map 1930s

### THE BARTON FAMILY AND SPRING FLAT STATION NIMITYBELLE

Elizabeth's granddaughter Elizabeth Fitzpatrick married David Joseph Bell, owner of Spring Flat Station on 12 September 1876 at St Matthias Anglican Church in Bombala<sup>xxvi</sup>. Details on their marriage certificate show that Elizabeth Fitzpatrick gives Spring Flat station as her *usual place of residence*, where she would have worked as a farm servant, and that permission to get married was sought from her father, Michael Fitzpatrick. She is under 21 years old, and aged 19 years, and her bridegroom David Joseph Bell is aged 65 years.

Throughout the 1870's job adverts appear in the Bega papers, from property owners on the Monaro Plains, seeking shepherds and horsemen. Labourers in the Monaro were scarce and William Barton would have found shepherding work, easy enough to find, with accommodation on a station. There is every possibility Elizabeth is living with him at Spring Flat station because their granddaughter is the property owner's wife.

### DESCRIPTIONS OF SPRING FLAT AND NIMITYBELLE

It is a 50 mile journey from Candelo up the range to Nimitybelle and Spring Flat station. As early as 1838 the district gets mentioned in various news reports: the Ewes are in lamb – they are now running at Nimitabelle and again in 1844 Spring Flat station was advertised as: *2050 sheep, a station with improvements*. By the 1850's Nimitybelle is a small village of slab and bark huts surrounded by grazing properties leased by the Crown. After being surveyed it became a town in 1858 and did not change its name from Nimitybelle to Nimmitabel until 1912.

At the height of 1070 metres, Spring Flat Station had cold winters with snow. The area is described by a traveller, in the month when William died.

#### ***Australia Town and Country Saturday 14 Feb 1880***

Nimitybelle is a very old town. 40 years ago, there were two or three houses in it, and there are more than 30 to 40 now – it [Nimitybelle] is situated on the top of the dividing range, the water on one side flowing into the Snowy, and on the other into the Murrumbidgee. It is on the main road from Monaro to either Eden or Merimbula. There is fair agricultural land all around it, and some 10 miles away are fine forests of mountain ash, messmate and stringy bark. (Messmate is Eucalyptus Oblique a well-known hardwood species that grows on the tablelands of New South Wales)

#### ***Sydney Morning Herald Wed 16 June 1875***

At Nimitybelle snow fell to the depth of more than one foot. During the remainder of the week the days have been clear and fine with very serious frosts at night



(L) The Monaro Plains where William Barton, in his closing years of life worked as a shepherd. NSW Cartoscope PTY Ltd

A news items below gives us a more background on the

principal *informant* (McKeachie) and one of the *witnesses* (Bell) on the death certificate of William Barton. Both persons are station owners with large properties.

#### ***Source: Monaro Pioneers Database***

[Mount Cooper Station] carries 11 or 12 thousand sheep and a few hundred herd of cattle. About 2000 acres of the estate are purchased. The residence of the veteran Captain [McKeachie] is a comfortable building and at a comfortable mile from the homestead Captain McKeachie has erected a capital school house at his own expense.

Leaving Mount Cooper with a guide, Captain McKeachie sent, we took a northerly course for about 5 miles which brought us to **Spring Flat Station**, Mr David Bell's property. The station is watered by springs which jut out of the hillsides in all directions. The station is 9 square miles and at present carries 2000 sheep and 5 or 6 hundred cattle

## PART 8

### UNRAVELLING ELIZABETH'S MAIDEN NAME ON WILLIAM BARTON'S DEATH CERTIFICATE

#### DEATH TRANSCRIPTION from NSW Registry of Births, Deaths and Marriages

Transcription requested by		JODIE BARTON	18-May-15
Registration Number	05618		
Date of Death	15 FEB 1880		
Place of Death	SPRING FLAT, BOMBALA		
Name	WILLIAM BARTON		
Occupation	LABOURER		
Sex	MALE		
Age	68		
Cause of Death	DROPSY		
Duration	3 MONTHS		
Medical Attendant	DR EVERSHED, 3 WEEKS PREVIOUS TO DEATH		
Father	- BARTON		
Father's Occupation	NOT KNOWN		
Mother - Maiden Name	ELIZABETH LAYMAN		
Informant	A.A. MCKEACHIE, FRIEND, MOUNT COOPER, NIMITYBELLE; REGISTERED 17 FEB 1880, BOMBALA		
When Buried	17 FEB 1880		
Where	MOUNT COOPER CEMETERY		
Underwriter	JOHN GELDWACKER		
Minister	NONE		
Religion	-		
Witnesses	DAVID J. BELL, EDWARD T. BARBER		
Where born	ENGLAND		
Time in Colony/State	ABOUT 45 YEARS		
Place Married	BUNG BUNG		
Age at Marriage	NOT KNOWN		
Spouse	ELIZABETH LAYMAN		
Children of Marriage	2 MALES 1 FEMALE LIVING 1 FEMALE DECEASED		
Other Comments			

**Mother - Maiden Name:** the maiden name of William's mother is not Layman (see Spouse entry below). It was Mary Wilstead and she was born in Chale Isle of Wight (1769 -1809). His parents married at the Church of St Peters in Shorwell on 26 December 1788.

#### ELIZABETH BARTON'S MAIDEN NAME IS LAYMAN

**Spouse Elizabeth Layman:** the spouse name entered on William's death certificate

Age at marriage	NOT KNOWN
Spouse	ELIZABETH LAYMAN
Children of Marriage	2 MALES 1 FEMALE LIVING 1 FEMALE DECEASED

#### REASONS FOR LAYMAN BEING THE MAIDEN NAME OF ELIZABETH

The name Layman is on William's death certificate as his spouse. Layman is a Dutch surname and commonly recorded in Holland at the time of Elizabeth's birth: Layman, Leeman, Laman, Lyman, Laymon.

Other reasons supporting the Layman attribution

- No records exist of William's father, Stephen Barton on the Isle of Wight, marrying a Layman and neither is Elizabeth Layman the maiden name of William's mother. No other Barton men from 1550 -1809, on the Isle of Wight, married a Layman.
- On more than several occasions, and when asked by officials, Elizabeth referred to herself as a widow [Seamour], and she is described as a widow in prisoner and transportation records. The name Seymour/Seamour, is the name she gives when marrying William.
- 17 years after marrying William, in 1856, on her daughter Fanny's wedding certificate to Michael Fitzpatrick, Elizabeth is no longer using, or *letting it have known* by the family that her maiden name is Seamour.

- Elizabeth, with her daughter Fanny Fitzpatrick nee Barton and her granddaughter Elizabeth Bell, the property owner's wife at Spring Flat station, were fully aware of William's medical condition three months before he died. They knew William had been married to Elizabeth for 41 years, and by 1880 also have known the maiden name of his wife, their mother and grandmother. They had time to share family information with one another and family members, were present at the time of William's death at Spring Flat station.
- It is entirely possible that Elizabeth was present at the time of William's death at Spring Flat station and *felt able* to provide her Layman maiden name to the *informant and friend* of her husband Mr. McKeachie who was a JP at the Nimitybelle Police Court.

## PART 7

### ELIZABETH AND KAMERUKA 1880-1889



(L) Farm landscape around Kameruka.  
NSW Tourism

#### ELIZABETH IN 1880

After her husband's death, Elizabeth now in her 70<sup>th</sup> year, was living with Fanny her daughter's large Fitzpatrick family in Candelo near the Kameruka farm estate, or else she was with her son Charles still living in the Bega district.

#### KAMERUKA

In 1855 the Chief Commissioner of Crown Lands, announced in the NSW Legislative Council, that the Kameruka run<sup>xvii</sup> had an area of 170 square miles.

#### ***Empire Saturday 22 September 1855 pg.3***

The mail passed by Kameruka where there were 101 inhabitants, some distance beyond this there was a thriving township of Bega, for which place the people of Kameruka took a mailbag. At both places Kameruka and Bega, there was a larger population than at Eden and Bombala

Kameruka was a two hour horse ride from Bega, and came to prominence in the Colony's growing agricultural industry as early as the 1850's when adverts appeared in newspapers recruiting new settlers to this part of New South Wales.

#### ***Goulburn Herald Saturday Sep 4 1852 pg. 5***

BY THE UNDERSIGNED AT KAMERUKA, TWO FOLD BAY

**SHEARERS AND SHEEPWASHERS** to whom the highest rates of wages will be paid. To people desirous of proceeding to the Victorian Mines this is favourable opportunity, as the steamer calls at Two Fold Bay [Eden] on her passage to Melbourne

In 1855 the ship *Caesar* from Hamburg arrived with 250 German immigrants to work for the Two Bay Pastoral Company.

#### ***Sydney Morning Herald Sat 24 March 1855***

TWO FOLD BAY -the immigrants for the Pastoral Company were landed today; they are a fine set of people. They marched through the town to the air of 'God Save the Queen'

### **KAMERUKA TOWNSHIP SURVEYED 1861**

*Sydney Morning Herald Thurs 7 Nov 1861*

The announcement in your Eden's correspondents letter, that Bemboka and Kameruka have been surveyed as sites for townships, certainly did surprise me. When these new townships are brought into the market, I have no doubt, the Twofold Bay Pastoral Company will purchase all the Lots offered so as to shut out the population

### **ELIZABETH AND THE KAMERUKA FARM ESTATE**

The Kameruka Farm Estate had altogether 22,000 acres of land, principally undulating country, well-watered by the Bemboka River and smaller streams. It was one of the first European settlements in the Bega Valley, and lay a 3 mile distant from Candelo where the Barton family lived. The township was situated in a fold in the hills at a crossing over the Candelo Creek. Kameruka Farm Estate had been built as a community with its own small village, supporting the share farming families who worked the estate's dairying, grazing, and cropping enterprises. Most members and relatives of the Barton family would have found work on the farm estate.

*Sydney Morning Herald Thursday 21 May 1863*

Some months ago, we referred at some length to the opening of an extensive dairying and meat curing establishment, then started by Mr. Manning at Kameruka near Merimbula, about 200 miles from Sydney. In order to give some idea of the extent of the trade which has sprung up between Kameruka and Sydney – at present the proprietor of Kameruka has 1400 cows at bail and is producing cheeses to number of 2000 per month besides 2000lbs of butter per month and all from his cattle and grasses.

### **KAMERUKA FARM ESTATE CEMETERY AND CHURCH**



(L) In the foreground the Kameruka Farm Cemetery and in the distance the Holy Trinity Church which was built and consecrated together with the burial ground – the cemetery and church land being the gift of the owner of the Kameruka Farm Estate.

Photo: Bega District News

*A Tour of the South. Australian Town & Country Sat 18 Nov 1871*

The next most noticeable feature of Kameruka home station is the Kameruka Church. It is the most elegant building of the kind in the district and is erected on a hill – it is built of brick, with stone foundation and dressings, and was erected from a design furnished by Mr R T Blacket, architect of Sydney. Three acres of land are set apart – one for church and two acres for a burial ground. This artistic structure cost about £1000. On the occasion of my visit, service was held in the church by the Rev A Faunce, and I had the pleasure of hearing a most eloquent sermon and a good choir

Elizabeth died in 1889 and was buried in the Kameruka Farm Cemetery. Two of Elizabeth's daughters Jane Mary Ann (d 1880) and Fanny (d 1910) are buried in the same cemetery along with other family members. In the year Elizabeth died, Railway Commissioners from Sydney made a visit to Kameruka and left us a description of the area:

**Sydney Morning Herald Mon 4 March 1889**

The Commissioners agreed to return by the route desired, and they started from Eden little after 11'0 clock, and proceeded through Pambula to Wolumla, where a four horse-coach met them, and they were driven through the town of Candelo and through the Kameruka Estate. From the various eminences on the road their attention was directed to the beautiful stretches of country the view disclosed, and the Commissioners seemed much struck by the beauty and fertility of the district

## EPILOGUE

Elizabeth Layman was born in Holland during the Napoleonic wars when the country was occupied by the French and she grew up in Newry County Down a bustling trading port on the east coast of Ireland, a place of merchants, markets and noisy city quays.

She was married, with two small children, and was left a widow. Elizabeth needed a solution for her troubles and to keep the children from homelessness and hunger. She had been taken into custody, after being found on the streets at an unseasonable hour, and for this offence she would be made to suffer in numerous ways. The judge at her trial at the Downpatrick County Assizes said that *improper female characters*, like Elizabeth, would face *a great punishment and one which should not be lightly visited on anyone*.

Elizabeth was incarcerated in two Irish prisons, with disease and poor food, as part and parcel of her prison stay, before being taken to a convict ship described by the ships' surgeon as *very crowded and constantly wet owing to being low in the water*. The 136 day voyage to Sydney was plainly a nightmare for Elizabeth and the surgeon's journal records she had a *continuous fever*.

Elizabeth arrived in Sydney when the Colony's female population was 21,237 of which 2,257 were female convicts. She was placed under strict convict law and discipline with no civil rights at all. Upon debarking the *Sir Charles Forbes* Elizabeth was sent directly to the Parramatta Female Factory. She arrived there in the heat of summertime and worked a 9 hour day in the wool and linen Factory with one hour allowed for breakfast and dinner. Besides factory work Elizabeth was rostered on to do washing, baking and cooking for other female inmates.

Elizabeth's assignment to the Rev. John Vincent in Sutton Forest, as his Bond house servant, was an unexpected and fortunate event as physical abuse of convict women at the hands of many free settlers was a common enough occurrence. By all accounts John Vincent was a kind Master and provided Elizabeth with good working conditions and contact with his large family of children. There in the parsonage she met William Barton, who had his Certificate of Freedom. In 1839 they were married by John Vincent in the old wooden chapel of All Saints where later three of her children would be baptised.

Elizabeth and William shared common experiences. Regarded as undesirables both had been taken into custody and placed on trial and imprisoned before being banished. They were sent as convicted criminals to a Colony *beyond the sea*. Many did not survive this, the imprisonment and transportation followed by lengthy periods of convict assignments where they were made to work hard and at times do dangerous work. However, Elizabeth and William both completed their sentences.

In 1846, shortly after the Colonial Secretary's Office began advertising tenders for provisions and forage for surveying parties working in the Bega valley the Barton family were among the first families to settle in the area. By 1849 the Colonial authority's first arrangements had been made for bullock and horse teams, carrying goods and supplies, to pass through Sutton Forest making their journey down the Great South Road to Bega.

The family settled in Candelo, where they held property, and in the early 1870's both William and Charles Barton leased Crown Land in Numbugga on the Bemboka River where they farmed. Members of the family found work on the Kameruka Farm Estate as well as worked on sheep and cattle stations on the Monaro plains. In 1880 Elizabeth's husband died at Spring Flat Station close to Nimitybelle.

For Elizabeth, it had been a remarkable life. After being transported to the Colony of NSW she went on to become the mother of a pioneering family and a grandmother to many children. I wonder, when as an old woman, if Elizabeth's memory was stabbed by the resemblance of some of her children and grandchildren with the two small boys she had left behind in Ireland.

Elizabeth's early life was hard but she did live a much better and healthier life in the Colony than if she had stayed in County Down. Her marriage to William Barton lasted 41 years. By the time of Elizabeth's death in 1889, New South Wales had laid 2,200 miles of rail track, steamship travel was commonplace, the township of Bega and suburbs contained 2,300 inhabitants; telephone exchanges operated in Sydney and farmers in New South Wales had grown their flocks to 60 million sheep<sup>xxviii</sup>.

### FINAL THOUGHT

**Source: Parramatta Factory Friends Action group**

Around one in five to seven Australians are related to women who were incarcerated at the Parramatta Female Factory

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<sup>i</sup> **Note on author:** I was born in Hampshire, in a small village midway between Southampton and Winchester and not many miles away from the Isle of Wight. William Barton is my 4<sup>th</sup> great grand uncle and the younger brother to Thomas Barton my 4<sup>th</sup> great grandfather. I came to Sydney in 1981, thinking I was the first Barton in the family to arrive in Australia and until recently not knowing a member of my Isle of Wight family had been sent here as a convict. Having spent holidays in the Southern Highlands and in particular Sutton Forest, where Elizabeth married William, I have tried to piece together their story. Some earlier parts of Elizabeth's story still remain hidden especially around her parentage, her connection with Holland and an earlier marriage. On this journey I hope I have been able to reveal some part of Elizabeth's bravery and willingness to confront uncertainty and provide a good life for her children.

<sup>ii</sup> **three ill-fated British troop expeditions from 1799-1814 to recover parts of the strategic coastline of the French occupied Low Countries** - in 1809 the British army fought in the siege of Flushing when they attacked and claimed the French-held Dutch harbour

<sup>iii</sup> **What happened to Ann Curtis** - Convict records for Ann Curtis show she was born in 1813, County Down, tried in Down as a vagrant and sentenced to 7 years transportation arriving with Elizabeth on the *Sir Charles Forbes*. She is described as a *Roman Catholic, dark and much freckled* and 5ft 1' tall with brown hair and blue eyes. She was given permission to marry William Morris, from Monmouth Wales, one of 198 convicts that arrived on the Camden on the 21 March 1831 and by the time of meeting Ann had his Certificate of Freedom. On 16 September 1840 his request to marry Ann Curtis was granted. *She stated she was a spinster on arrival*. Ann received her Certificate of Freedom on 19 Sep 1844

<sup>iv</sup> **Vagrancy charges in Ireland** -Section 18 of the Firearms and Offensive Weapons Act 1990 (Ireland) repealed section 4 of the 1824 Act (begging and vagrancy) in Ireland.

<sup>v</sup> **Grangegorman Women's Penitentiary Dublin** - Source: Female Convict Research Centre

<sup>vi</sup> **Background to female convicts on the Sir Charles Forbes** - Sir Charles Forbes Convict Register

<sup>vii</sup> **51<sup>st</sup> Light Infantry** – In 1837 the regiment escorted convict ships to Australia. It remained there until 1846, when it was moved to India.

<sup>viii</sup> **Female convicts indolent and disposed to dirt** - National Archives Kew ADM 101/67/9 *Medical Journal from 10 Aug 1837 to 2<sup>nd</sup> Jan 1838 by William Clifford, Surgeon and Superintendent on the Sir Charles Forbes*

<sup>ix</sup> **Ann Curtis sick on voyage** – Folios 1-4 Medical Journal Sir Charles Forbes National Archives Kew Ref ADM 101/67/9/3 -Ann Curtis, age 26, convict, sick or hurt, diarrhoea. Put on sick list 7 Dec 1837 discharged 14 Dec 1837

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- <sup>x</sup> **did not get assigned to a family and both were sent directly to the Female Factory at Parramatta** – this could have happened because Elizabeth and Ann Curtis were sick just weeks before arriving in Sydney.
- <sup>xi</sup> **Europeans discover Sutton Forest** - Description given by ex-Convict John Wilson in 1798
- <sup>xii</sup> **1838 record of number of baptisms, marriages and burials performed by the Rev J Vincent in Sutton Forest.** Source: Returns of the Colony 1828 & 1829
- <sup>xiii</sup> **Elizabeth refers to Ann Curtis who was in the Factory in September last (1838)** - Ann Curtis went on trial, with Elizabeth for vagrancy, in the County Down Assizes on the 11 July 1836 and both arrived together on the *Sir Charles Forbes*. They spent time together at the Parramatta Female Factory.
- <sup>xiv</sup> **Encouraging female convicts to marry** – Sydney Times 20 May 1837
- <sup>xv</sup> **Rev John Vincent appointed to grant marriage licences in the Colony** - NSW Government Gazette Wednesday 11 January 1837
- <sup>xvi</sup> **Elizabeth had to attend Convict Musters in the Sutton Forest District** – Convicts in Sutton Forest had to attend Musters. Tickets of Leave would be cancelled for non-attendance as in the case of James and Elizabeth Winwood who had their Tickets of Leave cancelled because they were *absence from a Muster; district Sutton Forest*. NSW Gov Gazette Wed 23 Jan 1839
- <sup>xvii</sup> **there is some evidence that records were lost** – *unfortunately in the belief that they were no longer of value to the government, many of NSW's convict records were destroyed in 1863 and 1870*. Source: Crime & Punishment, Jennifer Jerome. UNESCO Memory of the World Program
- <sup>xviii</sup> **Elizabeth's first three children baptised by the Rev William Stone** - The Rev William Stone had been the late Minister of the parishes of Ashfield and Concord, and was appointed to the diocese of Sutton Forest and Bong Bong in March 1843
- <sup>xix</sup> **Ignota (Latin term) meaning the person's name is not known.** In 1856, 17 years after Elizabeth's marriage to William, she is no longer using, or *letting it have known* her name had been Seamour -the name she gave on her wedding certificate
- <sup>xx</sup> **By 1849 Elizabeth and William had left Sutton Forest** - Elizabeth's last child, Charles is born in the Bega district in 1849
- <sup>xxi</sup> **Description of Bega 12 miles from Candelo** - Sydney Mail 28 October 1871
- <sup>xxii</sup> **They promised to break up the big squatting runs** -*Introduction of Robertson Land Acts* by historian John Ferry 1995
- <sup>xxiii</sup> **William and Charles Barton select land at Numbugga** – NSW Gazette Frid 16 Dec 1892 Bega District
- <sup>xxiv</sup> **Those who bid for land in Numbugga were locally known as *grazing farmers*** - Bega Gazette items 1866
- <sup>xxv</sup> **Description of the Monaro district** - Source: Geological Sites of NSW Cartoscope PTY Ltd.
- <sup>xxvi</sup> **David Joseph Bell and Elizabeth Fitzpatrick marriage** - Following the death of his first wife Annie, David Joseph Bell married Elizabeth Fitzpatrick in 1876. They had one son, Robert Bell. David Bell died on 8 February 1886 and was buried on his property. He left an estate valued at £12,400 pounds. Apart from Spring Flat he had two properties in Bombala. After David Bell's death Elizabeth married Edward Taylor at Kameruka. They had a family of six. She died on the 13 March 1938, aged 80 years at Skeleton Creek near Glen Innes and was buried in the Glen Innes Cemetery. Source Monaro Pioneers website
- <sup>xxvii</sup> **Definition of a run** - a run was a large area of land on which animals were depastured without the need for a lot of fencing. The run relied on the use of shepherds who at various locations on the run looked after a flock of sheep. By day the sheep were allowed to roam followed closely by the shepherd and his dog. At night the sheep were placed in portable yards formed by moveable rails
- <sup>xxviii</sup> **NSW economy in 1889** - NSW Government reports
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