

Charlotte Pentley CURRENCY LASS

formerly Shrimpton, Crabb,
née Bishop.

1790 ~ 1851

INFANT

Charlotte Bishop was born on Norfolk Island in mid to late 1790 to the First Fleet convict Mary Davis/Davies [*Lady Penrhyn*], known by then as Mary Bishop, as she had already formed a partnership with Marine Private Thomas Bishop [*Friendship, Charlotte*], during the early months of the colony. Mary had been assigned to Norfolk Island, travelling aboard HMS *Sirius*, disembarking at Cascades on the north side of the island just days before the *Sirius* was catastrophically wrecked upon the reef in Sydney Bay on 19th March, 1790. *Sirius*, escorted by the armed tender *Supply*, had been despatched in early March to redeploy approximately half of the inhabitants of the mainland settlement at Port Jackson, in order to relieve the pressure on the colony's failing food resources. Norfolk Island, approximately 1600 kms (1000 miles) to the north east of Port Jackson, had been settled 2 years previously on the orders of the British government, and promised to support sustainable agriculture.

Colleen McCullough, in her monumental work *Morgan's Run*, penned a colourful and evocative description of the extreme weather event which forced the disembarkation of *Sirius's* passengers at the Cascades, the subsequent wet and uncomfortable overland trek, for some in darkness, to the settlement in Sydney (modern day Kingston) and which indeed created the conditions contributing to the wreck in Slaughter Bay, about 3 days thereafter. It's a wonder that the intrepid Mary Davis, pregnant, coped along with the other arrivals in such dramatic and potentially overpowering circumstances.

One can't help but sympathise with those hardy ancestors, already tempered by years of incarceration in England's squalid prison system, softened by nearly another year confined to what was practically a fleet of slave ships, and virtually starved by the deprivations of inadequate provisions, spoiled seed grain, infertile Port Jackson soils, lost livestock and the subsequent rationing endured before yet another assignment, this time to the unknown Norfolk.

Charlotte, when entered into the Norfolk Island Victualling Records was, in keeping with the convention of the time, entered under her mother's transportation name. Reg Wright wrote ...

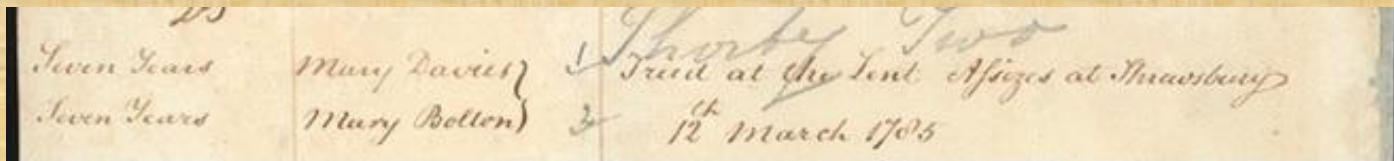
*"On Norfolk Island it was the Victualling Book naming practice to identify convict women by the their name on arrival in the Colony, regardless of whether they later acquired new names by marriage. Similarly the children were known by the mother's surname and not that of the father. In other records, and within the community itself, there is some evidence that the wives were known by a married name. However, there was logic in the Victualling Book practice. Some women changed husbands, and presumably the children moved with the mother."*¹

Furthermore, this infant was entered under the whole of her mother's name, suggesting that she had not yet been named herself. The notion that Mary was waiting (isolated as she was on Norfolk) for Thomas to arrive and contribute to the naming of their child is reinforced by the name eventually chosen Charlottewhich was her father's First Fleet ship of arrival.

Charlotte's mother Mary, whilst tried, convicted and transported under the surname(s) of Davis or Davies, was in fact known by the name of Mary Bishop as early as November of 1788, when convict Samuel Day was recorded as having married a Mary Bishop. This marriage record, the accuracy of which has, in the light of subsequent events, failed the tests of logic and research, has been the source of much misinformation. The estimable Dr. Mollie Gillen, in her seminal work *The Founders of Australia*, states that Samuel Day's long term wife was Mary Bolton, who was not to be

¹ (*The Youngs of Rokeby and their Friends*) <https://nla.gov.au/nla.cat-vn2762775>

confused with Mary Bishop, and that Mary Davis (*Lady Penrhyn*) was undeniably the mother of Charlotte. Gillen further determined that there was no First Fleet transportation record for a Mary Bishop. Credibility is added to a notion of “mistaken identity” by the similar circumstances surrounding these two women. Both were by November 1788 named Mary “B_____”, and were tried for similar crimes on the same day, at the same place, and were transported on the same ship.² With this in mind, the simplest and most credible explanation for this “mystery” marriage is that it never took place, being that of Day and Bolton.



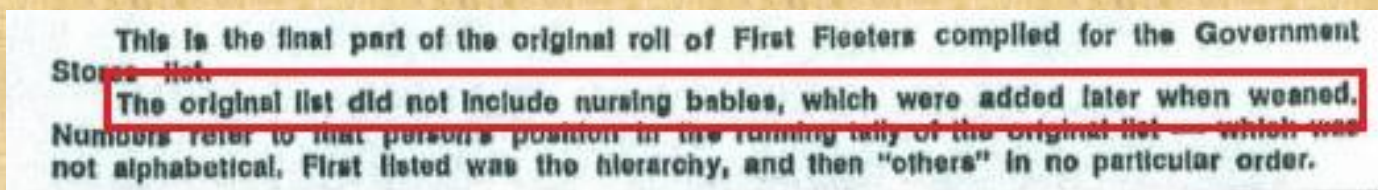
The most practical reason for Charlotte’s mother Mary assuming the name of Bishop is that she had formed a relationship with a male named Bishop. Subsequent elimination of alternatives (Elias, marine, *Alexander & Joseph*, convict, *Friendship*) and the tracing of land grants, memorials, entitlements and transfers has built an indisputable case that Thomas Bishop (Marine, *Charlotte*) was the husband of Mary, and the father of Charlotte.

The date of Charlotte’s entry into the Victualling Book also generates much misinterpretation. Charlotte’s birth date, popularly believed to be 9th July 1791, has been arbitrarily derived from this initial entry, which in fact is the date of her entry into the Victualling Book and it is not a date of birth as such. Examination of the column headings in the original document shows the notation “Born”, against each child, is in the column headed “from whence”, following after the column headed “Time of entry”.



Therefore, 9th July 1791 was Charlotte’s “Time of Entry” and her “from whence” BORN indicates she was born there, i.e. on Norfolk Island. This convention is reflected in many later accountings of the colony’s population, the universal identifiers being “date and ship of arrival”, OR “born in the colony”. Logically, this is not a birth date, but simply the date of the first entry for each child, i.e. when they began to draw a ration; which implies they have experienced a period of weaning, historically, at the time of settlement, for a period of six to nine, or even twelve months.

Further validation of this interpretation is found in the preamble to the list prepared in Sydney (Port Jackson), at or about the same time, for the Government Store (i.e. Victualling List ~ 1788) which states “The original list did not include nursing babies, which were added later when weaned”.³



Charlotte’s entry into the NI Victualling Book includes her departure details, and also a reference to her entitlement to half rations⁴ (which proportion applied to children between 10 and 2 years of age⁵). Her departure with her parents aboard *Kitty* in early March 1793, at a minimum age of 2 years, establishes that she was born, at the very least, as early as February 1791, and in all probability, some months before that. Recent cross-referencing of the Victualling

² *The Founders of Australia*. p.99 Mollie Gillen. Both women came per *Lady Penrhyn* and both were convicted at Shrewsbury Assizes on 12 March 1785. (It was almost universal practice to identify the early inhabitants of the colony by their ship of arrival. The alternative, should they be convict, was by the details of their conviction).

³ The Sydney Morning Herald - Dec 17, 1980..... p7. “Female convicts and children of the First Fleet” Original © British Public Records Office ~ Copies by the Australian Joint Copying Project, held by the Mitchell Library, Sydney and the National Library, Canberra. [image, Annexure I]

⁴ State Library of NSW ~ CY Reel 367 NI Victualling List 1792-1796 Convict's Children pg 76a

⁵ From Journal of PG King 1791-1796 p.42... “August 30th 1792..... the following rations were this day issued list showing women & children over 10 receiving ²/₃ of men's rations, children from 10 to 2 years allocated ¹/₂ and infants ¹/₄” consistent with ratios described in Feb 1793 (p.62)

Book and Norfolk Island commandant Major Robert Ross's record of the numbers of children born during his tenure places Charlotte's birth as between August and November of 1790,⁶ and her conception preceding Mary's departure from Port Jackson in March of that year.

On 26th October of 1791 Charlotte's father Thomas, after discharge from the Marines, voyaged from Sydney to Norfolk Island as a free settler, on board the ship *Atlantic*.⁷ He had been granted, in accordance with his conditions of service, 60 acres at Grenville Vale.⁸ Accompanying Thomas and his fellow marine settlers was the Reverend Richard Johnson, who within days of arriving on Norfolk performed upwards of one hundred marriages. It is inconceivable that Thomas and Mary were not amongst these couples.⁹ During this period the Reverend Johnson baptised the island's children, no doubt including Charlotte.

Also arriving aboard *Atlantic* was the returning former commandant, Lieut Philip Gidley King and his new wife, Anna Josepha, née Coombe. Now the Lieutenant Governor, King was to replace Major Robert Ross and duly resumed his occupation of the Government House. Anna soon gave birth to King's first legitimate son, Phillip Parker King (named in honour not of his father but for King's mentor and patron, Governor Arthur Phillip).

In the meantime, the re-united Bishop family, Thomas, Mary and Charlotte, made their home on his grant at Grenville Vale, which was the nearest tranche of settler grants to Sydney Town (now known as Kingston). Bishop's Farm was just under a kilometre from Government House, along the road to Phillipsburg..



Extract ~ Plan of the Town of Sydney on the South side of Norfolk Island with the adjacent Grounds¹⁰

It is hard to conceive that Mary, as a mature but recent mother of the infant Charlotte, and one of Anna Josepha's nearest neighbours, was not involved to some degree in the lives of the Kings. Mary may well have assisted in the delivery and antenatal care, within 6 weeks of their arrival, of Anna King's first child, Phillip Parker, and perhaps the care of King's natural toddlers Norfolk and Sydney King (Inett). It is possible that Charlotte's first playmates were these King siblings.

Mary's assignment to Norfolk Island effectively served as an "advance party" for the couple in anticipation of Thomas's impending discharge from the marines. As a recipient around the time of Charlotte's birth of two swine from the Government stores¹¹, it may be inferred that she was already engaged in agriculture. It may also explain, if she achieved a head start, why Thomas was able, even with the assistance of assigned convict Edward Davies, to establish and clear his grant to grow, ship and deliver such a significant amount of grain to the Commissariat store (50 bushels of maize, just under double the average of those listed on the return)¹² prior to 31st January 1793, with only one full growing season available following his arrival in late 1791.

⁶ *Australian History Research* ~ Cathy Dunn <http://hmssirius.com.au/mary-davis-convict-lady-penrhyn-1788/>

⁷ *Historical Records of Australia*. Vol. 1 p.306 ~ Phillip to Nepean ~ Enclosure No. 2

⁸ *Historical Records of Australia*. Vol. 1 p.281 ~ Phillip to Grenville ~ Return of Lands Granted in...NSW. See also ⁷

⁹ *Mary Davis, Convict, Lady Penrhyn 1788* ~ HMS Sirius.com, retrieved 24 Nov 2019

¹⁰ William Neate Chapman, abt. 1794. <http://acms.sl.nsw.gov.au/album/albumView.aspx?itemID=1091459&acmsid=0>

¹¹ TNA_CO_201_9. The National Archives (UK).

¹² *List of Bills drawn by the Commissary* ~ 31 Jan 1793.

Although successful in this venture, there was an unacceptable delay in the documentation for this land grant.¹³ More importantly, there were obstacles to obtaining payment for the crops delivered to the Commissariat, which prevented the settlers from enjoying the basic commodities necessary for even a subsistence existence.¹⁴ On the 9th March 1793 Thomas, Mary and Charlotte, along with other disillusioned marine settlers, repatriated to Port Jackson on board the ship *Kitty*.¹⁵

Charlotte's father Thomas was compensated for this debacle with the grant (by acting Governor Major Francis Grose) on the south side of the harbour (Port Jackson) of another allotment, also known as Bishop's Farm. Charlotte's contribution to this family asset amounted to 10 acres added to the 100 acres due to Thomas as a married ex-marine private, as Bishop's Farm was of exactly the correct entitlement (110ac.) due to a discharged marine private, married, with at least one child.

It is likely that the family soon settled on the grant with the intention of clearing and farming, in accordance with Governor Phillip's directions, when first granting land in 1792, that such grants must have an agricultural use.¹⁶ However, this family was to have less than a handful of years together, punctuated as it was by servitude and duty. Tragically, Charlotte was soon to lose her father, as Thomas died from causes unrecorded on or before 10th Dec. 1793,¹⁷ and was on that day interred in the Old Burial Ground now built over by the Sydney Town Hall.¹⁸



Hand-coloured photographic print after a John Rae watercolour, showing a view north along George Street c.1840s. (Held in the Sydney Town Hall Collection) The Old Sydney Burial Ground can be seen to the left of the picture, enclosed by a tall brick wall. A range of memorials is depicted: altar tombs, ledger stones and headstones.

Acknowledgement to City of Sydney ~ History webpages.

Mary, although now without a partner, was not without resources. A handwritten Indenture, dated just 8 months after Thomas's demise, records the release of 110 acres of land known as Bishop's Farm, on the South side of the Harbour of Sydney, for £45, on 11th August 1794, by **Mary Bishop, widow of Thomas Bishop**, to James Squire, the colonial brewer. This was a considerable sum at the time, about a year's salary for the better paid officials in the colony.

CHILD

There is no record of the whereabouts or activities of Charlotte and her mother until Mary Bishop appeared 4 years later in Governor Hunter's Assignment Report : Women Convicts 1798, deriving employment as housekeeper to Harry (Henry) Parson(s) of the New South Wales Corp.¹⁹ Parsons, who was a contemporary of the Bishops on Norfolk Island,²⁰ was not long married to Mary Swain and they had 3 children under the age of 4. Mrs Bishop, together with Charlotte, was no doubt of valued assistance to the family, likely employed for a number of the intervening years.

Other researchers have from various colonial musters identified Mary Davis in 1800 as a "*convict whose sentence has expired. Is off stores*" and in 1805 as "*Mary Bishop at Parramatta. Government Servant who is free by servitude*". Samuel Marsden recorded her as a concubine in his (Marsden's) Female Muster 1806, as a servant living at Government House and mother of a natural (illegitimate) daughter.²¹ Marsden classed all women in the colony (excepting some widows) as either "married" or "concubine", so Mary's reported change of status from widow to concubine suggests she was by then cohabiting with her new life partner James Martin, surrogate step-father of Charlotte.

¹³ *List of persons settled on Norfolk Is. who have not got their grants.* (Thomas Bishop – Marine ~ Grenville Vale ~ first in possession Nov 25th 1791)

¹⁴ From Journal of PG King 1791-1796 p.55...1792 December 22

¹⁵ *The Founders of Australia.* p.36 Mollie Gillen.

¹⁶ *State Archives & Records of NSW* ~ <https://www.records.nsw.gov.au/archives/collections-and-research/guides-and-indexes/land-grants-guide-1788-1856>

¹⁷ *Register of St Phillips Parish Sydney.* Also *Thomas D. Mutch Index to NSW Births, Deaths and Marriages 1787-1956.*

¹⁸ *Old Burial Ground Sydney – Inventory of Burials, 1792-1820* ~

<http://www.cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au/aboutsydney/historyandarchives/OldSydneyBurialGround.asp> ... Accessed on 15th Sept 2013

¹⁹ *Governor Hunter's Assignment Report 1798,* Cathy Dunn, Milton NSW, 1995

²⁰ Parsons, a First Fleet marine private in Captain James Shea's company, transferred to Norfolk Island per HMAT Supply on the same 4th March 1790 voyage as the ill fated Sirius conveying Mary (Davis) Bishop. (see [Australia's Red Coat Settlers](#), accessed 5th September 2012)

²¹ *The Founders of Australia.* p.99 Mollie Gillen. Marsden's classification suggests Mary may have been in a relationship with a man who was not her daughter's father.

In 1800 the new Governor Philip Gidley King had been, as Lieutenant Governor, the commandant at Norfolk Island for the latter half of the Bishop family's residence there,²² and Mary (Mrs Bishop) was appointed Housekeeper at Parramatta Government House soon after he became Governor of the Colony.²³ Anna Josepha would have taken the lead role in the selection of the successful candidate. Both Mary and Charlotte were certainly not unknown to the vice regal family, given the close proximity within which the families resided on Norfolk Island, and perhaps that gave Mary an inside running and favourable consideration for the position. Charlotte by this time was of working age, and in line with the expectations of the day, would have also been employed within the house.

Mary was not a simple servant, she was the Housekeeper, on a gazetted Government salary of £20 p.a. which compared favourably, for the times, with the (male) salary of £50 p.a. of Thomas Legge, Superintendent of Bricklayers, and those of other superintendents and officer holders, also paid from the Colonial Fund.²⁴



National Library of Australia nla.pic-an7570282c-v

Parramatta by 1800 was undergoing some major changes. The original Government House, a single storey lath and plaster residence erected by Arthur Phillip, had already fallen into disrepair, and been demolished. The township itself had, on the instructions of Governor Phillip, been laid out by surveyors Augustus Alt and Lieutenant William Dawes on a grand scale. The main street (High Street, later George Street) was a mile long and 200 feet wide, on an east-west axis from Government House to the public wharf. A second street parallel to the High Street and 100 feet wide was also laid out, called South Street. Wide cross streets at right angles to the main axis were laid out in front of Government House; by the church (ending at the north end in an open plaza with the size for a Town Hall as its focus); and also further to the east, as a crossing point over the river.²⁵ These streets survive today.

When Mrs Bishop commenced as the Housekeeper, it was at a new 2 storey brick house, completed by Governor Hunter in 1799, which forms the front of Old Government House, Parramatta, as it stands today.

Given the intended agricultural nature of the settlement, the town allotments were larger than those in Sydney and were designed to provide gardens, which could be worked by convicts and others to supplement the scarce food supplies of the colony. Mary and Charlotte would have lived on one of these allotments, as there was no servant accommodation at Government House. At some stage, possibly even from the outset, Mary and Charlotte occupied the cottage on allotment 16, fronting George Street about 400 metres to the east of the Governor's Domain and a kilometre to the west of the military barracks located near the wharf where the boats from Sydney unloaded.²⁶



Government House built by Governor Hunter. 1805 Watercolour attributed to GW Evans. (Mitchell Library, State Library of NSW)

TEENAGER

It was to these barracks that Major George Johnston force-marched his New South Wales Corps troops overnight in response to the Irish convict led uprising at Castle Hill on the 4th-5th March 1804.²⁷ Charlotte, at age 13 and alone with her mother, would have been intimidated by the drums beating to arms over Parramatta between 9 and 10 in the evening. Equally frightening would have been the torch lit arrival of an estimated 400 rebels atop Constitution Hill at Toongabbie, only three and a half kilometres and clearly visible to the north west of Parramatta. Whilst the particularly

²² King returned to NI on board Atlantic in October 1791, in the company of Thomas Bishop, recently discharged marine become free settler.

²³ [Colonial Secretary's Papers, 1788-1825](#). Memorial (Fiche 3001; 4/1821 No.21) ~ **1810 Jan 29**. Accessed on 26 November 2011.

²⁴ Colonial Secretary's Papers, 1788-1825. Housekeeper of Government House. (Fiche 3300; 2/8332 p.2) ~ **1810 Jan 3**. ...Accessed on 26 November 2011.

²⁵ *Parramatta's Town Plan 1788 to 1955*, Collingridge Rivett, 2nd Ed 1983

²⁶ It stood on land now bounded by George, Purchase, Hassall and Harris Sts. It was first occupied in May 1791 and was used for nearly 30 years.

²⁷ *The Dictionary of Sydney*. [Castle Hill Convict Rebellion 1804](#) by [Anne-Maree Whitaker](#) "The general alarm was given in Sydney town at 11.30 pm with the firing of cannons and the beating of drums. At midnight Major George Johnston of the New South Wales Corps was awakened by a trooper at his home in Annandale and told that the governor was on his way. Shortly afterwards Governor King rode up with word that 500 to 600 Croppies were in arms and that troops were on their way from Sydney. At 1.30 am a company of 55 soldiers arrived at Annandale, where Major Johnston took command and led them to Parramatta. The Governor arrived at Parramatta at four o'clock and announced the imminent arrival of Major Johnston and 100 soldiers. The sun rose on 5 March at 5.46 am, so it was not long after five o'clock when Major Johnston reached the Parramatta barracks 'at the dawn of the day'." ...Accessed on 26 November 2011.

reviled magistrate Samuel Marsden fled the area by boat, ostensibly escorting Mrs Elizabeth Macarthur and her children to safety,²⁸ most of the town's women and children, fearful of a repeat of several murders, assaults and rape of women perpetrated by convicts in the preceding months,²⁹ either hid in their homes or sheltered in the barracks, at that time garrisoned by some 50 to 60 soldiers commanded by Captain Abbott.

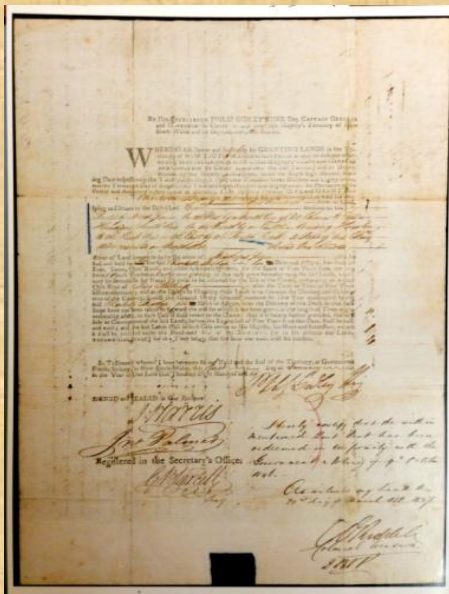
Small measure of relief would have come with the arrival from Sydney at about 4am of the Governor himself, accompanied only by his bodyguard, with news of the imminent arrival of another 100 troops. More encouraging no



doubt was the sight of Major Johnston's detachment, having arrived at the barracks just on dawn, marching shortly afterwards along the high street to receive instruction at Government House.³⁰ Although the rebellion was effectively crushed by a force under Major Johnston on the 5th, mopping up operations continued for some time thereafter. Parramatta town would have been abuzz with activity over the ensuing few days, with the imposition of martial law, a strict sunset curfew, and the mobilisation of the civilian militia Parramatta Loyal Association to defend the town. With the Governor in residence, Mrs Bishop would have been required at the very heart of proceedings. Charlotte should have felt proud, and important.

During his governorship, King lived primarily at Government House Parramatta, in preference to the comparative squalor of Sydney Town, with his wife and young children.³¹ Charlotte, as a 9 through to 15 year old, most likely spent considerable time with Elizabeth King, the only child brought to NSW with Philip Gidley and Anna Josepha on their return.³² Given her literacy skills, Charlotte may even have shared in Elizabeth's education, under the patronage and generosity of Mrs. King.

LAND OWNER



At age 15, on 1st January 1806 Charlotte was granted by Governor King 100ac. of Land for Tillage known as "Bishop's Farm",³³ and adjoining his daughter Elizabeth's 610ac. grant fronting South Creek at Llandillo, on the same day as contiguous grants were made to his wife and all of his legitimate children.³⁴ Elizabeth King's grant was absorbed into her family's pastoral empire eventually known as "Dunheved" which by 1 Jan 1807 totalled 3130 ac., and eventually became part of the former ADI Development Site at St Mary's.

In August 1806 the King family disembarked for England and Government House was again without a governor's wife and family. When Royal Navy Captain William Bligh succeeded P.G. King as Governor of NSW, he resided primarily in Sydney Town. The Parramatta House was probably reduced to an overnight stop-over, as by 1807 Bligh had agricultural interests on the Hawkesbury.³⁵

Aged 16 and now a young woman, Charlotte was in January 1807 honoured to be witness to the marriage of William Blake to Miss Harriet Edwards, registered at St John's Church of England, Parramatta, by the Rev. Samuel Marsden. William, employed at Government House as the personal servant/secretary of Philip Gidley King, was close to the Bishop women and obviously considered Charlotte a valued friend, an association that spanned generations, with the marriage of Charlotte's youngest son Richard to William and Harriet's grand-daughter Eliza Ann, at Richmond on 02 Feb 1852.

²⁸ Wikipedia. [Castle Hill convict rebellion](#). ...Accessed on 26 November 2011.

²⁹ *Historical Records of NSW ~ Vol 5 King 1803 1804 1805* p.351. George Suttor to Sir Joseph Banks, 10th March 1804.

³⁰ *Historical Records of NSW ~ Vol 5 King 1803 ~ 1805* p.348. Major Johnston to Lieut. Col Paterson, Headquarters, 9th Mar 1804.

³¹ [Old Government House.com](#)...Accessed on 26 November 2011.

³² The other children, Norfolk, Sydney, Phillip Parker and Anna Maria, were with friends in England. Mary wasn't born until 1805.

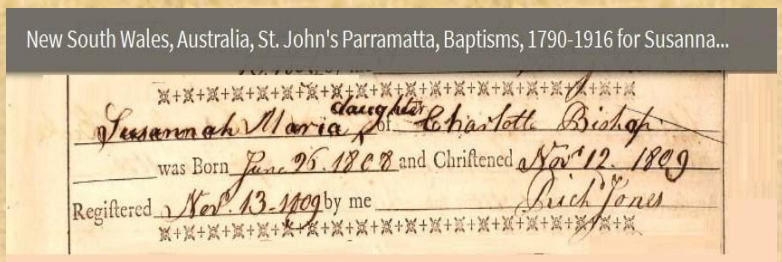
³³ Colonial Secretary's Papers, 1788-1825 Charlotte Bishop: On list of all grants and leases of land registered in the Colonial Secretary's Office (Fiche 3268; 9/2731 p.160) ~ **1806 Jan 1** ~ Grant # 1343, Reg. Book 3C, p.205...Accessed on 26 Nov 2011.

³⁴ *Penrith City ~ Land Grants*. <http://www.penrithcity.nsw.gov.au/index.asp?id=235>...Accessed on 26 November 2011.

³⁵ 8 ML MSS 710, CY 1192, Hassall to Governor King, 6.10.1807, pp. 93-94; ML A 865, CY 2129, 1807 accounts

MOTHER

Within just 12 months, the stage was set for a second revolt in the young colony, this time by the military, on 26th January 1808, infamously known as the Rum Rebellion. It was exactly 5 months later that Mary first became a grandmother, with the birth on 26th June in Parramatta to the 17-year-old Charlotte of a daughter, Susannah Maria.³⁶ History does not record the identity of Susannah's father.



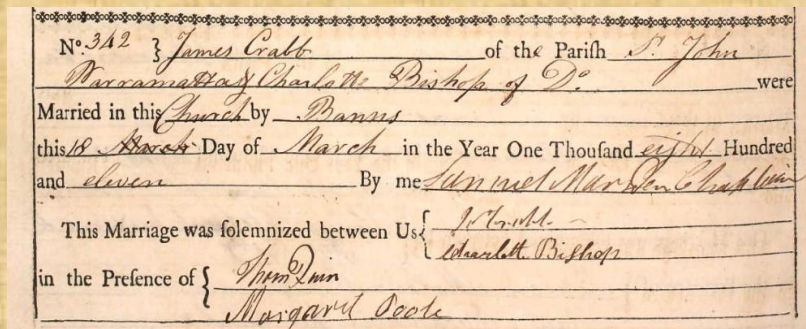
In November of 1809, Charlotte was further honoured with another grant of 100 acres, on the same South Creek, 20kms south at Bringelly. This grant, having been made by the Acting Governor William Paterson after Bligh was deposed, was in early 1810 revoked by the incoming Governor Lachlan Macquarie, along with most of the grants made by the interim Governor. Unlike a similar grant made to Mary, Charlotte's was not reinstated.

Subject to the conditions of her surviving grant, the sale of "Bishop's Farm" was sanctioned for a period of 5 years from the date of grant, in which case, it arbitrarily reverted to the crown. Four days after the expiration of this encumbrance, on 4th January 1811, Charlotte sold her land for £40 to William Hobart Mansell, (equal to two years salary for her mother). Mansell subsequently bequeathed it to his "respected friend" Margaret Rea (per Kangaroo, 1814). On 19th November 1818,³⁷ Rea disposed of it, still known as "Bishop's Farm", to Lieut. Phillip Parker King RN, (the same PP King who was Charlotte's infant contemporary on Norfolk Island) thus consolidating "Dunheved", as did fellow King servant William Blake's adjoining 100ac. grant, acquired for £50 on 30 April 1814 by Anna Josepha King's agent Rowland Hassall.³⁸ Conceivably, these grants were part of a long-term plan to further increase the King family's holdings, with the aid (and to the benefit) of the King servants and their families.

WIFE

In emulating her mother's enterprise, Charlotte obtained for herself a timely and sizeable dowry, and just 3 months later on 18th March 1811, at age 20 and with a nearly 3 year old daughter, she married 30 year old James Crabb.

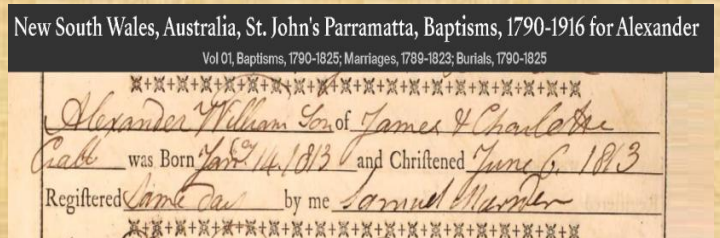
"James Crabb of the Parish of St John Parramatta and Charlotte Bishop of ditto were Married in this Church by Banns this 18 Day of March in the Year One Thousand eight Hundred and eleven By me Samuel Marsden Chaplain".....



Originally from Banffshire in Scotland, James was a soldier, a corporal in the 73rd Regiment of Foot, who arrived in Sydney aboard HMS *Dromedary* in December 1809. He was in 1811 stationed / resident in Parramatta. So too was Charlotte.

Both James and Charlotte signed the register, in the presence of Thomas Quin and Margaret Poole, both of whom also signed the register. Present at the wedding would have been Charlotte's mother Mary and her long-time partner, James Martin, effectively Charlotte's step-father. James, a Parramatta shopkeeper, had recently retired from service in the Governor's Body Guard of Light Horse, and was the recipient of an 80ac. land grant adjacent to Mary's 30ac. grant on South Creek at Bringelly. Partners indeed.

Born on the 14th Jan 1813, Alexander William Crabb, son of James and Charlotte Crabb, was Baptised on the 6th Jun 1813, by Rev Samuel Marsden, as registered at St John's Church of England, Parramatta.³⁹ Three weeks after the birth, on the 7th February, Charlotte attended a Churching ceremony at St Philip's Church of England Sydney.⁴⁰ Churching refers to a blessing that mothers were given following recovery from childbirth. After



³⁶ NSW Baptisms Vol 148 No 599

³⁷ P.A. No. 26115 – AONSW 6/10296. NSW Land Titles Office Certificate of Title Vol. 4089 Fol. 120

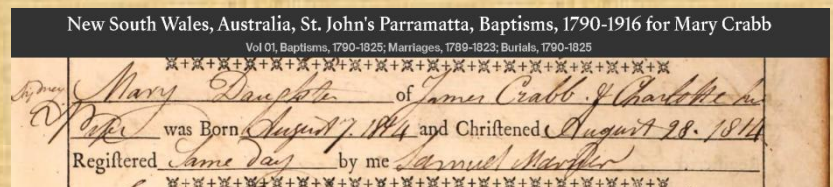
³⁸ Musters ~ 1805-1806, p.10 Blake A0204. p.167 Mrs. A. J. King C0762, pp.134-135 Blake B0401; Ryan, Land Grants 1788-1809, p.186; C. Baxter (ed.), General Musters of New South Wales, Norfolk Island and Van Diemen's Land 1811, ABGR in association with the Society of Australian Genealogists, Sydney 1987, p. 12 Blake 0478; ML A865, CY 2129, Hassall's account, 30 June 1814. Blake's name is shown incorrectly as Black on the parish map of Londonderry.

³⁹ Church Register: NSW Parramatta St John CE Baptism

⁴⁰ Church Register: NSW Sydney St Philip CE Churching

remaining at home for some weeks after giving birth, the woman would go to church where she would thank God for the safe delivery of her child and receive a blessing from the priest.⁴¹

Mary Crabb, daughter of James and Charlotte Crabb, was born in Sydney on 7th Aug 1814 and baptised on the 28th Aug 1814, again by the Rev. Marsden, which ceremony was registered at St John's Church of England, Parramatta.⁴²

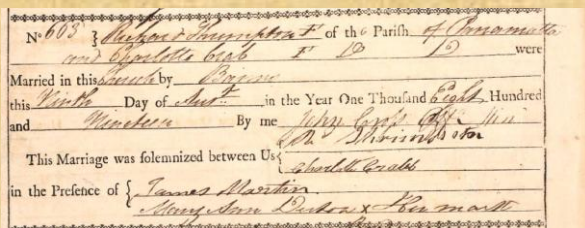


On the 1814 Muster Charlotte was recorded as Charlotte Crabb, free on stores, and the wife of James Crabb, Soldier of the 73rd Regiment. With 3 children on stores, and living in Sydney.⁴³

James was promoted to Sergeant on 1st October 1813 and left the colony for Ceylon (modern day Sri Lanka) with his regiment aboard the General Brown on 19th December 1814, leaving Charlotte with three children under seven, the youngest only four months of age. On the 11th of February 1816 he was promoted to Colour Sergeant. (Overseas) From that appointment onwards he was commanding at Annapoora where he died of an unspecified disease after 33 days at the general hospital, on 12th February 1818. The amount of his effects were £12 4s. and 1 1/p..⁴⁴

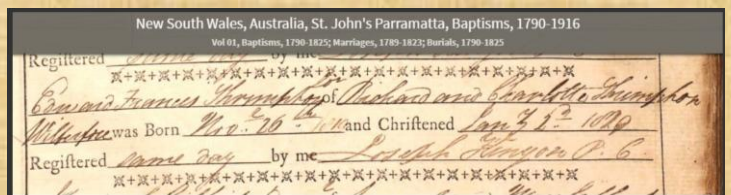
WIDOW

It would have taken some time for the news of James' death to reach Sydney, typically up to four months.⁴⁵ Richard Shrimpton was widowed [Ann Keys or Hayes] on 13th June 1818, about the same time that Charlotte learned of James' demise. Within nine months they were pregnant and at a further four and a half months were married, on 9th August 1819.



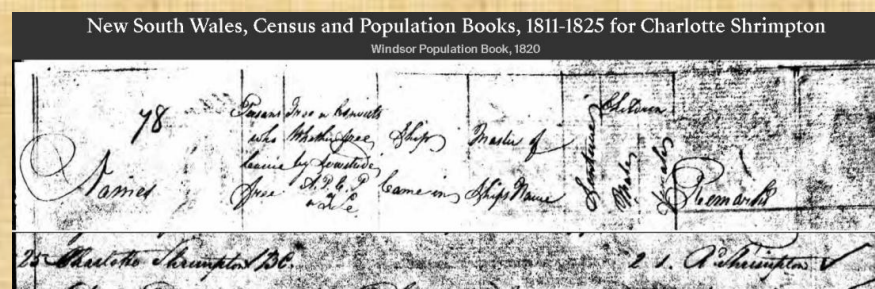
Their union was registered at St John's Church of England, Parramatta [by Banns] by Rev. John Cross, and was witnessed by Charlotte's step-father James Martin, and Mary Ann Dicson.⁴⁶

On the 26th Nov 1819, Charlotte gave birth to Richard's first son, Edward Francis Shrimpton. St John's baptism register records Edward's christening on the 2nd Jan 1820, by Clergyman [Rev] Joseph Kenyon, and the family's residence as Wilberforce.⁴⁷



Wilberforce was one of the five Macquarie Towns established along the Hawkesbury River by the order of the eponymous Governor. By 1819 Wilberforce was well established as part of Windsor [District], which was the seat of local government, magistracy and Commissariat Store.

Charlotte and Richard were recorded, together with 1 female (?) and 2 male children (Alexander + Edward), in the 1820 Windsor Population Book, by which time Windsor's Commissariat Store was the location of the Muster. It was not until 1823 that a Government Order in the Sydney Gazette required that the annual musters be held in the school house at Wilberforce.⁴⁸ Although the inference is they were Windsor residents, it is highly unlikely that the family had relocated from their 1819 Wilberforce residence, to return there in 1821, and were at Windsor simply at the direction of the government. It is also possible that Susannah or Mary Jane was living/visiting with grandmother Mary and her partner James Martin.



The decade preceding the Shrimpton's farming enterprise saw a number of floods with heights reaching forty feet and inflicting widespread damage in the Hawkesbury. The last significant flood was in 1819, and it appears that by 1821

⁴¹ Wikipedia: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Churching_of_women

⁴² Church Register: NSW Parramatta St John CE Baptism

⁴³ Census &c: NSW General Muster 1814

⁴⁴ Australian Royalty. <https://australianroyalty.net.au/tree/purnellmccord.ged/individual/14727/James-Crabb>

⁴⁵ Wikipedia: [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/General_Hewett_\(1811_ship\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/General_Hewett_(1811_ship)) General Hewett left Port Jackson on 6 April bound for Ceylon.[11] She carried the main contingent of the 73rd Regiment of Foot (10 officers, including the commanding officer, Lt. Col. Maurice O'Connell, 362 rank and file, 96 women, and 163 children), which the 46th Regiment was replacing.[12] They arrived in Colombo on 18 August 1814.

⁴⁶ Church Register: NSW Parramatta St John CE Marriage

⁴⁷ Church Register: NSW Parramatta St John CE Baptism

⁴⁸ Macquarie Schoolhouse/Chapel and St. John's (Blacket) Church. NSW State Heritage Register. Dept of Planning & Environment. H01836. Retrieved 14 October 2018

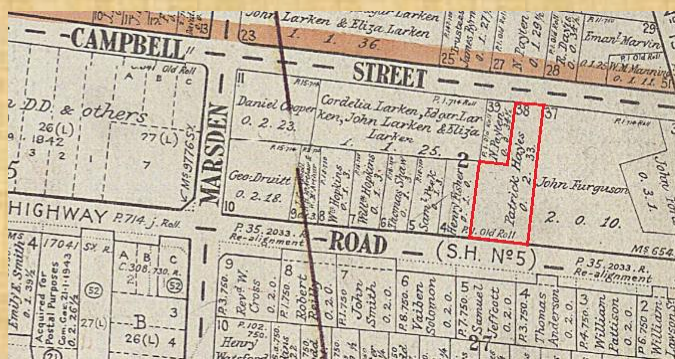
the Shrimpton farm was quite productive, yielding 43 bushels of wheat which Richard delivered to the Windsor Commissariat store between Jan and May. The proceeds of these sales at 9/- per bushel, totalled £19/7/-, a comfortable income for the times.⁴⁹

Sadly, tragedy struck the family, just before Christmas, with the death at Wilberforce of Susannah at age 14. Like the identity of her father, history does not record the cause of her death. The family, including Mary and James, likely gathered for her burial 2 days later, at the Wilberforce burial ground. Minister John Cross officiated. Reverend Samuel Marsden had been instructed by the Governor in 1811 to consecrate burial grounds at the new towns on the Hawkesbury, including Wilberforce.⁵⁰ At the same time, Macquarie directed that settlers should no longer bury their dead on their farms but in the burial grounds consecrated and measured out "some time since" in places such as Wilberforce.⁵¹ V1821 5275 2B simply states "Susannah M Simmons [sic] age 14. Buried December 16th, 1821, Wilberforce" in St Matthews Windsor Register.⁵²

Shrimpton family life balance was somewhat restored with the birth, on 24th May 1822 at Wilberforce of Charles "child of Richard Shrimpton, settler, and Charlotte." This second Shrimpton son was baptised on the 16th Jun 1822, at St Matthews C of E. Windsor by Clergyman [Rev] John Cross⁵³. By September of that same year, Richard, lease holder, resident of Wilberforce, had acquired and cleared 20 acres, cultivated 14 acres of wheat, 4 acres of maize, 2 acres of garden & orchard, and accumulated in storage 10 bushels of wheat, 30 bushels of maize, 2 horses, and 50 hogs.⁵⁴ His employment was recorded as: Landholder; Residence: Wilberforce⁵⁵. Charlotte was similarly recorded as: Aged: 32; Residence: Windsor (sic), Wife of Richard Shrimpton.⁵⁶

In December of 1824 Leah Shrimpton, "child of Richard Shrimpton, settler, and Charlotte." was born on the 30th, again at Wilberforce, and was eventually baptised by Rev. John Cross on the 22nd May 1825, at St Matthew's Church of England in nearby Windsor.⁵⁷ Richard must have been delighted with his first daughter.

A year earlier, in June 1823, Richard was the beneficiary of a 21 year lease of just under ¾ of an acre of land lying on the south side of Campbell Street, through to the Great Western Road, in the town of Parramatta ([Allotment 38, Section 2](#)). Whilst Richard wasn't able to sub-let or sell this land without approval, he was, again with approval, allowed to improve it, commonly by erecting a dwelling.⁵⁸ The Parramatta town allotments were designed to accommodate small scale farming and it may have been a move to downsize much closer to Charlotte's support. Whether they launched such a project, or not, he and the whole Shrimpton family were, in September 1825, all residing in the town of Parramatta, with the children, both Crabbs and Shrimptons, ranging from twelve down to one year(s) of age. Richard's "Employment" was recorded as "housekeeper" but in the parlance of the time, that could well be interpreted as "status" or "condition" rather than an occupation, and as a "house holder", rather than the modern interpretation of "housekeeper".⁵⁹



For whatever reason, a little over 12 months later the family found themselves back on the land at Wilberforce, with farmer Richard and wife Charlotte celebrating the birth on the 17th of November (1826) of third son Richard. Richard Junior was baptised on the 4th Mar 1827, by Rev. M D Meares, as registered at St John's Church of England, Wilberforce.⁶⁰ Whether sold, forfeited or surrendered, the Parramatta allotment ended up in the possession of one Patrick Hayes.

TWICE WIDOWED FARMER

Just four months later, in July 1827, Charlotte's life was once again thrown into turmoil, with the death at 65 of her second husband, Richard, leaving in her care the 13yo Mary Jane (Crabb), and the four Shrimpton children from ages 8 to 1 year old. Alexander was living with his grandmother Mary, at the house of James Martin. Richard was buried on Jul 12th 1827 at the Wilberforce burial ground, as recorded in the St John's C of E Wilberforce Register by the Reverend M D Meares.⁶¹

⁴⁹ Colonial Secretary's Papers Index 1788-1825

⁵⁰ SRNSW 4/3490D, p. 9

⁵¹ Sydney Gazette, 18 May 1811, p. 1

⁵² Church Register: NSW Windsor St Matthew CE Burials

⁵³ Church Register: NSW Windsor St Matthew CE Baptism

⁵⁴ New South Wales, Census and Population Books, 1811-1825: Sydney Population, Land and Stock, 1822

⁵⁵ New South Wales, Census and Population Books, 1811-1825: Wilberforce Population Book, 1822

⁵⁶ Census &c: NSW General Muster 1822

⁵⁷ Church Register: NSW Windsor St Matthew CE Baptism

⁵⁸ New South Wales, Australia, Registers of Land Grants and Leases, 1792-1867

⁵⁹ Census &c: NSW General Muster 1823/4/5

⁶⁰ Church Register: NSW Wilberforce St John CE Baptism

⁶¹ Church Register: NSW Wilberforce St John CE Burial

Clearly the farming of the Shrimpton 20 acres, plus the raising of the children, led to great distress for Charlotte, at the age of 34 now widowed twice. By September of 1828 she was reduced to petitioning for Edward, 8, and Charles, 6, to be placed in the Male Orphan School in Sydney. This petition, accepted by the Committee, was endorsed by member Archibald Bell, describing Charlotte as "much respected for her general dependability"⁶² Widow Shrimpton, as the landholder, had also reduced the size of the holding, whether by sale or sublease, by half, to 10 acres, cleared and cultivated, and retained only one horse from the numerous animal stock held previously.⁶³

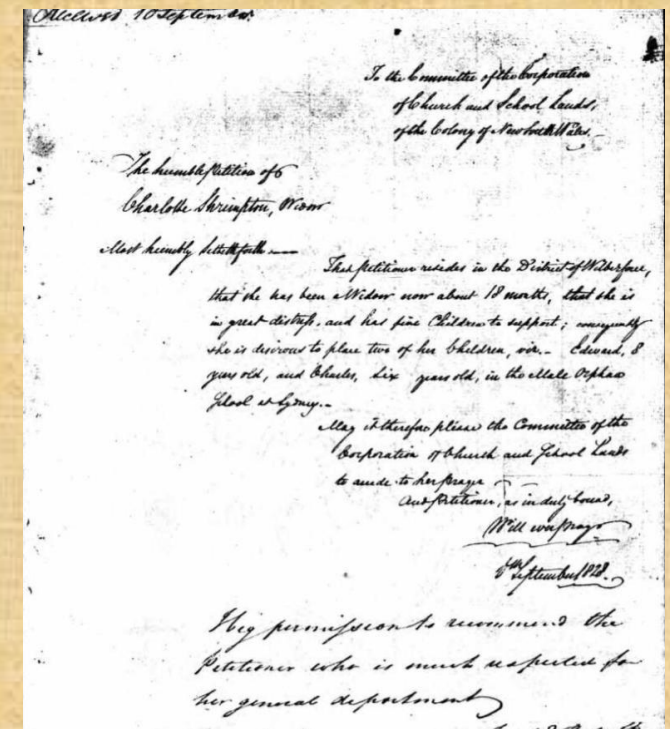
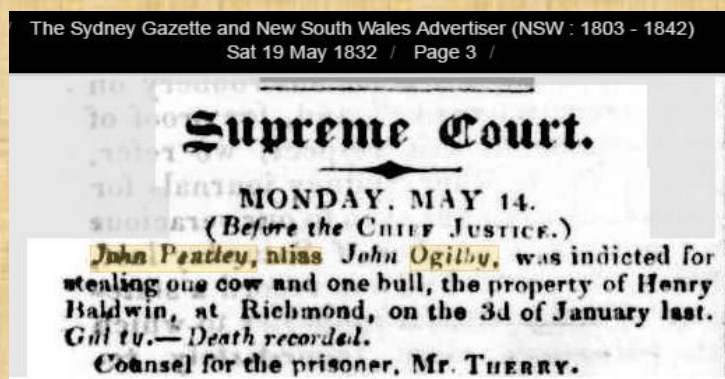
The November 1828 Census recorded the now depleted Shrimpton family as Charlotte Shrimpton, Householder, aged 34, Mary Shrimpton, aged: 14 years, L(eah) Shrimpton, aged: 4 years and Richard Shrimpton, aged: 2 years.

Some evidence of the circumstances of a widowed mother of three (and perhaps commentary on the socio/economic necessities of the time) was her marriage, in December, to ex-convict John Pentley. The union was recorded in the St James Church of England (Pitt Town) Clergy Returns thus:

John Pintla [sic], of the parish of Pitt Town; Signed X; Charlotte Shrimpton, of the parish of Wilberforce: Signed name; Married: 22nd Dec 1828 Married at Church by Banns with consent of Their families; [celebrant] M D Meares, Witness: Peter Dergan, Pitt Town; Signed name; Witness: J D Wood, Pitt Town; Signed name;⁶⁴

For her third husband, Charlotte had picked a lemon. John Pentley (alias Ogilvie) was a convict with a rich record. A late arrival in the colony (*Atlas*, 1819), he continued drawing the attention of the authorities, with various escapades in defiance of incarceration for cattle theft and other ventures (escape, absconding), activities which may or may not have been known to Charlotte. Presumably, male assistance was essential for the farming operations, and such dependence may account for Charlotte's initial association with this man. Charlotte may also have fallen victim to her own proclivities, as after a mere seven months of connubial bliss Susannah Jane Pentley made her arrival, with the following announcement Baptised Aug 3 born 31 July 1829, Susannah Jane, Parents John & Charlotte Pentley, Farmer, Henry T(arlton) Stiles. (Incumbent of St. Matthew's, Windsor, which parish included Richmond until 1842, Kurrajong and Clydesdale).⁶⁵ This is the first indication that the family had moved upriver to Kurrajong.

In any event, Pentley's ways caught up with him, and he was separated from Charlotte and his young daughter by yet another episode of cattle theft, this time earning the ultimate sentence of death....



Conviction • Supreme Court of NSW

Monday 14 May 1832

(Before the CHIEF JUSTICE.) John Pentley, alias John Ogilby, was indicted for stealing one cow and one bull, the property of Henry Baldwin, at Richmond, on the 3d of January last. Guilty - Death recorded.

⁶² New South Wales, Australia, Applications and Admissions to Orphan Schools, 1817-1833. [Applications For Admission](#)

⁶³ Land & Stock: NSW Land & Stock Census 1828

⁶⁴ Church Register: NSW Pitt Town St James CE Marriage

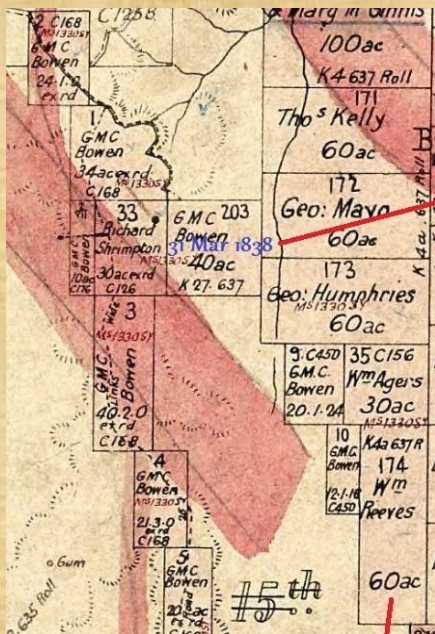
⁶⁵ Transcriptions of Early Church Entries by M(arilyn) Mason (V1829 1036 18 and V1833 1037 18 are successive entries in 1834 Baptisms in the Parish of Richmond.

Reprieved, he spent the following 3 years incarcerated, and in the 1841 census was recorded as ... Occupation: agricultural pursuits. Residing with 1 female child aged between 7 and 14 years. This child may have been of appropriate age to be Susannah Jane, but it is highly unlikely that Pentley's relationship with Charlotte was rekindled, for soon after his conviction, she formed a relationship with another man. Nor did Pentley's cohabitation with the young female survive beyond his further incarceration in June of 1842, having been found guilty of Misappropriation. This sentence he did not survive, dying in the Parramatta hospital on the 22nd of April 1843.

INDEPENDENT WOMAN

In the intervening years, motivated perhaps by either or both of the circumstances above, Charlotte bore two more daughters to two different partners, presumably live-in workers assisting in the operation of the Shrimpton farm. A younger Frederick Allsop (b.1806) fathered with her Margaret Elizabeth Allsop, born at North Richmond on the 25th of April 1833, and William Arrand, partner # 6, was responsible for Charlotte's daughter # 6, Ellen Eve Arrand, born Christmas Eve, 1835 in Kurrajong. Charlotte's parents Thomas and Mary had only one child. By age 45, Charlotte had produced 10 children to 6 different fathers. It would seem, had it not been for her age and stage of life, that she may well have added even further to this achievement.

By 1835, the family had begun to scatter. Sadly, Susannah Maria had passed away. Whilst Charles had been retrieved by his mother from the Orphan School in April of 1829, Edward remained there until 23rd July 1832, when at the age of 12 he was apprenticed to Edward Cox of Mulgoa. Alexander William appears to have disappeared from the record, while his sister Mary Jane was three years married to Christopher Norris. Those children remaining at home appear to have been Charles 13, Leah 11, Richard 9, Susanna Jane 6, Margaret 3 and Ellen 1.



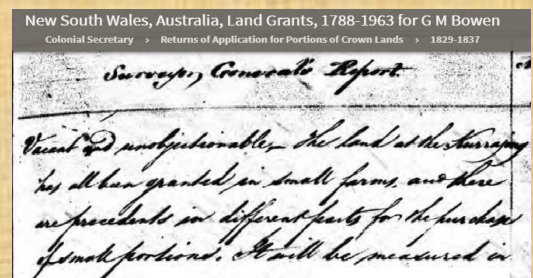
It is a matter of some conjecture as to where Charlotte and this residual family settled in the 1830s. Her later years were spent at Kurrajong, where son Richard formalised and disposed of the 30ac. Portion 33 allotment in the late 1850s, early 1860s. Research of property titles and grants in the vicinity of this Shrimpton grant, coupled with the progression of locales for numerous Shrimpton family events, leads to the conclusion that Charlotte and her children occupied this 30 acres for many years prior to its formalisation, perhaps even from the very late 1820s. This long term occupancy would have been subject to permission, based on a historical promise, and would admirably qualify it as the location of the aforesaid farm and family events.

From research into surrounding grants, it becomes evident that occupation on the grounds of a government promise was quite common at the time, and many years lapsed 'twixt the promise and the grant. Lieut. George Meares Countess Bowen's (surrounding land baron and namesake of Bowen Mountain) purchase from Robert & Sarah Reeves was documented in May 1830. The Deed of Grant for the Reeves land was not finalised until early 1833, and relied upon a promise by Governor Macquarie, made on 14th June, 1811.⁶⁶ Likewise, the 1839 Grant of the 60 acre Por.174 at Richmond Hill (also adjacent to GMC

Bowen's holdings) to one William Reeves, relies upon "*being the land promised to the said William*" of which he was authorised to take possession on 18th October 1831".⁶⁷

While Shrimpton Farm remained untitled until the late 1850s, it is fair to say that Richard Shrimpton only pursued the title (and correction thereof) because GMC Bowen had made an acceptable bid to purchase (which was soon after finalised, enabling the Shrimpton family's move on to Eugrowra in the central west).

Bowen's grant application in 1836 for Por. 203, immediately to the east of the Shrimpton Farm, was endorsed in the Surveyor General's Report on the property as '*Vacant and unobjectionable*' with the following qualification ... "*The land at the Kurrajong has all been granted in small farms, and these are precedents in different parts for the purchase of small portions.*" This is further evidence that Charlotte had both a promise and permission to occupy. The practice of



⁶⁶ New South Wales Government Gazette (Sydney, NSW : 1832 - 1900) Wed 31 Oct 1832. [Accessed 7 Jun 2023](#)

⁶⁷ New South Wales, Australia, Land Grants, 1788-1963: Colonial Secretary: Land Grants, Town and Land Purchases 1839-1848 [Accessed 7 Jun 2023](#)

promising free grants was discontinued in 1831. In a despatch dated 9th January 1831, Viscount Goderich (the British Colonial Secretary) instructed that no more free grants (except those already promised) be given. All land was thenceforth to be sold at public auction. Likewise the practice of granting land as "marriage portions" to the children of colonists was discontinued.⁶⁸

There remains an anomaly in the eventual 1858 grant of the Title Deed to Richard, which was initially issued in the name of older brother Edward. After the exchange of some correspondence between a Shrimpton legal representative and the Department of Lands, this error was eventually corrected, in 1861, by the authority of no less than the Governor General, by the issue of an ERROR IN DEED document, stating that Richard's name be inserted and such Grant and every such Deed shall operate accordingly. This was a rare occurrence,⁶⁹ and the meeting of some unusual circumstances may be relevant....

- The practice, until 1830, of granting land as "marriage portions" to the children of colonists.
- Edward, although in the Male Orphan School, was at about 10 years of age, the oldest male child of colonist Richard Shrimpton.
- Charlotte's circumstances in late 1820s, early 1830s, were dire, widowed twice, with orphaned children and an incorrigible spouse. A land grant would have restored some stability to the family.
- Charlotte had earlier led a life of some quality, and for the time was well educated, and possibly still well connected. As was her mother, Governor's Housekeeper for a decade.
- Charlotte had herself, as a teenager, been the recipient of land grants through gubernatorial patronage.
- When assessing the Title Deed application, the Shrimpton surname may have lulled a bureaucracy used to constantly employing the phrase "promised to the Grantee" when consulting with any original promise papers, thereby overlooking the difference in first names.

Had there been an application and ensuing promise of land at that turn of the decades, Edward would appear to be the most likely candidate, given (1) his seniority, (2) that Charlotte had already enjoyed 2 land grants, (3) husband Richard was deceased, and (4) husband Pentley was a reprobate. It should be noted that State Archives & Records NSW (now MHNSW) has indicated that such promises are contained in decades of unindexed hand written records, and require a page by page visual search, which to date, has been unsuccessful in locating a Shrimpton-Kurrajong promise. The examples referred to above have all been exposed through TROVE in the newspaper reports of the time, or the HLRV website which has digitised a limited number of the many different old system registers of the day.

KURRAJONG

Tracing family events through the ensuing years supports the notion that Charlotte and her family settled on Richmond Hill, in the Kurrajong, well before many other sources purport, and before it became known as Bowen Mountain. Given two premises ...

- 1) Recorded localities may well be the most convenient church, government office or substantial town, and ...
- 2) Richmond, North Richmond, Kurrajong and Richmond Hill (now Bowen Mountain) are all comfortably contained within a 5 mile circle,

The localities of the following events following Richard Snr's death show a consistent shift from Wilberforce and the Windsor district....

• 1829 Jul:	Birth of Susannah Jane Pentley	Richmond NSW Australia
• 1833 Apr:	Birth of Margaret Elizabeth Allsop	North Richmond NSW Australia
• 1835 Dec:	Birth of Ellen Eve Arrand	Kurrajong NSW Australia
• 1839 Jan:	Death of Mary Bishop née Davis	Kurrajong NSW Australia
• 1843 Jun	Marriage of Charles Shrimpton (son)	Richmond NSW Australia
• 1851 Sep:	Death of Charlotte Shrimpton	Kurrajong NSW Australia
• 1852 Feb:	Marriage of Richard Shrimpton	Richmond NSW Australia
• 1852 Aug:	Birth of Mary Ann Shrimpton	Kurrajong NSW Australia
• 1853 Dec:	Birth of Charlotte Jane Shrimpton	Kurrajong NSW Australia
• 1855 Oct:	Birth of Richard Shrimpton (III)	Kurrajong NSW Australia

⁶⁸ HRA 1.16.22 : HRA 1.16.353, 793 : MHNSW Land Grants Guide, 1788-1856. [Accessed 7 Jun 2023](#)

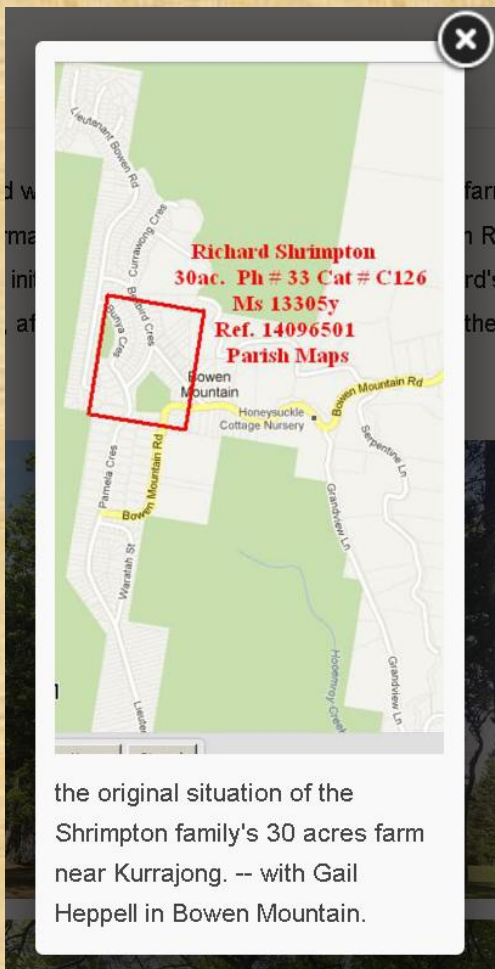
⁶⁹ Fellow researcher Eddie Dupont, when consulted about this aberration, declared that in his 50 years of daily Title dealings, such a document was unprecedented. He surmised it was a convenient fix during a period when the responsibility for Land Titles was in flux, bouncing backwards and forwards between the Surveyor General, the Registrar General and the Department of Lands

It is virtually certain that the Shrimptons were on Richmond Hill well before George Bowen, if only because Portion 33 is located on THE premium site at the very top of the mountain, with panoramic views of the whole Cumberland Plain, from Barrenjoey in the north, south to the Royal National Park. Bowen gobbled up all of the land surrounding the Shrimpton Farm, commencing these Kurrajong acquisitions with the Reeves purchase in May 1830 and completing his consolidation over a 33 year period.⁷⁰ Were the prime Portion 33 not already occupied, it is logical that he would have acquired it as soon as possible, if not at the very outset.

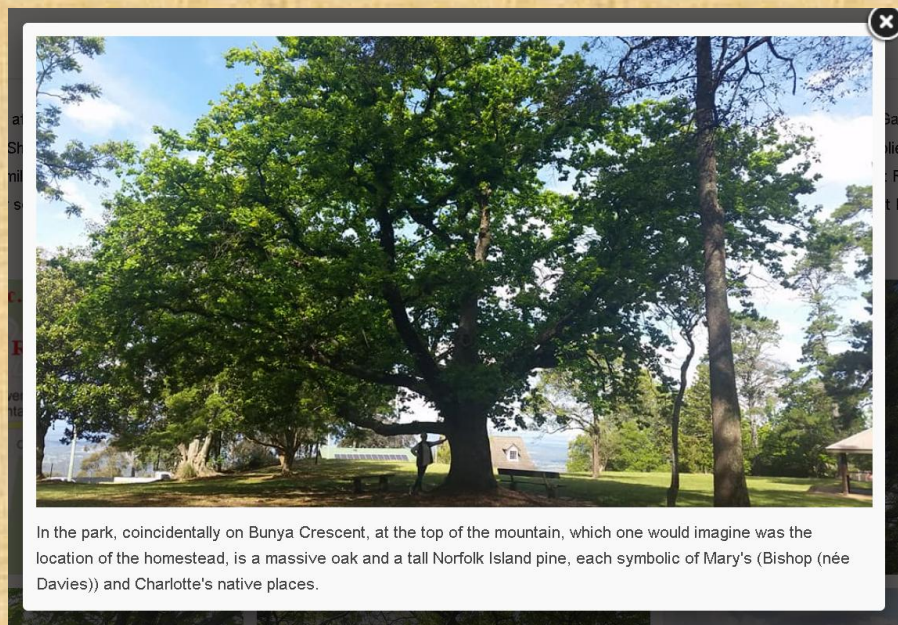
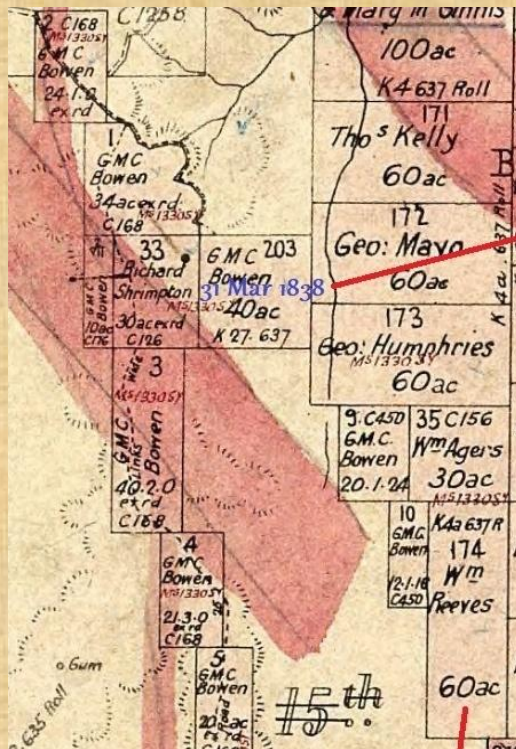
Charlotte, the only child of Thomas and Mary Bishop, tragic couple, who had no more than a handful of years together, punctuated by servitude and duty, on the other hand, made amends by bearing ten children (to six different fathers) Charlotte died at age 60 at Kurrajong on 5th Sep 1851. She was buried on the 8th Sep with her mother Mary, in St Peter's Church Cemetery, Richmond.

Their descendants are legion.

BOWEN MOUNTAIN



the original situation of the Shrimpton family's 30 acres farm near Kurrajong. -- with Gail Heppell in Bowen Mountain.



In the park, coincidentally on Bunya Crescent, at the top of the mountain, which one would imagine was the location of the homestead, is a massive oak and a tall Norfolk Island pine, each symbolic of Mary's (Bishop (née Davies)) and Charlotte's native places.

⁷⁰ New South Wales Government Gazette (Sydney, NSW : 1832 - 1900) Wed 31 Oct 1832. Accessed 7 Jun 2023



The romantic in me hopes they were planted by Mary Bishop and/or her daughter Charlotte.



Massive liquidambar.



Even bigger Japanese green maple, with the whole of the top half broken away.



We've neither of us been before and were gobsmacked by the location, with panoramic views of the whole of the Sydney basin.

TIMELINE: The life of Charlotte Pentley (formerly Shrimpton, Crabb, née Bishop) 1790 ~ 1851

- 1790 Aug: Born on Norfolk Island, between August and November
- 1791 Nov: Aged 14 mths, Meet father Thomas Bishop (Norfolk)
- 1793 Dec: Aged 3 years. Death of father (Sydney)
- 1806 Jan: Aged 15 years. Property owner ... 100ac. grant. Evan (PG King)
- 1807 Jan: Aged 16 years. Witness to the marriage of William Blake (PG King Secretary) to Miss Harriet Edwards,
- 1807 Sep: Aged 16 years. Brief relationship with unidentified male (p#1), separation.
- 1808 Jun: Aged 17 years. Birth of daughter (ch.#1) Susanna Maria. (Parramatta)
- 1809 Nov: Aged 18 years. Property portfolio doubled ...100ac grant. Bringelly (Wm Paterson)
- 1811 Jan: Aged 20 years. Sale of 100ac. (Evan) for £40 (dowry per PGK) to William Hobart Mansell.
- 1811 Mar: Aged 20 years. Marriage to Cpl James Crabb (p#2), 73rd Regiment. (Parramatta)
- 1813 Jan: Aged 22 years. Birth of son (ch.#2) Alexander William. (Parramatta)
- 1814 Aug: Aged 23 years. Birth of daughter (ch.#3) Mary. (Sydney)
- 1818 Feb: Aged 27 years. Widowed, with 3 children.
- 1819 Aug: Aged 28 years. Marriage to Richard Shrimpton (p#3) (convict, Scarborough) . (Parramatta)
- 1819 Nov: Aged 29 years. Birth of son (ch.#4) Edward Francis. (Wilberforce)
- 1821 Dec: Aged 31 years. Death of daughter Susanna Maria, aged 14 years. (Wilberforce)
- 1822 May: Aged 31 years. Birth of son (ch.#5) Charles. (Wilberforce)
- 1824 Dec: Aged 33 years. Birth of daughter (ch.#6) Leah. (Wilberforce)
- 1826 Nov: Aged 35 years. Birth of son (ch.#7) Richard (Wilberforce)
- 1827 Jul: Aged 36 years. Widowed, 6 children. 2 boys to Orphan School. Farming 10 acres, all cleared + cultivated.
- 1828 Dec: Aged 38 years. Marriage to John Pentley (p#4) (convict, Atlas)
- 1829 Jul: Aged 38 years. Birth of daughter (ch.#8) Susanna Jane (Richmond)
- 1830 ????: Aged 40 years. Occupied 30ac. grant (promised) Por. 33 at Kurrajong (later known as Bowen Mountain).
- 1832 May: Aged 41 years. Separation. Single mother of 7 children. Pentley convicted of theft, incarcerated 3 years.
- 1832 Aug: Aged 41 years. Brief relationship with Frederick Allsop (p#5), separation.
- 1833 Apr: Aged 42 years. Birth of daughter (ch.#9) Margaret Elizabeth (Allsop). Single mother of 9 children (1 decd.)
- 1835 Mar: Aged 44 years. Brief relationship with Wm Arrand (p#6), separation.
- 1835 Dec: Aged 45 years. Birth of daughter (ch.#10) Ellen Eve (Arrand). Single mother of 10 children, (1 decd.)
- 1839 Jan: Aged 48 years. Death of mother Mary Bishop at Kurrajong.
- 1843 Apr: Aged 52 years. Widowed with the care of 4 children aged from 7 to 17. 6 missing, married, or deceased.
- 1851 Sep: Aged 60 years. Death at Kurrajong (Bowen Mt.) Buried at St Peters C of E Richmond in mother's grave.

Legend: (p#n) ... partner number n.

(ch#n) ...child number n.