

Gaspard has not been found in any records before he appeared at the Leicester Borough Epiphany Sessions, 30 December 1850:

Gaspard Brookes, **39**, pleaded guilty to a charge of stealing a box and nine pounds weight of figs, the property of Henry Gibbs, on 10 December, and was sentenced to two months' hard labour. ¹

Gaspard was only free a few weeks before he appeared at Leicester Assizes, 20 March 1851:

Gaspard Brooks, aged **31**, and Wm Vesty, 26, pleaded guilty to breaking into the dwelling house of Thomas Neal at Bilton and stealing therefrom 13 tablecloths, a quantity of napkins, two top coats, three pairs of boots, and one gold pin, his property. Ten years' transportation. ²

The Prison Registers show that Gaspard Brooks, 31, single, Protestant, and able to read and write well, was convicted at Leicester Spring Assizes of burglary, with a previous conviction. His occupation was recorded as a chemist. Gaspard was removed from Leicester Prison on 28 March 1851 and sent to Wakefield Prison. He was removed from Wakefield on 8 March 1852 and received at Portland Prison the following day. Gaspard spent just over a month and a half in Leicester and 10 months in Wakefield. His character was said to be bad, although his behaviour in all 3 prisons was good. He boarded the *William Jardine* on 23 April 1852 and was to finish his Probation on Public Works in Western Australia. ³

On 4 July 1853, he was working as a storeman at the Guildford Convict Depot. A letter was sent to the Comptroller General recommending a pay increase. However, it was denied, and the Comptroller General suggested increasing his pay by 1d or 2d a month until he reached the maximum, if he slowed himself to deserve the indulgence.

On receiving a Ticket of Leave, Gaspard was engaged by Alfred de Leech at his Victory Eating House in Perth on 21 November 1853. Two months later, John Pedro d'Silva engaged him on 13 January 1854. He left in April and was then engaged by Thomas Briggs on 25 April. The engagement was short as he returned to the Depot in May.

James Hatton then engaged him on 25 September 1854 at 35/- per week with board. He was discharged on 20 November and returned to the Depot on 23 November 1854.

Once Gaspard repaid his £10 passage money, he was entitled to a Conditional Pardon. This was granted on 16 February 1856.

No further trace of him has been found in Australia.

If Gaspard Brooks is his correct name, the only Gaspard/Gaspar/Caspar Brooks found is in Louisiana, America. The age is about right, and it may be him. (Information on this person follows)

¹ Leicester Journal, 3 January 1851

² Northampton Mercury, 29 March 1851

³ The National Archives (TNA) UK, PCOM2/384, HO23/15

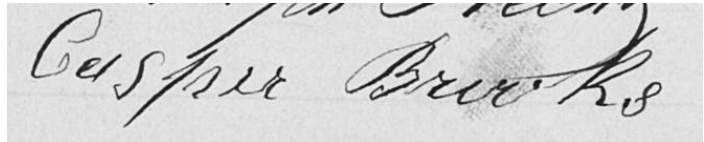
Did Gaspard Brooks Leave Western Australia and go to America?

The only person found by that name was in Louisiana in 1866.

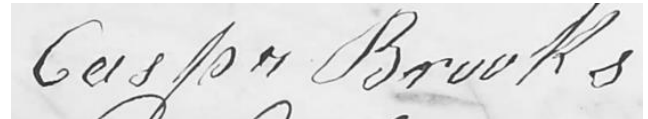
He married Rosa Egan in about the early 1860s, probably in New Orleans.

They had 4 children, although the names and date of birth are only for two children.

State of Louisiana City of New Orleans. This day, 10 March 1866, at the request of Mr Ferdinand Schumaker, who said, I did repairs to a house situated on Craps Street between Piety & Louisa Street, occupied by Mrs Widow Wyma. I was shown one trunk & Carpet bag, the property of the late L. W. Woolfe, who departed this life on the 9th of this present month at 6 o'clock A.M. I told the authorities, and a Judge fixed seals to both in the presence of Messrs. **Gaspard Brooks** & Rudolph Sleck(?).⁴

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Casper Brooks". The ink is dark and the handwriting is fluid.

On 29 April 1867. **Gaspard Brooks**, a native of Germany, residing at No. 783, third district in the City, declared that on the 3 April 1867, at eleven o'clock P.M. at the his residence, was born a female child named Mary Albertine Brooks, issue of the Lawful marriage of the said deponent with Miss Rosa Hagin {Egan}, a native of Ireland.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Casper Brooks". The ink is dark and the handwriting is fluid.

Then in 1869:

The Estate of Mad. Simon Wyma to Casper and Rose Brooks. For wages due to us and general attendance during her last illness. From 1 February to 30 November 1869. 10 months at \$25 per month - \$250 due.

The petition of Mr and Mrs **Casper Brooks** of the City of New Orleans: Said they were employed to attend to the deceased during her illness and manage her household affairs. They attached their bill for \$250.

The Petitioners further allege that William Knox, Esq., Curator of this Estate, presented to this Honourable Court an account of his Curatorship on 22 January 1870, in which he failed to pay your petitioners \$250, which is due to them.

They therefore pray to file this their opposition to the account presented as aforesaid by Wm Knox Esq., Curator on the 22 day of January 1870, and pray that said account be so amended as to place petitioners thereon for the aforesaid sum of \$250. - And they further pray for general relief – (signature) of counsel.⁵ The outcome is not recorded, but presumably they received their money.

1870 Census, 9th Ward, city of New Orleans, 14 June 1870.

Brook, Gaspard, 47, male, white, Levee Police, born Russia

Brook, Rosa, 35, female, white, Keeping house, born Ireland

Brook, Mary, 3, female white, born Louisiana

Brook, Anna, 1, female, white, born Louisiana

The New Orleans, Louisiana, City Directories show the occupation of Gaspard as a sailor.

1868. Brooks, Gaspar, seaman, 783 Burgundy, district 3

⁴ "Orleans, Louisiana, United States records," images, FamilySearch (<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3Q57-99QC-C9J9-F?view=fullText> : Oct 18, 2026), image 1062 of 1199; New Orleans (Louisiana). City Archives. Image Group Number: 005816258

⁵ "Orleans, Louisiana, United States records," images, FamilySearch (<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3Q5Q-2N2Y-V9?view=fullText> : Oct 18, 2026), image 549 of 1022; New Orleans (Louisiana). City Archives. Image Group Number: 004765086

1870. Brooks, Caspar, engineer, 634 Rampart
1871. Brooks, Gaspard, sailor, 77 St, Ferdinand
1872. Brooks, Gaspar, labourer, 77 St, Ferdinand

Death. Gaspard, Caspar or Gasper Brooks died around 1873, according to the directories.

1874. Rose Brooks, wid. of Casper, 628 N. Rampart
1875. Rosa Brooks, wid. of Casper, 628 N. Rampart
1876, 1877, 1878. Brooks, Mrs Rosa, 628 N. Rampart [Washerwoman on 1876 and 1877 directories]
1879. Brooks, Rosa, widow of Gasper, 132 St, Ferdinand.

1880 Census, New Orleans, Louisiana, 18 June 1880, Ferdinand St, 398431
Brooke, Rosa, 42, mother, widow, Keeping House, born Ireland
Brooke, Mary, 13, daughter, at school, born Louisiana
Brooke, Anna, 11, daughter, at school, born Louisiana

1881 - 1888. Brooks, Rosa, widow of Gasper, 132 St, Ferdinand
1891. Brooks, Rosa, widow of Gaspard, 614 Marias
1896, Brooks, Rosa, wid. Caspar, 2714 Burgundy

By 1900, Rosa and her daughter were living in 2nd Precinct, Sisters of Christian Charity, City of New Orleans, on 4 June 1800.

79. Brockmeier, Rev. Chas, head, born May 1857, age 43, single, born Germany, arrived in 1875, Pastor

Bogaerts, Very Rev John R, born Dec 1840, age 59, single, born Belgium, arrived in 1863, Pastor.

Brooks, Rosa, born Dec 1835, age 64, widow, born Ireland, arrived 1848, Servant.

Brooks, Annie, born May 1869, 31, single, born Louisiana, father from Germany, mother from Ireland, Servant.

1910 census, Precinct 2, Ward 4, New Orleans, St Francis Assisi.

Brockmeier, Rev Charles F, head, 54, single, born Germany, Catholic Priest

Wynhoven, Rev Peter M, 25, single, born Holland, arrived 1904, Catholic Priest

Brooks, Rosa, Servant, 75, widow, 4 children, one living, born Ireland, arrived 1848

Brooks, Annie, Servant, 41, single, born Louisiana

Rosa Egan, widow of Casper Brooks, native of Kings Co., Ireland, aged 78, died 13 February 1914. She had resided in New Orleans for 65 years, from about the time she arrived in America.

After Rosa's death, the 1820 census shows Annie worked as a housekeeper to Father Brockmeier. On the 1830 census, she lived alone in Abundance Street.

BROOKS—On Saturday, Feb. 13, 1914, at 8:15 o'clock p.m., ROSA EGAN, beloved wife of the late Caspar Brooks, a native of Tullamore, Kings County, Ireland, and a resident of this city for the past sixty-five years.

The friends of the family and officers and members of the Ladies' Majestic Benevolent Association; also the Third Order of St. Francis, of St. Francis of Assisi Church, are respectfully invited to attend the funeral, which will take place Sunday Morning, Feb. 15, at 11 o'clock, from St. Francis of Assisi Church, corner State and Constance, with solemn requiem high mass, which will be celebrated by Father F. Charles Brockmeier.

Interment in St. Vincent de Paul Cemetery.

Annie Brooks died 13 August 1849, aged 79, after 4 months in Sara Mayo Hospital. She fell at home in Abundance Street, New Orleans City, and fractured her left femur and had a myocardial infarct.

Annie was born 12 June 1870 * according to the Death certificate. She was buried in St Vincent de Paul Cemetery in the family vault.

[* 1900 census – born May 1869; however, she was on the 1870 census taken 4 June, a 1-year-old]