

## Thomas Chesterfield, 127, *Hashemy*

Researched by Marcia Watson

Baptism	15 November 1798, Deeping St James, Lincolnshire
Parents	Francis Chesterfield and Elizabeth Eldred
Parent's marriage	24 February 1789, Deeping St James
Siblings	John (1789), Henry (1791), Ann (1792), Francis (1794), Mary (1797-1799), Mary (1800-1800), William (1801), George (1806), James (1808)
Wife	Rebecca Watson
Married	8 February 1825, Deeping St James
Wife 2	Jane Felts
Married	21 March 1842, St Peter, Wisbech, Cambridgeshire
Wife 3	Margaret Lamont
Married	2 March 1859, Geelong, Victoria
Children	Sarah Ann (1825) Elizabeth (1828) William (1830) Thomas (1832) Charles (~1835) Mary (~1836) Jane (~1839) Martha (1841) James William (1860) Alice Lizzie (1863)

**Parents:** Francis Chesterfield, 25, married Elizabeth Eldred, 22, in 1789, and both signed the register. Elizabeth was from the nearby parish of Maxey. All their children were born at Deeping St James. Elizabeth died in 1830 and Francis in 1831.

In 1825, Thomas Chesterfield married Rebecca Watson, by banns, at Paston, Northampton. Both signed their names. One of the witnesses was Sarah Chesterfield.

Rebecca appears to have died, as in 1841, living at Wash Way, Holbeach, Lincolnshire: Thomas Chesterfield, 41, ag lab; Jane, 30; William, 12; Thomas, 10; Charles, 8; Mary, 4; Jane, 2; Martha, 1 month; Mary Felts, 60 (Jane's mother)

Thomas married Jane Felts at St Peter, Wisbech, Cambridge, on 21 March 1842, after they had several children. The marriage was announced in the newspaper:

On Monday last, Mr Thomas Chesterfield, farmer, to Miss Jane Felts, dressmaker, both of Wisbech. <sup>1</sup>

In July 1847, at Long Sutton, a daring mid-day robbery took place:

On Tuesday last, about 11 o'clock in the day, Redmore Allenby, Esq., an infirm old gentleman of huge landed property, was proceeding, as was his custom, from his residence at Lutton Garnon's-gate, near this town, to his farm in Sutton Marshes, to pay his labourers. To enter the farm from the road, he had to dismount from his horse in order to unfasten the lockchain on the gate. While was the act of doing this, he was pounced upon by two men, who immediately cast an old sack over his head, which had the double effect of stifling his cries and hindering him from seeing. They threw him on the ground and took from his pocket a purse containing about £14 in gold and silver; and afterwards tied his arms together and left him, exacting a promise from him that if they desisted from further injury, he would raise no outcry. He shortly

<sup>1</sup> Norfolk Chronicle, 26 March 1842, p3

after made his way to the farmhouse (only 200 or 300 yards distant), where his labourers were at work, and two of them on learning particulars started in pursuit of robbers.

We are happy to say the poor old gentleman, who is in his 83d year, has escaped (so far relates to personal injury) with a few scratches on his face. The labourers succeeded in tracing the two villains into wheat-field, where they were captured; they were soon handed over to the constables and taken to Spalding Goal.<sup>2</sup>

At the Holland Sessions, Spalding, Lincolnshire on 21 October 1847:

Henry Fetch, 24, and Thos. Chesterfield, 48, were indicted for stealing at Sutton St Mary's, on the 20 July, from the person of Redmore Allenby, six sovereigns, eight half-sovereigns, and other money, with a purse. Mr Mossop conducted the prosecution; the prisoners were undefended.

Redmore Allenby, who is in his 84th year, stated that he was in the habit of going to his farm to pay his men on Monday mornings at about eleven o'clock. On this occasion did not go till Tuesday. When he arrived at the gate leading into his farm, which is at the end of a lane, he dismounted to undo the puzzle-chain; when an old smock was thrown over his head, he was pulled backwards, and whilst on the ground, his pockets were rifled. (The circumstances were fully stated at the time in the *Mercury*.)

The prisoners in defence stated that they had the money for the purpose of buying a cart; and that they entered the field where they were found in search of water to drink with their bread and cheese.—Verdict guilty. To be transported for fifteen years.<sup>3</sup>

Lincolnshire Archives.<sup>4</sup>

Thomas CHESTERFIELD, 48, of Sutton St Mary, labourer

Crime: Stealing 6 sovereigns, 8 half-sovereigns, 14 half-crowns, 17 shillings, 47 sixpences and a purse, the property of Redmore Allenby, from his person at Sutton St Mary. Convicted with Henry Fetch

Court: Holland Quarter Sessions, 21 October 1847, 15 years.

Thomas Chesterfield, 48, was received at Millbank Prison on 31 January 1848 from Spaulding Gaol. The register notes he was once charged on suspicion. On 5 July 1848, he was transferred to Wakefield Prison. Wakefield's register says he had three children when he had seven living children and also says he was once previously imprisoned. From Wakefield, Thomas was sent to Portland Prison on 1 January 1849. After eighteen months there, he boarded the *Hashemy* for the voyage to Western Australia on 19 July 1850.<sup>5</sup>

On arrival at Fremantle in October 1850, his description was:

127. Thomas Chesterfield, 52, 5' 5 $\frac{3}{4}$ ", grey hair, hazel eyes, long face, brown complexion, blister mark below the knee, a labourer and married with seven children.<sup>6</sup>

General Register:

127. Thomas Chesterfield, 52 in November 1850, married, labourer, Church of England, he went to school and could read, write tolerably and do a little maths. Thomas said his brother George Chesterfield was a farmer at Deeping St James near Peterborough, Northamptonshire and John Thompson, mariner, and his son-in-law lived at Spaulding, Lincolnshire.

Attended Divine Service?	Neglected his duty in his latter years
Received Sacrament?	Once in his lifetime
Habits?	Sober and industrious
Intellect?	Sound
State of Mind?	Very good, humbly looking to God for direction
Knowledge, Secular?	Limited

<sup>2</sup> Stamford Mercury, 23 July 1847, p3

<sup>3</sup> Stamford Mercury, 05 November 1847, p2

<sup>4</sup> Lincolnshire Archives, HQS A/2/22 (vol)

<sup>5</sup> HO24/4; HO23/14; HO8/10

<sup>6</sup> SROWA Acc 128/40-43

Knowledge, Religious? Tolerable, salvation by faith in the Lord Jesus

Alleged Cause of Crime? Poverty

Name of Person referred to for Character, &c. The Rev William Moore, Magistrate of Spaulding, Lincolnshire, before whom he was committed.

Received the Sacrament on Christmas Day 25 December 1851; Sunday 6 April 1851, Sunday 1 June 1851.

He received books while in gaol, primarily religious.<sup>7</sup>

Thomas appears on the Casual sick list at Fremantle Prison.<sup>8</sup>

		Complaint	Treatment
Chesterfield Thos	21 October 1850	Bad eyes	Lotion
Chesterfield Thos	12 November 1850	Diarrhoea	Cal: Pil, Chalk mixture
Chesterfield Thos	25 January 1851		
Chesterfield Thos	1 February 1851	Bad legs	Lotion with Sulph mixture
Chesterfield Thomas	8 February 1851	Varix (Varicose vein)	Bandage
Chesterfield Thomas	9 February 1851	Varix	Cold water to leg
Chesterfield Thomas	17 April 1851	Diarrhoea	Pil:Cal:.. chalk mixture
Chesterfield	24 April 1851		

Thomas received his ticket of leave on 26 July 1851 and a Conditional Pardon on 20 October 1854.<sup>9</sup>

In 1852, an unclaimed letter for Thomas Chesterfield was at the Post Office.<sup>10</sup>

Thomas worked for:

5 May 1853: George Haysom/Heysom of Perth until 1 August 1853.

3 October 1853: Wallace Bickley of Canning until 21 October 1853.

21 October 1853: William Cousins of Perth until 7 October 1854.<sup>11</sup>

Soon after receiving his Conditional Pardon, Thomas left on the *Anna Dixon* on 2 November from Fremantle. The vessel left Albany on 16 November for Adelaide and arrived in South Australia on 24 November.<sup>12</sup>

Thomas later went to Victoria. On 2 March 1859, he married Margaret Lamont at Geelong: Margaret Lamont, 29, arrived *per* Shalimar on 11 November 1857 at Geelong, brought out by John Mathews of Duneed. She was engaged for three months for 20 (shillings?).

Thomas and Margaret had two children: James William and Alice Lizzie, both born at Geelong. They probably lived at Fyansford near Geelong. Thomas's horse was stolen in 1864 and later recovered. It had been ridden hard.<sup>13</sup>

Thomas died 20 February 1877, Victoria at the Benevolent Asylum at Hotham, of palsy and paralysis. The Death Index notes his parents were Francis and Elizabeth Chesterfield. He was buried at Melbourne General Cemetery on 21 February.

Margaret died in 1915.

CHESTERFIELD.-On the 17 November, at Sister Hurnell's private hospital, a'Beckett-street, Kew, Margaret, relict of the late Thomas Chesterfield, and beloved mother of J. W. Chesterfield of Caulfield and Mrs Clemenger, of India, aged 90 years. Interred privately 18 November. Western Australian papers please copy.<sup>14</sup>

<sup>7</sup> SROWA Acc 1156 R21A

<sup>8</sup> SROWA Acc 1156 CS1

<sup>9</sup> SROWA Acc 1156 R21B

<sup>10</sup> The Perth Gazette and Independent Journal of Politics and News (WA : 1848 - 1864), 10 September 1852, p5

<sup>11</sup> Leader (Melbourne, Vic. : 1862 - 1918, 1935), Sat 27 Nov 1915. P56Rica Erickson's notes on Family Search.

<sup>12</sup> Adelaide Times (SA : 1848 - 1858), 25 November 1854, p2

<sup>13</sup> Victoria Police Gazettes

<sup>14</sup> Leader (Melbourne, Vic. : 1862 - 1918, 1935), 27 November 1915. P56

## *Rebecca Watson*, first wife of Thomas Chesterfield, convict 127

Baptism	28 December 1800, Paston, Northamptonshire
Parents	John Watson (1773-1854) and Ann Horth (1775-1814)
Parent's marriage	8 February 1796, Ormesby Saint Margaret, Norfolk
Siblings	Richard (1796), Robert (1801), Elizabeth (1802), Thomas (1803), John (1806), Mary Ann (1809), Sarah (1810), Henry (1814)
Husband	Thomas Chesterfield (1798 – 1877?)
Marriage	8 February 1825, Paston, Northamptonshire
Children	Sarah Ann Chesterfield (1826) Elizabeth Chesterfield (1828) William Chesterfield (1830) Thomas Chesterfield (1832) Charles Chesterfield (~1835)

Rebecca Watson married Thomas Chesterfield of Deeping St James, Lincoln, in 1825 at her local parish church at Paston, Northamptonshire. The marriage was by banns, and both signed their names. One of the witnesses was Sarah Chesterfield. The family lived at Cowbit near Spaulding in Lincolnshire.

No records have been found for Charles's birth in about 1835 or Rebecca's death around the same time.

Elizabeth Chesterfield married John Thompson on 17 May 1848 at Spaulding. She said her father was Thomas Chesterfield, a farmer, and Elizabeth and the witness, Sarah Ann Chesterfield, both made their marks.

## *Jane Felts*, second wife of Thomas Chesterfield, convict 127

Baptism	8 March 1813, Spaulding, Lincolnshire
Parents	William Felts (? – before 1841) and Mary (~1781- )
Parent's marriage	
Siblings	Possible siblings were David 1811, William 1815, James 1818, Ebenezer 1820, Isabella 1821, Robert 1823, all born between Spaulding and Wisbech
Husband	Thomas Chesterfield (1798 – 1877?)
Marriage	21 March 1842, St Peter, Wisbech, Cambridge
Children	Mary Ann Chesterfield (1837) Unnamed male (1839-1839) Jane Chesterfield (1840-1842) Martha Chesterfield (1841) Jane Chesterfield (1845) John Chesterfield (1848-1849)

Jane Felts, the daughter of William Felts, a labourer, married Thomas Chesterfield in 1842 at Wisbech, Cambridgeshire. They already had several children, born in Cambridgeshire or Lincolnshire.

The Stamford Mercury on the 25 March 1842 announced their marriage: *On Monday last, Mr Thomas Chesterfield, farmer, to Miss Jane Felts, dressmaker, both of Wisbech.*

In 1841, the Chesterfield family lived at Wash Way, Holbeach, Lincolnshire:

Thomas Chesterfield 41, ag lab, Jane 30, William 12, Thomas 10, Charles 8, Mary 4, Jane 2, Martha 1 month and Mary Felts 60 (Jane's mother)

At the Holland Quarter Sessions, on 21 October 1847, Thomas Chesterfield (48) was convicted of stealing six sovereigns, eight half-sovereigns, 14 half-crowns, 17 shillings, 47 sixpences and a purse, the property of Redmore Allenby (83), at Sutton St Mary. Thomas was sentenced to be transported for fifteen years. Henry Fitch (24), convicted with Thomas, received ten years transportation.

Jane and her children were living in or near Walsoken when son John was born in the June quarter of 1848. He died there ten months later.

By April 1850, the family were in Spaulding when the three surviving children, Mary Ann, Martha and Jane, were baptised in the Spaulding Church.

The 1851 census shows they were at Westlade St, Spaulding, Lincolnshire:

Jane Chesterfield, 41, lacemaker, b. Spaulding

M.A., 12, daughter, b. Cowbit

Martha, 9, daughter, scholar, b. Spaulding

J., 5, scholar, b. Sutton St Edmunds.

The next record found of Jane was when she remarried:

Jane Chesterfield *née* Felts married again in 1870 to Charles Hutchinson in the Woolwich area. On the 1871 census, she lived at 39 Charles St, Greenwich:

Jane Hutchinson, married, 47 (she was 58), a laundress, born Spaulding

Martha Chesterfield, daughter, 30, annuitant, born Holbeach

Mary Jane Chesterfield, granddaughter, 6, scholar, born Woolwich (Martha's daughter).

Her husband Charles is not on the 1871 census.

By 1881 Charles, 53, and Jane, 56, Hutchinson lived in Stratford, West Ham, Essex. Charles was a fen labourer.

Jane Hutchinson, 60, of Tenly Road, Stratford, was buried 30 December 1886 at St John Church. She was 73 years old.

## Children

Martha Chesterfield married William Henry Picket at Woolwich in April 1878. Her father was recorded as Charles Hutchinson (he was her stepfather). The marriage may not have lasted as Martha gave birth to William Henry Chesterfield in 1884. William Picket died in 1885.

Martha then married Charles Stewart Hutchinson in April 1888 in Essex. Charles was previously married to her mother, Jane. Martha said her father was Thomas Chesterfield.

On the 1891 census, Charles 73, Martha 64 (she was 50!), and William Hutchinson 17 (grandson of Charles) lived in West Ham, Essex.

Mary Ann Chesterfield and Jane Chesterfield have not been found after the 1851 census.