

## Noah Clements 7657, Clara

Researched by Marcia Watson

var. Clibbons, Clibbins, Clebbens, Clippers, Clemens

Baptism	25 December 1834 at Weston, Hertfordshire
Parents	John Clements and Fanny Shatbolt or Shadbolt
Parent's marriage	15 November 1817, at Weston
Siblings	Mary Ann (1818), James (1822), Lydia (1824), Fanny (1827), Edith (1830), Elizabeth (1839-1841)
Wife	Mary Ann Race
Married	21 December 1861, Baldock, Hertfordshire
Children	

Noah Clements was the youngest son of John Clements, a labourer, and his wife, Fanny.

In 1841, the family lived in Weston, Hertfordshire.<sup>1</sup>

John Clebbens, 40, carrier; Fanny, 40; James, 15, ag lab; Lydia, 15; Fanny, 13; Edith, 10; Noah, 6; Elizabeth, 1.

When Noah was ten, his mother died, and she was buried on 12 January 1845 at Weston, aged 46. His father John *Clibbons* remarried on 7 July 1845 to Emma Page at Hitchin.

By 1851, the family had moved to Baldock and lived in Pepper Alley, Baldock, Hertfordshire.<sup>2</sup>

John Clibbins, 52, carrier, born Baldock

Emma, wife, 28, was born in Wellingborough

Edith, 26, straw plaiter, born Weston

Noah, 15, ag lab, born Weston

John, grandson, 7, scholar, born Weston [son of Lydia Clements]

Mary Copps, granddaughter, 6, born Weston [daughter of George and Mary Ann Copps]

Then, at the Baldock Petty Sessions on 11 February 1856:

Noah Clements and George Warren of Baldock (both under 20 years of age) were charged with setting fire to a stack of clover hay on the night of 7 December last, the property of Morris Pryor, Esq., of Baldock: they both pleaded guilty, and said they were drunk at the time, or should not have done it. Clements said they left the White Lion together when Warren said, "let's go and have a flare-up." Warren then went to his house, tore a piece from the lining of his coat, wrapped some red-hot cinders in it from the fire, and gave them to Clements, who went into the stackyard and set fire to the clover rick. Committed for trial at the assizes.<sup>3</sup>

Noah Clements, 20, of Baldock, and George Warren, 17, of Clothall, both labourers, were undefended at the Lent Assizes on 27 February 1856.

Philip Pinnock: I live at High Street, Baldock, and live about 60 yards from where the rick stood in Mr Morris Pryor's premises: at half-past ten that night, I was standing in my yard and saw a light on the north side of the hay rick. I went there and found it burning.

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<sup>1</sup> HO107/437/10, p10

<sup>2</sup> HO107/1709/83, p27

<sup>3</sup> Herts Guardian, Agricultural Journal, and General Advertiser, 16 Feb 1856, p4

P.C. James Hawkes - On 8 December, I went to the prisoners. Clements was in the turnip field, and I asked him what time he left the White Lion public-house on Friday evening. Clements said, a little before 10 o'clock, and he went down Norton Street to his lodgings. He said he knew nothing at all about the fire until the next morning.

On the 1 February, I went to the prisoner in Baldock Street and told him he was charged with setting fire to Mr Pryor's haystack: he said he knew nothing at all about it: I took Clement into custody, and Warren also the next day. They were put into adjoining cells. After I locked Warren up, Clements was crying, and I asked if he would like to see anyone. He said yes, he should like to see Mr Oliver. Noah Clements made a statement, which was taken down by Mr Oliver. On 3 February, I heard Warren say to Clement, "You know it was when we came away from the Church after the 8 o'clock bell had been rung that we first thought of setting fire to Mr Morris Pryor's rick, and you was the first to expose it, you know." Clements made no reply. Warren then said, "I don't expect to see Baldock any more:" [Warren denied saying all this] Clements says, "Oh, don't you?" Warren says, "No, do you?" Clements says, "No." Warren said, "I dare say we shall get 16 or 17 years:" [Warren - I did not, my Lord; I never said such a word.]

Clements denied he was crying, and Warren denied saying anything about 16 or 17 years; he also said Hawkes searched a man named Spicer in the field.

George Oliver - I am a brewer at Baldock. On 2 February, I went to see prisoners at the police station as Clements said he wished to make a statement about the fire. I took it down, and both prisoners made a mark to it. Clements said when we left the White Lion public house, George Warren, Frederick Spicer, and I. Warren said, "let us to the rick yard and have a good blaze", and said he should have to go to gaol on Monday for an old hare, and might as well have something to go for. We went to Warren's father's house and got some cinders, then we went to the rick yard, got over the fence and put the cinders under the stack. We were all drunk, or we should not have done it.

By the Judge: Warren's house is about 20 yards from the stack.

Frederick Spicer - On the night of 7 December, I was drinking with prisoners at the White Lion Inn, Baldock, and left them in the walk. They went up the street, that is the direction of Mr Morris's stacks, and I went home and went to bed.

His Lordship made few remarks, and the jury returned a verdict of Guilty but recommended them to mercy on the grounds they were young and intoxicated.

The prisoners' statements before the magistrates were put in. Clements said, "I'm sorry we done it." Warren said, "I'm sorry, we was tipsy when we done it."

His Lordship said they had before been in prison for setting fire to a plantation. Warren had been convicted of stealing and summarily convicted of poaching. Now that might seem slight offence, and so it was so far as the killing of a hare or pheasant was concerned, but it seldom stopped at that. From poaching, it went to thieving, from thieving to burglary, from burglary to setting fire to farm premises and dwelling-houses, and it frequently ended in dipping their hands in the blood of their neighbours. Parents should try and keep their sons from poaching. Sentenced to five years penal servitude. <sup>4</sup>

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<sup>4</sup> Herts Guardian, Agricultural Journal, and General Advertiser, 04 Mar 1856, p2

Noah was sent to Millbank Prison on 1 April 1856, then Portland Prison on 17 November, before being shipped to Gibraltar Prison on 14 May 1857, per *Hamilla Mitchell*, with George Warren. His behaviour was good, although the police report said he was bad. The records note his father John Clibbons is a beershop keeper in Baldock. Noah returned from Gibraltar, leaving on 3 March 1861 per *Indus*, having been discharged on 26 February 1861. <sup>5</sup>

He was back living with his family at Baldock at the time of the 1861 census. His father, John Clibbons (62), was a jobbing carter and publican; wife Emma (36); Noah (25), ag lab; and 3 others lived in Clarks lane.

Later in the year, Noah Clibbins married Mary Ann Race on 21 December 1861 at Baldock, Hertfordshire.

1861. Marriage solemnized at the Parish Church in the Parish of Baldock in the County of Hertford								
No.	When Married.	Name and Surname.	Age.	Condition.	Rank or Profession.	Residence at the Time of Marriage.	Father's Name and Surname.	Rank or Profession of Father.
324	21 December 1861	Noah Clibbins Mary Ann Race	25 36	Bachelor Spinster	Labourer	Baldock	John Clibbins William Race	Labourer Labourer
Married in the <u>Parish Church</u> according to the Rites and Ceremonies of the <u>Established Church by Banns</u> by me, <u>Wm. Smith, Rector</u>								
This Marriage was solemnized between us,		<u>Noah Clibbins</u>		in the Presence of us,		<u>John Clibbins &amp; Mary Ann Race</u>		

He was in trouble again less than a year after his marriage. At Hertfordshire Michaelmas Quarter Sessions, 13 October 1862:

Noah Clements (20), a labourer of Baldock, was charged with 12 stealing watch guards and 12 scarf pins, the property of Frederick Weston, at Baldock. The prisoner pleaded guilty and then withdrew his plea and pleaded not guilty. Mr Ludlow, for the prosecution, stated the case and called witnesses.

Weston is a jeweller of a certain kind, dealing in sixpenny and eightpenny pins, shilling washed chains, and similar precious articles. From his dark complexion, one might fancy he was a distinguished jewel merchant from the eastern climes, but the sight of his valuable stock-in-trade rather indicated that he came from Birmingham and that the east he knew was the East-end Loudon. No wonder the dazzling display of rich and rare gems attracted the notice of the prisoner; but what astonishes us is (as will seen hereafter) that after having bought one of the magnificent silver washed watch guards for shilling, the prisoner was actually dissatisfied with his bargain.

The prosecutor was at Baldock fair with a board on an egg chest which he dignified by the name of stall. About one o'clock, he left the stall for two minutes to go to a public house, and on his return, saw the prisoner in the grasp of a police officer, when he dropped guard from under his smock frock.

P.C. Slaughter saw the prisoner at the jewel box alias egg chest, and take something out with his left hand: he went and seized the hand: on pulling it out of prisoner's pocket, the guards produced came out also: prisoner said, "Let go and make with the cheap-jack."

<sup>5</sup> HO8/132

In defence, the prisoner said, Weston was selling guards &c, at 1s each and offering to return them to those who were dissatisfied: bought one for 1s, and Weston would not take it back and so took something else instead; he considered he was cheated out the shilling.

Weston recalled, in reply to his Lordship, said: did sell prisoner a guard for 1s but did not promise him anything: promised to satisfy them, I didn't promise what I would give: to some I said would give gold, some silver, to some copper, and to some would give nothing at all.

His Lordship summed up and the jury found the prisoner guilty, but recommended him to mercy—A previous conviction was proved against him in February 1856, for setting fire a stack hay belonging to Morris Pryor, Esq., at Baldock. He had been sentenced to 5 years penal servitude, and served the whole of his time.—His Lordship now sentenced him to ten years penal servitude.<sup>6</sup>

Noah Clements, 26, married, R&W imperfectly, labourer and rough tailor, tried Hertford Sessions on 13 October 1862 for larceny, 10 years penal servitude, previously sentenced to 5 years in 1856, received at Millbank Prison 24 March 1863, removed to Pentonville Prison on 28 March 1863. According to Millbank register, he was repeatedly reported for disobedience and insolence at Hertford. His father John Clements was a beer shop keeper in Baldock, his wife Mary Ann lives at Norton street, Baldock, and his brother John a labourer near his father.

He was transferred to Portsmouth Prison on 8 July 1863 and left for Western Australia per *Clara* on 20 January 1864. His behaviour was good at Portsmouth.

#### **Mary Ann Clements, wife of Noah.**

Mary did not remarry; however, she had four children, father or fathers unknown. George, son of Noah and Mary Ann Clements, resides in Bygrave parish, baptised on 6 September 1868 at Baldock. Father a labourer. The Rector has written, "Noah Clements has been in penal servitude at ... for nearly 6 years last past". George was buried on 20 December 1875. Martha Race, daughter of Noah and Mary Ann Clements, resides in Bygrave, baptised on 13 January 1870 at Baldock.

On the 1871 census, she was still living at Norten End, Baldock: William Race, 66, brickyard labourer; Susan, 65; John Race, 37, brickyard labourer; Maria Race, 20, plaiter; Mary Clements, daughter, 30; George Clements, 3; Martha Clements, 1.

Two more daughters were born: Maria Martha Race Clements, daughter of Mary Ann Clements, resides in Bygrave, baptised on 4 October 1874 at Baldock. Birth registered as Ann Maria Clements.

Susan Clements, daughter of Mary Ann Clements, resides in Bygrave, privately baptised on 6 February 1879 at Baldock.

On the 1881 census, the family lived at Bygrave lane, Bygrave: Mary A Clements, 41, straw plaiter; Martha 13, scholar; Maria 6, scholar, Susan 2; John Race, brother, 50, general labourer. Her father died in 1874, and her mother in 1877.

Mary A Clement, widow, 49; Maria, 17, straw plaiter were living in Pantile Square, Baldock in 1891. 10 years later, in 1901, Mary was living Norton End, Norton, Baldock: Mary A Clements, widow, 60; Maria Clements, 26: and her daughters Kate, 7 and Lila, 5.

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<sup>6</sup> Herts Guardian, Agricultural Journal, and General Advertiser, 18 Oct 1862, p8

On the 1911 census, at the Hitchin workhouse:

Mary Ann Clements, 69, widow, 19 years a widow, 4 children, one has died, a field worker, born Baldock. All the inmates were listed as lunatics!

Mary Ann Clements, 8 Paddock close, Letchworth, was buried 16 March 1914, aged 73. Her daughter, Maria who had married widower George Mynott in 1902, lived in Letchworth.

#### **Noah in Western Australia.**

Noah arrived on the second voyage of *Clara*, and he was described as:

7657. Noah Clements, 27, 5'0¼", light brown hair, grey eyes, oval-shaped face, fresh complexion, slight build, a ring marked on the 2<sup>nd</sup> finger of left hand, farm labourer, married with no children.<sup>7</sup>

Noah had 6d deducted from his earnings in April 1864; perhaps he wrote a letter to his wife. He made a frivolous complaint about rations and forfeited one week's tobacco in May 1864. Then in October, he forfeited his tobacco twice for 14 days for being disrespectful and malingering. In November, he refused to work and received 3 days bread and water (B&W). March 1865 saw 7 days B&W for insolence and bad language; and 3 days B&W in the cells in July for idleness. The following year, 1866, he had one month added to his probation for insubordination. He was eligible for a Ticket of Leave on 19 August 1866.

#### **List of Offences in Western Australia:**

20 September 1866. Perth, drunk and assaulting the police, 3 months hard labour.

27 November 1866, Perth, having Government property improperly in his possession, case dismissed with a caution.

13 May 1867, Toodyay, unlawful possession of Government property, 6 months hard labour at Fremantle prison.

25 May 1867, Fremantle, very dirty cell and utensils, cautioned.

16 December 1867, Fremantle, out after hours, fined and paid 5s.

3 April 1868, Fremantle, drunk and incapable, fined 10s or 4 days hard labour.

8 April 1868, Fremantle, damaging Government property, one day B&W in cells.

12 October 1868, Fremantle, drunkenness, fined 10s or 4 days hard labour.

11 June 1869, Fremantle, out after hours, fined 5s or 7 days in prison.

1 May 1870, Fremantle, drunk and out after hours, fined 10s or 7 days, fine paid.

15 October 1872, drunk and incapable, fined and paid 5s.

10 July 1873, drunk and resisting the police, 10s or 7 days hard labour, not paid.

#### **Employment in Western Australia:**

Mt Eliza Depot 21 December 1866 until 3 January 1867 when sent to Toodyay.

14 January 1867, labourer, employed by F Wood, Newcastle. Sent back to Toodyay Depot 2 days later.

2 March 1867, labourer, employed by Thos. Mead, Toodyay.

31 December 1868, G.S (general servant?), employed by C Savage, Fremantle.

16 March 1869, G.S, employed by H Abbott, Fremantle.

30 June 1869, butcher, employed by H Abbott, Fremantle.

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<sup>7</sup> SROWA, Acc 128/40-43

31 December 1869, G.S. employed by H Abbott, Fremantle.  
10 June 1870, labourer, employed by Jas Mee...., Fremantle.  
Sent to Invalid Depot 18 June 1870 and discharged 4 July 1870.  
5 July 1870, G.S, employed by J Capewell, Fremantle.  
10 August 1870, shepherd, employed by W.S & G Pearse, Fremantle.  
18 November 1870, carter, employed by Chal Savage, Fremantle.  
30 June 1871, G.S, employed by Chal Savage, Fremantle.  
29 August 1871, G.S, employed by C Annois, Fremantle.  
9 January 1871, labourer, employed by C Savage, Fremantle.  
20 May 1871, admitted to Fremantle Hospital with lumbago, discharged 31 May 1871. Admitted again on 6 August with a sprain and discharged 16 August 1871.  
21 August 1872, labourer, employed by H.M Lefroy, Fremantle.  
17 February 1873, admitted in Invalid Depot, discharged 15 March 1873.  
15 March 1873, labourer, employed by H.M Lefroy, Fremantle.  
30 April 1873 in Perth Prison.  
22 May 1873, labourer, employed by H.M Lefroy.  
17 July 1873, labourer, employed by H.M Lefroy.<sup>8</sup>

Certificate of Freedom forwarded to Resident Magistrate on 1 August 1873.

At the Supreme Court on 8 January 1874, John Phillimore was charged with having, on 26 December, ultimo, feloniously stolen from the person of one Noah Clemens, a purse containing 15s. The prisoner was defended by Mr. Howell.

Noah Clemens, the prosecutor, a shepherd, said he was in Thomas's public house at Fremantle the day after Christmas day, and the prisoner was there also. Witness had on a pair of black trousers (produced), and having imbibed somewhat freely, but not to such an extent as not to know what he was doing, he felt the prisoner fumbling about his trowsers pocket, and immediately afterwards he missed his purse. Witness told another man he had lost his money, and he informed witness that he saw the prisoner taking it. The purse was then returned to the owner by the prisoner, minus the money Joseph Randell, a laborer residing at Fremantle, said he was with prisoner and the prosecutor at Thomas's on the day in question. The prisoner pushed Clemens into a corner and putting his finger into the prosecutor's trowser pocket, tore it down the seam, and then went away. A moment afterwards Clemens discovered that he had been robbed, and kicked up a row, where upon the prisoner walked up to him and gave him his purse. No one else pulled the prosecutor about but the prisoner. After some further evidence of a similar nature and of the same tendency had been adduced the case for the prosecution was closed, and Mr. Howell addressed the jury on behalf of the prisoner. His Honor, having summed up, the jury retired. A verdict of guilty was returned, and sentence of 2 years penal servitude was passed.<sup>9</sup>

Noah was admitted to the hospital at Fremantle in May 1876 for 11 days and again on 19 June 1876. This time he was described as a pauper and had Venereal Rheumatism. He was discharged on 16 July.

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<sup>8</sup> SROWA, Acc 1156/R2

<sup>9</sup> The Herald (Fremantle, WA : 1867 - 1886), 10 Jan 1874, p3

## To South Australia

When the *Agincourt* arrived at Fremantle in February 1878, several sailors were imprisoned for refusing to work because they claimed it was unseaworthy. A survey of the ship found their claim unfounded. On 16 March, the *Agincourt* loaded jarrah sleepers at Rockingham for Port Augusta; she sailed on 29 March and arrived at Port Augusta on 24 April. Noah signed on as a seaman.<sup>10</sup>

Noah was not keen on being a seaman. A warrant was issued for his apprehension for being a deserter:- On the 12 May, at Port Augusta – Noah Clements, aged about 50 years, height 5ft 2in, sallow complexion, thin dark whiskers turning grey, mouth slightly deformed, a scar from a burn on the neck, one ear small, an Englishman.<sup>11</sup>

### **Noah Clements was regularly in Adelaide prison, Hospital or the Destitute Asylum (DA):**<sup>12</sup>

In June 1880, at Port Augusta, Noah Clements was fined 10s on Wednesday for being drunk on the previous night.<sup>13</sup>

8 April 1882. Port Augusta Police Court. Noah Clements pleaded guilty to charges of drunkenness and was fined 5s.<sup>14</sup>

9 April 1883. Port Augusta Police Court, Noah Clements, drunk in Gibson street, fined 5s.<sup>15</sup>

6 August 1885. Port Augusta, Noah Clements, fine 5s for being drunk.<sup>16</sup>

Police Court, Port Augusta, 2 November 1885: W. B. Carlier was charged on the information of Noah Clements with refusing to pay him £2 13s., wages due as knock-about hand, from 7 September to 22 October. Mrs Carlier attended for the defendant.

Noah Clements, labourer: I went to work for the defendant on 7 September. Mrs Carlier promised me £1 for the first three weeks and 10s. a week afterwards; I was to do scrubbing and knock-about work. I worked up to 22 October. I have not had any wages. I left because I was shoved out and given in charge. I asked Mrs Carlier for my wages, and she said she would not give me a penny.

Rachael Carlier, wife of defendant: Complainant asked me for a night's lodging, and told me Evans had turned him out. I told him he could sleep in the ostler's room, and made him understand I could not give him any wages, but that he could have his food for doing odd jobs. Sometimes he was away all day. I sent him away because he got drunk and used abusive language. He asked me for wages, and I told him I did not owe him any. I have paid for medicine for him. He did just as he liked, sometimes doing a little scrubbing.

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<sup>10</sup> Evening Journal (Adelaide, SA : 1869 - 1912), 16 Mar 1878, p3; South Australian Register (Adelaide, SA : 1839 - 1900), 25 April 1878, p5

<sup>11</sup> The SA Police Gazette, 5 June 1878, p92

<sup>12</sup> State Records of South Australia; Register of Prisoners-Adelaide Gaol, 1848-1912; Series: GRS 2414; Register of Admissions-Destitute Asylum 1870-1911; Reference: GRG28/5; Admission Registers-Adelaide Hospital 1841-1946; Reference: GRG78/49

<sup>13</sup> Port Augusta Dispatch (SA : 1877 - 1880), 18 June 1880, p6

<sup>14</sup> Port Augusta Dispatch and Flinders' Advertiser (SA : 1880 - 1884), 11 April 1882, p2

<sup>15</sup> Port Augusta Dispatch and Flinders' Advertiser (SA : 1880 - 1884), 11 April 1883, p2

<sup>16</sup> The Port Augusta Dispatch, Newcastle and Flinders Chronicle (SA : 1885 - 1916), 7 August 1885, p2

Henry Howard Nash, carriage-painter: Knows the complainant; understood that he was kept at Carlior's out of charity; never heard any conversation between the parties about wages. I have seen the complainant working occasionally, sometimes scrubbing. Dismissed without costs.<sup>17</sup>

24 October 1887, South Australia, 55, rogue and vagabond, 6 months hard labour, R&W, widower, Presbyterian, labourer, arrived 1864 from Portsmouth, discharged 16 February 1888.

9 January 1889, Adelaide, South Australia, 59, drunk at Adelaide, 10s or 5 days, R&W, married, hostler, arrived 1876 from Western Australia, discharged 12 January 1889.

18 January 1889, Adelaide, South Australia, 59, drunk at Adelaide, 10s or 5 days, R&W, married, hostler, arrived 1876 Western Australia, discharged 22 January 1889.

314. Noah Clements, from Franklin street, 58, widower, CofE, admitted to Hospital 19 February 1889, ulcer on leg, discharged 12 March 1889, from Hertfordshire, ostler, arrived per *Clara*.

No 69. Admitted DA 22 March 1889. Noah Clements, 62, per *Clara* to WA, arrived 1877 in SA, resides Quorn, labourer, no earnings, CofE, readmitted, left here in January last and was up before the Police Court the next day, he is incapable of manual labour but could do shepherding or other light work, he is now suffering from senile debility of want, left 5 June 1889.

No 184. Admitted DA 7 September 1889, no settled place of abode, suffering from senile debility and the effect of intemperance, he is not capable of manual labour, but would be able to do light work if he is kept from drink, left 18 December 1889.

14 July 1890, Adelaide, South Australia, 58, drunk, 10s or 5 days, Can't R&W, married, hostler, arrived 1875 from Western Australia, discharged 18 July 1890.

16 June 1890, Adelaide, South Australia, 59, drunk and insulting behaviour, 20s or 7 days, can't R&W, widower, Boots, arrived 1875 from Rockingham, discharged 21 June 1890.

9 October 1890, Adelaide, South Australia, 60, drunk, 20s or 1 month hard labour, can't R&W, married, groom, arrived 1876 from Western Australia, discharged 8 November 1890.

No 23. Admitted DA 5 February 1891, employed at the Union Inn, Maymouth St, labourer, has been employed as boots at the Union Inn, Maymouth st for the last 6 months but is now too feeble to earn his living, he is of intemperate habits and few people (if any) would employ him, destitute, left 26 February 1891 for a situation.

9 March 1891, Adelaide, South Australia, 60, drunk, 10s or 14 days, R&W, married, ostler, arrived 1864 from Portsmouth, discharged 21 March 1891.

17 April 1891, Adelaide, South Australia, 62, habitual drunkard, 6 months hard labour, R&W, married, groom, arrived 1875 from Western Australia, discharged 16 October 1891.

25 February 1892, Adelaide, South Australia, 59, drunk at Adelaide, 5s or 3 days, R&W, married, groom, arrived 1874 from Western Australia, discharged 27 February 1892.

No 73. Admitted DA 21 April 1892, from Dry Creek, labourer, no income, this old man recently employed by D Whelan of Dry Creek to do light work such as cleaning knives &c but was obliged to send him away in consequence of his pilfering propensities and drunken habits, he is unfit for any

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<sup>17</sup> The Port Augusta Dispatch, Newcastle and Flinders Chronicle (SA : 1885 - 1916), 4 Nov 1885, p2

but light work, destitute, left 1 September 1892, went out on liberty and was seen drunk in the street and did not return.

4 March 1892, Adelaide, South Australia, 59, drunk at Adelaide, 14 days hard labour, R&W, married, groom, arrived 1876 from Western Australia, discharged 17 March 1892.

8 September 1892, Adelaide, South Australia, 59, drunk at Adelaide, 6s or 7 days, R&W, married, groom, arrived 1876 from Western Australia, discharged 14 September 1892.

29 December 1892, South Australia, Australia 60 Indecent language, 20s or 1 month, Can't R&W, single, groom, arrived 1876 from Western Australia.

On the same day, South Australia, 60, drunk at Adelaide, can't read or write, married, Arrived in SA 1876, from Rockingham, drunk, 6s or 7 days, discharged 4 January 1894.

No 175. Admitted DA 31 August 1893, aged 64, no settled place of abode, labourer, no income, this old man is of most dissolute habits, and would be able to earn a living if he abstained from drink, and conduct himself properly, he is now so well known for drunken and dishonest habits that no person will employ him, left 22 December 1893, absconded, he was sent with other inmates outside Asylum to water the ivy and took the opportunity to bolt.

12 October 1894, South Australia, 60, drunk at Adelaide, 10s or 7 days, Can't R&W, Married, groom, arrived 1864 from Western Australia, discharged 18 October 1894.

948. Noah Clements, Eagle Tavern, Hindley street, 66, widower, CofE, admitted to hospital 30 April 1895, alcoholism, discharged 1 May 1895, from Hertfordshire, arrived per *Clara*, occupied as boots.

No 140. Admitted DA 29 August 1895, no settled place of abode, chiefly vagrancy, no income, this old man is well known to be of most intemperate habits and when not in the Destitute Asylum gets his living from pilfering and begging, no one will employ him. This is the seventh time of his admission to this Institution, on being admitted on this occasion he was found to be in such a state of filth and so infested with vermin that all his clothing had to be destroyed, left 10 January 1896, to look for work, said that he intended to stow himself on board some ship bound for Western Australia.

A glimpse into Noah's life can be seen when his meagre belongings were stolen. Between 10pm on the 27 December and 9am on the 28 December 1895, from the bar of the Theatre Royal Hotel, at Hindley Street, Adelaide, a swag, done up in a piece of bagging, and fastened with two straps, containing an old grey blanket, a yellow oilskin overcoat, a dark grey tweed overcoat, a Scotch cap (with a red tassel on top), a black cloth cap (with peak), a flannel undershirt, a grey woollen Guernsey, a pair of light striped tweed trousers, a check cotton shirt (with different coloured sleeves), three or four handkerchiefs, and a looking glass (all very much worn), the property of Noah Clements; identifiable. (C.2304).

Vide Police Gazette, 1895, page 2 – Noah Clements has been found. – (C2304)<sup>18</sup>

18 January 1896, South Australia, 65, drunk at Adelaide, 6s or 7 days, R&W, single, groom, arrived 1864 from Portsmouth, discharged 24 January 1896.

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<sup>18</sup> The South Australian Police Gazette, 2 Jan 1895, p2; 27 Feb 1895, p35

27 January 1896 , South Australia, 65, drunk at Adelaide, 21s or 14 days, R&W, single, groom, arrived 1866 from Portsmouth, discharged 8 February 1896.

9 March 1896, South Australia, 62, drunk at Port Adelaide, 20s or 7 days, R&W, single, groom, arrived 1864 from Western Australia, discharged 14 March 1896.

No 145. Admitted DA 25 June 1896, he is an old convict with no settled place of abode, vagrant, readmitted for the 10th time. This man has been an inmate here on several occasions, he is a drunken, worthless character, always hanging about public houses when he is not in gaol or in the Destitute Asylum, left on 26 December 1896, discharged for bad behaviour.

No 40. Admitted DA 2 March 1899, aged 72, old convict, lives Adelaide, vagrant, readmitted 12th time, he is quite destitute and unable to support himself, is of drunken habits and he is again admitted on the condition that he is to have no liberty to which he consented, left 22 October 1900, to seek work.

No 97. Admitted DA 22 April 1897, aged 67, old convict, vagrant, tenth time admitted, he was discharged for bad conduct on 26 December last, he is of a worthless, drunken character and when not in the Destitute Asylum is either in gaol or hanging about public houses. He is destitute and unable to earn his living, left 27 November 1897.

19 October 1900, South Australia, 65, Idle and disorderly, read & write, single, groom, arrived 1864 from Plymouth, 2 months, discharged 28 December 1900.

29 October 1900. Noah Clements, an old man, appeared before Messrs F.F. Turner, S.M., and justices, at the City Police Court on Monday morning, and denied being an idle and disorderly person. The arresting constable stated that on the morning of 28 October he found the defendant asleep in the park. Asked him why he did not go home, and he replied that he had no home to go to. He informed the witness that he had at one time been an inmate of the Destitute Asylum. The SM – Why did you leave the Destitute Asylum?

Defendant (excitedly) – Your worship, I was a prisoner in that place for 19 months – imprisoned in a charitable institution. I won't go back there. I would sooner "do" six months in gaol than be shut up in that place.

The S.M. – You have to go to gaol for two months.

Defendant – Thank you very much, your worship. I wish you had made it three months.<sup>19</sup>

He was described as: Noah Clements, no occupation, England, age 66 years, height 5ft 0½in, white hair, hazel eyes, first finger of right hand missing, blind in left eye, as idle and disorderly, convicted at Adelaide; two months.<sup>20</sup>

2 January 1901, South Australia, 66, drunk at Adelaide, 11s or 7 days, can't R&W, married, labourer, arrived 1878 from Western Australia per *Agincourt*, discharged 8 January 1901

No 4. Admitted DA 10 January 1901, aged 74, from Adelaide gaol, labourer, 13th time, he left here 22 October last to seek work as he said but he immediately got locked up for drunkenness and had been in gaol ever since, he is a confirmed drunkard and is now admitted on the condition (to

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<sup>19</sup> The Express and Telegraph (Adelaide, SA : 1867 - 1922), 29 Oct 1900, p2

<sup>20</sup> The South Australia Police Gazette, 21 Nov 1900, p190

which he agrees) that he is allowed liberty only on Sundays, left 3 June 1901, went out on liberty and did not return.

4 June 1901, South Australia, 67, drunk at Adelaide, 21s or 14 days, R&W, widower, groom, arrived 1878 from Western Australia per *Agincourt*, discharged 17 June 1901.

No 157. Admitted DA 17 June 1901, from Adelaide gaol, 14th time, went out on 3 June Public Holiday and getting drunk he was locked up and sent to gaol for 14 days, is a confirmed drunkard and utterly beyond reformation, left 6 January 1903, did not return from leave, reported to be in gaol.

24 December 1901, South Australia, 64, drunk at Adelaide, 11s or 14 days, R&W, married, groom, arrived 1859 from Western Australia per *Liquiria*, discharged 9 January 1902.

No 94. Admitted DA 24 April 1902, aged 74, from East Adelaide Hotel, Robert St, labourer, 15th time, he did not return from liberty granted him, and it was subsequently ascertained that he had been sent to gaol, he is an incorrigible drunkard, quite destitute and unable to earn his own living, died 27 September 1902.

An Old Port Augusta Identity.—Included in the list of persons who have died in the Destitute Asylum from 1 July to 31 December 1902, is Noah Clements, aged 75, who died from senile decay on 27 September. Noah was quite a familiar figure in Port Augusta some 15 or 20 years ago. He used to frequent the hotels of the Port. A favourite diversion of his was to stand on his head and, while in that position, drink pints of beer. Noah was also something of a vocalist in his way, his favourite song being "The Union Jack of Old England."<sup>21</sup>

Noah CLEMENTS died on 27 September 1902 at the Destitute Asylum in Adelaide of senile decay, aged 75(sic) years; buried the same day at West Terrace Cemetery, one of four people in the plot, he was 68 years old.

Road 3, Path 33, Aspect E, Site Number 26.

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<sup>21</sup> The Port Augusta Dispatch, Newcastle and Flinders Chronicle (SA : 1885 - 1916), 30 Jan 1903, p2