

William Richard Grindell, 3648, Adelaide

Researched by Marcia Watson

Baptism	Richard, on 24 February 1816, St George Church, Bristol, Gloucestershire
Parents	Isaac Grindell and Sarah Hankins
Parent's marriage	25 December 1815, St Nicholas Church, Bristol, Gloucestershire
Siblings	Ann (1820-1849), Isaac (1820), Francis (1823-1846), John (1825-1848), James (1827-1847), Thomas (1830), Edward (1835)
Wife 1	Jane Boyce
Married 1	2 June 1843, Bitton, Gloucestershire
Wife 2	Jane Kelly
Married 2	11 November 1857, Perth, Western Australia
Wife 3	Mary Catherine Godfrey
Married 3	28 July 1874, Holy Trinity Church Adelaide, South Australia
Children	William (1858), John (1860), Edward (1861-1873), Ann (1863-1909) Sarah Elizabeth (1874-1874), George Edward (1878), Emily (1881)

Living at Pile March, Bristol, in 1841, in a freehold house and garden were:

Isaac Grindell, 44, haulier and his wife Sarah Grindell, 45, John 15, Ann 22, James 12, Thomas 10, Edward 6.

A few houses away lived:

William Grindell, 24, haulier, born in the county, and Jane Grindell, 24, not from the county.

The couple married at St Marys Church, parish of Bitton, Gloucestershire, on 2 June 1843.

Richard Grindell, full age, bachelor, haulier, residing in Hanham, father was Isaac Grindell, a haulier.

Jane Boyce, full age, spinster, residing in Hanham, father was Joseph Boyce, a plasterer.

Richard signed the register, and Jane made her mark. Hanam is about 3km from Pile March.

43. Marriage solemnized at St Marys in the Parish of Bitton in the County of Gloucester

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.
June 2	Richard Grindell	Full	Bachelor	Haulier	Hanham	Isaac Grindell	Haulier
	Jane Boyce	Full	Spinster		Hanham	Joseph Boyce	Plasterer

ied in the Church of Bitton according to the Rites and Ceremonies of the Church of England by me, W. Whiffens Curate

Marriage solemnized in the Presence of us, { Richard Grindell } in the Presence of us, { James Green }
 { Mary X Jane Boyce } { Charles Shipp Cole }

The marriage did not last, as by 1853, William Grindell was living in London and in debt.

The following persons, having obtained Interim Orders of protection from the process of an Insolvent Debtor, are required to appear at the Court House, Portugal Street, on 11 February:

Richard Grindell (known as, and going by, the name of William Grindell), formerly of Bristol, then of Frome, Somersetshire, and then and now of No. 26, Bacon-street, Church-street, Bethnal Green, Middlesex, Horse Dealer. ¹

¹ The London Gazette, 28 February 1853, issue: 21406, p259

He was due to appear at the Insolvent Debtors' Court, Portugal-Street, before the Chief Commissioner in March; however, he was in custody.² At the Bow Street Police Station on 9 March 1853, William Richard Grindell and Dinah Welch were remanded in custody for stealing money from Captain Ramsay on 19 January.³

At his trial at the Central Criminal Court on 4 April 1853:

William Richard Grindell, 31, horse-dealer, was indicted for receiving a quantity of cloth and other articles, valued at £100, the property of Daniel Serle, well knowing it to be stolen.

Mr Payne prosecuted, and Mr Ballantine and Mr Metcalfe defended.

It appeared from the evidence of police-constable Pocock, 14F, that from information he had received about some other offence, he went to the residence of the prisoner, who is a horse-dealer, and lets out light carts, in Bacon Street, Bethnal Green, and proceeded upstairs into his room. After having made the prisoner acquainted with the character of the offence, he (the officer) proceeded to search the place, and there, in a box beneath the bed, he found the property of the prosecutor, who is a tailor at Bermondsey, and whose place had been burglariously entered and plundered but a few days before the discovery. The account the prisoner gave of his possession of the property was that he had bought it from a person, a tailor, whose name or place of residence he did not know.

The Jury found him guilty.

The prisoner was again indicted for stealing and receiving a quantity of ribbons [4032 yards], valued at £180, the property of Samuel Grey Rutter. In this instance, the prosecutor is a warehouseman on Friday Street. Shortly before the time when Pocock went to the prisoner's lodgings, the warehouse was broken into, and the police on duty came along just in time to see a light chaise cart, drawn by a very swift horse, driven off by a man resembling the prisoner in size, and wearing a light-coloured loose top coat, and a wide-awake hat. In another box in the prisoner's room was found an immense quantity of ribbons. A loose top coat, of the description, alluded to, and a wide-awake hat was also found. The prisoner, accounting for his possession of the ribbons, said that he met a woman at Stratford, of whom he bought them.

The Jury found the prisoner guilty of the felonious possession of the property.

The prisoner was again indicted, with Dinah Welch, 24, spinster, for stealing from the person of Balcarres Dalrymple Wardlaw Ramsey £42, in notes and gold. The prosecutor, who is a captain of the 75th, now stationed at Chatham, said that upon the evening of the 18 February, he was coming out of the Adelphi Theatre, he saw a man like the prisoner standing close to him. Some caution was given to him, which he did not pay any attention to until he got into a cab, and then he found that his *porte-monnaie*, containing four £10 Bank of England notes and some gold, had been abstracted from his pocket. He gave notice of his loss at the Bow Street station.

Pocock stated that, upon this information, he was sent to make an inquiry and traced the numbered notes to have been changed at several pawnbrokers' shops by the female, who cohabited with the prisoner, and whom he found at the lodgings in Bacon Street.

The Jury, upon this charge, acquitted him.

The Recorder asked whether there was anything further known of the male prisoner. A letter had been put in from the police of Bristol, stating that he bore a notorious character there as a receiver of stolen goods and had deserted his wife. The police said he was not further known to them.

² Bell's New Weekly Messenge, 06 February 1853, p6

³ Morning Chronicle, 09 March 1853, p8

William was transported for 14 years.⁴ [Dinah Welch was found not guilty]

William's mother petitioned for a mitigation of sentence.

To the Right Honourable Lord Viscount Palmerston her Majesty's secretary of State for the home Department.

The Humble Pettition of Sarah Grindell Widow of Pile Marsh, St Georges near Bristol whose unfortunate son William Richard Grindell who is now a prisoner in her Majesty's Gaol of Newgate under sentence of Transportation for fourteen years for Felony convicted at the Central Criminal Court on 7 April instant 1853 - and your Pettitioner do most Humbly Pray that your Lordship will find her unfortunate son a fit object for her Majesty clemency that his Sentence might be Mitigated he having never before been convicted nor any of his Family for any crime whatsoever and your Pettitioner in 1842 Lost her husband and in 1846 lost a Son aged 22 years in 1847 lost a Son aged 18 years in 1848 lost a Son aged 21 years in 1849 lost a daughter Aged 28 years and should your Lordship condescend to cause the Sentence to be Mitigated upon your Pettitioner will be in duty ever bound to pray &c Your Lordships Most Humble and Obedient servant Sarah Grindell

We the undersigned having known the Prisoner William Richard Grindell for many years and also his parents and never knew or heard of him or any of his family having ever committed and crime before allways found the prisoner and his family honest industrious neighbours and can here recommend him to your Lordship for the Mitigation of his sentence and we shall be in duty bound to pray &c. Signed by the Vicar, two churchwardens of St George, three overseers in St George and eight others. The Petition was received 27 April 1853, denied, and a reply was sent on 12 May 1853.⁵

William was transferred from Newgate Prison to Leicester Prison on 28 May 1853, where he spent a year before being transferred to the Defence Hulk at Woolwich on 2 May 1854. Almost a year later, he boarded *Adelaide* on 4 April 1855 for the voyage to Western Australia.⁶

At Fremantle, William received his Ticket of Leave on 3 October 1857 and a month later married Jane Kelly at Guildford. They had four children, the first son born at Guildford before the family moved to York. William worked as a farrier and had teams of horses and carts. In one tragic incident, the newspaper reported:

On the York Road, a team belonging to Mr Grindell of York was coming down with a load of sandalwood when it got caught in a bush fire, and the horses, dray, and wood were all burned together; the teamster escaped with great difficulty, and much burned in endeavouring to save his horses.⁷

William's marriage was not going well, and he placed a notice in the newspaper saying:

I HEREBY give notice that I will not be answerable for any debts contracted by Jane Grindell, my wife, from and after this date. Wm. Grindell, York, 2 September 1870

Then, on 25 January 1871, Jane filed the following document.

Western Australia.

In her Majesty's Court for Divorce and Matrimonial Causes.

⁴ Morning Post, 08 April 1853, p8

⁵ TNA, UK, HO18/357

⁶ TNA, UK, HO23/5; HO8/124

⁷ The Perth Gazette and West Australian Times, 20 Mar 1868, p2

In the matter of a petition of Jane Grindell

I Jane Grindell wife of William Grindell of York in the Colony of Western Australia Farmer, formerly Jane Kelly, maketh oath and say as follows,

1. That on 11 November in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and fifty seven I was lawfully married to William Grindell at Guildford Church in the said Colony.
2. That from and after our said marriage I lived and cohabited with my said husband at Guildford and at York aforesaid until the fourth day of September last when I was turned out of my home and separated from my said husband as hereinafter more particularly mentioned And that I and my husband have had issue of our said marriage four children three of whom are now living, namely William aged about eleven years, John aged about ten years and Ann aged about six years.
3. That for a period of about two years from and subsequent to the said marriage the conduct of my said husband towards me was moderately kind, but from and after that period he became most unkind habitually conducting himself towards me with great harshness and cruelty, frequently abusing me in the coarsest language, and frequently beating me with his fists, with a whip or stick or anything he could lay his hands on.
4. That in the month of April last being in want of a maid servant the said William Grindell, on the occasion of one of his journeys to Perth with his team, where he was frequently in the habit of going, took back with him to York a girl named Catherine Godfrey and introduced her to his house as a Servant: the said Catherine Godfrey was engaged and lived with me and my said husband as a servant until the time when I was turned out as after stated - that I knew nothing of the character of the said Catherine Godfrey but from the time of her becoming domiciled in the house of my said husband the conduct of the said William Grindell became more unkind and he treated me with greater cruelty and harshment and beat me, and abused me in the most coarse and disgusting language, falsely charging me with having committed adultery with other men and making other changes of the like nature and equally false.
5. That it has since come to my knowledge that the said Catherine Godfrey was and is a girl of the most abandoned character, being the daughter of a woman of the same name who keeps a brothel in Murray Street Perth, and that the same Catherine Godfrey was a common prostitute, to the knowledge of the said William Grindell, and that he took her away from her Mother's house and introduced her to me as a servant with a full knowledge of her abandoned character.
6. That on Sunday 4 September last, after a long course of ill-treatment and abuse, the said William Grindell turned me out of his house, kicking her with violence on the leg and harming me much, telling me that I had better go as he had got up {...} in the previous night to cut her throat, and your Petitioner was sent away without money or other means of subsistence and is now an inmate of the Government home or Poor House in Perth dependent upon Government for support.
7. That previous to the month of April last the said William Grindell had formed an illicit connexion with the said Catherine Godfrey and was now frequently in the habit of visiting her, and other women or girls at her mother's Brothel in Perth, and repeatedly committing adultery with her the said Catherine Godfrey and other women or girls.
8. That on divers occasions during the period of the residence of the said husband Catherine Godfrey in the house of the said William Grindell, namely from April until September, the said William Grindell committed adultery with the said Catherine Godfrey.

9. That the said William Grindell and the said Catherine Godfrey are now, and have been ever since the expulsion of your Petitioner from the house of the said William Grindell, living together in adultery at York aforesaid.

Your Petitioner humbly prays that your Honor will be pleased to decree a Judicial Separation between her and the said William Grindell And also to order that the said William Grindell to pay the costs of and incident to these proceedings And that your Petitioner may have such further and of her relief in the premises as to this Honorable Court may seem meet.

And your petitioner will ever pray &c

X mark of Jane Grindell ⁸

At the hearing In the Divorce Court, Western Australia, filed on 9 February 1871.

In her Majesty's Court for divorce and Matrimonial causes.

To His Honor Archibald Paull Burt Esquire Judge of her Majesty's Court for Divorce and Matrimonial Causes

Between Jane Grindell, Petitioner and William Grindell, Respondent.

The eighth day of February in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and seventy one.

The Petition of Jane Grindell the lawful wife of William Grindell, Sheweth

1. That the said William Grindell is now for several years past has carried on the business of Farmer and general teamster at York in the said Colony, carrying goods to and from Perth and other places for hire, and from such his carrying business derives a profit or income of at least one hundred and fifty pounds per annum.

2. That the said William Grindell is possessed of or in the occupation of a Farm at or near York consisting of about one hundred and thirty acres, held as Tenant of John Henry Monger and other at an annual Rental from which he derives a net annual income of about one hundred pounds.

3. That the said William Grindell is possessed of about forty head of horned cattle of the value of about Two hundred pounds.

4. That the said William Grindell is also possessed of Fifteen horses (forming three teams) with Drays and Harness worth at least Five hundred pounds.

5. That the said William Grindell is also possessed of divers other Horses Cattle Pigs Farming implements Household Furniture and other effects of the value of at least Two hundred pounds.

6. That the said William Grindell is also possessed of or entitled to divers other property chattels and effects and to divers sums of money invested or owing to him from whence he derives a considerable income the particulars whereof are unknown to your Petitioner.

7. That a few days before your Petitioner was turned out of her house as stated in the pleadings in this cause the said William Grindell stated to her or in her hearing that he was worth at least One thousand pounds after payment of everything he owed, and your Petitioner has no reason to doubt the truth of such statement, but on the contrary firmly believes the same to be true.

Your petitioner therefore humbly prays that your Honor will be pleased to decree to be paid to her such sum or sums of money by way of Alimony *pendente lite* as to your Honor may seem meet.

And your petitioner will ever pray &c

Jane Grindell, her mark.

⁸ LDS film 1686264, images 189 to 237

Jane took William to Court in March 1871 for non-payment of alimony and costs of the divorce petition.

In the Court for Divorce and Matrimonial Causes

Jane Grindell Petitioner and William Grindell Respondent.

I Herbert Monger of York in the Colony of Western Australia Bailiff of the Local Court there make oath and say as follows:

1. I have been personally acquainted with William Grindell the above named Respondent for some time past. The said William Grindell is a farmer and carter at York.
2. Within the last few days he has sold all his goods and chattels including horses, drays, harness, cattle, pigs, sandalwood and other effects to Marley and Gale both of York aforesaid yeomen for the sum of Two hundred and fifty pounds or thereabouts.
3. I have seen a document or Bill of Sale signed by the said William Grindell evidencing or purporting to evince the transaction.
4. I verily believe that the said William Grindell is about to leave the Colony forthwith in order to avoid the process of this Court

Sworn by Herbert Monger, 17 June 1871.

Jane made a similar submission on the same day, and she believed he sold his goods etc. for about three hundred pounds.

Things were about to get worse for William. On the 20 July 1871, the Sheriff would sell the following possessions unless the money owed by William was paid:

2 double barrelled guns, 1 Saddle, 4 Watches and Guard Chains, Knives and Forks, Horse Fleams, Bed sheets, Boots, Coats, and a quantity of men's Clothing and 1 Chestnut Pony.⁹

William was arrested for non-payment of alimony, and a document of 20 August 1872 says he has paid the £14.8.11 owed, and he was discharged.

William, Catherine Godfrey and the Grindell children went to South Australia in January 1873, possibly on the *Emily Smith*. He may have initially had a fruit store in Adelaide before becoming a horse dealer again. This newspaper report appears to be William:

William Grindell, storekeeper, was informed against for threatening the life of Catherine Godfrey, a single woman, on 30 June. Evidence was called showing that the defendant had ill-treated Godfrey in Morphett-street, and threatened to knock her brains out. Defendant alleged that he was only shaking hands with prosecutrix, who he had heard was about to be married. Ordered to enter into his own recognisances in £10 to keep the peace for three months, and directed to pay 20s. costs.¹⁰

Later in the month, on 28 July 1874 at the Holy Trinity Church, Adelaide:

Mary Catherine Godfrey, daughter of Thomas Godfrey married William Grindell, son of Isaac Grindell. The certificate does not contain the parents' information found on Ancestry.com

⁹ The Perth Gazette and West Australian Times, 28 Jul 1871, p2

¹⁰ Evening Journal, 1 Jul 1874, p2

1874 MARRIAGES IN THE DISTRICT OF ADELAIDE, PROVINCE OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA.					
NO.	WHEN MARRIED AND WHERE.	NAME AND SURNAME.	AGE.	RANK.	CONDITION.
243	July 28 th Trinity Church, Adelaide.	William Grindell Mary Catherine Godfrey	39 21	Artillery Surgeon /	Widower Spinster
MARRIED in the Parish Church, according to the Rites and Ceremonies of the United Church of England and Ireland, by					
by me, <i>Richardson Reid</i>					
This Marriage was solemnized between us <i>Wm Grindell</i> and <i>Mary Catherine Godfrey</i>					
In the presence of us <i>John Griffiths</i> and <i>Ann Griffiths</i>					

Catherine Godfrey was born in 1855 in Perth, the eldest of five children of Thomas Godfrey and Catherine Holmes. William said he was 39 but would have been 58 years old, and he was not a widower.¹¹

A daughter, Elizabeth Grindell, was baptised on 16 November 1874, four months after the marriage.

By 1877, William was a horse dealer again, as seen in this newspaper reference:

Three boys, Edward Leake, William Falls, and Daniel Doran, were charged with stealing a quantity of zinc, value 10s., the property of William Grindell, horse-dealer, at Adelaide, on 4 January. Mary Grindell, wife of William Grindell, said she saw Leake take a large roll of zinc from her yard. The other two prisoners were watching him.¹²

Two years later, in 1879, he was discarding his new wife. Wm. Grindell was charged with leaving his wife, Mary Catherine Grindell, and one child, without means of support. Ordered to pay 20s every week.¹³

The Grindell household does not seem happy, as John Grindle, ostler, was charged with assaulting his stepmother, Mary Grindle, on 16 September 1880. He was fined 5s and costs of £1 10s. In October 1880, William Grindell was charged again with leaving his wife, Mary Ann (sic) Grindell, without adequate means of support. As the complainant stated in Court, the defendant had another wife living, and she was his second; the case was dismissed.¹⁴ Then in December 1880, he was again taken to Court. William Grindell, a horse dealer, was charged, on the information of Mary Catherine Grindell, with leaving her and her child without adequate means of support, Ordered to pay £1 2s. 6d. per week, and to pay costs and counsel fees. The order was reduced to 17s 6d in October 1881.

Another child, Emily Grindell, was born in 1881 to William Grindell and Mary Godfrey.¹⁵ In October, on his wife's information, William Grindle, horse-dealer, was charged with leaving her without adequate means to support his child Emily Grindle, aged three months. He was ordered to pay 7s. 6d

¹¹ LDS film 951875, image 38

¹² The Express and Telegraph, 8 Jan 1877, p1

¹³ South Australian Chronicle and Weekly Mail, 5 Apr 1879, p11

¹⁴ The Express and Telegraph, 19 Oct 1880, p2

¹⁵ Evening Journal, 27 Dec 1880, p2

a week and costs.¹⁶ Then in 1883, William was again charged by Mary Grindle with neglecting an order to contribute to the support of his child. Ordered to pay £3 and costs.¹⁷

William appears to have been in Sydney since at least 1885.

In the Metropolitan Quarter Sessions on 14 August 1885, Elizabeth Green was brought up on a charge of forging a certain warrant and order upon one William Grindell. The prisoner, it transpired, had been living with the prosecutor had been living with her for the past four years. She gave the Jury an account of the transaction, which tended to show that she was innocent in the matter and that she had been very ill-used by the prosecutor. The Jury, after a brief retirement, declared her not guilty, a verdict in which his Honor said he entirely concurred. The poor woman being penniless and in much distress, the Jury subscribed the sum of £2 amongst themselves, with which, upon her discharge, they presented her.¹⁸

On 30 December 1886, at the Police Court, William Baker, a groom, was fined £5 or two months for using a horse without the consent of the owner. The prosecutor, William Grindell, a livery-stable keeper, stated that the prisoner, who had been formerly in his employ, had come into his yard on Friday last and had taken one of his horses out for a ride.¹⁹

William died on 11 July 1890 and was buried on 17 July 1890 at Rookwood cemetery.

The Death Index says his parents were Richard and Mary Grindell, and Rookwood Cemetery has no information. However, he is the ex-convict William Richard Grindell as the following mentions his son John Grindell in Adelaide.

In the Supreme Court of New South Wales.

ECCLESIASTICAL JURISDICTION.

In the will of William Grindell, late of Sydney, in the Colony of New South Wales, horse-dealer, deceased.

NOTICE is hereby given that after the expiration of fourteen days from the publication hereof in the New South Wales Government Gazette, application will be made to the Supreme Court of New South Wales, in its Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction, that letters of administration with the will annexed of the abovenamed William Grindell, deceased, may be granted to Joseph Murray White, of No. 41, Elizabeth-street, Sydney, the duly constituted attorney of John Grindell, of Adelaide, in the Colony of South Australia, the sole executor appointed in and by the said will.—Dated this 16th day of July, A.D. 1890.

**WILLIAM GEORGE PENNINGTON,
Proctor for the Applicant,
41, Elizabeth-street, Sydney.**

5625

6s. 6d. 20

¹⁶ The Express and Telegraph, 11 Oct 1881, p2; Emily Grindell was born 31 July 1881, parents were William and Mary Grindell.

¹⁷ South Australian Register, 18 Jul 1883, p2

¹⁸ The Daily Telegraph, 15 Aug 1885, p6

¹⁹ Evening News, 31 Dec 1886, p6

²⁰ New South Wales Government Gazette, 22 Jul 1890 [Issue No.392] Page 5627

William Grindell married three times and lived with at least two other women. He did not treat any of them well, abandoning each of them after a few years.

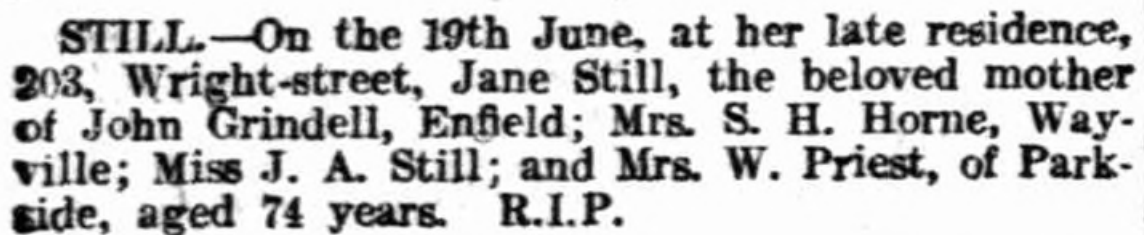
First wife:

Within months of William being convicted, Jane remarried on 24 October 1853 at Bristol Jane Grindle, 36, widow, resides St James's Street, father Joseph Boyce was a plasterer. John Phipps, 32, bachelor, haulier, resides St James's Street, father Sampson Phipps is a haulier. Both made their marks.

On the 1861 census, living at 23 Tower Street, Temple, Bristol, Gloucestershire, were:
John Phipps, 44, Paviour labourer, born St George's, Gloucestershire.
Jane Phipps, wife, 48, born in Bath, Somerset.

Second wife:

Jane Grindell, née Kelly, married John Still *alias* John Britton at Newcastle in 1872. He was convict 7867, who arrived on the *Clara* in 1864. John was convicted of embezzlement in 1878 and sentenced to 6 months. On 8 September 1880, the family left for South Australia on the *Alfred Hawley*. Jane died in 1907 surrounded by her children.²¹



STILL.—On the 19th June, at her late residence, 203, Wright-street, Jane Still, the beloved mother of John Grindell, Enfield; Mrs. S. H. Horne, Wayville; Miss J. A. Still; and Mrs. W. Priest, of Parkside, aged 74 years. R.I.P.

Her children from two marriages:

William Grindell married Margaret McKenny in 1885, and he died on 26 December 1886. They had two children.

John Grindell married Meta Louisa Young in 1882, and they had seven children.

Edward Grindell died on 14 January 1873 in Adelaide, aged 17.

Anne Grindell married Samuel Henry Horne in Victoria in 1884 and later moved to Adelaide. They had five children.

Miss J. A. Still is Jane Amelia Still, born in 1873 in York. She married Samuel James May in 1903 at Subiaco.

Ida Elizabeth Still (or Eliza Ada) was born in 1877 at Geraldton and married in 1895 to William Henry Priest.

Unnamed Still, son, was born in 1874 in York.

Her husband, John Still, possibly died in Melbourne on 8 March 1892, aged 55.

Third wife:

Catherine Godfrey – no further trace has been found of Catherine or her children.

²¹ The Express and Telegraph, 20 Jun 1907, p1