

Nathaniel Horsfield, 113, Hashemy

Researched by Marcia Watson

Baptism	6 February 1804, Cottingham, Yorkshire
Parents	George Horsfield and Elizabeth Dalton
Parent's marriage	20 October 1800, Hull, Yorkshire
Siblings	Joseph (1801-1806), Nathaniel (1804), James (1805-1806), Mercy (1807), Robert (1809), Elijah (1812), Elisha (boy) (1814), Labon (1816)
Wife 1	Lucy Empshall (Hempshall)
Married	7 February 1831, St Nicholas, Beverley
Wife 2	Ann Elvira HERRING
Married	5 October 1846, St Johns, Beverley
Children	Adah Hane Herring (1844) [unnamed father, probably Nathaniel] George Anthony (1847) Elizabeth (1848-1848)

The Horsfield family lived at Cottingham is 6km from Hull until about 1810, and then moved to Beverley.

Nathaniel married on 7 February 1831 at Saint Mary and Saint Nicholas, Beverley, by banns to Lucy Empshall or Hempshall. A witness was a George Hemshall

On the 1841 census, Lucy is not living with Nathaniel and they may have parted ways. She died in 1843.

Nathaniel married again on 5 October 1846, to Ann Elvira HERRING, at St Johns, Beverley.

Ann was the daughter of George and Mary Herring of Great Grimsby, Lincolnshire.

(see end of document for more information on the wives)

In December 1848:

The Bentley Burglary - The parties who committed the burglary at Bentley New Inn, viz., Matthew Horsfield, Nathaniel Horsfield, James Wilson, and Mary Wilson, have been tried at the York Assizes and sentenced to transportation; the men for 15 years, and the woman for 7 years. They all resided at Beverley and have been connected together for a number of years; they were a gang of most dangerous and determined villains. When apprehended, they had loaded pistols upon them, and there is no doubt that they would have used them had they been disturbed when committing the robbery. It appears by the confession of one of the party that they have lived almost entirely on plunder. He stated that they had stolen a sheep from Mr Langdale, of Leckonfield; one from Mr Lindley, of Beverley; one from Mr Atkinson, of Beverley; and a lamb from Westwood; also that they had stolen corn from Mr Cattle, of Esk, and Mr Sorby, of Tickton; a bag of flour from Mr Catton, of Routh; a quantity of poultry from Mr Holmes, of Arram; and a number of other robberies. It must be a great consolation to the inhabitants of Beverley and to the farmers in the neighbourhood that they have got rid of such characters; and much praise is due to Mr Swift, the constable, in bringing the parties to justice.

Another newspaper reported.

Yorkshire Winter Assizes, Friday 15 December 1848, at York.

Matthew Horsfield (32), Nathaniel Horsfield (44) and James Wilson (28) were charged with a burglary in the dwelling-house of John Ford and stealing therefrom a quantity of pork, hams, butter, spirits, and other articles, at Bentley, on the 10th of November last; Mary Wilson (20) was charged with having feloniously received some of the stolen property, well knowing it to have been stolen. All the prisoners pleaded Guilty, with the exception of Nathaniel Horsfield. The prosecutor and housekeeper, on the night prior to the robbery, retired to rest as usual, leaving the house securely fastened. The next morning, it was discovered that the thieves had entered the premises by means of one of the windows, and the articles already

enumerated stolen away. The same morning a watchman met the prisoner and an Irishman named McCracken, in Beverley, and being suspicious that they had been concerned in the burglary, he took them into custody. On their persons being searched, two pistols were found. In order to escape punishment, the Irishman confessed his guilt. He said that Nathaniel Horsfield watched near the premises whilst he and two other male prisoners proceeded to break into the house. In the prisoner's house were found some pieces of pork similar to that which the prosecutor lost. The prisoner, in defence, said that he was at home on the night in question; but he could not produce a witness to corroborate his statement. Guilty – The three male prisoners were sentenced to be transported for 15 years; Mary Wilson was to be transported for seven years.¹

Removal of Convicts. —Seventy-two convicts were removed from York Castle to the County gaol at Leicester, last week. During the present week, ten more convicts have followed to the same place. For ten years, Nathaniel Horsefield, Abraham Lightowler, Reuben Clifford, James Jowett, Joseph H. Clifton, Joshua Armitage, and William Beaver. For seven years, William Pollard, William Fell and Thomas Williamson.²

Nathaniel was removed from York Castle on 18 April 1849 and sent to Leicester County Gaol and House of Correction. He had been convicted once summarily and seemed indifferent at times while in gaol. Just over a year later, he was transferred to Portland Prison on 3 May 1850. He boarded the *Hashemy* on 19 July 1850 for the voyage to Western Australia.³

Nathaniel's description on arrival at Fremantle in October 1850:

113. Nathaniel Horsfield, 43, 5'7½", dark hair appearing black, blue eyes, oval face, brown complexion, small whiskers, one joint of the second finger on the right hand is deficient, a labourer, married with three children.⁴

General Register:

113. Nathaniel Horsfield, 44, married, farmer's labourer, Church of England, did a little schooling, can read and write, his wife Ann Elvira Horsfield lived in Beverley, Yorkshire.

Attended Divine Service?	Almost always
Received Sacrament?	Never
Habits?	Regular
Intellect?	Sound
State of Mind?	Hopeful
Knowledge, Secular?	Limited
Knowledge, Religious?	Limited
Alleged Cause of Crime?	Drink & poverty

Name of Person referred to for Character, &c. Mr George Greathead, farmer, Meaux near Beverley⁵

Nathaniel appears a few times in the Casual Sick Register, Fremantle Prison⁶

19 November 1850	Injured Bleuting(?)	Liniment
20 November 1850	Injury	Continue liniment
24 February 1851		Pilul blue
14 March 1851		
13 April 1851		Aper medicine & mist feb.
14 April 1851		Continue mist feb
18 April 1851	Strained back	Emp

¹ Hull Packet, 22 December 1848, p5 (2 accounts)

² Yorkshire Gazette, 21 April 1849, p5

³ PCOM2/383, p177; HO13/96, p326-7; HO23/4

⁴ SROWA Acc 128

⁵ SROWA Acc 1156, R21A

⁶ SROWA Acc 1156 CS1

23 April 1851		Pilul Aper
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Nathaniel was issued with a ticket of leave on 17 February 1852, for the Perth District. He worked for Charles Von Bibra.⁷

See Mid-West convicts for more information: <https://midwestwaheritage.com/resultmcr/?id=1674>

Nathaniel died on 30 August 1859.

From Port Gregory, we hear that the natives have again commenced spearing, not only cattle but horses, a fine filly belonging to Mr Bibra having been killed by them. The crops are looking very well. We are sorry to learn that matters at the Geraldine are not so bright as could be wished, and the manager has expressed his dissatisfaction at the state of affairs to the English Directors. We presume the state of the roads is the principal subject of a complaint, for our correspondent states that "hundreds of pounds worth of machinery is lying on the beach useless, and the Traction Engine is a complete failure." Horsefeld, the trainer, a man well known on our turf, died lately at a station on the Murchison belonging to his employer, Mr Bibra. His fellow servants subscribed for the purpose of having a monumental stone erected over his grave.⁸

Wrong date!⁹

QUAINT TOMBSTONE.

On Murchison House station is an old tombstone bearing the following quaint inscription: "Sacred to the memory of Nathaniel Horsefield, who died October 31, 1859, aged 56 years. This stone is erected by the Master and Fellow-servants."

⁷ SROWA Acc 1156 R17

⁸ The Inquirer and Commercial News (Perth, WA : 1855 - 1901), 28 September 1859, p2

⁹ Northern Times (Carnarvon, WA : 1905 - 1952), 19 July 1913, p4

Lucy Hempshall, first wife of Nathaniel Horsfield, convict 113

Baptism	14 November 1809, St Mary Magdalene, Newark on Trent, Nottinghamshire
Parents	George Hempshall and Elizabeth
Parent's marriage	
Siblings	George (1812)
Husband	Nathaniel Horsfield (1804-1859)
Marriage	7 February 1831, Saint Mary and Saint Nicholas, Beverley, Yorkshire, by banns
Children	

(variations Hemsall, Empshall, Hemshall)

Lucy Empshall married Nathaniel Horsefield on 7 February 1831 at Beverley in Yorkshire. The witnesses were George Hempshall, who signed, and Hannah Saddler, who made her mark. Both Lucy and Nathaniel made their marks.

On the 1841 census, living at Waltham Terrace, Beverley, was Lucy Horsfield, 30, female servant, not born in Yorkshire. At the same address is Robert Barnby, 30, a labourer from Yorkshire. Lucy appears to be living apart from Nathaniel.

In March 1843, the Hull Advertiser and Exchange Gazette reported the inquest into a shocking death: On Tuesday last, the inquest was held before Mr Conyers and a respectable jury, the body Lucy Horsefield, *alias* Lucy Hemshaw (*sic*), who was found lying dead in a ditch near Storkhill, Sunday morning last. It appeared that the deceased had been drinking at some public houses the previous night, and between three and four o'clock that morning, left the Lady-le-Gros in a state of intoxication. She had proceeded on the road towards Hull-bridge about a mile, and it is supposed she accidentally fell into the ditch where her body was found. There was very little water in the ditch, and the deceased was laid with her face upward. Mr Boulton, the surgeon, thought that the deceased had fallen with her face the water and afterwards got turned over. At that time, if assistance had been hand, her life might probably have been saved. After hearing several witnesses, the jury returned a verdict of "Accidental death."

Storkhill and Sandholme lie on the west bank of the river Hull about 2 km northeast of Beverley.

Other newspapers reported - Lucy Hemshall, a girl of the town at Beverley, fell into a ditch whilst intoxicated on Saturday last and suffocated.

Her death certificate reads - Lucy Horsfield died on 6 March 1843, aged 32, found drowned at Sandholme, wife of (blank) Horsefield, labourer.

No.	When Died.	Name and Surname.	Sex.	Age.	Rank or Profession.	Cause of Death.	Signature, Description, and Residence of Informant.	When Registered.
4	6 March 1843	Lucy Horsfield	Female	32 Years	Wife of Horsfield Labourer	Found Drowned	Edm. Dade Conyers Coroner Drifffield	Thirty first of October 1843

It is more likely Lucy, intoxicated and lying in the water, died of exposure. The nights were frosty, with the minimum temperature usually a few degrees above zero Celsius at this of the year.

Ann Elvira Herring, second wife of Nathaniel Horsfield, convict 113

Born	12 April 1820, Great Grimsby, Lincolnshire
Parents	George Herring and Mary Ann Kemp
Parent's marriage	1 February 1816, Stallingborough, Lincolnshire
Siblings	Hornby (1817), George Alexander (1818-1822), Celina Emila Valteline (1822), George Adolphus (1825)
Husband	Nathaniel Horsfield (1804-1859)
Marriage	5 October 1846, St Johns, Beverley
Husband 2	William Cross (~1822 - 1887)
Marriage 2	26 December 1853, at St. Paul's, Sculcoates, Hull, by banns
Children	Adah Jane Herring (1844) George Anthony Horsfield (1847) Elizabeth Horsfield (1848-1848) William Horsfield (1850) Maria Cross Horsfield (1852) John Thomas Cross (1853) Daniel Cross (1855) Charles Edwin Cross (1857) Ann Elizabeth Cross (1858) Frederick Hornby Cross (1861) Mary Elvira Voltelina Cross (1866)

Ann Elvira is the daughter of George and Mary Herring of Great Grimsby, Lincolnshire. George was a draper. Ann was baptised in the Wesleyan Methodist Church. When her sister was baptised, two years later, George was recorded as a schoolmaster.

At the Lindsay Session, Lincolnshire, 3 July 1840: Elvira Herring, 20, and Valteline Herring, 18, were charged with stealing at Stallingborough, 30 sovereigns and 7s 6d, the property of their uncle, Joseph Baggerley. They were acquitted because no evidence was offered.

Ann Elvira has not been found on the 1841 census. Her brother, George Adolphus Herring, was in Beverley, an apprentice tailor, and her mother and sister lived at Cottingham, between Beverley and Hull.

Ann gave birth to a daughter, Adah Jane Herring, in 1844. Subsequent census records say the baby was born at Cottingham. No father was named, but possibly it was Nathaniel Horsfield.

Two years later, Ann Elvira, 26, spinster, in service, married Nathaniel Horsfield, 38, widower, a day labourer, at St John's Church, Beverley, on 5 October 1846. Ann signed her name. Both gave their address as Keld Gate. The occupation of Ann's father was recorded as a linen draper.

Their son, George Anthony Horsfield, was born in 1847 at Beverley. Daughter Elizabeth, baptised on 17 September, only to die a few days later.

1848 was not a good year for Ann. After her daughter's death in September, Nathaniel, his brother Matthew and two others were apprehended at 1 am on 18 November and remanded until the following Saturday. They were charged with a robbery at the Bentley Inn on 10 November. According to newspaper reports, the four culprits all lived in Beverley, had loaded pistols when apprehended, and had lived off plunder for several years. Nathaniel was sentenced to be transported for fifteen years on 9 December 1848.

In 1850, Ann gave birth to a son William. The father of the child is probably William Cross. The 1851 census, living at Fitzgerald Yard, Beverley shows:
William Cross, 29, unmarried, waterman, born Beverley, Yorkshire

Ann Horsfield, 27, widow, housekeeper, born Grimsby, Lincolnshire

Ada Horsfield, 6, daughter, born Cottingham, Yorkshire

George Horsfield, 3, son, born Beverley

William Horsfield, 1, son, born Beverley

After the birth of a daughter Maria in 1852, William Cross, 32, married Ann Elvira Horsefield, 30, a widow on 26 December 1853, at St. Paul's, Sculcoates, in Hull. Both signed the register. The couple went onto have another six children.

William Cross died on 5 September 1887 of paralysis at Lairgate, Beverley, East Yorkshire.

Ann Elvira was living at Bead House, Lairgate, Beverley, on the 1891 census. She may have been on living on Parish Relief, although it is crossed out. At some stage, she moved to Hull, where she died on 9 March 1897 at 8 Lily Terrace, Spencer Street, Hull, of a cerebral haemorrhage, aged 77.