

Patrick Devlin/Develin, 4778, *Caduceus*

Researched by Marcia Watson

Note: There are numerous people called Patrick Devlin, born around the same time in Ireland.

Patrick Devlin possibly belongs to this family:

Patrick Devlin married Margaret Corvan. They lived in Armagh, County Armagh in Northern Ireland. Their children were Mary (1815), Henry (1816), Ann (1818), Margaret (1825), **Patrick** bap. 19 August 1830, and Edward (1834).

ARMY. Patrick Devlin

Enlisted 4 January 1850, at 10 am in London. Enlisted by Bishop.

Rank or Situation Private 2nd European Light Infantry

Occupation before Enlisting Clerk

Town and County Armagh, in county Armagh

Date of Attestation 5 January 1850, at 11:30am, by J Hardwick.

Term of enlisted 10 years

In what ship arrived from Europe *Equestrian* on 31 August 1850 for Bombay.

Year of Arrival or When that service entertained 1850 (1 September 1850 at Bombay??)

Remarks Transported January 1856 for 14 years

When he enlisted, Patrick was 20, 5'6¾", fair complexion, brown hair, hazel eyes, and a clerk.

His enlistment was immediately approved on 5 January 1850. Final approval was 31 January 1850.

He was paid from the 7 January, the day he marched to the depot. ¹

Regimental history:

1839.12.16 2nd Bombay (European) Regiment

1844 2nd Bombay (European) Light Infantry

1858.07.03 transferred from HEIC to Crown control

1859.11.03 2nd Bombay Light Infantry

1862.09.30 106th Regiment of Foot (Bombay Light Infantry) transferred to British Army

In November 1853, after marching to Karachi, the regiment supplied a cadre of officers and men (together with the 1st regiment) to form the 3rd Bombay European Regiment.[14] In December, it was moved again to Hyderabad, where in 1854, it was to suffer from malaria and in December 1855 had its name altered to the 2nd European Regiment, Bombay Light Infantry. ²

Western Australia

6 February 1858. The ship *Caduceus*, 1106 tons, J. Cass, commander, from Bombay. Passengers — Lieut. Tozer. J. Navy. (Transport Agent), Lieut. Probyn H.C.S., Chas. Barton, Esq., H.C.S. In the steerage, 2 Parsee carpenters, 47 natives of India for looking after horses, 1 prisoner. ³ The ship returned to Bombay with 138 horses on 9 March.

Patrick could read and write, clerk and later a soldier, General Court Martial, breaching articles of war, convicted 19 December 1855 at Bombay, sentenced to 14 years. Arrived 5 February 1858. ⁴

His description on arrival at Fremantle:

4778. Patrick Devlin, 28 years old, 5'7¼", brown hair, hazel eyes, an oval face, fair complexion, slight build, no marks, clerk, single.

8 February 1858. Taken from the ship to the prison and admitted to the hospital the following day.

¹ LDS Films 1786430, 1966381.

² [https://www.wikiwand.com/en/106th_Regiment_of_Foot_\(Bombay_Light_Infantry\)](https://www.wikiwand.com/en/106th_Regiment_of_Foot_(Bombay_Light_Infantry))

³ The Inquirer and Commercial News (Perth, WA : 1855 - 1901), 10 February 1858, p2

⁴ SROWA ACC 128/38-39

31 March 1858. Discharged from hospital and sent to the Lunatic Asylum on the recommendation of the Medical Board. He was mentally deranged.⁵ The cause of his derangement is not stated but may be due to being kept in the dark, solitary confinement, often used as punishment in the army.

He was admitted to the hospital on 8 February 1858. From 31 March 1858 to 15 May 1862, he was in the asylum.⁶

Devlin, Patrick.

6 September 1858, No 23. Cannot depart from usual course in case of Patrick Devlin a lunatic convict proposed to be discharged in event of his friends bearing cost of his passage home and care afterwards.

8 February 1859, No 9. Further report as to state of mind of Patrick Devlin a convict to be sent.

19 October 1859, No 25. Transmitting Free Pardon for Patrick Devlin a lunatic convict. Devlin to be given up to a fit person to be deputed by his father. Expense of passage home to be defrayed by his friends.

28 June 1860, No 37. Directing a lunatic convict to be delivered to such person as Messrs. F Gate and Co may appoint for conveyance to England.

28 September 1861, No 35, inquiring as to the reason of detention in Western Australia of Patrick Devlin, a pardoned Convict.

21 January 1860. Free pardon for Patk Devlin, 4778

Leaving WA

The Surgeon Superintendent's Annual Medical Report and Statistical Return of the Lunatic Asylum from 1 January to 30 November 1862, in *Convict discipline and transportation*, 1863, p47 says:

Patrick Devlin was sent home to Ireland, his friends having obtained a free pardon for him and wishing his return; his case was incurable.

The *Perekop* arrived on 16 April 1862 at Vasse, from Melbourne, to load timber for England. The ship sailed for London on the 17 May, with 461 logs and two planks tuart, 50 jarrah sleepers, 5 bales wool, 10 casks, 1 case gum, 5 pkgs natural curiosities, and 6 bundles seal skins.⁷

Passengers — W. A. Peters, and D. Manners, in cabin; P. Develin, 2nd class⁸

Another paper: she had as passenger Messrs Manners and Peters, and two men, lunatic or blind, from the Convict Establishment.

LOSS OF THE SHIP *PEREKOP*. The details have come to hand of the total loss of the British ship *Perekop*, Captain Pope, while on a voyage from Freemantle, Swan River, to London. She left Freemantle on 18 May with passengers and a general cargo, and the Cape land was made on 6 July. A severe gale was experienced from the northwest on the 13th, and at noon on the 14th a good observation was obtained. At 10.30 p.m. the captain left the deck in charge of the second officer, with orders to call him as soon as the Agulhas light was seen. At midnight the chief officer took charge, and on the captain going on deck he found the ship being kept away, and the land appearing five or six miles distant no light was reported. Captain Pope went down to his cabin to look at his chart, when he heard the order for the helm to be put hard up. The ship was then paying off and she struck slightly abaft. She then struck several times with fearful violence and went quite over the reef. It is stated that the Agulhas light was only observed a few minutes before she struck. The ship was then kept to the southward, and it was found that she had made a fearful leak. The water kept gaining upon her and all on board were in the most painful suspense. Signals of distress were hoisted, and the ship *Araminta* was fallen in with, which eventually took off the passengers and crew. The captain accounts for the loss of his vessel by a strong current setting into Struys Bay. It is also represented

⁵ Hospital Occurrences, SROWA Acc 1156/M2

⁶ SROWA Acc 1156/M2

⁷ The Inquirer and Commercial News (Perth, WA : 1855 - 1901), 21 May 1862, p2

⁸ The Inquirer and Commercial News (Perth, WA : 1855 - 1901), 21 May 1862, p2

that the charts at this part of the coast are incorrect, as there are no reefs marked more than two miles from the hind. The captain reports that had he been called up in time, the ship might have been saved. The ship and cargo are reported to be insured.⁹

Another version - LOSE OF THE *PEREKOP*. Safety of the Crew.—The ship *Perekop*, Captain Pope, bound from Swan River to London, foundered off Struy's Bay on 13 July. The ship experienced a heavy gale of wind on Sunday 13 July. On the 11th, the wind moderated, and towards evening she was steering a west by north course, Struy's Bay heist; on her starboard beam. At midnight, being on the starboard tack, breakers were discovered on her starboard beam. Before the ship could stand off, to prevent her going ashore, a tremendous "roller" passed under her, and she struck heavily. Although the helm was put hard immediately after the breakers were seen, the strong current which had carried her on to the reef, prevented her righting, and she again bumped twice. Up to this time the vessel made very little water and we were in hopes that she had got off. Unfortunately, however, she again bumped twice; the last shock was tremendous, and it was momentarily expected her to go to pieces. By the merciful interposition of Providence, however, she floated immediately afterward, Captain Pope forthwith made sail away from the reef. At this time she had three feet of water in her hold, and we anxiously awaited daylight, in order that some passing ship might succor us, as, although the pumps were set to work instantly after her first striking, the water gained upon her considerably. The pumps were continually going from the time that she struck until about ten o'clock, when all hopes of saving the ill-fated vessel had departed. Captain Pope constantly fired blue lights and rockets until daylight, and at daybreak saw ships on our port-bow. Notwithstanding that at this time the *Perekop* had upwards of five feet of water in her hold, she rapidly overhauled these ships, and Captain Pope ran up the signal that we were in a "sinking state." These ships were round and came towards the *Perekop*, and Captain Pope inquired if they would follow. The ship, *Araminta*, of Liverpool: Captain Roberts, replied in the affirmative, and kept at the stern until we were obliged to leave the ship. The ship was presently abandoned; Captain and passengers going on board the *Araminta*.¹⁰

A letter to Patrick's father on 26 September 1862 from the Colonial Office said:
In reply to your letter of the 22nd instant, I am directed by the Duke of Newcastle to state that the persons who provided for the conveyance to England of the other persons Wrecked in the "Perekop" were doubtless prevented from providing in the same manner for the passage of your Son Patrick Devlin on account of the infirmity under which unhappily he labours.
The Governor of the Cape of Good Hope will be requested to take the earliest opportunity of forwarding your Son to this Country.¹¹

15 November 1862, letter to G.A. Hamilton EsqHis father had expressed his willingness to receive him and to constitute a certain sum (£25) towards defraying the expense of his passage home. The cost of Devlin's maintenance in the Colony for the rest of his life at the expense of Convict funds would thus be saved the Duke of Newcastle instructed the Emigration Commission to make arrangements for bringing him home, and instructed them that they might co-fund if necessary, an amount not exceeding £25 over and above the amount contributed by Devlin's father for effecting this object. The misfortune of a shipwreck added partly to the cost of the operation and raised beyond the amount of the father's contribution. **The Emigration Commission have now reported that Devlin has been handed over to his father's care** and that a sum of £14.14.6 has been disbursed by them in connection with Devlin's return beyond the amount which was deposited with them by his father.¹²

⁹ Bicester Advertiser, 05 September 1862, p3

¹⁰ Times of India, 26 September 1862, p3

¹¹ CO 397/20, p317 (AJCP Reel 1722)

¹² CO 397/20, p334 (AJCP Reel 1722)