

George Powling, 100, Hashemy

Researched by Marcia Watson

Baptism	16 January 1831, Wherstead, Suffolk
Parents	Samuel Powling and Hannah Spink
Parent's marriage	3 February 1819 at Wherstead, Suffolk.
Siblings	William (1819), Rebecca (1821), Anne (1823), Mary (1825), Sarah (1831), Susannah (1833), Robert (1836), Emma (1838), Eliza (1841)
Wife	Lydia Rackham
Married	30 January 1854, Fremantle, Western Australia
Children	George William (1855-1856) Robert Charles (1857-1887) Hannah (1858) Lydia (1860-1861) James Samuel (1862) Emma Eliza (1865) George (1867-1874) Rebecca (1871) Francis (1874-1879)

George Powling and his sister were baptised the same day and appear to be twins. All the children were born at Wherstead.

Living in Wherstead, Samford, Suffolk, in 1841 were:¹

Samuel Powling, 40; Hannah, 35; George, 10; Sarah, 10; Susannah, 7; Robert, 4; Emma, 2; Eliza, 0

In 1851, the family lived at Wood Farm, Freston, Samford, Suffolk. ²

Samuel Powling, 57, Agriculture labourer, born Bildeston; Hannah, 51, born Bramford; Susannah, 18, at home; Robert, 15, ag lab; Emma, 12, scholar; Eliza, 10, scholar.

Samuel Powling died in 1863 at Freston, aged 70, and Hannah Powling in 1875 at Wherstead, aged 77.

January 1848, Commitments.— To the County Gaol and House of Correction in Ipswich.

George Powling, charged with having at Wherstead, feloniously killed one sheep with intent to steal the carcass, the property of George Stearn Mumford.³

Sheep Stealing. —A man named George Powling was taken before the County Magistrates at the Shire Hall, Ipswich, On Wednesday, charged with having stolen a sheep from a field belonging to the Bourn Hall Farm, in the occupation of Mrs Sexton. It appears that numerous depredations of a similar kind have been lately committed in the neighbourhood.

Pilling and Hamblin, two of the East Suffolk police, were set to watch the sheep-folds. Sunday morning last about two o'clock, a man was observed to enter the fold, belonging to Mrs Sexton, to take sheep, convey it into the field, and cut its throat. He then threw the carcass to his back and carried it to the road leading to the strand. The police went after him with the intention of stopping him, but when they had got within five yards threw down the carcass and ran off. The police, however, were able to recognise him, and in the evening, apprehended him at his father's house, near the Ostrich public-house, Wherstead. He was in bed at the time. His clothes, which were on the side, were found covered with blood, and particles of wool were attached to the buttons. He was remanded for further examination. ⁴

At the Suffolk Quarter Sessions. Ipswich Division, in March:

George Powling, 19, was charged with having stolen a sheep, the property of George Steam Mumford, of Cockfield. Mr Power appeared for the prosecution; Mr Rouse for the defence.

¹ HO107/1034/27, p6

² HO107/374, p10

³ The Suffolk Chronicle; or Weekly General Advertiser & County Express, 22 January 1848, p4

⁴ The Suffolk Chronicle; or Weekly General Advertiser & County Express, 15 January 1848, p4

It was stated that the sheep in question, with many others, was depastured in a field on the Wherstead Hall Farm, then in the occupation of Mr Sexton. Some depredations having been committed on the flock, two policemen were set to watch the folds. On the night of 8 January, between twelve and one o'clock, a man, whom the policemen believed to be the prisoner, was seen to come from the field with the body of a sheep on his back. The policemen followed him down the road, but before they came up, the man becoming aware of their presence, dropped his plunder and ran away. One remained with the body of the sheep while the other continued his pursuit of the man, but he failed in overtaking him. The prisoner was apprehended the next morning in bed, and upon his clothes being examined, spots of blood and pieces of wool were found upon them. A knife, which was found in his waistcoat pocket, was likewise smeared with blood. Mr Rouse, having addressed the Jury for the defence, the prisoner was found guilty and sentenced to twelve years transportation.⁵

George Powling, 19, single, can read and write imperfectly, labourer, was convicted 17 March 1848 at Ipswich of sheep stealing and sentenced to 12 years transportation. He was received at Millbank Prison on 28 April 1848, from Ipswich. No gaoler's report was received. On 12 December 1848, he was transferred to Wakefield Prison. Eleven months later, George was transferred to Portland Prison, where his occupation was recorded as 'servant'. George and 99 other convicts boarded the *Hashemy* at 8 am on 19 July 180 for the voyage to Fremantle.⁶

His description on arrival in Western Australia in October 1850 was:

100. George Powling, 23, 5' 5½", dark brown hair, light hazel eyes, prominent visage, dark complexion, stout, marks – small scar on the bridge of the nose; several small worts (*sic*) on backs of both hands; ditto n back of the neck, a servant and single.⁷

General Register:

100. George Powling, 23, single, servant, Church of England, went to National School, he can read pretty well, write fairly and knows 'double rule of three'.

He said his father, Samuel Powling, labourer, lived at Wherstead near Ipswich.

Attended Divine Service? Not very regularly

Received Sacrament? Once in prison

Habits? Attentive to work and sober

Intellect? Sound

State of Mind? Hopeful

Knowledge, Secular? Tolerable

Knowledge, Religious? Fair knowledge of his Bible and of the way of Salvation

Alleged Cause of Crime? Bad company

Name of Person referred to for Character, &c. Charles Foote Gower, Stoke in Ipswich.⁸

George was remarkably healthy compared to many other convicts. He only appears once on the sick list.⁹ On 1 November 1850. G Powling, eruption on skin, treated with sulphur.

A Ticket of Leave issued 13 March 1851.¹⁰

11 September 1851. Worked for Bishop Serra, Perth, whose rented house at Guildford was destroyed by fire in August 1851.

20 November 1851. George worked for himself.

21 November 1851. Passed to Fremantle.¹¹

George Powling, a servant, worked for Rev Mr Fletcher in the Fremantle district in 1852. His rate of pay was 30s per month.¹²

⁵ The Suffolk Chronicle; or Weekly General Advertiser & County Express, 25 March 1848, p4

⁶ HO24/4; PCOM2/28; PCOM2/383; HO8/105

⁷ SROWA Acc 128/40-3

⁸ SROWA Acc 1156 R21A

⁹ SROWA Acc 1156 CS1

¹⁰ SROWA Acc 1156 R21B

¹¹ Rica Erickson's noted, on Family Search

¹² Further correspondence on the on the subject of Convict Discipline and Transportation. Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of her Majesty. 30 April 1852, p196

A Conditional Pardon was granted in February 1854.

General Post Office, Melbourne.-list of unclaimed Letters for the week ending 8 March 1855 – George Powling.¹³ [possibly George]

From Joanne Hyland article on James and Lydia Rackham:

George Powling married Lydia Rackham in 1854.

Their eldest daughter Lydia Ann came out to Western Australia as a single female emigrant aboard the *Travancore* in September 1852, aged 20 years. On 30 January 1854 she married *Hashemy* convict #100, George Powling. The pair emigrated to Van Diemen's Land shortly after George received his Conditional Pardon in February 1854 and they collected Lydia's siblings William and Emmeline from the Orphan School on 17 October 1854. The couple went on to have a large family of nine children.

The family lived in Washington St, Hobart, Tasmania; George was a carpenter:

Death of wife: POWLING.-At 22 Washington-st., Lydia Ann, the beloved wife of George Powling, in the 76th year of her age. Funeral will leave her late residence at 9 o'clock on Sunday, 27 June.¹⁴



22 Washington St, Hobart (unless there has been a renumbering of the street)

POWLING.-On 30 April 1919, at Private Hospital, George Powling, In the 91st year of his age. (Funeral private). George and Lydia are buried at Queenborough Cemetery, Sandy Bay.¹⁵

WILL. 12406¹⁶ Gross value is sworn to be under £1776

In the Supreme Court of Tasmania Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction.

Be it known that George Powling died on 30 April 1919 at Hobart in Tasmania: And be it further known that at the date hereunder written the last Will and Testament of the said deceased was proved in the Supreme Court of Tasmania and that administration of all the estate which by law devolves and vests in the personal representatives of the said deceased was granted by the aforesaid Court to The Perpetual Trustees Executives and Agency Company of Tasmania Limited the sole Executor named in the said Will.

Dated this third day of July 1919 WO Wise Registrar

This is the last Will and Testament of me George Powling f Hobart in Tasmania Builder.

1. I appoint The Perpetual Trustees Executives and Agency Company of Tasmania Limited (hereinafter called "the said Company") to be my Trustee and Executive of this my Will.

¹³ The Argus (Melbourne, Vic. : 1848 – 1957), 10 March 1855, p7

¹⁴ The Mercury (Hobart, Tas. : 1860 - 1954), 26 June 1909, p1

¹⁵ The Mercury (Hobart, Tas. : 1860 - 1954), 1 May 1919, p1

¹⁶ Tasmania Archives, AD960/1/40

2. I give and bequeath unto my wife Lydia Ann Powling my household furniture and effects absolutely.
 3. I give and bequeath the residue of my personal estate to the said Company Upon Trust as soon as conveniently may be after my decease to sell collect and convert into money the same and to pay out the net proceeds arising from such sale collection and conversion the sum of five pounds to my son James Samuel Powling and to invest the residue of such proceeds in investments authorised by law for the investment of trust moneys and to pay the income from such investments to my wife during her life.
 4. I devise all my real estate unto my said wife during her life and from after her death I devise all my real estate to the said Company Upon Trust as soon as conveniently may be after the death of my said wife to sell my said real estate by public auction or private contract in such lots and upon such terms and conditions and at such time and generally in such manner as the said Company my think fit with power to buy in the same or any part thereof at such sale or sales and to resell the same in manner aforesaid and to rescind or vary any contracts for the sale thereof without being responsible for any loss or diminution of price which may be occasioned thereby.
 5. I direct the said Company to stand possessed on the death of my said wife of my residuary estate and of the net proceeds of the sale of my real estate upon trust to divide the same into four equal parts and to pay one of such equal part to the child or children (and if more than one in equal shares of my late son Robert Powling who shall be living at the death of the survivor of myself and my said wife and (subject to the next paragraph of this my Will) to divide the remaining three parts equally between such of my daughters as shall be living at the death of the survivor of myself and my said wife.
 6. I direct that if any of my said daughters shall have predeceased me or my said wife leaving a child or children living at the death of the survivor of myself and my said wife such child or children shall take (and in the latter event equally between them) the share to which the child so dying would have been entitled had such child survived the survivor of myself or my said wife.
 7. I direct that if at the death of the survivor of myself and my said wife there shall be no child or children of my late son Robert living the whole of my residuary personal estate and the net proceeds of the sale of my real estate shall be divided among my said daughters or their children in the manner provided in paragraphs 5 and 6 of this my Will.
 8. I direct the said Company to employ Messrs Simmons Crips and Simmons as Solicitors to my estate.
 9. I revoke all former Wills at any time heretofore made by me and declare this to be my last Will. In witness whereto I have hereunto signed my name this sixth day of August One thousand nine hundred and seven. Geo Powling.
- Signed by the Testator, the said George Powling as an for his last Will and Testament in the presence of us both present at the same time who at his request in his presence and in the presence of each other have hereunto subscribed our names as witnesses the words one (no more online)

Rackham.

James and Emmeline have not been traced, but William died in July 1875 and was buried at Queenborough cemetery with his mother who had died in the June. This suggests that all the family maintained their connections in Hobart.

https://www.femaleconvicts.org.au/docs2/seminars/Cadet_MaureenMann_Oct2018.pdf