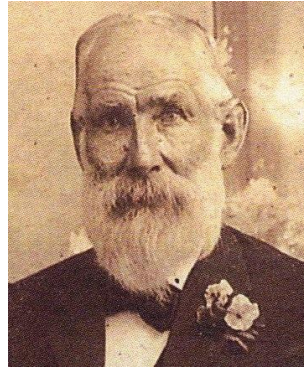
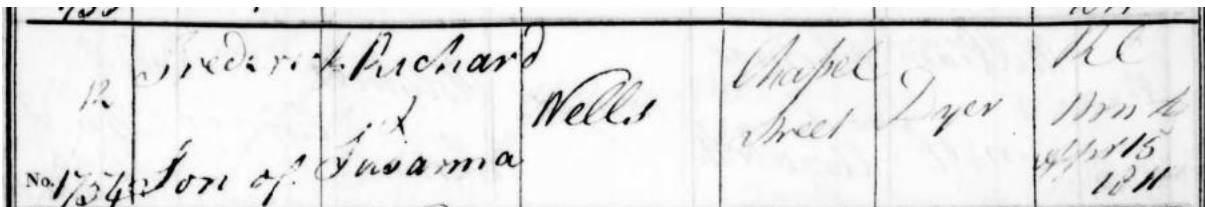


Frederick Wells (1811-1876)



Frederick was born on 15 April 1811 in Shoreditch, London to Richard Wells (1771-1837) and Susannah Austin (1768-1828). He was baptised on 12 May 1816, aged 5, at St Leonards in Shoreditch.



Bapt. 12 (of May, 1816) Frederick, son of Richard & Susanna Wells, Chapel Street, Dyer, born April, 15 1811.

The records indicated that Richard Wells was a dyer by trade, living and working in London. Several factors point to Richard being a man of means:

- He was able to educate his children at a time when schooling was not compulsory and was expensive. Frederick could read and write very well and anecdotal evidence suggests that he spoke several languages, however this is more likely to be part of the folklore that surrounded Frederick's life;
- Until Frederick joined the army in 1832, he is purported to have worked at the London Stock Exchange as a clerk. This also indicates a middle-class background; and
- His grandson Richard Thomas Wells (1841-1923) recalls his father saying that he (Richard) had kept a pack of hounds in London and that there was money left for the Wells family at the Chancery and that he (Frederick) had seen the (record) book. Unfortunately, no records have been found to support this.

Military Life

In the period before 1883 the Chelsea Hospital did not retain soldier's papers for those men who could not claim a pension due to discharge by purchase, by free discharge or at the end of their first period of engagement. The Chelsea Hospital also did not even complete paperwork for men who died in service or deserted. As Frederick was discharged in 1849 and was not entitled to a pension, no service paperwork is extant and Frederick's pre-1840 service has been compiled using the Regimental musters and paylists in the WO 12 series (WO 12/9605 to 9610). This research was completed by Forces War Records UK.

14/08/1832 – Frederick enlisted for an initial engagement of 10 years of service with the 96th Regiment of Foot at Wymondham, Norfolk. This would have been with a recruiting party acting in that area. He was 21 years of age, and his occupation is recorded as Clerk. He would have received a bounty for enlisting.

Wymondham is 100 miles north-east of London, near Norwich, Norfolk and I wonder what Frederick was doing there? The position of clerk, at the Stock Exchange (or wherever) would have been a good position to hold at the time, so what drew him to a life of soldiering?

03/10/1832 – Frederick joins the Reserve Battalion of the 96th Regiment of Foot, which was based at Sheerness, Kent. The main body of the 96th Regiment had proceeded to Nova Scotia in Canada for service in September 1829 and had left a Depot behind to recruit and train new manpower as required. Over a period of time the Depot had grown to the strength of 4 Companies so was instead titled as a 'Reserve Battalion'. On arrival, Frederick is given the Regimental number of 879 (numbering for the army had begun in around 1831).

The homebase for 96th Regiment was Manchester, Lancashire.

April 1833 – Frederick is in hospital at the end of the month for 3 days. This was noted as pay was reduced for men in hospital as they had to pay certain hospital fees.

23/05/1833 – The Reserve Battalion of the 96th Regiment arrived at Guernsey, Channel Islands, after 5 days on ship, having sailed from Sheerness.

July 1833 – The Reserve Battalion of the 96th Regiment is re-titled as a Depot after sending a large draft of men overseas.

21/11/1833 - The Depot of the 96th Regiment sailed from Guernsey for passage to Cork, Ireland, landing there on 25/11/1833. Frederick is left in Cork in hospital on landing, he had been sick for a period of 18 days before the end of the month, so must have been so for a week before the ship sailed.

26/02/1834 – After a period of hospitalisation at Cork, Frederick joins the Depot who had marched for Kinsale, Co. Cork.

July-September 1834 – Frederick is in hospital for 3 days during the quarter.

20/11/1834 – The Depot of the 96th Regiment moves to Spike Island in Cork Harbour.



Spike Island Prison, Cork Harbour

<https://www.discoverireland.ie/cork/spike-island>

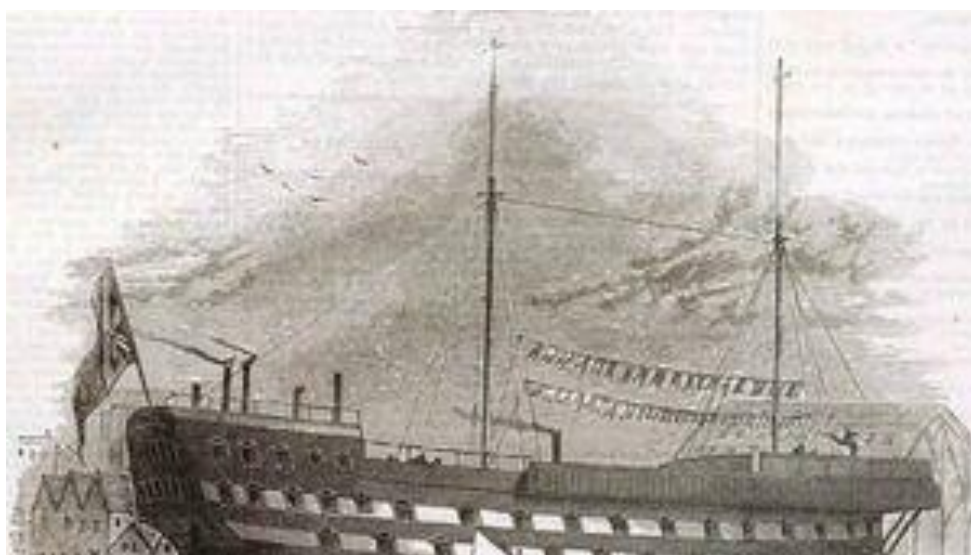
Spike Island:

Today the island is dominated by the 200-year-old Fort Mitchel, the star shaped Fortress which became a prison holding over 2,300 prisoners. It was the largest prison in the world at the time and there has never been a larger prison in Ireland or Britain before or since. From 1847-1885 it was a penal depot for British prisoners and others who were detained on hulks in the harbour awaiting transportation.

December 1834 – At the end of the month Frederick is shown as being aboard the hulk *HMS Surprise* which was being used as prison in Cork harbour. No doubt he was in a guard capacity.

HMS Surprise:

In May 1823, the hulk HMS Surprise was installed in Cork Harbour, for the holding of male convicts prior to transportation. The ship was built in 1812 and was a 38-gun Leda-class frigate. She was prepared at Plymouth as a prison hulk and towed to Cork in 1823.



A prison hulk vessel like *HMS Surprise* that was installed in Cork Harbour for many years.

<https://www.echolive.ie/corknews/arid-40145942.html>

January to February 1835 – Frederick is detached for duty at Haulbowline Island, Cork.

Haulbowline Island:

Haulbowline is an island in Cork Harbour off the coast of Ireland. The world's first yacht club was founded on Haulbowline in 1720. Fortifications were built there in the early 1600's. The military presence diminished during the 1700's but this all changed with the establishment of a victualling yard there in 1805 by the British. Cove (now Cobh) was made the station of a Port Admiral. Building continued and by 1822 the Royal Alexandra Yard was complete. Within 15 years it was put in mothballs and opened as a relief depot during the Great Famine in 1847. The Crimean War brought the yard back into use in 1853 and plans were made to have it supplemented with a full dockyard. The project finally began in 1865 but was not completed until 1887 and not in full operation until 1894.

May 1835 – Frederick is shown as 'attending sick' (no doubt under the Regimental Surgeon & Hospital Sergeant in the Regimental Hospital) at Spike Island until September 1835.

14/09/1835 – The Depot of the 96th Regiment of Foot embarks on ships that are to sail for England, landing at Portsmouth, Hampshire on 21/09/1835. The Service Companies of the 96th Foot had sailed from Canada on 10/08/1835 and landed at Portsmouth on 04/09/1835. The Depot is merged into the main body of the 96th Regiment on arrival in Portsmouth and it becomes one formation.

12-13/10/1835 – The 96th Regiment of Foot leaves Portsmouth in 3 drafts, marching to Gravesend, Kent over a period of 8 days.

21/10/1835 – The 96th Regiment of Foot embarks at Portsmouth in the first of two ships (the second one embarked two days later) and sailed for Scotland – the ships landed at Leith after a 4-to-6-day period. Once at Leith the HQ of the Regiment moved to Glasgow with detachments at Dumbarton, Leith & Greenlaw.

18/04/1836 – Frederick is promoted to Corporal.

20/07/1836 – Frederick leaves Glasgow for passage to Dundee, once there he is in charge of an escort party of men who are taking Private James Peters of the 71st Foot back to his Regiment in Dublin. He then re-joins his Regiment in Glasgow.

14/10/1836 – The 96th Regiment of Foot embarks at Glasgow to return to Ireland, the following day they arrive at Belfast and then march to Enniskillen. Frederick is in a detachment under Captain Auldjo that marched to Cavan, arriving there on 21/10/1836.

April 1837 – The detachment at Cavan returns to join the main body of the 96th Regiment at Enniskillen.

15-16/01/1838 – Frederick is part of a detachment under Lieutenant Horsley and Ensign White which marches from Enniskillen to Omagh for service at that place where he would remain for the next 4 months.

09/05/1838 – Frederick is put under arrest for an offence. He is tried and found guilty at Enniskillen, being reduced in the ranks to Private on 12/05/1838. Given that his beer allowance was also stopped for 6 months, it is likely to have been an issue with alcohol.

16-26/07/1838 – The 96th Regiment of Foot marches in drafts from Enniskillen to Dublin, the journey taking 6 to 8 days to complete.

22/12/1838 – The musters state that Frederick left the Regiment for recruiting duty in England, specifically at Wolverhampton. The later musters state that the location was not Wolverhampton but was Stratford-upon-Avon.

14/01/1839 – Frederick is on recruiting duty when the 96th Regiment of Foot left Dublin for passage to Liverpool, going then into garrison at Bolton-le-Moors, Lancashire.

06/05/1839 – Frederick re-joins the 96th Regiment of Foot at Bolton-le-Moors having completed his period of recruiting duty.

September 1839 – Frederick is at Wigan at the end of the month where he remains for the following few months.

This is likely to be the time that he met and married Sarah Connell. Family folklore has it that Sarah was an Irish gentlewoman, however I suspect that it is more likely that she lived in Lancashire, perhaps even Wigan itself, and they met there during Frederick's several leaves of absence.

01-14/11/1839 – Frederick is on a 14-day leave pass (he would not be paid for this period).

31/12/1839 to 11/03/1840 – Frederick is absent from duty for 8 days. He is not paid for the dates of absence but does not seem to have been punished further. The 96th Regiment is now in Manchester.

24/07/1840 – The 96th Regiment of Foot begins a march from Manchester to Chatham in drafts. Frederick has been allocated for passage to New South Wales as a guard on the convict ship 'Egyptian' which left Ireland on 19/08/1840, so needed to travel there first.

12/12/1840 – The 'Egyptian' arrives at Hobart Town, Van Diemen's Land, the men coming ashore on 17/12/1840.



An early sketch of Hobart Town, possibly as Hobart was when Fredrick & Sarah arrived.

Dec. 12.—Arrived the barque *Egyptian*, 350 tons, Skelton master, from Dublin 19th August, with 170 male convicts. — Kidd, M.D., R.N., Surgeon Superintendent. Guard—Lient. Hugonin, Ensign Wilson, 29 rank and file, 5 women, and 4 children 96th Regt.

TROVE - Tasmanian Weekly Dispatch (Hobart Town, Tas: 1839 - 1841),

Friday 18 December 1840, p4, SHIP NEWS

It is likely that Sarah was one of these 5 woman who arrived on the Egyptian. Sarah was 4 months pregnant by this time, and it is likely that she became pregnant during the voyage or just before departure.

Frederick's post 1840 service has been complied using the Regimental musters and paylists in the WO 12 series (WO 12/9611 to 9623). The musters are undertaken monthly (at wherever the Regiment is based) and reported with the paylists quarterly, for the periods ending June, September, December & March for each year. This research is completed by me through TROVE, Records of the War Office.

March 1841 – At Chatham UK, Frederick is listed as one of the Privates in NSW.

9 May 1841 - Their first child Richard Thomas Wells is born at Eaglehawk Neck in Van Diemen's Land (VDL).

23 May 1841 – Richard Thomas is baptised in Hobart Town.

June 1841 – In VDL, Frederick is stationed at Port Arthur for all 3 musters.

September 1841 – In VDL, Frederick is stationed at Port Arthur for the 3rd muster.

December 1841 to September 1842 – At Hobart Town, Frederick is stationed at Port Arthur for all musters.

Port Arthur:



Port Arthur is a village and historic site in southern Tasmania, Australia. Sitting on the Tasman Peninsula, it was a 19th-century penal settlement and is now an open-air museum. Ruins include the huge penitentiary and the remaining shell of the Convict Church, which was built by inmates. Solitary confinement cells in the Separate Prison building were used to inflict mental punishment in place of floggings.

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Port_Arthur,_Tasmania

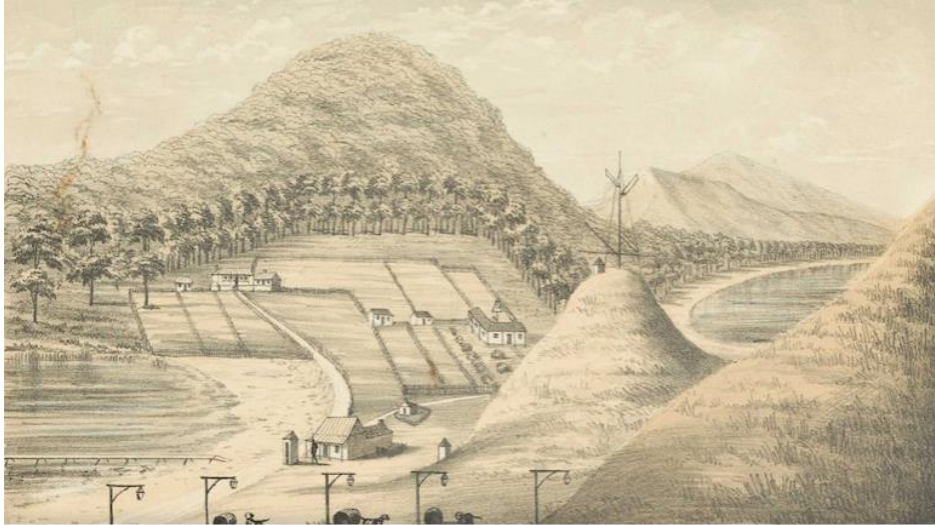
26 September 1842 – Their second child, Emma Wells is born. There are no birth or baptism records for Emma, however family records state that she was born in Launceston. It is more likely that she was born at Port Arthur where Frederick was stationed at the time.

December 1842 - At Hobart Town, Frederick is stationed at Port Arthur for all 3 musters.

March 1843 – At Launceston, Frederick is recorded as being at VDL in January, Tasman Peninsula in February, and Eaglehawk Neck in March.

June 1843 to September 1843 – At Launceston, Frederick is stationed at Eaglehawk Neck for all musters.

Eaglehawk Neck:



A sketch of Eaglehawk Neck and the Dog Line by Captain Hext.
(Allport Library and Museum of Fine Arts)

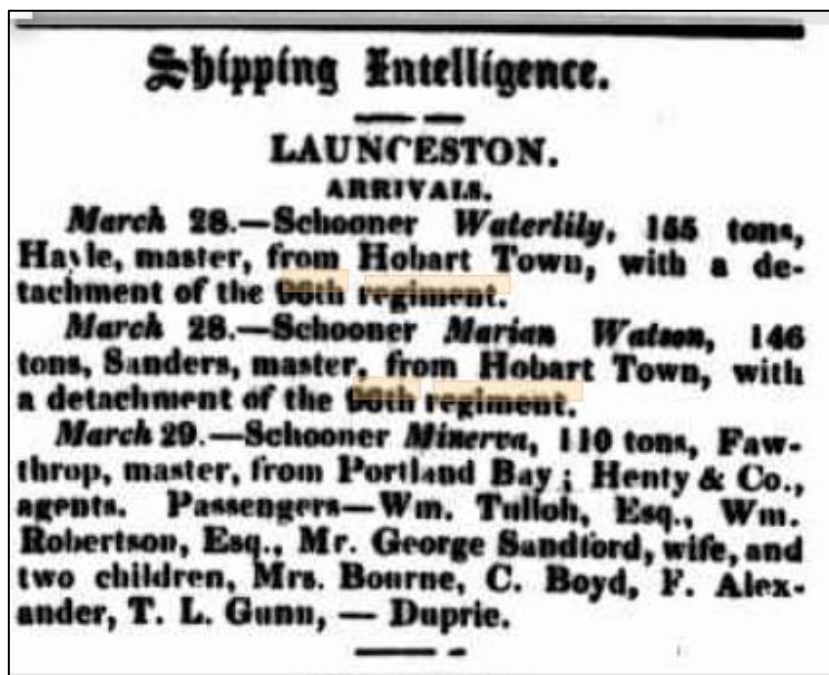
From the 1830s the remote Tasman Peninsula was under military rule, and home to a tough prison for Britain's most hardened criminals. For a convict trying their luck to escape the Port Arthur Penal Colony, the only way out by land was through the narrow, sandy isthmus — or face treacherous seas rumoured to be shark-infested. The only part that was easy to escape from was across the neck. There had been escape attempts from the newly established prison, and Governor Arthur ordered sentries to be put in place to guard the neck. A small military settlement was established at Eaglehawk Neck from 1831.



Early Tasmanian postcard of Barracks at Eaglehawk Neck

December 1843 – At Launceston, Frederick is recorded as being at Norfolk Island for all 3 musters.

March 1844 – At Launceston, Frederick is stationed at Eaglehawk Neck for January and moved from Hobart to Launceston at the end of March.



TROVE: Launceston Examiner (Tas: 1842 - 1899), Saturday 30 March 1844, page 4



Military Barracks in Launceston, Tasmania

<https://www.examiner.com.au/story/5110196/back-to-the-past-plans-for-launcestons-paterson-barracks-revealed/>

June 1844 to June 1846 – Frederick is stationed at Launceston.

'Military Outrage': the Riot of the 96th Regiment in Launceston in 1845

In April 1845 the rank and file of the 96th quartered in Launceston numbered 395, and a further 270 were distributed to 13 other locations in VDL. Little is known of their life in Launceston, but Bethell gives a brief account of one of their clashes with civilians. This occurred on 20 May 1845 when up to fifty men of the 96th Regiment took siege of the town for about ninety minutes. Bethell describes the violent antics of these men but does not say if they were punished or not and concludes that 'no one seemed to know the reason why' the riot occurred.

<https://redcoat-settlerswa.com/wp-content/uploads/2020/06/Military-Outrage-96th.pdf>

Stefan Petrow

27 July 1844 Mary Wells is born at Launceston.

In 1846 Elizabeth Wells is born. There are no birth or baptism records for Elizabeth.

September 1846 to December 1848 – Frederick is stationed at Hobart Town.

15 June 1847 – Frederick is promoted to Corporal.

13 November 1848 Louisa Wells is born in Hobart.

The 1848 Census records the Wells family of six living in Davy Street in a house owned by Mr Bemes. Frederick's occupation is not recorded however, all other details on the census match Frederick and his family.

March 1849 – At Sea, Frederick is a prisoner confined for 12 days, 1-12 January, for an unrecorded offence. His discharge papers state that he was confined for being drunk on Regimental Picquet and reduced to Private.

He was discharged at Launceston on 23 January 1849. It is also stated that Frederick had been left in VDL, attached to 99th Regiment.

The Regiment departed Launceston for India mid-February 1849.

His discharge papers state that he had serviced for 16 years and 157 days. He received a free discharge, and a gratuity payment of 6-months pay.

He was 37 years and 10 months old, 5' 6", dark brown hair, hazel eyes, fresh complexion, and a clerk by trade.

Post Military Life

Frederick was now a civilian with a wife, five children and no work.

The next event is the birth of their last child, Harriet Wells, on 19 October 1850 in Hobart. There is no birth record for Harriet, however a baptism record states her DOB. She was baptised together with her sister Louisa on 13 February 1851, at St David's in Hobart, Frederick's occupation is a garden man.

Sadly, the next record and the next known event in Frederick's life is the death of his wife Sarah on 9 August 1851. Sarah is described as a discharged soldier's wife, 31 years of age and she died of inflammation of the lungs. The informant is a friend (Charles Sapwell) of 43 Davey Street, so I am not sure where Frederick was at this time. This may also be the address for 1848 Census.

Frederick is now a widower with 6 children under 10.

Harriet, their youngest daughter, dies from 'teething' on 7 December 1851, barely 4 months after the death of her mother. She is described as the 14 months old daughter of a labourer. Frederick was the informant and living in Macquarie Street.

Life would have been very tough for Frederick and his five surviving children and in early January 1852 Frederick placed the 4 girls in the Queens Orphan School. The records state mother dead and father deserted 99th Regiment. Not sure why this would have been recorded as he had been given a free discharge from the 96th Regiment. Perhaps it gave Frederick more credence for placing the children in an orphanage.



Queens Orphan Schools at St John's Park Precinct

"Long shadow with guard at the entrance of At John's Avenue, New Town"

TMAG Collection Ref: Q1990.22.4

What Frederick and his son and eldest child, Richard Thomas, did after this is not known. Perhaps Richard, now aged 11, and at work age may have had been apprenticed. No further records have been found until the four girls were released back to their father on 20 October 1853.

On 24 October 1853, Frederick and the three youngest daughters, Mary, Elizabeth, and Louisa arrive in Melbourne.

The two eldest children Richard now 12, and Emma, 11 did not travel to Victoria with their father. It is likely that Emma worked as a domestic servant. Richard stayed in Tasmania for his lifetime, whilst Emma eventually travelled to Victoria and married in 1868.

Very little is known about Frederick's life in Victoria. It is known from the marriages of his daughters that he was a miner and they lived in various Victorian mining towns in and around Castlemaine.

Both Mary and Elizabeth married at Chewton in 1862 and were residing at Vaughan at the time. So, it would seem the family had settled at Vaughan.

Vaughan is a small village in the Shire of Mount Alexander south of Castlemaine and east of Guildford in the state of Victoria, Australia. Vaughan is situated at the junction of Fryer's Creek and the Loddon River which has the Lawson spring, a drinkable mineral water spring. Gold was discovered at Vaughan in 1853 as fossickers spread from the Castlemaine-Mount Alexander goldfields.

Louisa married in 1866, at Castlemaine and was residing at Pennyweight. Emma married in 1868, also at Castlemaine and was residing at Strathloddon.

Yapeen is a rural village on Campbells Creek and is south-west of Castlemaine. It is situated in the area occupied by the Strathloddon pastoral run, taken by William Campbell in 1840.

In 1856, several gold discoveries were made on the Strathloddon run in the vicinity of Yapeen. The overall goldfield was known as Pennyweight Flats. The name Yapeen was given in 1861 to the emerging township and is thought to be derived from the Aboriginal word meaning green hill, gully, or valley.

So, it seems that the family had moved from Vaughan to the goldfields of Pennyweight Flats by the mid 1860's.

Elizabeth died in 1872 at Pennyweight and Frederick's occupation is recorded as being a farmer.

Frederick died at Guildford on 3 September 1876 aged 65. He had lived in the Mount Alexander shire/district at least since the early 1860's perhaps even earlier. He may have been one of the gold fossickers who arrived in the mid 1850's. The death certificate states that he lived in Victoria for 15 years but is more likely to be 23 years as Frederick first arrived in Melbourne in 1853. The informant was his son-in-law so he may not have known all the facts.

Mount Alexander Mail (Vic. : 1854 - 1917) (about) ◀ Tuesday 5 September 1876 ▶

FUNERAL NOTICE.

THE Friends of the late FREDERICK WELLS are invited to follow his remains to the Castlemaine Cemetery. The funeral to leave the residence of his son-in-law, Alfred Fox, Guildford, at Two o'clock This Day (Tuesday).

**H. W. NIEBUHR,
Undertaker.**

TROVE – Mount Alexander Mail (Vic.: 1854-1917) Tuesday 5 September 1876

His four daughters had all married and stayed in the area. Frederick was survived by 1 son and 3 daughters, and numerous (about 50) grandchildren in Victoria & Tasmania.

Children of Frederick Wells and Sarah Connell



Richard Thomas Wells was born on 9 May 1841 at Eaglehawk Neck. He married Agnes McKay on 30 March 1865 at Hobart Town, and his occupation was a mariner. They lived most of their married life at Woodbridge where he was a farmer.

Sometime in the 1870's Richard built the family home, now known as Perry's Cottage in Perry's Road, Woodridge, on land given to him by his father-in-law, Alexander McKay.

Richard split all the timber for their home and made all the roof shingles, which were covered with tin. Richard Perry (grandson of Richard Wells) and his wife lived at the cottage all their married life.



Perry's Cottage in 2008

Richard and Agnes raised a large family of 11 children:

Catherine (1866-1948) married Alfred Henry Farnell; Mary (1867-1892) died aged 25; Donald (1869-1923) married Harriet Fitzmaurice; Agnes (1871 – 1947) married Edward Ernest Hancock; Jane (1872-1952) married Alfred Daniel Perry; Alexander Thomas (1874-1958) married Christina Jane Thomas; Angus (1877-1958) married Edith Balfour O'Brien; Richard Thomas jnr (1879-1964) married Mary Augusta Lord; Lillian (1881-1953) married William Charles Whitbread; Stephen Edwin (1884-1924) married Clara Richmond Rex and Violet Louise (1886-1939) married John Robert Linton.





Emma Wells was born 26 September 1842 at Eaglehawk Neck. Her marriage certificate states that she was born at Hobart, but it more likely she was born at Eaglehawk Neck where her father was stationed at the time. She married Alfred Fox on 23 July 1868 at Castlemaine, Victoria. Alfred was a 24-year-old carter, and they were both residing at Strathloddon.

They had 12 children together. Alfred died in 1903 and Emma died on 7 August 1907 in Kensington, Melbourne.

Funeral Notices for Alfred and Emma 1903 and 1907

FOX—On the 30th October, at 82 McConnell-street, Kensington, Alfred, the beloved husband of Emma Fox, aged 59 years 10 months. A patient sufferer gone to rest. Castlemaine papers please copy.

TROVE, *Argus (Melbourne, Vic. 1848 - 1957)*, Saturday 31 October 1903, page 9.

The Friends of the late Mrs. EMMA FOX, relict of Alfred Fox, are respectfully invited to follow her remains to the place of interment, in the Boroondara Cemetery, Kew. The funeral is appointed to leave her residence, No. 87 McCracken-street, Kensington, THIS DAY (Saturday, 10th August), at quarter-past 2 o'clock. THOMAS HENRY ALLISON, Undertaker and Embalmer, 181 Elgin-street, Carlton; Derby-street, Collingwood; and 307 Victoria-street (near Errol-street), West Melbourne. Telephone No. 1182.

TROVE, *Argus (Melbourne, Vic. 1848 - 1957)*, Saturday 10 August 1907, page 13.



Mary Wells was born on 27 July 1844 in Launceston. She married Edwin Fox on 21 August 1862 at Chewton, Victoria. Edwin was a 21-year-old farmer from Guildford. Mary was 18 and residing at Vaughan.

They had 14 children together. Mary died on 16 January 1920, aged 75 at Yapeen, and Edwin died on 7 October 1924, aged 84 at Castlemaine.

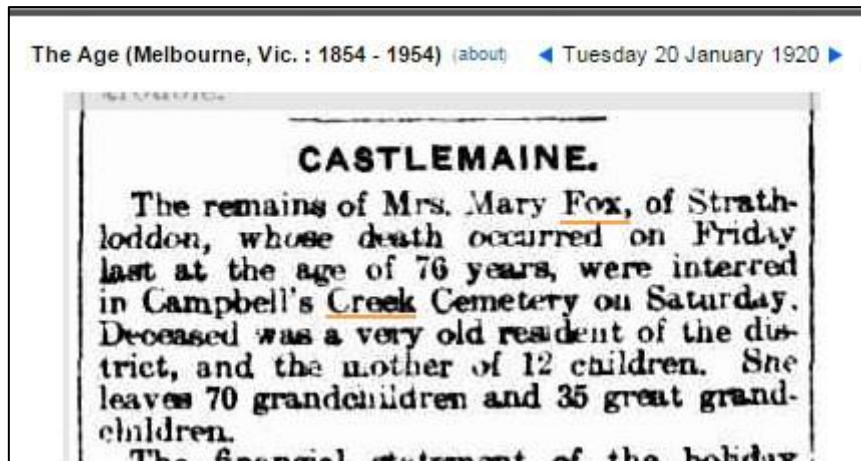
Golden Wedding for Mary and Edwin 1912

Mr. AND MRS. E. FOX, OF YAPEEN. VETERAN COLONISTS.

On the 21st August, 1862, Mr. and Mrs. Edwin Fox were married in the Independent Church at Chewton by the Rev. Pitman The record shows that Mr. Fox was born in Yorkshire, October 1st 1840, and Mrs. Fox at Hobart Town (Tasmania) on 27th July 1844. Fifty years of married life is a rare event, and the golden wedding was celebrated at their residence, " Leeds Cottage" Yapeen with great cordiality and the aged couple were heartily congratulated, and the recipients of numerous gifts. About 60 relatives and friends were present and one of the incidents of the spread was a handsome wedding cake, which was cut by the bride, and a piece handed to each guest. From all sides they were wished many more years of health and happiness. Mr. and Mrs. Fox, who are very old residents of Yapeen, have resided in this district since their marriage and had a family of fourteen sons and daughters, eleven of whom are living, most of them being married, and residing in different parts of the state. Their grandchildren and great grandchildren number 54. The pioneers did not require baby bonuses. Some time ago Mr Fox leased his farm at Strathloddon, and he and his wife are now living quietly at Yapeen, enjoying comfort and tranquillity, after a strenuous

life, in which they nobly did their art in building up the prosperity of their will warmly congratulate them on the celebration of their golden wedding hope they will enjoy good health and live to celebrate their diamond wedding.

TROVE, Mount Alexander Mail (Vic.: 1854 - 1917), Monday 2 September 1912, page 3



TROVE, The Age (Melbourne, Vic.: 1854 - 1954), Tuesday 20 January 1920

Obituary for Edwin Fox 1924

Mr. Edwin Fox, a pioneer resident of the Strathloddon district, has died, aged 84 years. He arrived in the district as a lad, and later was a proprietor of a puddling machine at the rush to Forest Creek diggings. He next went in for farming, which he conducted very success- fully. For a time, he was a member of the Mount Alexander Shire Council.

TROVE, Argus (Melbourne, Vic. : 1848 - 1957), Saturday 11 October 1924, page 27

Puddling machines, or "puddlers" were pioneered on the Victorian goldfields in 1854. This technology was developed as an affordable way of processing gold-bearing clay on a large scale. Puddling machines are a very significant development in the history of Victorian gold mining, as they are the only technology or method developed entirely on the Victorian goldfields.

Elizabeth Wells was born in 1845/6. There are no birth or baptism records for Elizabeth, however her marriage certificate states that she was 17 in 1862 and that she was born in Launceston.

Elizabeth married John Rickards at Chewton, on 2 October 1862. He was a 25-year-old miner from Guildford.

They had 4 children together before Elizabeth died, aged only 26, on 25 May 1872 at Pennyweight. John was now a widower with 4 children under 7.

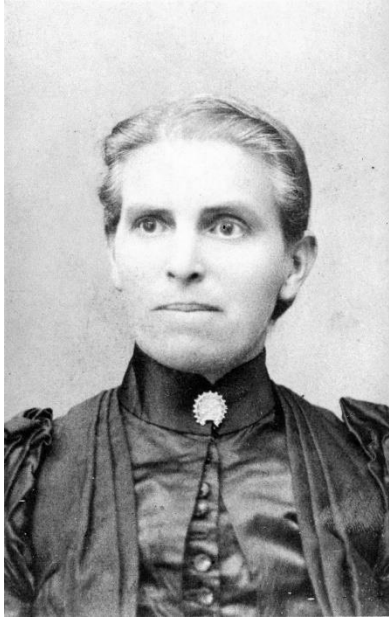
Elizabeth died of a skin condition, "*erysipelas cellulæ and cutaneous pyæmia*", which loosely translates to cellulitis and infection.

Her death certificate states that she was buried at Campbell's Creek Cemetery on 27 May 1872.



Castlemaine General Cemetery at Campbell's Creek, Victoria

<https://www.findagrave.com/cemetery/2304664/castlemaine-general-cemetery>



Louisa Wells was born 13 November 1848 in Hobart. Louisa's first marriage was to John Martin Knuckey of Vaughan, on 19 April 1866. She was 18 and he was a 28-year-old miner from Vaughan. John Knuckey was killed in a mining accident on 18 March 1872. They had three children: John, Mary Jane, and Louisa.

Louisa married Thomas Cowley on 26 December 1872 at Castlemaine. He was 38 and Louisa was 24. They had 8 children together. A total of 11 children for Louisa.

Thomas died on 11 October 1904 at Brunswick and Louisa died 18 June 1928 also at Brunswick.



Baptism for Frederick Wells.

Page 100

BAPTISMS solemnized in the Parish of St Leonard Shoreditch
in the County of Middlesex in the Year 1816

When Baptized.	Child's Christian Name.	Parent's Name.		Abode.	Quality, Trade, or Profession.	By whom the Ceremony was performed.
		Christian.	Surname.			
1816 May No. 1753	George son of	Thomas & Ann	Partridge	old Great Jeweller Road		W.C. W.M. Aug 24 1814
R. No. 1754	Frederick son of	Richard & Susanna	Wells	Chapel Street	Dyer	W.C. W.M. Apr 15 1811

Transcription: 12 (May 1816); no. 1754, Frederick son of, Richard and Susanna, Wells, Chapel St, Dyer, Signature, April 15 1811

Ancestry, Frederick Wells, 1816 – London, England, Births and Baptisms, 1813-1906; Birth date: abt 1816, Birthplace: Shoreditch St Leonards, England Baptism date 12 May 1816 Baptism place: Shoreditch St Leonard, England.

Name	Frederic Wells
Gender	Male
Birth Date	15 Apr 1811
Baptism Date	12 May 1816
Baptism Place	Saint Leonards, Shoreditch, London, England
Father	Richard Wells
Mother	Susannah
FHL Film Number	396233, 396234
Household members	

Ancestry, Frederic Wells 1816 – England, Select Births and Christenings, 1538-1975

Marriage of Richard Wells and Susannah Austin

N ^o 73	{	Richard Wells	of this Parish Bachelor	✓
		Susannah Austin of this parish	Spinster	were
Married in this Church by Banns				
this	Twenty fifth	Day of	December	in the Year One Thousand seven Hundred
and	ninety			By me
This Marriage was solemnized between Us		{	Richard Wells	
			Susannah Austin	
In the Presence of		{	Samuel [...]	
			Constant Austin	

Transcription: No. 73, Richard Wells of this parish, bachelor and Susannah Austin of the parish spinster were married in this church by banns this twenty fifth day of December in the year One Thousand seven hundred and ninety. By me Signature. Signed by Richard Wells and Susannah Austin, witnessed by Samuel [...] and Constant Austin.

Ancestry, Richard Wells and Susannah Austin 1790, London Metropolitan Archives, Saint John at Hackney, Hackney, Register of marriages P79/JN1, Item 050.

Name	Richard Wells
Gender	Male
Marriage Date	25 Dec 1790
Marriage Place	Hackney, Middlesex, England
Spouse	[No Name]
FHL Film Number	2214815
Reference ID	0 1968, P. 276
Household members	

Ancestry, Richard Wells and Susannah Austin 1790, England Select Marriages, 1538-1973

EARLY LIFE OF FREDERICK WELLS

THE RECORDS INDICATE THAT FREDERICK'S FATHER RICHARD WELLS WAS A DYER BY TRADE, LIVING AND WORKING IN THE CITY OF LONDON. SEVERAL FACTORS POINT TO RICHARD BEING A MAN OF SOME MEANS. FIRSTLY, HE WAS ABLE TO GIVE HIS CHILDREN A GOOD EDUCATION AT A TIME WHEN SCHOOLING WAS NON-COMPULSORY AND EXPENSIVE. FREDERICK COULD READ AND WRITE VERY WELL AND IT HAS BEEN SAID THAT HE COULD SPEAK SEVERAL LANGUAGES; ALTHOUGH THIS IS MOST LIKELY A PART OF THE FOLKLORE THAT SURROUNDS FREDERICK'S LIFE. SECONDLY, UNTIL FREDERICK JOINED THE ARMY AT THE AGE OF 21 HE IS PURPORTED TO HAVE WORKED AT THE STOCK EXCHANGE IN LONDON. THIS AGAIN INDICATES AN EDUCATED AND MIDDLE-CLASS BACKGROUND. A THIRD FACTOR IS THE RECOLLECTIONS OF HIS SON RICHARD, WHO REMEMBERS HIS FATHER SAYING, "HE KEPT A PACK OF HOUNDS WHEN IN LONDON". AND LAST BUT NOT LEAST THAT, "THERE WAS MONEY LEFT IN CHANCERY FOR THE WELLS FAMILY, HE, RICHARD, HAD SEEN THE BOOK". UNFORTUNATELY AT THE PRESENT TIME VERY LITTLE OF THIS CAN BE VERIFIED THROUGH THE RECORDS.

FREDERICK JOINED THE ARMY AS A VOLUNTEER PRIVATE IN AUGUST, 1832. THE 96TH FOOT REGIMENT'S HOME BASE WAS MANCHESTER, BUT ARMY RECORDS SHOW THAT HE SPENT CONSIDERABLE TIME 'ON DETACHMENT' IN SOUTHERN IRELAND. THIS INFORMATION IS IMPORTANT IN THAT IT GIVES CREDENCE TO THE BELIEF THAT FREDERICK'S WIFE SARAH WAS AN IRISH LADY OF GENTLE BIRTH, PERHAPS COMING FROM COUNTY CORK ON THE EAST COAST OF IRELAND. FREDERICK'S DEATH CERTIFICATE INDICATES HE MARRIED SARAH IN WIGAN, LANCASHIRE (JUST NORTH OF MANCHESTER) IN 1838. HOWEVER NO RECORD OF THE MARRIAGE HAS BEEN FOUND AND MUCH OF THE INFORMATION ON THE DEATH CERTIFICATE IS UNRELIABLE. THERE IS ALSO MUCH CONFUSION ABOUT SARAH'S MAIDEN NAME, WITH CONNOR, CONNELL AND CONWAY BEING GIVEN AT DIFFERENT TIMES.

FREDERICK LEFT ENGLAND FOR VAN DIEMENS LAND WITH 96TH REGIMENT ON THE CONVICT TRANSPORT SHIP 'THE EGYPTIAN'. THE SHIP SAILED FROM LIVERPOOL ON THE 24TH JULY, 1840 ARRIVING IN BOBART TOWN IN DECEMBER, 1840: SARAH WAS WITH HIM. THEIR FIRST CHILD RICHARD, WAS BORN AT EAGLEHAWK NECK, PORT ARTHUR ON 9TH MAY, 1841 SO IT IS MOST LIKELY THAT SARAH BECAME PREGNANT ON BOARD SHIP.

Unknown author c. 1980

Military Research from Forces War Records, UK

<https://www.forces-war-records.co.uk/> WO 12 series (WO12/9605 to 9610)

In the period before 1883 the Chelsea Hospital did not retain soldier's papers for those men who could not claim a pension due to discharge by purchase, by free discharge or at the end of their first period of engagement. The Chelsea Hospital also did not even complete paperwork for men who died in service or deserted. As Frederick was discharged in 1849 and was not entitled to a pension, no service paperwork is extant and Frederick's pre-1840 service has been compiled using the Regimental musters and paylists in the WO 12 series (WO 12/9605 to 9610), relevant copies of which are supplied. A chronological account of Frederick's service prior to 1841 is as follows: -

14/08/1832 – Frederick enlisted for an initial engagement of 10 years of service with the 96th Regiment of Foot at Wymondham in Suffolk, this would have been with a recruiting party acting in that area.

03/10/1832 – Frederick joins the Reserve Battalion of the 96th Regiment of Foot which was based at Sheerness. The main body of the 96th Regiment had proceeded to Nova Scotia in Canada for service in September 1829 and had left a Depot behind to recruit and train new manpower as required. Over a period, the Depot had grown to the strength of 4 Companies along with a Depot so was instead titled as a 'Reserve Battalion'. On arrival, Frederick is given the Regimental number of 879 (numbering for the army had begun in around 1831).

April 1833 – Frederick is in hospital at the end of the month for 3 days. This was noted as pay was reduced for men in hospital as they had to pay certain hospital fees.

23/05/1833 – The Reserve Battalion of the 96th Regiment arrived at Guernsey after 5 days on ship, having sailed from Sheerness.

July 1833 – The Reserve Battalion of the 96th Regiment is re-titled as a Depot after sending a large draft of men overseas.

21/11/1833 - The Depot of the 96th Regiment sailed from Guernsey for passage to Cork in Ireland, landing there on 25/11/1833. Frederick is left in Cork in hospital on landing, he had been sick for a period of 18 days before the end of the month, so must have been so for a week before the ship sailed.

26/02/1834 – After a period of hospitalisation at Cork, Frederick joins the Depot who had marched for Kinsale.

July-September 1834 – Frederick is in hospital for 3 days during the quarter.

20/11/1834 – The Depot of the 96th Regiment moves to Spike Island in Cork Harbour.

December 1834 – At the end of the month Frederick is shown as being aboard the Hulk 'Surprise' which was being used as prison in Cork harbour. No doubt he was in a guard capacity.

January to February 1835 – Frederick is detached for duty at Haulbowline island, Cork.

May 1835 – Frederick is shown as 'attending sick' (no doubt under the Regimental Surgeon & Hospital Sergeant in the Regimental Hospital) at Spike Island until September 1835.

14/09/1835 – The Depot of the 96th Regiment of Foot embarks on ships that are to sail for England, landing at Portsmouth on 21/09/1835. The Service Companies of the 96th Foot had sailed from Canada on 10/08/1835 and landed at Portsmouth on 04/09/1835. The Depot is merged into the main body of the 96th Regiment on arrival in Portsmouth and it becomes one formation.

12-13/10/1835 – The 96th Regiment of Foot leaves Portsmouth in 3 drafts, marching to Gravesend over a period of 8 days.

21/10/1835 – The 96th Regiment of Foot embarks at Portsmouth in the first of two ships (the second one embarked two days later) and sailed for Scotland – the ships landed at Leith after a 4-to-6-day period. Once at Leith the HQ of the Regiment moved to Glasgow with detachments at Dumbarton, Leith & Greenlaw.

18/04/1836 – Frederick is promoted to Corporal.

20/07/1836 – Frederick leaves Glasgow for passage to Dundee, once there he is in charge of an escort party of men who are taking Private James Peters of the 71st Foot back to his Regiment in Dublin. He then re-joins his Regiment in Glasgow.

14/10/1836 – The 96th Regiment of Foot embarks at Glasgow to return to Ireland, the following day they arrive at Belfast and then march to Enniskillen. Frederick is in a detachment under Captain Auldjo that marched to Cavan, arriving at that place on 21/10/1836.

April 1837 – The detachment at Cavan returns to join the main body of the 96th Regiment at Enniskillen.

15-16/01/1838 – Frederick is part of a detachment under Lieutenant Horsley and Ensign White which marches from Enniskillen to Omagh for service at that place where he would remain for the next 4 months.

09/05/1838 – Frederick is put under arrest for an offence. He is tried and found guilty at Enniskillen, being reduced in the ranks to Private on 12/05/1838. Given that his beer allowance was also stopped for 6 months, it is likely to have been an issue with alcohol.

16-26/07/1838 – The 96th Regiment of Foot marches in drafts from Enniskillen to Dublin, the journey taking 6 to 8 days to complete.

22/12/1838 – The musters state that Frederick left the Regiment for recruiting duty in England, specifically at Wolverhampton. The later musters state that the location was not Wolverhampton but was Stratford-upon-Avon.

14/01/1839 – Frederick is on recruiting duty when the 96th Regiment of Foot left Dublin for passage to Liverpool, going then into garrison at Bolton-le-Moors, Lancashire.

06/05/1839 – Frederick re-joins the 96th Regiment of Foot at Bolton-le-Moors having completed his period of recruiting duty.

September 1839 – Frederick is at Wigan at the end of the month where he remains for the following few months.

01-14/11/1839 – Frederick is on a leave pass (he would not be paid for this period).

31/12/1839 – Frederick is absent for this day.

11-13/01/1840 – Frederick is absent from duty during this period.

22-24/02/1840 – Frederick is absent from duty during this period.

10-11/03/1840 – Frederick is absent from duty during this period. He is not paid for the dates of absence but does not seem to have been punished further. The 96th Regiment is in Manchester by this date.

24/07/1840 – The 96th Regiment of Foot begins a march from Manchester to Chatham in drafts. Frederick has been allocated for passage to New South Wales as a guard on the convict ship ‘Egyptian’ which left Ireland on 19/08/1840, so needed to travel there first. The officers on the ship seem to be Lieutenant F.J. Hugonin and Ensign S. Willson.

12/12/1840 – The ‘Egyptian’ arrives at Hobarts Town, Van Diemen’s Land, the men coming ashore on 17/12/1840. They are still at that location at the end of March 1841. End.

Military Research from TROVE, Records of the War Office

(as filmed by the AJCP)

<https://nla.gov.au/nla.obj-728664549/findingaid?digitised=y>

Frederick Wells - WO 12 series (WO12/9611 to 9623)

Subseries (Pieces 9611-9623). 96th Foot 1st Battalion, April 1839 - March 1849

96th Regiment: Manchester, April 1839 - March 1840 (File 9611. AJCP Reel No: 3889)

96th Regiment: Manchester, April 1840 - March 1841 (File 9612. AJCP Reel No: 3890)

96th Regiment: Manchester, April 1841 - March 1842 (File 9613. AJCP Reel No: 3890-3891)

96th Regiment: Manchester, April 1842 - March 1843 (File 9614. AJCP Reel No: 3891-3892)

96th Regiment: Manchester, April 1843 - March 1844 (File 9615. AJCP Reel No: 3892-3893)

96th Regiment: Manchester, April 1843 - March 1845 (File 9616. AJCP Reel No: 3893)

96th Regiment: Manchester, April 1844 - March 1845 (File 9617. AJCP Reel No: 3893)

96th Regiment: Manchester, April 1845 - March 1846 (File 9618. AJCP Reel No: 3893-3894)

96th Regiment: Manchester, April 1845 - March 1846 (File 9619. AJCP Reel No: 3894)

96th Regiment: Manchester, April 1846 - March 1847 (File 9620. AJCP Reel No: 3894-3895)

96th Regiment: Manchester, April 1847 - March 1848 (File 9621. AJCP Reel No: 3895)

96th Regiment: Manchester, April 1847 - March 1849 (File 9622. AJCP Reel No: 3895)

96th Regiment: Manchester, April 1848 - March 1849 (File 9623. AJCP Reel No: 3895-3896)

Baptism of Richard Thomas Wells, 1841

Baptisms Wesleyan Church Hobart 1841.

No.	Where and When Born	When Baptised	Child's Name	Parents Names.		Abode.	Trade or Profession.	Minister's Signature	
				Christian Name	Surname				
460	3 rd July 1841	20 th Sep ^r 1841	Samuel.	William Martha	Buxton. Buxton.	Gun Ponds.	Farmer.	N Turner.	1447 ✓
461	Macquarie Plains 15 th July 1841	18 November 1841.	John.	John Eliza	Thomas. Thomas.	Macquarie Plains	Farmer.	Watkinson	1448 ✓
468.	19 March 1841	16 th October 1841.	Harriet Harriet.	William Harriet.	Witt Witt.	Hobart Town	Wine-Merchant.	J. Waterhouse	1449 ✓
470	1 st July 1841	3 Nov 1841	John Thomas	John Thomas Eleanor	Waterhouse Waterhouse	Hobart Town	Ironmonger.	Charles Tucker	1450 ✓
29.	at Port Phillip 17 th Dec ^r 1840	10 th Jan ^y 1841.	Thomas.	Jonathan. Ellen.	Evans. Evans.	Coal Point.	Private 51 Regt.	John A Manton	1451 ✓
31.	9 th May 1841	25 th May 1841	Richard Thomas	Frederick. Sarah.	Wells. Wells.	Eagle Hawk Neck.	Private 96 th Regt.	J. A Manton	1452 ✓

Transcription: No. 31, 9th May 1841, 23rd May 1841, Richard Thomas, Frederick and Sarah Wells, Eaglehawk Neck, Private 96th Regt, signature, 1452.

TAHO, Baptism, Richard Thomas Wells, 1841, Hobart; RGD32/1/3/ no 1452

Marriage of Richard Thomas Wells and Agnes McKay, 1865

Number.	When married, and where.	Name and Surname.	Age.	Rank.	Signature and Description of Parties.	Name of Clergyman, Officiating Minister, or Deputy Registrar.	When registered.	Signature of Deputy Registrar or Officiating Minister.
215 56	30 th March 1865 Hobart Town	Richard Thomas Wells Agnes M ^c Kay	Twenty Three Twenty One	Mariner Spinster	Richard Thomas Wells Agnes M ^c Kay	John Wilkes Simons	30 th March 1865	John Wilkes Simons Officiating Minister

Married in the residence of Mr Timothy M^c Coy, 4 Smith Street according to the Rites and Ceremonies of the Congregational Church, by 25th Dec^r 1865, by
 This Marriage was solemnized between us } Richard Thomas Wells }
 } Agnes M^c Kay }
 { In the Presence of } Timothy M^c Coy }
 { of us } Ellen M^c Coy }
 John Wilkes Simons
 Minister.

Transcription: No. 56, 30th March 1865, Hobart Town, Richard Thomas Wells, 23, Mariner; Agnes McKay, 21, Spinster, at the residence of Timothy McCoy, 4 Smith Street; witnessed by Timothy McCoy and Ellen McCoy.

TAHO, Marriage, Richard Thomas Wells and Agnes McKay, 1865, Hobart; RGD37/1/24/ no 215

Birth of Mary Well, 1844

329	27 July	Mary.	Frederick Wells	Sarah Wells formerly Collier	Corp ^l 96 th Regt	F Wells Corp ^l 96 th Regt Launceston	29 July	Charles Tucker
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Transcription: No. 329, 27 July (1844) Mary Wells, Frederick Wells, Sarah Wells formerly Collier, Corpl 96th Regt, informant F Wells, Corpl 96th Regt, Launceston [...], 29th July 1844.

TAHO, Birth, Mary Wells, 1844, Launceston, RGD33/1/32/ no 329

Baptisms of Louisa (b. 1848) and Harriet Wells (b. 1850), 1851

12 th February 1851 No. 3319	13 th Nov 1848	Louisa	Frederick and Sarah	Wells.	Hobart Town	Garden man	Wm. Bedford
12 th February 1851 No. 3320	19 th Oct 1850	Harriett	Frederick and Sarah	Wells.	Hobart Town	Garden man	Wm. Bedford

Transcription: Baptised 12th February 1851, No 3319, Born 13th Nov 1848, Louisa, Frederick and Sarah Wells, Hobart Town, Garden man.

TAHO, Baptism Louisa Wells, 1851, Hobart, RGD32/1/3/ no 3819

Transcription: Baptised 12th February 1851, No 3320, Born 19th Oct 1850, Harriett, Frederick and Sarah Wells, Hobart Town, Garden man.

TAHO, Baptism Harriet Wells, 1851, Hobart, RGD32/1/3/ no 3820

Death of Sarah Wells, 1851

872	August 9 th	Sarah Wells	female	thirty-one years	discharged soldier's wife	inflammation of the lungs	Charles Sapwell	Friend	43 Davey St.
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Transcription: No 872, August 9th (1851), Sarah Wells, female, thirty-one years, discharged soldier's wife, inflammation of the lungs, Charles Sapwell, Friend, 43 Davey St.

TAHO, Death, Sarah Wells, 1851, Hobart, RGD35/1/3/ no 872

Death of Harriet Wells, 1851

1094	December 7 th	Harriet Wells	female	fourteen months	labourer's child	teething	F Wells	father	Macquarie St.
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Transcription: No 1094, December 7th (1851), Harriet Wells, female, fourteen months, labourer's child, teething, F Wells, father, Macquarie St.

TAHO, Death, Harriet Wells, 1851, Hobart, RGD35/1/3/ no 1094

1848 Census, Hobart

VAN DIEMEN'S LAND.

Return to be made, under the 7TH VICTORIA, No. 5, Schedule A., on the 1st day of January, 1848, as required by the Act.

Census of the Year 1848.

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Parish of— *4*

Name of Householder— *Fred^{ks} Wells*

Name of Employer of Servants— *—*

Name of Person in charge— *—*

Place of Residence, and (if in a Town) the Name and (if in Hobart Town) the Number of the Street—
Davy St

Questions to be proposed to every Householder, Employer of Servants, and Proprietor or Occupier of Land in the Island of Van Diemen's Land, by Persons appointed by the Commissioners for taking an Account of the Population under the Act. The Replies to be inserted by the Persons appointed as aforesaid; and any Person refusing to reply to such Questions, or giving false Answers, is by the Act subjected to a Penalty of Fifty Pounds:—

1. What is the Name of the Person at the head or in charge of this House or Establishment?	1.	<i>Wells</i>
2. Who is its Proprietor?	2.	<i>Beeves</i>
3. Is the Dwelling-house built of Stone, of Brick, or of Wood?	3.	<i>Brick</i>
4. Is it complete or unfinished?	4.	<i>complete</i>
5. Is it inhabited or uninhabited?	5.	<i>Inhab</i>
[When the Proprietor is present.]		
6. How many Persons generally reside in this Establishment besides yourself?	6.	<i>Six</i>
7. How many of these Persons are Free?	7.	<i>Six</i>
8. How many of these Persons were dwelling here on the night of the thirty-first day of December last?	8.	<i>Six</i>
9. What other Person (if any) on that night was dwelling with you?	9.	<i>None</i>
10. Give me (according to the Form annexed) a Return of these Persons, distinguishing Males and Females, and showing the Number of each Age, Religion, and Calling, as therein specified.	10.	

*pointed
Popu-
ake*

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TAHO, Census, Frederick Wells, 1848, Hobart; CEN/1/1/87 p1.

NUMERICAL RETURN showing the Age, Sex, Religion, Occupation, Condition, and Trade or Calling of Persons in the said House or Establishment, on the 31st December, 1847.

		SEX.				TOTAL.	
		MALE.		FEMALE.			
		Married.	Single.	Married.	Single.		
NUMBERS OF EACH AGE.	Under 2 Years				1	1	
	2 and under 7				2	2	
	7 and under 14						
	14 and under 21						
	21 and under 45	1	1			2	
	45 and under 60						
	60 and upwards						
	* TOTALS ..	1	1	1	3	6	
CIVIL CONDITION.	Free.	Born in the Colony		1		1	1
		Arrived Free				3	3
		Other Free Persons	1		1		2
	Bond.	Holding Tickets-of-Leave ..					
		In Government Employment					
		In Private Service					
	* TOTALS ..	1		1	3	6	
RELIGION.	Church of England	1	1	1	3	6	
	Church of Scotland						
	Wesleyan Methodists						
	Other Protestant Dissenters ..						
	Roman Catholics						
	Jews						
	Mahomedans and Pagans						
	* TOTALS ..	1	1	1	3	6	
OCCUPATION.	Land Proprietors, Merchants, Bankers, & Professional Persons						
	Shopkeepers & other Retail Dealers						
	Mechanics and Artificers						
	Farmers						
	Market Gardeners						
	Shepherds and others in the care of Sheep						
	Gardeners, Stockmen, and Farm Servants						
	Domestic Servants						
	Boatmen						
	Seamen employed in the Coasting and River Craft						
	Whalers						
	All other Persons not included in the foregoing Classes	1	1	1	3	6	
		* TOTALS ..	1	1	1	3	6

[Signature of the Person appointed by Commissioners to take Population Account.]

J. Blake


Date at *Hobart*
6 July 1847

* N. B. These Totals if the Return be correct should correspond.

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Discharge papers for Frederick Wells, 1849

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HER MAJESTY'S  *Windsor* REG'T.
OF *Foot*

Whereof *Wm. David Thompson* is Colonel.

[Place and Date] *London 25th January 1849.*

PROCEEDINGS OF A REGIMENTAL BOARD, held this day, in conformity to the Articles of War, for the purpose of verifying and recording the Services, Conduct, Character, and cause of Discharge of *N^o 574 Frederick Wells* of the Regiment above-mentioned.

President. *Major L. P. Brooke*

Members. *Major J. H. Wilson* *Captain H. C. ...*

THE BOARD having examined and compared the Regimental Records, the Soldier's Book, and such other Documents as appeared to them to be necessary, report that *N^o 574 Frederick Wells* by Trade a *Clerk* in or near the Town of *London* in the County of *Middlesex* and was ATTESTED for the *Windsor* Regiment of *Foot* at *Waltham* in the County of *Hertford* on the *10th August 1822* at the Age of *Twenty* years, that after making every Deduction required by Her Majesty's Regulations, the SERVICE up to this day, which he is entitled to reckon, amounts to *11th July* years, *and 10th* days, as shown by the detailed Statement on the 2nd page; during which period, he served Abroad *Eight* years, viz—

at _____ years,
in *Australia* *Eight* years;

and further, that his DISCHARGE is proposed in consequence of *his own request bearing date 24th December 1848, and under the Royal Warrant of 14th November 1849, and by authority of his Major General commanding the Regiment.*

With regard to the CHARACTER AND CONDUCT of *N^o 574 Frederick Wells* the Board have to report, that upon reference to the Defaulter's Book, and by the Petrol testimony that has been given, it appears that *Wm. Charles*

is Discharged

[Give the portions here required by the Adjutant General's Circular Letter, 28th Sept. 1828.]

60
150/2/157

Find My Past, Wells, Frederick (British Army Service Records), GBM_WO131_0038_148_001

H 574 Frederick Wells being asked to what date he has been paid, answered that his Account is balanced up to the latest period required by the Regulations, and being further asked whether he has any claim on the Regiment for Advances of PAY, ALLOWANCES, or CLOTHING, answered, that he has received all just demands, from his entry into the Service up to the 23 January 1847 and in confirmation thereof, affixes his signature hereto.

I acknowledge this to be true
Frederick Wells
 Witness
 Tax Board have ascertained that *H 574 Frederick Wells* Soldier's Book is correctly balanced, and signed by the Officer Commanding his Company, and they further, that they have impartially enquired into, and faithfully reported upon all the matters brought before them, in accordance with the Regulations and Instructions issued by Her Majesty's Orders.

W. J. ... President
... Secretary

Detailed Statement of the Services of H 574 Frederick Wells Private

Regiment	Promotions	Rank	Period of Service in each Rank		Length of Service	
			From	To	Days	Years
<i>4th</i>		<i>Private</i>	<i>20 August 1832</i>	<i>17 April 1836</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>207</i>
		<i>Private</i>	<i>11 April 1836</i>	<i>1 May 1838</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>25</i>
		<i>Company of ...</i>				<i>Nil</i>
		<i>Private</i>	<i>11 May 1838</i>	<i>11 June 1839</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>34</i>
		<i>Private</i>	<i>11 June 1839</i>	<i>11 June 1841</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>300</i>
		<i>Company of ...</i>				<i>Nil</i>
		<i>Private</i>	<i>11 June 1841</i>	<i>11 January 1847</i>	<i>5</i>	<i>218</i>

The Periods Entered (commencing on the 10th March 1848)

From To Days Years

• Length of Service

• Periods of Service

The foregoing Report is hereby confirmed by me *...* Commanding 4th Regt of ...

Find My Past, Wells, Frederick (British Army Service Records), GBM_WO131_0038_148_002

Form Descriptions	
Of <u>the 4th Regt of 1841</u>	
when Discharged the Service at	
the _____ day of _____	
Age <u>35</u> years	
Height <u>5</u> feet <u>1</u> inches	
Complexion <u>Fair</u>	
Build <u>Slender</u>	
Rank <u>Private</u>	
Rank, or Award, whether on the Field or other parts of the Army <u>Private</u>	

H 17790⁶ DP forw to Melbourne 17 10 76
 H 21043. The Treasury, Melbourne rec'd from
 Man dead

DECLARATION TO BE MADE AND SIGNED WHEN THE SOLDIER RECEIVES HIS DISCHARGE AT HIS OWN REQUEST.

I, Frederick Wells in the 4th Regt of Foot hereby declare that I do, of my own free will, request to be discharged from Her Majesty's Service; and I further declare, that a period of not less than Thirty Days has elapsed since I first made Application for my Discharge, and it has been fully explained to me, and I perfectly understand that in receiving my Discharge at my own request, I entirely relinquish all Claim to Pension, and that, even if I should re-enlist, my past Services prior to the Date of my present Discharge cannot be allowed to be reckoned for the purpose of obtaining any benefit from Chelsea Hospital.

(Signature of the Soldier.) F. Wells

Signed in the presence of the Regimental Board at Launceston this 12 day of January 1847

W. M. C. P. President.

Find My Past, Wells, Frederick (British Army Service Records), GBM_WO131_0038_148_004

Orphan School Records for Louisa, Elizabeth, Mary & Emma Wells 1852 & 1853

Orphan Number: 5574

Orphan: Louisa WELLS
Mother: ,
Father: WELLS, Frederick
Mother's ship:
Father's ship:
Age when admitted: 4yrs
Date admitted: 27 Jan 1852
Date discharged: 20 Oct 1853
Institution(s): Queens Orphan School
Discharged to: father
Remarks: father deserted 99th Regiment - mother dead
References: SWD6, CSO24/187/6813

Orphan Number: 5570

Orphan: Elizabeth WELLS
Mother: ,
Father: WELLS, Frederick
Mother's ship:
Father's ship:
Age when admitted: 5yrs
Date admitted: 27 Jan 1852
Date discharged: 20 Oct 1853
Institution(s): Queens Orphan School
Discharged to: father, free
Remarks: father deserted 99th Regiment - mother dead
References: SWD6, 28, CSO24/187/6813

Orphan Number: 5575

Orphan: Mary WELLS
Mother: ,
Father: WELLS, Frederick
Mother's ship:
Father's ship:
Age when admitted: 8yrs
Date admitted: 1852
Date discharged:
Institution(s): Queens Orphan School
Discharged to:
Remarks: father deserted 99th Regiment - mother dead - unsure whether admitted Queens Orphan School
References: CSO24/187/6813

Orphan Number: 5571

Orphan: Emma WELLS
Mother: ,
Father: WELLS, Frederick
Mother's ship:
Father's ship:
Age when admitted: 9yrs
Date admitted: 27 Jan 1852
Date discharged: 11 Oct 1853
Institution(s): Queens Orphan School
Discharged to: father, free
Remarks: father deserted 99th Regiment - mother dead
References: SWD28, CSO24/187/6813

From Friends of the Orphan School, St John's Park, New Town.

<https://www.orphanschool.org.au/searchorphans.php>

Arrival in Melbourne, 1853

PASSENGERS LIST.

Ship's Name.	Master's Name.	Tons per Register.	Aggregate Number of Superficial Feet in the several Compartments set apart for Steerage Passengers.	Total Number of Statute Adults, exclusive of Master, Crew, and Cabin Passengers, the Ship can legally carry.	Where Bound.				
The ship "Tasmania" Arrived Melb. 24th Oct 1853									
I hereby certify, That the Provisions actually laden on board this Ship, according to the Requirements of the Passengers Act, are sufficient for _____ Passengers, computed according to the Act.									
Date _____					Master.				
— 0 — 000 — 0 —									
NAMES AND DESCRIPTIONS OF PASSENGERS.									
Ports of Embarkation.	Names of Passengers.	Adults.		Children between 14 and 1.		Number of Infants under 12 months.	Profession, Occupation, or Calling of Passenger.	State whether English, Scotch, or Irish.	Part have Passengers had to land.
		Age.		Age.					
		M.	F.	M.	F.				
	John Garsdale	54							
	John Gaultain	53							
	Mary Gaultain	43							
	Mary Hazen	16							
	Thomas Hayes	31							
	John Coffey	30							
	Marie Muntlock	50							
	John Guldberg	26							
	Walter Cook	40							
	William Lynch	26							
	Miss Patten	25							
	James Patten	22							
	Sept. Patten	20							
	Marie Wenzel	35							
	Walter Jackson	32							
	Mary Michael	27				1			
	Mr. Poulton	53							
	Geo. Wilson	31							
	W. Wilson	24							
	John Pearson	30							
	W. Roberts	50							
	Charles Mann	40							
	Frederick Wells	43							
	Mary Wells					8			
	Elizabeth Wells					5			
	Louisa Wells					4			
	Mr. Lambert	34							
	Elizabeth Wilson	17							

Source unknown, Ancestry family tree.

Shows Frederick Wells aged 43, Mary aged 8, Elizabeth aged 5 & Louisa aged 4 arriving in Melbourne, on 24th October 1853, board ship "Tasmania".

Marriage of Mary Well, 1862

SCHEDULE C
Marriages solemnized in the District of **CHEWTON.**

When and where solemnized	Name and Residence of the Bride	Qualification of the Bride	Name and Residence of the Groom	Qualification of the Groom
21 st August 1862	Edwin Fox at the residence of Frederick John Pitman, Chewton	Bachelor	Leeds, Yorkshire England	Farmer
	Mary Wells	Spinster	Launceston Tasmania	Miner

4311

SCHEDULE C
Registered by

Name	Age	Residence	Qualification	Name	Age	Residence	Qualification
John Fox	21	Guildford	Farmer	Edwin Fox	21	Guildford	Farmer
John Fox	18	Baughan	Miner	Elizabeth Wells	17	Baughan	Spinster

The Marriage was solemnized between Edwin Fox and Mary Wells in the presence of Frederick Fox and Elizabeth Wells according to the rites and ceremonies of the Independent Church.

At witness we the undersigned, Frederick John Pitman Minister of the said Church, at Chewton, on the 21st day of August 1862.

Transcription: 21st August 1862, at the residence of Frederick John Pitman, Chewton, Edwin Fox, bachelor, Leeds, Yorkshire England, farmer, 21, Guildford, Guildford, John Fox and Elizabeth Fox (Clarkson), [...] proprietor and Mary Wells, spinster, Launceston Tasmania, 18, Vaughan, Vaughan, Frederick Wells and Sarah Wells (Connell), miner.

VIC BDM, Marriage Mary Wells and Edwin Fox, Chewton, 3230/1862

Marriage of Elizabeth Wells, 1862

SCHEDULE C
Marriages solemnized in the District of **Loddon.**

No.	When and where solemnized	Name and Residence of the Bride	Qualification of the Bride		Name and Residence of the Groom	Qualification of the Groom		Banns
			Single	Widow		Single	Widow	
41	2 nd October 1862	John Richard at the residence of Frederick John Pitman, Chewton	Bachelor		John Richard Mevagissey, Cornwall England	Bachelor		Procurator Cornwall Launceston
		Elizabeth Wells	Spinster		John Richard and Mary Ann Rickard (Tempy), miners			

The Marriage was solemnized between John Richard and Elizabeth Wells in the presence of Frederick Fox and Elizabeth Wells according to the rites and ceremonies of the Independent Church.

At witness we the undersigned, Frederick John Pitman Minister of the said Church, at Chewton, on the 2nd day of October 1862.

Transcription: No 41, 2nd October 1862, at the residence of Frederick John Pitman, Chewton, John Rickard, bachelor, Mevagissey, Cornwall England, miner, 25, Guildford, Guildford, John Rickard and Mary Ann Rickard (Tempy), miner and Elizabeth Wells, spinster, Launceston Tasmania, 17, Vaughan, Vaughan, Frederick Wells and Sarah Wells (Connelly), miner.

VIC BDM, Marriage Elizabeth Wells and John Richard (sic), Loddon, 4362/1862

Marriage of Louisa Well, 1866

502	April nineteenth 1866	John Martin Knuckey Bachelor	Christchurch	Louisa Wells Spinster	Castlemaine
I, <u>James Bellmont</u> being in Holy Orders do hereby certify that I have this day at <u>Christ Church Castlemaine</u> duly solemnized Marriage between <u>John Martin Knuckey</u> and <u>Louisa Wells</u> after Notice and Declaration duly made and published, as by law required (and with the written consent of <u>Col. Bull</u> <u>Minister of Mission</u>) Dated this <u>nineteenth</u> day of <u>April</u> 1866 <u>James Bellmont</u> Signature of Minister, Registrar-General, or other Officer					

Miner	28	Vaughan	William Knuckey Miner
	19	Pennyweight	Ann Martin Miner
			Frederick Wells Miner
			Sarah Conway Miner
Marriage by banns was solemnized between <u>John Martin Knuckey</u> according to the rite of the Co. of England. <u>James Bellmont</u>			
Witnesses <u>Edgar Fox</u> <u>William Jiles</u>			

Transcription: No. 502, April 19th 1866, Christchurch, Castlemaine, John Martin Knuckey, bachelor, Cornwall, miner, 28, Vaughan, William Knuckey and Ann Martin, miner and Louisa Wells, spinster, Hobart Town, 19, Pennyweight, Frederick Wells and Sarah Conway, miner.

VIC BDM, Marriage Louisa Wells and John Martin Knuckey, Loddon, 1118/1866

Marriage of Emma Wells, 1868

No. in Register	When and where married.	Name and Surname of the Parties.	Condition of the Parties.	Birthplace.
579	23 rd July 1868	Alfred Fox	Bachelor	Leeds Yorkshire England
	Christchurch	Emma Wells	Spinster	Hobart Town Tasmania
I, <u>Richard Stephens</u> being a Minister of the Gospel do hereby certify that I have this day at <u>Christ Church Castlemaine</u> duly solemnized Marriage between <u>Alfred Fox</u> and <u>Emma Wells</u> after Notice and Declaration duly made and published, as by law required (and with the written consent of <u>Richard Stephens</u>) Dated this <u>23rd</u> day of <u>July</u> 1868 <u>Richard Stephens</u> Signature of Minister, Registrar-General, or other Officer				

Rank or Profession.	Age.	Residence.		Parents.	
Carter	24	Strathloddon	Strathloddon	Samuel Fox	Elizabeth Sowden
	26	Strathloddon	Strathloddon	Frederick Wells	Sarah Connell
Marriage by banns was solemnized between <u>Alfred Fox</u> according to the rite of the Co. of England & Ireland <u>Richard Stephens</u>					
Witnesses <u>Joseph Fox</u> <u>Mary Ann Fox</u>					

Transcription: No. 579, 23rd July 1868, Christchurch, Castlemaine, Alfred Fox, bachelor, Leeds, Yorkshire England, carter, 24, Strathloddon, Strathloddon, Samuel Fox and Elizabeth Sowden, cloth[?] and Emma Wells, spinster, Hobart Town, Tasmania, 26, Strathloddon, Strathloddon, Frederick Wells and Sarah Connell, miner.

VIC BDM, Marriage Emma Wells and Alfred Fox, Loddon, 2413/1868

Note: Samuel Fox is older brother of Edwin Fox (husband of Mary Wells) and therefore Alfred is Edwin's nephew.

Death of Elizabeth Rickard, 1872

574	May 1872	Elizabeth Rickard	60 years of age	Widow	Strathloddon
I, <u>Edwin Fox</u> being a Minister of the Gospel do hereby certify that I have this day at <u>Christ Church Castlemaine</u> duly solemnized Burial of <u>Elizabeth Rickard</u> after Notice and Declaration duly made and published, as by law required (and with the written consent of <u>Edwin Fox</u>) Dated this <u>18th</u> day of <u>May</u> 1872 <u>Edwin Fox</u> Signature of Minister, Registrar-General, or other Officer					

Most of the information on this certificate appears to be correct, except for her mother's name as Rebecca, instead of Sarah. The informant was her brother-in-law, Edwin Fox.

VIC BDM, Death Elizabeth Rickard, Guildford, 4451/1872

Death of Frederick Wells, 1876

SCHEDULE B. DEATHS in the District of <i>Guildford</i> in the Colony				SCHEDULE B. of Victoria, Registered by <i>J. A. James</i>							
No.	DESCRIPTOR.			Cause of Death, Duration of last Illness, Medical Attendant by whom certified, and When he last saw Deceased.	Name and Residence of Father and Mother, if known, with Rank or Profession.	IF BURIAL REGISTERED.			IF DECEASED WAS MARRIED.		
	When and where Died.	Name and Surname, Rank or Profession.	Sex and Age.			Signature, Description, and Residence of Informant.	Signature of Deputy Registrar, Date, and Where Registered.	When and where buried, Undertaker by Name or Name of Witness notified.		Name and Religion of Minister, or Name of Witnesses of Burial.	Where Bury, and how long in the same, Colony, or State, and in what Parish.
<i>145</i>	<i>30th September 1876</i> <i>Guildford</i> <i>County of</i> <i>Tasmania</i>	<i>Frederick Wells</i> <i>miner</i>	<i>male</i> <i>65</i> <i>years</i>	<i>Murbo Cordo</i> <i>Biblaton</i> <i>8 years</i> <i>Dr. N. Bow</i> <i>29th August</i> <i>1876</i>	<i>Not known</i> <i>by</i> <i>informant</i>	<i>9100</i> <i>Wfred Fox</i> <i>Son in Law</i> <i>Guildford</i>	<i>J. A. James</i> <i>9th</i> <i>September</i> <i>1876</i> <i>Guildford</i>	<i>5th</i> <i>October</i> <i>1876</i> <i>Campbell</i> <i>Church of</i> <i>England</i> <i>29th</i> <i>September</i> <i>1876</i> <i>Wells</i> <i>under</i> <i>Wells</i>	<i>London</i> <i>England</i> <i>29</i> <i>years</i> <i>15</i> <i>years</i>	<i>Wigan</i> <i>Lancashire</i> <i>England</i> <i>29</i> <i>years</i> <i>15</i> <i>years</i>	<i>Richard</i> <i>Emma</i> <i>Elizabeth</i> <i>James</i> <i>Edward</i> <i>deceased</i>

Most of the information on this certificate appears to be correct except for the time spent in Tasmania and Victoria. Frederick arrived in Tasmania in 1840 and in Melbourne in 1853. So this would mean that he lived in Tasmania for 13 years (not 21) and Victoria for 23 years (not 15).

VIC BDM, Death Frederick Wells, Guildford, 9100/1876



Frederick is buried at Castlemaine General Cemetery at Campbell's Creek, Victoria.

<https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/236116275/frederick-wells>

Please contact me via email for any corrections or additions – harriets.garden@bigpond.com