

# Mary Cockley 1826 ~ 1905

The alleged Witch that lived in Burnham, Creeksea and  
Ostend, Essex, England

A genealogy and history on Mary Sadler who married William Cockley  
19th to early 20th centuries Essex, England

William Wallworth

The Exile's Publications ~ July 4, 2019 ~ W-010 - Edition A

# Mary Cockley the alleged Witch that lived in Burnham, Creeksea, and Ostend, Essex, England

Notes:

I first read about Mary Cockley the alleged Witch that lived most of her life in Burnham, Essex, England in Eric Maple's article "The Witches of Dengie" that was published in the Autumn 1962 issue of the Folklore, Volume 73.

"In the year 1960 I completed an investigation of the witchcraft traditions of the Dengie Hundred of South-East Essex...."

Mary Cockley was born Mary Sadler in ca. 1826 and she married William Cockley in 1848. Mary lived in Burnham, Creeksea and Onstead in the Dengie Hundred of Essex.

It is now the very early morning, 12:05 AM, of July 4, 2019

Happy Independence Day to all !



Researched and compiled  
by William Wallworth

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Mary Cockley the alleged Witch who lived in Burnham, Creeksea, and Ostend, Essex, England

## Mary Sadler (1826 - 1905)

Wife of William Cockley  
~ the Coal Porter ~

1. **MARY SADLER** was born in Burnham, Essex and was baptized 7 May 1826 at St. Mary the Virgin church in Burnham.

Father William Sadler

Mother: Jane Perry

### ~ 1826

From the parish register of Burnham:

Baptisms 1826 - Page 80. No. 635.

*When Baptized. / Name. / Parents Names. / Surname. / Abode. / Profession. / By whom the Ceremony was performed.*

May 7 / Mary / Jane & William / Sadler / Burnham / Mariner / F. Folliott Curate.

Image of the record in the parish register

The image shows a handwritten entry in a parish register. The entry is numbered '9' on the left margin. The text is written in cursive and includes the date 'May 7', the name 'Mary', the parents 'Jane & William', the surname 'Sadler', the abode 'Burnham', the profession 'Mariner', and the officiant 'F. Folliott Curate'. The entry is numbered '10' at the bottom left. The register is on page 80, No. 635.

9	No. 634.						
	May 7	Mary	Jane & William	Sadler	Burnham	Mariner	F. Folliott Curate.
10	No. 635.						

### ~ more about the parents of Mary Sadler

Her father, William Sadler, was born in March 1805 in Burnham, Essex and was baptized 7 April 1805 at St. Mary the Virgin church in Burnham. He was a son of James and Elizabeth Sadler.

From the parish register of Burnham:

Baptisms 1805 - Page 53

*Date. / Aged. / Name of the Child. / Name of the Father and Mother.*

April 7 / Month 1 / William Sadler / James & Elizabeth Sadler his wife

Her mother, Jane Perry, was born 28 August 1808 in Burnham, Essex and was baptized 16 December 1808 at St. Mary the Virgin church in Burnham. She was a daughter of John and Mary Perry.

From the parish register of Burnham:

Baptisms 1808 - Page 74

*Date. / Aged. / Name of the Child. / Name of the Father and Mother.*

Decem<sup>r</sup>: 16 1808 / Born August 28<sup>th</sup>: 1808 / Jane Perry / John & Mary

William Sadler and Jane Perry were married 28 November 1825 at St. Mary the Virgin church in Burnham, Essex.

From the parish register of Burnham:

Marriages 1825 - Page 47. No. 141.

William Sadler of this Parish Bachelor and Jane Perry of this Parish Spinster were married in this church by banns with Consent of all parties concerned this twenty eight Day of November in the year One thousand eight hundred and twenty five By me Thomas Pym B.A. Curate of Althorne

This Marriage was solemnized between us

William Sadler

Jane Perry

In the Presence of

Mary Smith

John Harrington

## ~ 1841

In 1841, Mary Sadler, age 15, was living with her parents at Ferry Cottage in Creeksea, Essex. Her father, William Sadler, was listed as a Sailor.

From the 1841 census of Creeksea:

*Name / Age & Sex / Profession / Whether Born in same County*

Ferry Cottage

William Sadler / 35 M / Sailor / y

Jane Do / 30 F / ----- / y

Mary Do / 15 F / ----- / y  
William Do / 12 M / ----- / y  
Matha Do / 10 F / ----- / y  
Sarah Do / 7 F / ----- / y  
Elizabeth Do / 5 F / ----- / y  
Michael Do / 2 M / ----- / y  
Amos Do / 1 M / ----- / y

### ~ 1848

Mary Sadler married **WILLIAM COCKLEY** on 16 September 1848 at St. Mary the Virgin church in Burnham, Essex.

From the parish register of Burnham:

Page 79.

1848. Marriage solemnized at the Parish Church in the Parish of Burnham in the County of Essex

No. 157

When Married. September 16<sup>th</sup>. 1848.

*Name. / Age. / Condition. / Profession. / Residence. / Father's Name. / Father's Profession. /*

William Cockley / Full age / Bachelor / Dredger / Burnham / Daniel Cockley / Labourer

Mary Sadler / Full age / Spinster / ----- / Burnham / William Sadler / Dredger

Married in the Parish Church according to the Rites and Ceremonies of the Established Church by Banns by me W<sup>m</sup> Hammond M A Curate

This Marriage was solemnized between us,

Mark X of William Cockley

Mark X of Mary Sadler

in the Presence of us,

Thomas Newman

[Bethures?] Ambrouse

### ~ 1851

In 1851, William and Mary Cockley were living on High Street in Burnham, Essex. William was listed as a Coal Porter.

From the 1851 census of Burnham:

*Name / Relationship / Marital status / Age & Sex / Profession / Birthplace*

High Street

William Cockley / Head / Mar / 34 M / Coal Porter / Essex Grt Totham  
Mary do / Wife / Mar / 25 F / ----- / do Burnham  
Daniel do / Son / ---- / 1 M / ----- / do do

### ~ 1861

In 1861, William and Mary Cockley were living on High Street in Burnham, Essex.  
William was listed as a Coal Porter.

From the 1861 census of Burnham:

*Name / Relationship / Marital status / Age & Sex / Profession / Birthplace*

High St

William Cockley / Head / Mar / 45 M / Coal Porter / Tollsbury Essex  
Mary do / Wife / Mar / 34 F / ----- / Burnham do  
William do / Son / ---- / 9 M / Scholar / do do  
Louisa do / daur / ---- / 5 F / do / do do  
Elizabeth do / do / ---- / 3 F / ----- / do do  
Harriet do / do / ---- / 10 mo F / ----- / do do

### ~ 1871

In 1871, William and Mary Cockley were living in The Quay in Burnham, Essex. William was listed as a Coal Porter.

From the 1871 census of Burnham:

*Name / Relationship / Marital status / Age & Sex / Profession / Birthplace*

The Quay

William Cockley / Head / Mar / 55 M / Coal Porter / Essex Tollesbury  
Mary “ / Wife / “ / 43 F / ----- / “ Burnham  
Louisa “ / Dau<sup>r</sup>. / ---- / 15 F / Hawker / “ “  
Elizabeth Cockley / Dau<sup>r</sup>. / ---- / 13 F / ----- / Essex Burnham  
Harriett “ / “ / ---- / 11 F / ----- / “ “  
John “ / Son / ---- / 9 M / ----- / “ “  
Frederick “ / “ / ---- / 5 M / ----- / “ “  
Sophia “ / Dau<sup>r</sup>. / ---- / 4 F / ----- / “ “  
William “ / Son / ---- / 20 M / Mariner / “ “

### ~ 1873

William Cockley was sent to the gaol for 21 days of hard labour for failing to pay the fine of 16 shillings and 10 shillings for cost on 18 October 1873 at Latchingdon, Essex. He was fined on 26 July 1873 for breaking 8 squares of glass at the Burnham school house.

From the newspaper, Essex Herald, Tuesday 15 July 1873:

BURNHAM.

MALICIOUS WINDOW SMASHING - A few days ago a man named Wm. Cockley, who had taken offence at the refusal of his application for outdoor relief, deliberately attacked the windows of the Charity schools with a stick and broke a number of panes of glass.

From the newspaper, Chelmsford Chronicle, Friday 1 August 1873:

PETTY SESSIONS.

LATCHINGDIN, JULY 26.

Magistrates present - J. Oxley Parker, Esq., chairman; and the Rev. R. Hutchens.

Wm. Cockley, Burnham, bargeman and porter, was summoned by order of the trustees of the Burnham charity for wilfully and maliciously breaking eight panes of glass in the schoolroom windows at Burnham, doing damage amounting to 16s. - Defendant pleaded guilty, and was fined 16s., amount of damages, and costs 18s., in default 21 days' hard labour. - Time allowed to pay.

From the newspaper, Essex Newsman, Saturday 25 October 1873:

PETTY SESESSIONS.

LATCHINGDON, OCT. 18.

Magistrates present - T. D. F. Tatham, Esq., in the chair; and the Revds. R. E. Formby and R. Hichens.

A Defaulting Porter. - William Cockley, of Burnham, porter, who was fined 16s. and 10s. costs on the 26th of July last for wilfully breaking eight squares of glass in the Burnham schoolroom, having failed to pay the penalty in the time allowed him, appeared to show cause why a warrant of commitment to gaol should not issue against him. - The defendant, who has been allowed two months to pay the money, said he had been unable to do so, and he was then committed to gaol for 21 days' hard labour.

**~ 1878**

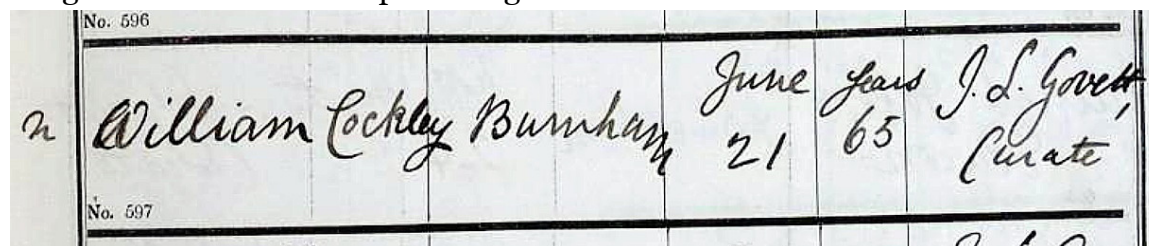
William Cockley died at the age of 65 and was buried 21 June 1878 in the churchyard of St. Mary the Virgin in Burnham, Essex.

Burials 1878 - Page 75 No. 597

*Name. / Abode. / When buried. / Age. / By whom the Ceremony was performed.*

William Cockley / Burnham / June 21 / years 65 / J. L. Govett Curate

Image of the record in the parish register



Mary Cockley remained a widow for the next 27 years until her death.

### ~ **January 1881**

Several young men brought in the Latchingdon Petty Sessions because they broke a window and destroyed a clothes line on the property of Mary Cockly, widow, of Burnham, Essex.

From the newspaper, Essex Standard, Saturday 08 January 1881:

LATCHINGDON PETTY SESSION. JAN. 1.

Before the Rev. E. R. Horwood, in the Chair; W. Christopher Parker, Esq., and G. Parker May, Esq., M.D.

Charles Pudney, Jesse Hawkes, Geo. Deacon, James Woollard, and Joseph Dracey, all young men, of Burnham, were charged with breaking a window and destroying a clothes line, the property of Mary Cockly, of Burnham, widow. - After a severe caution to the defendants as to their future conduct, the Magistrates allowed a settlement to be made out of court, the defendants paying all expenses.

### ~ **April 1881**

In 1881, Mary Cockley, a widow, was living at Oyster Pit Yard in Burnham, Essex. She was listed as a Coal Porter's Widow.

From the 1881 census of Burnham:

*Name / Relationship / Marital status / Age & Sex / Profession / Birthplace*

Oyster Pit Yard

Mary Cockley / Head / Widow / 54 F / Coal Porter's Widow / Essex Burnham

Harriet Do / Dau<sup>r</sup> / Unm / 20 F / Domestic Serv<sup>t</sup> / " "

John Do / Son / Unm / 19 M / Gardener / " "

Frederick Do / " / ---- / 15 M / Ag Lab<sup>r</sup> / " "

Sophia Do / Dau<sup>r</sup> / ---- / 13 F / ----- / " "

John Palmer / Boarder / Unm / 49 M / Coal Porter / Suffolk Ipswich



## ~ **Fifth of November 1881 Bonfire Night**

There were some rowdy celebration of Bonfire Night in Burnham, Essex. Widow Mary Cockley was a victim and was mentioned in an article about Bonfire night activities in Essex.

From the newspaper, Essex Newsman, Saturday 12 November 1881:

FIFTH OF NOVEMBER IN ESSEX.

DENGIE HUNDRED. - Not for several years past has the celebration of the fifth of November in this district been of so demonstrative a character as on Saturday last.

At Burnham at intervals during the day the juveniles mustered in strong force, some of them being grotesquely bedizened. In the evening a large number of persons assembled in the High-street, where a large bon fire was lighted and several tar barrels were rolled about the street.

There was also an extensive display of fireworks. Some attempts were made to interfere with the proceedings but without effect, and notwithstanding the efforts of Police-constable Piper to prevent it, an outhouse on the premises occupied by a widow named Cockley was beaten down by a number of men in disguise, and carried away to the fire, where it was consumed.

## ~ **1891**

In 1891, Mary Cockley, a widow, was living on High Street in Burnham, Essex.

From the 1891 census of Burnham:

*Name / Relationship / Marital status / Age & Sex / Profession / Employment status / Birthplace*

High St      3 - Number of rooms occupied if less than five

Mary Cockley / Head / Wid / 65 F / -----/ ----- / Burnham Essex

John “ / Son / S / 29 M / Labourer / Employed / “ “

Frederick “ / Son / S / 25 M / “ / Employed / “ “

Ethel “ / G Daur / ---- / 4 F / ----- / ----- / Maldon Union Essex

John Palmer / Lodger / S / 60 M / Labourer / Employed / Ipswich Suffolk

## ~ **1901**

In 1901, Mary Cockley, a widow, was living on Burnham Road in Creeksea, Essex.

From the 1901 census of Creeksea:

*Name / Relationship / Marital status / Age & Sex / Profession / Employment status / Birthplace*

Burnham Road      4 - Number of Rooms occupied if less than five.

Mary Cockley / Head / Widow / 75 F / ----- / ----- / Burnham Essex  
John Cockley / Son / S / 39 M / Coal Porter / Worker / Burnham do  
Frederick Cockley / Son / S / 35 M / Coal Porter / Worker / Burnham do

*(the following is the next family on the same page, the next door neighbor)*

Burnham Road 4 - Number of Rooms occupied if less than five.

Mary Prayle / Head / Widow / 42 F / ----- / ----- / Chelmsford Essex  
George Prayle / Son / S / 16 M / Bricklayers Labourer / Worker / Burnham Essex  
Morris Prayle / Son / S / 15 M / Bricklayers Labourer / Worker / Burnham do  
Edward Prayle / Son / S / 13 M / ----- / ----- / Burnham do  
James Prayle / Son / S / 8 M / ----- / ----- / Burnham do  
James Harvey / Lodger / S / 28 M / Brick maker / Worker / Bradwell do

In this census, the family's last name was erroneously written as "Prayle" when their family name was actually "Playle". In the earlier censuses, the family is listed as "Playle".

You will see below why I mentioned the Playle family.

## ~ 1905

Mary Cockley died, at the age of 81, on 4 May 1905 at Ostend street, Burnham, Essex and was buried 9 May 1905 in the churchyard of All Saints in Creeksea, Essex.

The newspaper mentioned that she was seized with a fit and died.

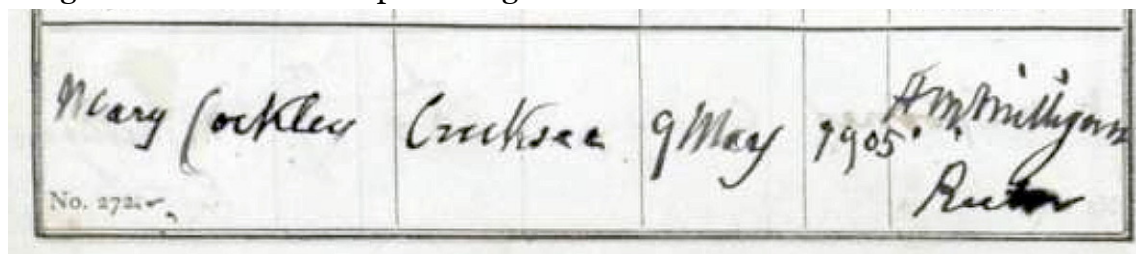
From the parish register of Creeksea:

Burials 1905 - Page 34. No. 272.

*Name. / Abode. / When buried. / Age. / By whom the Ceremony was performed.*

Mary Cockley / Creeksee / 9 May / 1905 / H M Milligan Rector

Image of the record in the parish register



From the newspaper, Chelmsford Chronicle, Friday 12 May 1905:

BURNHAM.

SUDDEN DEATH. - Mrs. Mary Cockley, of Ostend-street, was seized with a fit and died on the 4th inst. She was 81 years of age.

Image of the newspaper obituary



### ~ 1960 and 1962

Eric Maple's article "The Witches of Dengie" was published in the Autumn 1962 issue of the Folklore, Volume 73.

In this article he mentioned about the Witch Mary Cockley of Ostend, near Burnham-on-Crouch. Eric Maple in 1960 interviewed a Mr. Playle who remembered Mary Cockley when he was a boy.

From the article "The Witches of Dengie", by Eric Maple:

Pages 178 to 180

"In the year 1960 I completed an investigation of the witchcraft traditions of the Dengie Hundred of South-East Essex...."

"Several other villages of the Hundred boasted their witches towards the close of the last century. At Ostend, near Burnham-on-Crouch, lived Mary Cockley, a woman who was feared for her power of ill wishing.

Mr. Playle of this village remembers how as a boy he refused to run an errand for her and was threatened with: 'You'll come home wetter than when you set out!' In fact he fell into a pond and almost drowned.

On returning home he was met by the jeers of the witch which so enraged his mother that she struck her with a house flannel. His mother was immediately taken ill, but whether from an evil spell or merely the effect of terror Mr. Playle cannot be sure."

As you can see that the Mr. Playle mentioned by Eric Maple in his 1962 article was one of the sons of widow Mary Playle, the family that was listed next to Mary Cockley's family in the 1901 census.

Listed in the 1901 census were George age 16, Morris age 15, Edward age 13, and James age 8.

One of these Playle sons was the one that as an ole man told Eric Maple in 1960 about the Witch Mary Cockley who died 55 years earlier.

## Children of William and Mary (Sadler) Cockley

2. **DANIEL COCKLEY** was born 10 April 1849 in Burnham, Essex and was baptized 31 December 1851 in St. Mary the Virgin church in Burnham.

From the parish register of Burnham:

Baptisms 1851 - Page 49. No. 391.

*(on margin when born) / When Baptized. / Child's Name. / parents names. / Surname. / Abode. / Profession. / By whom the Ceremony was performed. /*

Born 10<sup>th</sup> April 1849. / 1851 Dec<sup>r</sup>. 31<sup>st</sup>. / Daniel Son of / William & Mary / Cockley / Burnham / Dredger / W Hammond Curate

In 1851, Daniel Cockley, age 1, was living with his parents on High Street in Burnham, Essex (see above under the parents for census details).

Daniel Cockley died at the age of 3 years and was buried in the churchyard of St. Mary the Virgin in Burnham, Essex.

From the parish register of Burnham:

Burials 1852 - Page 164. No. 1305.

*Name. / Abode. / When buried. / Age. / By whom the Ceremony was performed.*

Daniel Cockley / Burnham / September 8 / 3 years / E. C. Berkeley Off. Min.

3. **WILLIAM COCKLEY** was born in Burnham, Essex and was baptized 1 February 1852 in St. Mary the Virgin church in Burnham.

From the parish register of Burnham:

Baptisms 1852 - Page 50. No 393.

*When Baptized. / Child's Name. / parents names. / Surname. / Abode. / Profession. /  
By whom the Ceremony was performed. /*

1852. Feb: 1<sup>st</sup>. / William Son of / William & Mary / Cockley / Burnham / Dredger / W<sup>m</sup>.  
Hammond M.A. Curate /

In 1861, William Cockley, age 9, a scholar, was living with his parents on High Street in Burnham, Essex (see above under the parents for census details).

In 1871, William Cockley, age 20, was living with his parents in The Quay in Burnham, Essex. William was a Mariner (see above under the parents for census details).

William Cockley died at the age of 26 years and was buried in the churchyard of St. Mary the Virgin in Burnham.

From the parish register of Burnham:

Burials 1877 - Page 70 No. 560

*Name. / Abode. / When buried. / Age. / By whom the Ceremony was performed.*

William Cockley / Burnham / June 10 / Years 26 / J. L. Govett Curate

4. **MARY COCKLEY** was born 30 June 1853 and was baptized 30 October 1853 in St. Mary the Virgin church in Burnham, Essex.

From the parish register of Burnham:

Baptisms 1853 - Page 61. No. 481.

*(on margin when born) / When Baptized. / Child's Name. / parents names. / Surname. /  
Abode. / Profession. / By whom the Ceremony was performed. /*

Born 30<sup>th</sup>. June 1853. / 1853. October 30<sup>th</sup>. / Mary daug<sup>r</sup>. of / William & Mary /  
Cockley / Burnham / Dredger / W Hammond Curate

Mary Cockley died at the age of 1 year and 8 months and was buried 1 March 1855 in the churchyard of St. Mary the Virgin in Burnham.

From the parish register of Burnham:

Burials 1855 - Page 176. No. 1406.

*Name. / Abode. / When buried. / Age. / By whom the Ceremony was performed.*

Mary Cockley / Burnham / March 1<sup>st</sup>. 1855. / Year One and Months Eight / W  
Hammond Curate.

5. + **LOUISA COCKLEY** was born 28 November 1855 in Burnham, Essex and was baptized 17 August 1857 in St. Mary the Virgin church in Burnham.

From the parish register of Burnham:

Baptisms 1857 - Page 84. No. 670.

*(on margin when born) / When Baptized. / Child's Name. / parents names. / Surname. / Abode. / Profession. / By whom the Ceremony was performed. /*

Born. Nov<sup>r</sup>. 28<sup>th</sup>. 1855. / 1857. August 17<sup>th</sup>. / Louisa daughter of / William and Mary / Cockley / Burnham / Quay Porter / W Hammond Curate

In 1872, Louisa Cockley at age 15 was a victim of an assault attempt on her by a John Brown. He was committed for trial.

From the newspaper, Essex Newsman, Saturday 27 April 1872:

INDECENT ASSAULT. - John Brown, a youth, of only 15, of Latchingdon, was charged with indecently assaulting Louisa Cockley, a girl of 15, at Burnham, on the 30th March.

- The girl was walking along the road in the afternoon when the prisoner, who was in charge of a horse and tumbrel, overtook her; she asked him to let her ride, and got in the tumbrel, and on reaching a place called Tinker's Hole he stopped the horse and commenced to improperly use her, saying he would kiss her, and she answered, "I don't want you to meddle with me, I will tell my father;" upon her resisting he got out of the tumbrel, pulled the complainant out, threw her on the green, and then put her in the ditch; after this he pulled her out of the ditch, and attempted to assault her, making use of threatening language to enforce obedience; at that time a young man named Mapes came up, and the prisoner drove off.

- John Mapes, a labourer, gave some corroborative evidence, and the mother deposed to the state in which the complainant was in upon reaching home, her clothes being torn and wet.

- The prisoner was committed for trial at the Adjourned Quarter Sessions.

Louisa Cockley married **WALTER SNOW** in the 3rd Quarter (Jul-Aug-Sep) of 1876 in the Rochford registration district of Essex.

From the England & Wales Marriage Index:

Name: Louisa Cockley / Walter Snow

Date: Jul-Aug-Sep 1876

District: Rochford

County: Essex

Volume: 4a

Page: 334

They had several children.

6. + **ELIZABETH COCKLEY** was born 9 February 1858 in Burnham, Essex and was baptized 4 December 1861 in St. Mary the Virgin church in Burnham.

From the parish register of Burnham:

Baptisms 1861 - Page 109.No. 868.

*(on margin when born) / When Baptized. / Child's Name. / parents names. / Surname. / Abode. / Profession. / By whom the Ceremony was performed. /*

Privately Baptized Born 9 Feb<sup>y</sup> 1858 / 4<sup>th</sup> December 1861 / Elizabeth / William & Mary / Cockley / Burnham / Barge man / H. M. Milligan Off. Min.

Elizabeth Cockley married **WILLIAM JAMES VINTON** in the 4th Quarter (Oct-Nov-Dec) of 1878 in the Romford registration district of Essex.

From the England & Wales Marriage Index:

Nam: Elizabeth Cockley / William James Vinton  
Date: Oct-Nov-Dec 1878  
District: Romford  
County: Essex  
Volume: 4a  
Page: 257

They had several children.

7. **HARRIET COCKLEY** was born in the 3rd Quarter (Jul-Aug-Sep) of 1860 in Burnham, Essex.

From the England & Wales Birth Index:

Name: Harriet Cockly  
Date: Jul-Aug-Sep 1860  
Registration District: Maldon  
County: Essex  
Volume: 4a  
Page: 175

In 1861, Harriet Cockley, age 10 months, was living with her parents on High Street in Burnham, Essex (see above under the parents for census details).

In 1871, Harriet Cockley, age 11, was living with her parents in The Quay in Burnham, Essex (see above under the parents for census details).

In 1881, Harriet Cockley, age 20, was living with her widowed mother at Oyster Pit Yard in Burnham, Essex. Harriet was a Domestic Servant (see above under the parents for census details).

Harriet Cockley died 6 August 1881 in Burnham, Essex at the age of 21 years and was buried 9 August 1881 in the churchyard of St. Mary the Virgin in Burnham, Essex.

From the newspaper, Essex Herald, Tuesday 23 August 1881:

DEATHS.

AUGUST.

6, at Burnham, Harriet Cockley, 21.

From the parish register of Burnham:

Burials 1881 - Page 91 No. 721

*Name. / Abode. / When buried. / Age. / By whom the Ceremony was performed.*

Harriet Cockley / Burnham / Aug 9 / Years 21 / J. L. Govett Vicar

8. **JOHN COCKLEY** was born in the 2nd Quarter (Apr-May-Jun) of 1862 in Burnham, Essex.

From the England & Wales Birth Index:

Name:	John Cockley
Date:	Apr-May-Jun 1862
Registration District:	Maldon
County:	Essex
Volume:	4a
Page:	205

In 1871, John Cockley, age 9, was living with his parents in The Quay in Burnham, Essex (see above under the parents for census details).

In 1881, John Cockley, age 19, was living with his widowed mother at Oyster Pit Yard in Burnham, Essex. John was a Gardener (see above under the parents for census details).

In 1891, John Cockley, age 29, was living with his widowed mother on High Street in Burnham, Essex. John was a Labourer (see above under the parents for census details).



In 1901, John Cockley, age 39, was living with his widowed mother on Burnham Road in Creeksea, Essex. John was a Coal Porter (see above under the parents for census details).

In 1902, John Cockley was mentioned in a dispute between Mr. John Smith of the Council and Mr. E. Dilliway in Burnham, Essex.

From the newspaper, Chelmsford Chronicle, Friday 10 January 1902:

#### THE BURNHAM QUAY DISPUTE.

Amazing Play At Cross Purposes, Yesterday.

Mr. John Smith has delivered his statement of claim in the action he is bringing against Mr. E. Dilliway, and has laid the venue in Essex.

The plaintiff claims £20 damages, and an injunction restraining the defendant, "his agents, servants, workpeople, and others for whose acts the defendant is responsible from any repetition of the acts complained of or any of the said acts."

Acting on the resolution arrived by the Council on the 31st ult., one of the Council's workmen on Monday began to prepare that part of the Quay belonging to Messrs. King and Co. for a layer of stone. On Tuesday morning he was informed by Mr. King that he was trespassing, Mr. King stating that he had come to Burnham to order him off.

The workman replied that he did not want ordering off as he had just finished all he could do before the stone arrived.

Yesterday (Thursday) morning two loads of stone were carted on to the Quay, and were spread by the roadman, Messrs. King, however, engaged two men, named Jack Rogers and John Cockley, to scrape the stone together and wheel it into Shore-road and deposit it at the side of the Council office. This they did, to the amusement of the onlookers.

John Cockley had an accident on 22 June 1903 and died from the injuries on 30 June 1903 at the age of 43 and was buried 4 July 1903 in the churchyard of All Saints in Creeksea, Essex.

From the newspaper, Chelmsford Chronicle, Friday 10 July 1903:

#### FATAL ACCIDENT AT BURNHAM-ON-CROUCH.

On Friday last Mr. C. E. Lewis, coroner, held an inquest at the George and Dragon Inn, Ostend, Burnham-on-Crouch, on the body of John Cockley, aged 43, who died from the effects of an accident which occurred to him on the 22nd of June. Mr. Alfred Newman was foreman of the jury.

- Mary Cockley, mother of the deceased, identified the body, and said that her son, who only had one eye, picked up a living as best he could. He could not see very well with that eye, particularly when he had had a little drink. On Monday, June 22, he left home

about five o'clock. About seven o'clock in the evening he was brought home. Although insensible, he walked into the house and pulled off his boots. He said, "Mother, I am a dead man." He was bleeding from his ears and nose, and from his shoulders. Next morning witness sent for Dr. Downman. The deceased died on Tuesday night.

- James Cole, of 5 Western-road, Burnham-on-Crouch, deposed that on June 22nd, about 3.30, when standing on the hard near the London Sailing Club, he saw the deceased falling from the loading stage at the Kangaroo Wharf. He was carrying a coil of rope on his back. He fell on to the stones below, a distance of six feet, his head striking the stones. Witness ran to his assistance. Cockley was unconscious for about five minutes. Witness bathed and bandaged his head up. He was then put in a cart, and driven away by a Mr. Rose.

- Robert Tracey, of Granville-terrace, Burnham, stated that he was standing near the stage, when the deceased, who was carrying rope from a barge, appeared to miss his footing, and fell from the stage. He was quite sober.

- Mr. H. F. C. Hawkins, who occasionally employed the deceased, said that Cockley set himself on to this job without instructions from anybody. He was in the habit of doing this on the chance of picking up a little.

- P.c. Empson stated that the stage was 30 feet long and eight feet wide. Cockley fell at a spot about 12 feet from the shore end.

- Dr. Downman deposed that, when called to the deceased, he found him to be suffering from concussion of the brain, bruised ribs on the left side, and bruises on the top of the head. He died on June 30th, the cause being concussion of the brain.

- Supt. Gibbons said there was a rumour that Mr. F. J. Handley, who drove the deceased to his home, dropped him out of the cart, and Mr. Handley would like to deny this.

- Mr. Handley was then sworn, and said he drove Cockley home. Cockley sat on the seat, and remained there the whole of the way, with a rug wrapped round him. It was not true that he fell from the seat, or out of the cart. If he knew who had started the rumours about him he would make them pay for the abominable lies.

- Mr. S. Bowles, a juryman, spoke of the kindly way in which Mr. Handley assisted the deceased out of the cart.

- The jury returned a verdict of "Accidental death."

From the parish register of Creeksea:

Burials 1903 - Page 34. No. 268.

*Name. / Abode. / When buried. / Age. / By whom the Ceremony was performed.*

John Cockley / Cricksey / 4<sup>th</sup>. July / yrs 43 / H M Milligan Rector

9. **FREDERICK COCKLEY** was born 15 September 1865 in Burnham, Essex and was baptized 27 February 1866 in St. Mary the Virgin church in Burnham.

From the parish register of Burnham:

Baptisms 1866 - Page 129 No. 1028.

*(on margin when born) / When Baptized. / Child's Name. / parents names. / Surname. / Abode. / Profession. / By whom the Ceremony was performed. /*

Sep 15 1865 / Feb 27 1866 / Frederick / William & Mary / Cockley / Burnham / Porter / J. L. Govett Curate

In 1871, Frederick Cockley, age 5, was living with his parents in The Quay in Burnham, Essex (see above under the parents for census details).

In 1879, Fredk. Cockley a lad was involved with two other lads in stealing a quantity of pears from Mr. William Elpbick.

From the newspaper, Essex Herald, Tuesday 16 September 1879:

LATCHINGDON.

PETTY SESSION, SEPTEMBER 13.

Magistrates present - The Rev. R. E. Formby, in the chair; C. W. Parker, Esq., and G. P. May, Esq., M. D.

Aaron Ewers, Fredk. Cockley, and Albert Whiting, lads, of Burnham, were summoned by Mr. Wm. Elpbick, farmer, of Eve's-corner, Burnham, for stealing a quantity of growing pears from his garden. - Mr. Elpbick pressed the case against Ewers, whom he described as the ring-leader in a good deal of mischief, but asked for leniency towards the other defendants. - Mr. Rutledge said that one day the boy Ewers, unless there were an alteration in his conduct, would be a fit subject for a reformatory school.

- Ewers was fined 5s. and costs 7s. 6d., or seven days' imprisonment. - A neighbour paid the money for him. - The other boys were required to pay the costs.

In 1881, Frederick Cockley, age 15, was living with his widowed mother at Oyster Pit Yard in Burnham, Essex. John was an Agricultural Laborer (see above under the parents for census details).

In 1891, Frederick Cockley, age 25, was living with his widowed mother on High Street in Burnham, Essex. John was a Labourer (see above under the parents for census details).

In 1900, Frederick Cockley, a carter, was fined 10 shillings and 8 shillings 6 pence for costs for not having a scale in his wagon when he was transporting coal to a customer.

From the newspaper, Chelmsford Chronicle, Friday 28 September 1900:

Frederick Cockley, carter, was then charged with not having scales in his cart when delivering coal.

- Defendant said he was not in Mr. Smith's employment. Mr. John Cook gave him a job carting coal now and again. He had no scales in the cart.

- Mr. Cook, who does Mr. Smith's coal carting, said he had never had scales when carting for Mr. Smith. He always carried scales in his cart when delivering his own coal.

- The Chairman said the Bench felt it was hard on the defendant, who had been sent out without scales, but a breach of the law had been committed, and defendant would be fined 10s. and 8s. 6d. costs. Those who sent defendant out ought to recompense him.

- Mr. Cook was informed that he must carry scales whether he carted his own or Mr. Smith's coal.

In 1901, Frederick Cockley, age 35, was living with his widowed mother on Burnham Road in Creeksea, Essex. Frederick was a Coal Porter (see above under the parents for census details).

10. + **SOPHIA ELIZA COCKLEY** was born in the 3rd Quarter (Jul-Aug-Sep) of 1867 in Burnham, Essex.

From the England & Wales Birth Index:

Name:	Sophia Eliza Cockley
Date:	Jul-Aug-Sep 1867
Registration District:	Maldon
County:	Essex
Volume:	4a
Page:	227

In 1871, Sophia Cockley, age 4 years, was living with her parents in The Quay in Burnham, Essex (see above under the parents for census details).

In 1881, Sophia Cockley, age 13 years, was living with her mother in Oyster Pit Yard in Burnham, Essex (see above under the parents for census details).

Sophia Cockley married **HENRY CLAYDEN** in the 4th Quarter of 1892 in the Romford registration district of Essex.

From the England & Wales Marriage Index:

Names: Sophia Cockley / Henry Clayden  
Date: Oct-Nov-Dec 1892  
Registration District: Romford  
County: Essex  
Volume: 4a  
Page: 538

They had several children.

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