

The Pickingill Research

New materials:

1. George Pickingill's wife was a prostitute in Gravesend,
Kent, England

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George Pickingill's wife was a prostitute in Gravesend, Kent, England.

Researched and compiled
by William Wallworth

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Comments:

I have been doing further research of the Pickingill family in Gravesend, Kent. Members of the Pickingill family were in Gravesend during the 1850's.

Earlier it had been established that George Pickingill's sister, Martha Pickingill (who later married Edward Miller and then William H. Smith), was a prostitute for a while in the early 1850's in Chatham, Kent.

Martha was in Gravesend when she was convicted for stealing from her master in 1850. In 1851, she was a prostitute in Chatham, Kent.

Now the research turned to Mary Ann Bateman.

She was born Sarah Ann Bateman. A mix up in the baptism record has the names of Sarah Ann and her mother Mary Ann transposed.

The 1841 and 1851 censuses has her name as Sarah. But after that her name has been Mary Ann in all the records except her marriage and death record where it is Sarah. All censuses after 1851 and all the birth records of the children, etc. has been Mary Ann. Must be another reason for her preferring to use the name Mary Ann than Sarah Ann.

The following shows the timeline of 1850 to 1856 in Gravesend, Kent.

~ 1850

Martha Pickingill as a servant in Gravesend, Kent was charged with stealing several items from her master John Lorrimar Akers. She was convicted and served 6 weeks imprisonment with hard labour.

The newspaper mentioned that after she left her employment she was lodging at No. 37 Peppercroft-street.

Details and sources are in the Pickingill History.

~ 1851

In 1851, "Mather" Pickingale was listed as a lodger at the Ship Inn High Street in Chatham, Kent. The owner of the Ship Inn was Thomas Garrett.

Kent.

Martha Pickingale was a prostitute as were 4 other young women lodgers.

Martha Pickingill was convicted in 1850 and served 6 weeks imprisonment. After she got out of her imprisonment, she probably could not get another servant job because of her record.

Details and sources are in the Pickingill History.

~ 1853

Mary Ann Bateman and Elizabeth Harlowe were mentioned in a court case in Gravesend, Kent in a newspaper article.

Both parties were femmes publiques, in other words prostitutes.

From the newspaper, Kentish Independent, Saturday 17 December 1853:

GRAVESEND POLICE COURT. - WEDNESDAY.

Present: - W. F. Dobson, Esq, (the mayor, in the chair) E. Tickner, and J. Smith, Esq., and Dr. Ridge.

Mary Bateman was summoned for having unlawfully assaulted Elizabeth Harlowe. Both parties were femmes publiques.

Elizabeth Harlowe stated, that on Monday night she saw the defendant in Windmill Street, she was with two other females. Witness asked her for an article of clothing which belonged to complainant. The defendant immediately struck her twice, and abused her, and would have assaulted her again, but the other female kept her back.

Mary Taylor stated, that she was with the complainant, and she confirmed the evidence of the complainant.

The defendant in answer to the charge, said that the complainant came across the street to her, and pulled defendant by her clothes in a very indecent manner; that she simply defended herself, and the complainant then tore defendant's bonnet to pieces.

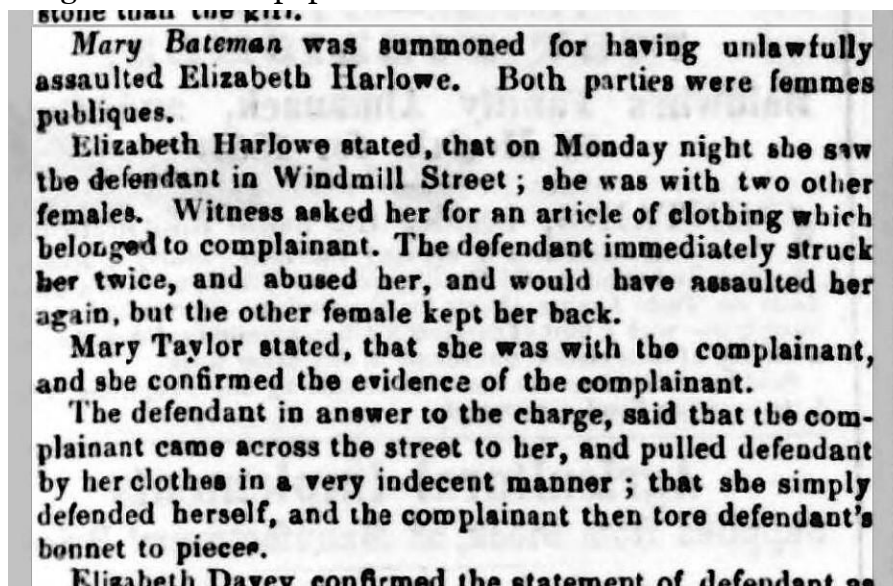
Elizabeth Davey confirmed the statement of defendant as to the indecency of the conduct of the complainant towards her; but was unable to say which struck the first blow.

It appeared that it had been a run between the two which should get the summons, and the complainant had won the race.

The cross summons was then heard, the complainant and defendant changing places; and the now complainant, Mary Ann Bateman, produced her torn bonnet as an additional evidence.

The Bench dismissed the first case, and ordered defendant in the last case, Elizabeth Harlowe, to pay the costs, 8s., and she had also to pay 3s. 6d. costs, in her own case, which was dismissed.

Images of the newspaper article:



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Case Howard and William Smith against the Trustees of the

~ 1854

Mary Bateman of 74 Peppercroft Street in Gravesend, Kent had a child, Mary Ann Bateman, baptized 31 August 1854 in Saints Peter & Paul church in Milton Next Gravesend, Kent.

From the parish register of Sts. Peter & Paul:

Baptisms 1854 - Page 122 No. 976

When Baptized. / Child's name. / Parent's Names. / Parent's Surname. / Abode. / Profession. / By whom the Ceremony was performed.

(on the left margin) hz - died ib. / Aug^t 31 / Mary Ann d^r. of / Mary / Bateman / 74 Peppercroft St / ----- / Rob^t. [Jocpeld?] Rector of Gravesend.

The father's name was not mentioned.

Image of the baptism record:

No. 975	18	Mary Ann		74	Robt
Augt	31	d ^r of	Mary Bateman	Peppercroft	Jocpeld,
No. 976					Rector of
					Gravesend.

Interesting to note that the mother Mary Ann Bateman was living at 74 Peppercroft-street in Gravesend in 1854.

In 1850, Martha Pickingill was living at 37 Peppercroft-street.

Mary Ann Bateman died at the age of 3 months and was buried 4 September 1854 in the Municipal Cemetery in Gravesend, Kent.

From the Kent Burials

Name / Residence / Age / Burial date / Burial ground / Place / County

Mary Ann Bateman / Peppercroft Street / 3 Months / 04 Sep 1854 / Municipal Cemetery / Gravesend, Municipal Cemetery / Kent

~ **September 1855**

Mary Bateman, a prostitute, was charged by the court in Gravesend, Kent.

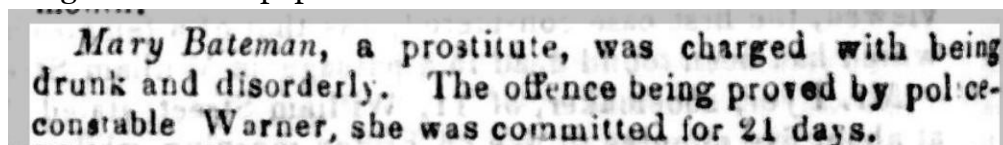
From the newspaper, Kentish Independent, Saturday 15 September 1855:

GRAVESEND POLICE COURT. - FRIDAY.

Present - R. Oates, Esq.

Mary Bateman, a prostitute, was charged with being drunk and disorderly. The offence being proved by police-constable Warner, she was committed for 21 days.

Image of the newspaper article:



~ **November 1855**

Mary Bateman, a prostitute, Rosina Weatherfield, a former prostitute now married and Mary Ann Taylor, a prostitute were charged with fighting in the streets in Gravesend, Kent.

From the newspaper, Kentish Independent, Saturday 01 December 1855:

GRAVESEND POLICE COURT. - MONDAY.

Present: R. Oates, Esq. (in the chair), and H. Ditchburn, Esq.

Mary Bateman and Rosina Weatherfield were charged with fighting in the public streets.

Police-constable Trew stated that on Friday night, about eleven o'clock, he found the prisoners in front of the Mitre Tavern, fighting with each other, he cautioned them and endeavoured to get them away, but as they seemed determined to have the fight out he was compelled to take them into custody; the prisoner Bateman was a prostitute, and the other prisoner, though she had been, was now married; another prostitute, named Mary Ann Taylor, was holding the bonnet of one of the prisoners while they were fighting.

The woman Taylor being in the Court was called forward and placed by the side of the other prisoners, and the constable then said that he heard the voice of Taylor, when he was at the top of High-street, exciting the prisoners to fight.

The prisoner Bateman being called on for her defence made such a statement which induced the bench to put her in the witness box, and being sworn, stated that she was standing outside the Mitre, when the two prisoners, and another female, came to her, and after a few words from Weatherfield, both Weatherfield and Taylor assaulted her and gave her the black-eye she then had.

The bench committed Bateman and Taylor to gaol for 14 days, as common prostitutes, and fined Weatherfield 10s. for the assault.

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~ 1856

George Pickingill married **SARAH ANN BATEMAN** on 19 May 1856 at Saint George, Gravesend, Kent, England.

From the marriage certificate:

Registration District: Gravesend and Milton

1856. Marriage solemnized at the Parish Church in the Parish of Gravesend in the County of Kent

No. 473

When Married: 19th May 1856

Name / Age / Condition / Profession / Residence at the time of Marriage / Father's Name / Father's Profession

George Pickingill / Full / Bachelor / Labourer / Gravesend / Charles Pickingill / Blacksmith

Sarah Ann Bateman / Full / Spinster / ----- / Gravesend / Joseph Bateman / Labourer

Married in the Parish Church according to the Rites and Ceremonies of the Established Church after Banns by me, Rob^t. Joynes Rector

This Marriage was solemnized between us,

The X of George Pickingill

The X of Sarah Ann Bateman

In the Presence of us,

Catharine Cocks

Martha Smith

Catherine Cocks and Martha Smith who were present at the marriage, were George Pickingill's sisters. Catherine who married George Cocks and Martha who was with William Smith (but they didn't get married until a few years later).

According to the marriage certificate, George Pickingill and Sarah Ann Bateman were living in Gravesend, Kent.

Sources:

1. 1853 Mary Ann Bateman a femme publique in a court case. Kentish Independent, Saturday 17 December 1853, page 7. British Newspaper Archive, online at www.britishnewspaperarchive.co.uk. Searched on December 26, 2020 Saturday 11:36 PM.
2. 1854 baptism of Mary Ann Bateman. Kent Baptisms, online at Findmypast.com. Milton-Next-Gravesend, Ss Peter & Paul, Kent, England. Image from <https://cityark.medway.gov.uk/>. Image no. 13 left side. Baptisms 1854 - Page 122 No. 976. Searched on April 26, 2021 Monday 10:37 PM.

3. 1854 burial of Mary Ann Bateman. Kent Burials, online at Findmypast.com. Gravesend, Municipal Cemetery, Kent, England. Parish Burials. Searched on April 26, 2021 Monday 10:49 PM.
4. 1855 September, Mary Bateman, a prostitute charged with being drunk and disorderly. Kentish Independent, Saturday 15 September 1855, page 6. British Newspaper Archive online at www.britishnewspaperarchive.co.uk. Searched on June 23, 2021 Wednesday 10:35 PM.
5. 1855 Mary Bateman, a prostitute, and Rosina Weatherfield charged with fighting in the streets. Kentish Independent, Saturday 01 December 1855, page 6. British Newspaper Archive online at www.britishnewspaperarchive.co.uk. Searched on June 23, 2021 Wednesday 10:48 PM.
6. 1856 marriage of George Pickingill and Sarah Ann Bateman. Saint George, Gravesend, Kent, England. Batch No. M131332 Source Film No. 0992464, 0992467. IGI Individual Record. FamilySearch IGI v5.0. Searched on March 2, 2008 Sunday.