

William Frederic Thompson Pashley 1853-1920

Daniel Thompson Pashley, No.1 Paradise Place, Hackney, London E – 10 Sep 1881

Dear Sir, Is the name of William F. Pashley in your registry of deaths, as it is my brother who last wrote from Wangarei, Auckland, March 1874 and as it was most important he should communicate with his friends, we fear he must have met with his death. If you would prove his death, you shall be well payed for your trouble.

[1] Letter to Lt. Col Reader 21 Nov 1881

Will you be good enough to cause the local police officer to make inquiry so as to throw light, if any can be had, on the question of the identity of the person referred to in the letter with the F. Pasley noted as deceased. The death was registered by the Coroner and probably the name imperfectly given. There may be fuller information obtained as to the name.

[2] 1882/172 Inspector Thomson, Auckland

As no information can be obtained here relative to this matter Constable Scott will endeavour to ascertain at Toka Toka whether the Frederick Pasley drowned there in March 1875 is identical with the William F. Pashley herein enquired for. If a personal description of the deceased can be obtained it will much facilitate arriving at a definite conclusion. As from the notes on attached papers it seems somewhat uncertain whether the deceased was a storeman at Toka Toka and drowned near Kaihu Flax Mill (Tinne's) or vice versa. Constable Scott if he can get no reliable information will forward the papers to Constable Haddock for enquiry and report.

[3] Constable Nixson Scott, A.C. Station, Te Kopuru, N. Wairoa
to J. Bell Thomson, Inspector, A.C. Force, Auckland 11 Jan 1882

Constable Scott respectfully reports for the information of the Inspector that he went and seen Mrs Emma Liddell, widow of Frederick Pasley who was drowned in the Kaihu River north Wairoa in March 1875. Mrs Liddell says that her first husband's name was Frederick Pasley: born in Dublin and was a son of Henry Pasley, iron founder of Upper Camden, Court Dublin. He was 43 years of age and five feet six inches high, stout, broad build, fresh complexion, light hair, beard and mustache and light blue eyes, was a quaker. Mother's maiden name was Gregson of Manchester; there are four brothers named – Jonathan, Joshua, William and Henry. Deceased was a storeman at the Kaihu Flax Mill.

Memo: As the person described by Constable Scott does not seem to be identical with the missing person enquired for Constable Bourke will report whether anything can be _ of letter in or about Wangarei where he appeared to have been located about March 1874.

[3] Constable Patrick Bourke, A.C. Station, Whangarei 7 Feb 1882

Reports that he made inquiry throughout this district of Storekeepers and residents that would be most likely to know the missing man named William F. Pashley but failed to find any trace of him.

Archives NZ R15906767 BDM 1 1882/172 Inward letters to the Registrar General

Note: Frederick Martin Pasley 1832-1875

An 1882 Post Office Directory lists Daniel Pashley, a greengrocer of 1 Paradise Place.¹ Another 1880 directory lists Daniel Pashley, tobacconist of Clapton High Road.²

On 9 September 1880, at All Saints Church, Clapton, Daniel Thompson Pashley, bachelor and tobacconist, married Mary Ann Elizabeth Guest, widow. They were both residing at 130 Powercroft Road.³

In the 1881 Census Daniel, a 24-year-old paperhanger, was living with his wife and six-year-old stepdaughter Kate Bessie L. Guest⁴ at 92 Glenarm Road, Hackney. Daniel was born in Fressingfield, Suffolk.

In the 1861 Census Daniel, aged 4, was living with his widowed mother's parents and four siblings at Bracondale Road in Norwich. One of the siblings was his older brother William, aged eight years.

Three siblings were baptized at Saint John the Baptist of Timberhill, City of Norwich on 5 October 1856: Ellen Henrietta Pashley, born 15 Feb 1852; William Frederic Thompson Pashley, born 13 Jul 1853 and Mary Ann Mills Pashley, born 27 Mar 1855. The usual abode of their parents, Daniel Thompson Pashley Snr, farmer, and Maria Mealing *nee* Mills, was Fressingfield, Suffolk.⁵

In the 1871 census there is a Daniel Pashley, a 13-year-old cadet born in Suffolk, on board the ship *Worcester* stationed in South Essex. There is no trace for his brother William. In 1872 William Pashley, aged 19, departed from Liverpool on the ship *City of Brussels* and arrived in New York on 22 July.⁶

On 7 May 1874 William Pashley, who had been living in the bush near Wangarei, was brought into an Auckland Police Court charged with being of unsound mind. After the testimonies of Doctors Hooper and Stockwell, he was committed to the Whau Lunatic Asylum.⁷ William was a protestant, single, 20-year-old gum digger. "Due to delusions of a religious character, [he] appears subject to religious mono mania probably brought on by living alone in the bush upon very scanty food." When he died on 20 April 1920, he had no relatives and was buried by McIvor at Government expense. William spent his time working in the vegetable gardens.⁸ He was buried on 23 April 1920 at Waikumete Cemetery.⁹

¹ Post Office Home Counties Directory for Middlesex 1882

² Post Office London Suburban Directory 1880

³ Marriage Register, All Saints, Clapton – By Banns: Daniel Thompson Pashley, son of Daniel Thompson Pashley, farmer; Mary Ann Elizabeth Guest, daughter of Alfred William Cooper Sims, plumber; Witnesses: A. W. Sims and E. Lumly.

⁴ GRO UK Birth Dec Qt 1874 Kensington

⁵ Bishops Transcripts Archdeaconry of Norwich – Saint John the Baptist of Timberhill

⁶ Ancestry: New York Arriving Passenger and Crew Lists

⁷ Auckland Star 7 May 1874 Police Court - Lunacy

⁸ Archives NZ R25295986 Committed Patient File – Includes reference to Frederick Thompson (crossed out)

⁹ Auckland Council Cemetery Database