John DRAKE

National Archives Catalogue – IOR/L/MAR/A-B – Ships' Journals
Sovereign (2) 1803/4 Bengal. Capt Richard Meriton. Portsmouth 10 Jul 1804 - 24 Jul Madeira - 8 Dec Calcutta - 10 Jan 1805 Kedgeree - 12 Feb Madras - 20 Jul St Helena - 12 Sep moorings.

[1] Sovereign: Journal 03 May 1804 – 01 Aug 1805	Reference IOR/L/MAR/B/19 5D
[2] Sovereign: Ledger c1804-c1805	Reference IOR/L/MAR/B/19 5K(1)
[3] Sovereign: Pay Book c1804-c1805	Reference IOR/L/MAR/B/19 5K (2)

Morning Chronicle 27 April 1804
Yesterday a Court of Directors was held at the East India House, when the ships 'Monarch', 'Sovereign', and 'Alexander', ordered to be afloat the 24th instant, were consigned to Bengal direct. Captain Meriton was sworn into the command of the 'Sovereign'.

Hampshire Chronicle 17 December 1804
Accounts were received yesterday at the India House, of the safe arrival of the following outwardbound ships off Madeira, at the undermentioned periods, viz. Lord Eldon, Captain Swell; Tottenham, Dalrymple; and Experiment, P. Campbel; on the 5th of July; Lord Hawkesbury, Timbrell on the 23rd ditto; Sovereign, Meriton, on the 24th ditto.

Caledonian Mercury 09 May 1805
Calcutta Gazette December 5, 1804. Arrived in the River from England – … Sovereign, Meriton.

Kentish Weekly Post or Canterbury Journal 18 Jun 1805
The Lady Jane Dundas, Lindsey; Lord Nelson, -; Lord Castlereagh, Robertson; Sovereign, Meriton; Fame, Baker; Sir William Bensley, Rhode; Alexander, J. R. Francklin; Monarch, Hawes; sailed from Bengal for Madras, on their way to England, the 29th Jan.

Leeds Intelligencer 16 September 1805
The whole India fleet is now arrived, and consists of 33 sail of Indiamen, one Botany Bay ship, four whalers from the South Seas, and a Swedish vessel bound from China to Gottenburgh. We lay before our readers an accurate list of the whole fleet; and to shew in some measure the extent of its wealth, have added to each ship the measure of her tonnage. The fleet sailed from St. Helena on the 12th of July, under convoy of the Trident man of war, Mediator and Athenienne, and consists of the following ships... From Bengal… Sovereign, Meriton, 617…

National Archives Catalogue – IOR/L/MAR/A-B – Ships' Journals
Sovereign (3) 1805/6 Madras and Bengal. Capt Alexander Campbell. Portsmouth 30 Mar 1806 - 21 Apr São Tiago - 27 Aug Madras - 27 Sep Calcutta - 1 Feb 1807 Saugor - 15 Mar Point de Galle - 13 Jun St Helena - 6 Sep Downs.

[1] Sovereign: Journal 18 Jan 1806 – 06 Sep 1807	Reference IOR/L/MAR/B/19 5E
[2] Sovereign: Ledger c1806-c1807	Reference IOR/L/MAR/B/19 5L(1)
[3] Sovereign: Pay Book c1806-c1807	Reference IOR/L/MAR/B/19 5L(2)

Public Ledger and Daily Advertiser 02 April 1806
This morning the following East Indiamen sailed from St. Helen's, under convoy of the Leopard, of 50 guns, Captain Raggett; and the Albion and Mercator store ships, viz.- Walthamstow, McLeod; and Lord Nelson, Hutton, for St. Helena and Bengal; Earl of St. Vincent, Jones for Bombay; Lady Burgess, Swinton; Lord Melville, Lennox; and Asia, Wardlow for Coast and Bay; Fame, Jameson for Bombay and Bengal; Sovereign, Campbell and Alexander, Franklin for Madras and Bengal, together with two South Sea whalers.

Morning Advertiser 07 September 1807 India Fleet
List of the ships arrived off the Isle of Wight under convoy of his Majesty's ship Antelope, viz:- Lady Jane Dundas, Captain Lindsay; Hugh Inglis, Fairfax; Bengal, Cumine; Lord Castlereagh, Kymer; Asia, Wardlaw; Walthamstow, McLeod; Lord Nelson, Hutton; Alexander, Francklin; Sovereign, Campbell; Monarch, Hawes; Earl St. Vincent, Jones; Harriet, Lynch; Huddard, Bayliff – with the Scorpion and Atlantic Whalers, and Swede fly brig with sundres from the Cape.

Hampshire Chronicle 14 September 1807
London, Monday Sept. 7. The East India fleet, under convoy of the Antelope, consisting of the following ships, arrived safe yesterday in the Downs:- Lady Jane Dundas, Captain Lindsay; Hugh Inglis, Fairfax; Bengal, Cumine; Lord Castlereagh, Kymer; Asia, Wardlaw; Walthamstow, Macleod; Lord Nelson, Hutton; Alexander, Franklin; Sovereign, Campbell; Monarch, Hawes; Earl St. Vincent, Jones; Harnett, Lynch; Huddart, Bayliff; with the Scorpion and Atlantic whalers; A Swede and several ships from the Cape – The Fleet left St. Helena on the 27th June. The Pursers have since arrived at the India-House with their dispatches.

Aberdeen Journal 27 January 1808
The Isis, of 50 guns, with the Walmer Castle, Elphinstone, Essex, Winchelsea and Phoenix, Indiamen, sailed on Thursday from Portsmouth, for Bombay and China.

Caledonian Mercury 09 May 1808
Lloyd's Marine List May 6, 1808. The Elphinstone, Winchelsea, Phoenix, Walmer Castle and Essex Indiamen, which sailed from Portsmouth 21st January, were off the Cape de Verds 7th March.

Morning Chronicle 04 October 1808
The 'Phoenix', Ramsden and 'Walmer Castle', Dodds, from St. Helena, arrived at Simons Bay the 31st May, the former sailed with the fleet under convoy of the 'Lion', and the latter proceeded on her voyage to Bencoolen the 9th June.

Gloucester Journal 11 December 1809 Marriage
John Ramsden, Esq., Commander of the 'Phoenix' East Indiaman, to Miss Symonds, youngest daughter of the late Mr Thomas Symonds, of Hereford.

Cheltenham Chronicle 28 December 1809
A paragraph lately appeared in the newspapers, that the 'Glory' East Indiaman, Capt. H. Beever, was seen by the 'Phoenix' Indiaman, on the 22nd of November, in a tremendous gale of wind in the Indian Ocean settling fast in the water; and while the 'Phoenix's' people were below deck at the pump's in half an hour the 'Glory' disappeared. Captain Ramsden, of the 'Phoenix', has declared that the 'Glory' was never seen from the 'Phoenix' after the 20th of November, about half an hour before sunset. She did not seem to be in any dangerous state.

A Register of Ships Employed in the Service of the Honorable The United East India Company 1760-1810
Page 238 East India Ships 1803-1804. Sovereign, 630 Tons, 2 Voyage, Bengal. (John Locke, Esq.) Captain Richard Meriton, 1 Henry Vaughan, 2 William Reynolds, 3 Alexander Stevenson, 4 Matthew Douglas, Surgeon David Henderson, Purser Harry Morphett. Sailed Ports 10 July 1804. Moorings 12 September 1805.

Page 253 East India Ships 1805-1806. Sovereign, 600 Tons, 3 Voyage, Coast and Bay. (John Locke, Esq.) Captain Alexander Campbell, 1 William Reynolds, 2 John Freeman, 3 Samuel Nolbrow, 4 John Drake, Surgeon William Robinson, Purser Philip Jones. Sailed Ports 30 March 1806. Moorings 09 September 1807.

Page 268 East India Ships 1807-1807. Phoenix, 818 Tons, 2 Voyage, St Helena and Bengal. (Robert Williams, Esq.) Captain John Ramsden, 1 John Pyke, 2 Thomas White, 3 Joseph Twigg, 4 John Drake, Surgeon Adam Park, Purser Robert Small. Sailed Ports 09 February 1808. Moorings 21 May 1809.

Page 284 East India Ships 1809-1810. Astell, 820 Tons, 1 Voyage; Madras and Bengal. (George Gooch, Esq.) Captain Robert Hay, 1 William Hawkey, 2 William Morgan, 3 John Drake, 4 James Mahon, Surgeon John Aitkin, Purser James Brown. Sailed Ports 14 March, 1810. Moorings -

Marriage St Mary Newington Southwark Parish Register
No.403 John Drake, of this parish, bachelor and Elizabeth Freak of this parish, spinster were married in this church by Banns this fifteenth day of November 1813 by Robert Dickinson, curate. Witnesses: William Williams and S. Mason

Baptism St Alphage Greenwich Parish Register
No.1002 Thomas John Drake, born 12 Sep 1814, bap 11 Oct 1814, son of John & Elizabeth Drake, Greenwich Road, Chief Mate of an Indiaman.
No.2047 Francis Drake, born 03 Jun 1816, bap 02 Jul 1816, son of John & Eliza Drake, Bridge Street, Mate of an Indiaman
No.1398 Eliza Drake, born 11 Jul 1819, bap 01 Aug 1819, dau of John & Elizabeth Drake, Bridge Street, Captain Royal Navy

Baptism Lewisham St Mary, Kent Parish Register
No.1389 Georgina Augusta Drake, baptised 26 Nov 1820, dau of John & Eliza Drake, Village, Mariner in the East India Company's Service

Baptisms St Giles Camberwell Parish Register
No.1332 Rose Wellond Drake, baptised 11 Sep 1822, dau of John & Elizabeth Drake, Camberwell, Mariner
No.1901 Mercy Drake, baptised 05 Oct 1823, dau of John & Elizabeth Drake, Camberwell, Mariner
No.271 Emma Drake, baptised 13 Apr 1825, dau of John & Elizabeth Drake, Peckham, Mariner
No.1419 John William Drake, baptised 01 Sep 1827, son of John & Eliza Drake, Camberwell, Mariner

Burial St Swithin London Stone Parish Register
No.146 Georgiana Drake, No.4 Doncaster Place, Kent Road, buried 22 Sep 1822 aged 2 years – Cloyster vault
No.168 Rose Bellonia Drake, from Mount Place, Peckham Rye, buried 26 Oct 1823 aged 14 months - Cloyster vault
No.228 John Drake, Camberwell, buried 02 Dec 1827 aged 5 months – in the Cloister vault

The Times 11 May 1821
For Bengal, with liberty to touch at Madeira, warranted to clear out on or before the 20th of June, or forfeit freight, the fine fast sailing teak ship 'Matilda', burden 700 tons, lying in the East India Export Dock: John Drake, Commander, (late of the Hon. Company's Service;) has very superior accomodation for passengers, and carries a surgeon. For freight or passage apply to the Commander, at the Jerusalem coffeehouse; or to Isbister and Horsley, 11, Leadenhall-street.

The Morning Chronicle 19 Jul 1821 Ship News
Deal, July 17… Came down the River and remain, the Matilda, Drake, for Calcutta…

The Morning Post 15 Jan 1823 Law Intelligence – Court of King's Bench, Tuesday, Jan 14.
Important to Ship Owners. Gordon and others v. Hare. The Solicitor-General stated that this was an action brought by the Plaintiffs, who are iron-founders, for articles supplied to the ship 'Matilda', East Indiaman, of which the Defendant is owner. He understood the defence would be that Captain Drake had ordered the work in question, charged at 118l. and that the Captain and not Defendant was liable. A deed of covenant was here put in, whereby it appeared that Captain Drake agreed to become the purchaser of the 'Matilda' on her arrival at Calcutta, and that the said John Drake should take upon him the expense of all repairs, outfits, &c. Captain Drake, of the 'Matilda', proved the having ordered and received a patent capstan from the Plaintiffs. The Lord Chief Justice observed, it was necessary to preserve and not to narrow the principle laid down by the wisdom of the law, which was meant as well to protect tradesmen giving credit as to convenience the owners, namely – that where all necessary repairs should be ordered by the Captain, this would bind the liability of the owners. There was, however, a letter put in, written by the Plaintiff, in this case, demanding payment of Captain Drake. This his Lordship thought decisive as to whom the credit was given, and upon this evidence of special contract directed the Plaintiff to be nonsuited.

The Law Advertiser 1824 page 397 Assignees chosen

James, H. J.	Errington Paxton Jun., Fitches-court, Noble-street, builder and John Drake, Peckham Rye, master mariner
Williams, Joseph	Errington Paxton Jun., Fitches-court, Noble-street, builder and John Drake, Peckham Rye, master mariner

Land Tax Assessments Camberwell, Surrey – LDS Film 993687
1824 Peckham Rye: Proprietor John Selwyn, 6 properties; rental £16, assessment 8s.

Property 1: 1825-1826 Charles Martin	1827-1831 Webling		
Property 2: 1825-1825 J. G. Walker	1826-1827 L. Walker	1828-1828 T. Harrison	1829-1831 Empty
Property 3: 1825-1831 Mary Watson			
Property 4: 1825-1826 John Drake	1827-1827 Empty	1828-1831 Miss Allen	
Property 5: 1825-1831 John Turner			
Property 6: 1825-1831 James Fagg			

Public Ledger and Advertiser 13 Sep 1825 Shipping Intelligence - Outwards
Rising Sun, Drake, for Cape Coast Castle

The Morning Post 20 Oct 1825 Ship News
Portsmouth Oct 18: Arrived – 'Rising Sun', Drake, from the Downs, for Cape Coast Castle.

The Morning Post 24 Oct 1825 Ship News
Portsmouth Oct 21: Sailed – 'Rising Sun', Baker, for Cape Coast Castle.

The Morning Post 27 Apr 1826 Ship News
Portsmouth April 25: Passed by for London, the 'Rising Sun', Drake, from Cape Coast, last from Fayal.

Lloyd's Register of Shipping 1826

Rising Sun	Sr s.C	J. Drake	87	PrEdI	7	F. Burnett	10	LoAfrica	E
	22 I.B.		S.D.	B. & Fir				2 PIC only	9

Schooner sheathed with copper. Master J. Drake, 87 tons, built at Prince Edward Island?, the ship is seven years old, Owner F. Burnett, 10 feet draft of water when loaded, Voyage to Africa, E=2nd class, 1822 Iron Bolts, single deck, two proved iron cables only, Surveyed at London Port September 1826

Notes:
In 1825 master W. Stokes, owner F. Burnett. The vessel was surveyed at Cowes Port January 1825
In 1827 masters Blackler & W. Arnold, owner Capt.&Co. Other changes: 76 tons, 9 feet draft. Surveyed Liverpool & London Ports.

The Monthly Magazine 1826 page 679 A list of bankruptcies announced between 22 Oct and 22 Nov 1826 extracted from the London Gazette
Drake, J., Havell-street, Camberwell, merchant; Solicitor, Hutchinson, Crown-court, Threadneedle-street

The Times 22 Nov 1826 - From the London Gazette 21 Nov 1826: Bankrupts
John Drake, Havell-street, Camberwell, merchant, Nov. 24, Dec 2, Jan 2 at the Bankrupts' Court, Basinghall-street: solicitor, Mr Hutchinson, Crown-court, Threadneedle-street.

Caledonian Mercury 25 Nov 1826 Bankrupts from the London Gazette
J. Drake, Camberwell, Surrey, merchant and ship owner

Bell's Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 26 Nov 1826 – London Gazette of Tuesday – Bankrupts
J. Drake, of the schooner Rising Sun, and of No. 4 Havell-street, Camberwell, merchant and ship-owner.

The London Gazette 16 Jan 1827 page 18
Whereas the acting Commissioners in a Commission of Bankrupt awarded and issued forth against John Drake, of the Schooner Rising-Sun, and of No.4 Hewell-street, Camberwell, in the County of Surrey, Merchant, Ship-Owner, Dealer and Chapman, have certified to the Right Hon. the Lord High Chancellor of Great Britain, that the said John Drake hath in all things conformed himself according to the directions of the several Acts of Parliament made concerning Bankrupts; this is to give notice, that by virtue of an Act passed in the sixth year of His present Majesty's reign, his Certificate will be allowed and confirmed as the said Act directs unless cause be shewn to the contrary on or before the 6th day of February next.

The London Gazette 22 May 1827 page 15
The Commissioners in a Commission of Bankrupt, bearing date the 16th day of November 1826, awarded and issued against John Drake, of the Schooner Rising Sun, and of No.4 Howell-street, Camberwell, in the County of Surrey, Merchant, Ship-Owner, Dealer and Chapman, intend to meet on the 12th day of June next, at Ten in the Forenoon, at the Court of Commissioners of Bankrupts, in Basinghall-Street, in the City of London, to Audit the Accounts of the Assignees of the estate and effects of the said Bankrupt under the said Commission.

The Asiatic Journal and Monthly Miscellany 1828 Death
Oct 21 at Camberwell, aged 33, Eliza, wife of Mr John Drake, late of the Hon. E. I. Company's Service.

The Times 28 Oct 1828 Death
On the 21st inst., at Havill-street, Camberwell, aged 33, Eliza, the wife of Mr John Drake, late of the East India Company's service, second daughter of Thomas Frank, Esq., of Greenwich.

North West Kent Burial Transcription – St Margaret, Lee, Kent
Elizabeth Drake of Camberwell, aged 33 years, was buried 03 November 1828

India Office Record Reference: Z/0/1/10 Miscellaneous Bonds 1829
Bond No. 7075. Date of Instrument – 2 Jan 1829. Description of Instrument: Bond and Convenant. Name: Richard Drake, Free Mariner. Presidency: Madras. Amount of Security: £500. Sureties – John Drake, Somerset Place, Havil Street, Camberwell, Gentleman and John B. Gooch, China Terrace, Lambeth, Merchant.

Madras Almanac 1830 Arrivals
Mr Drake departed London 1 January 1829 on the ship 'General Palmer' (Captain W. Thomas) and arrived at Madras 16 May 1829 via Portsmouth (5 January) and Point de Galle.

East India Company & Civil Service Pensions 1762-1947
Applications made to the Poplar fund and associated correspondence…. See end of this document for transcripts.

Marriage by License 11 Jun 1840 All Saints Parish Church, Newcastle on Tyne
Francis Drake of full age, bachelor, Gentleman of Higham Place – son of John Drake, Captain in the East India Company's Service.
Elizabeth Hedley of full age, spinster of Shield Field – dau of Thomas Hedley, merchant.
Witnesses: Thomas Hedley, Septima Harriet Hedley, Jane Parker Hedley, C. H. Dobson and Marie Bulmer Hedley.

The Newcastle Courant 12 Jun 1840 Marriage
At All Saints on the 11th inst., Francis, second son of Captain John Drake, H.C.S., London, to Elizabeth, fifth daughter of Thomas Hedley, Esq., of the Shieldfield.

[Note: 'H.C.S., London' may stand for "Honourable Company's Ship" London – an abbreviation used by the Honourable East India Company or may just be short for "Honourable Company's Service"]

The Northern Liberator and Champion 13 Jun 1840 (Newcastle-upon-Tyne) Marriage
On the 11th inst., F. Drake, Esq., of Higham Place, to Miss Elizabeth Hedley, of Shield Field.

1841 Census Alfred Place, St Peters, St Newington, Surrey

Maria SEWELL	45yrs	Laundress	Not born in the county
Sarah TEMPEST	25yrs	Laundress	Not born in the county
James HAYNES	20yrs	Painter	Not born in the county
John DRAKE	55yrs	E.I.C.S.	Not born in the county
Elizth. BURGES	35yrs	Independent	Born in the county

1841 Census Selwood Terrace, Brompton, Kensington, Middlesex

William NICHOLSON	40yrs	Silversmith	born in the county
Ann NICHOLSON	40yrs		not born in the county
Mercy DRAKE	17yrs	Independent	not born in the county
Emma DRAKE	??yrs	Independent	not born in the county
Sarah TURNER	18yrs	Female servant	born in the county

Marriage Register Millbrook Parish Church, Southampton, Hampshire, England

Marriage by license 29 Mar 1843. Witnesses: Millicent Augusta Harris and Richard Barber.
Henry George Harris, of full age, bachelor, accountant of Lambeth, son of Nathanial Harris, wine merchant.
Elizabeth Drake, of full age, spinster of Millbrook, dau of John Drake, no occupation given.

1851 Census 4 Loudoun Villas, Bridge Road, St John, St Marylebone, Middlesex

William NICHOLSON	Head	53yrs	Manufacturer in Silver	b Shoreditch
Ann NICHOLSON	Wife	54yrs		b Selbourne, Hants
Mercy DRAKE	Under care of	27yrs	Annuitant [unmarried]	b Peckham, Surrey
Frederic HOPKINS	Visitor	21yrs	Student at New College St Johns Wood [unmarried]	b St George's Boro
Josiah MILLER	Visitor	19yrs	Student at New College St Johns Wood [unmarried]	b Putney, Surrey
Charlotte CARRELL	Servt	22yrs	General servant [unmarried]	b Hornesham, Wilts

The Times 15 Feb 1853 Marriage

On the 6th December 1852 at Islington Chapel by the Rev B. S. Hollis, George Frederick, son of James Hopkins Esq of Euston-square, St Pancras, and nephew of Henry Hopkins Esq of Hobart Town to Emma, youngest daughter of Capt John Drake, late of H.E.I.C.S.

The Courier (Hobart) 26 Jun 1854 Death

The friends of the late Mr G. F. Hopkins are respectfully invited to attend his funeral from Holyrood House, at 3 o'clock to-morrow (Tuesday) afternoon, 27th instant.

Colonial Times (Hobart) 27 Jun 1854

Friends are respectfully invited to attend the funeral of the late George Frederick Hopkins, at three o'clock this day, from Holyrood House, Corner of Murray-street and Patrick-street.

The Hobarton Mercury 12 Jul 1854 The Late Mr Hopkins – To the Editor of the "Mercury"

Sir, - In recording the death of the late Mr Hopkins, I observe that none of the newspapers have noticed the particulars in which that unfortunate gentleman met with his death. I have just seen and conversed with a person whose testimony is above suspicion on the subject and he tells me that before the boat sank one of the men remarked that she was too heavily laden when Mr Hopkins replied "what does it matter we can all swim," scarcely had the words died upon his lips when the boat and Mr H. in the coolest manner possible said to one party "now you strike out for shore as you are not a good swimmer, and we will assist you." Almost at the same time another of the party had great difficulty in keeping himself above water, as the blue shirt which he had on had some how got over his head. After assisting this person in the most noble manner, Mr Hopkins struck out for shore, but scarcely had proceeded many yards when he was observed suddenly to sink, his mates returned and succeeded in rescuing him, but alas it was too late, for life was already extinct. He was the nephew of one of our wealthiest, and report says the most religious townsman of the Independent Congregation, and I merely mention this to show that the unfortunate subject of this article deserved a better fate. Such deeds of heroism should always be recorded and the undoubtedly alleviate our nature and are only a just tribute to the memory of natures true nobility. I am, Sir, An Observer.

1861 Census 20 Marlborough Hill, St John, St Marylebone, Middlesex

William J. NICHOLSON		Head	62yrs	Silver Manufacturer	b Shoreditch, Middlesex
Ann NICHOLSON	Wife	64yrs			b Selbourne, Hants
Mercy DRAKE	Visitor	34yrs		[unmarried]	b Peckham, Surrey
Emma HOPKINS	Visitor	36yrs		[unmarried]	b Peckham, Surrey
Emma KNIGHT		Servt	24yrs	[unmarried]	b Pimlico, Middlesex

National Probate Calendar 1868

15 January. The Will of William Nicholson formerly of Duke-street Lincoln's-Inn in the County of Middlesex Manufacturing Silversmith but late of Aston Clinton in the County of Buckingham Esquire deceased who died 23 December 1867 at Aston Clifton aforesaid was proved at the Principal Registry by the oaths of Charles Latham of 110 Englefield-road Islington in the County of Middlesex Gentleman, Mercy Drake of Aston Clinton aforesaid Spinster and Henry Holland the Younger of Jewin-crescent in the County of Middlesex aforesaid Silversmith the Executors. Effects under £30,000. Resworn at the Stamp Office, July 1872, under £35,000.

1871 Census 3 Norfolk Square, The Palace, Brighton, Sussex

Ann PICKNELL	Head 53yrs	[unmarried]	b Brighton, Sussex
Elizabeth PICKNELL	Sister 62yrs	[unmarried]	b Brighton, Sussex
Mary PATRICK	Servt 18yrs	General servant [unmarried]	b Brighton, Sussex
Ann NICHOLSON	Visitor 74yrs	[widow]	b Selbourne, Hants
Emma HOPKINS	Visitor 46yrs	[widow]	b Peckham, Surrey
Mercy DRAKE	Visitor 47yrs	[unmarried]	b Peckham, Surrey

1881 Census Broseash House, Streatham, London

Ann NICHOLSON	Head 85yrs	Independent means	b Selbourne, Hants
Mary DRAKE	Adopted dau 57yrs	Independent means [unmarried]	b Peckham Rye, Surrey
Emma HOPKINS	Adopted dau 56yrs	Independent means [unmarried]	b Peckham Rye, Surrey
Frederick BULLER	Servt 39yrs	Gardener [married]	b Chertsey, Surrey
Mary BULLER	Servt 41yrs	Servant [married]	b Chobham, Surrey
Mary Ann WARREN	Servt 21yrs	Servant [unmarried]	b Poplar, Middlesex

National Probate Calendar 1882

31 March. The Will with a Codicil of Ann Nicholson formerly of Aston Lodge Balham Hill but late of Broxash Lodge Balham-road both in the County of Surrey Widow who died 19 December 1881 at Broxash Lodge was proved at the Principal Registry by Mercy Drake of Broxash Lodge Spinster the sole Executrix. Personal Estate £849 16s 10d. Resworn February 1883 £2,439 12s 4d.

Reference L-MAR-C-786
No.3151 John Drake, 47yrs, His own service, Second Mate, Served 9 years 6 months, Infirmity, Application rejected

Reference L-MAR-C-787 Applications for Pension from the Poplar Fund
No.3151 Mr John Drake, 47yrs, Second Mate, six voyages, Served 9 years 6 months, Infirmity, Not any relief granted before, five children, not any income or property, first voyage 1803, last voyage 1815, application rejected.

Reference L-MAR-C-833.
Application No.3151 John Drake late 2nd Officer in the Service of the H.E.I.C. his Petition to the Committee of Shipping for the Pension.

I have examined Mr John Drake whose only bodily complaint is "Piles" which might probably be cured by proper surgical attention to them. He is besides in a high state of nervous excitement (in consequence as it appears of misfortunes and disappointments since he left the Company's service) and is on this account unfit for any professional duty or responsibility. W. F. Chambers, M.D., July 30th 1832.

To the Committee of Shipping of the Court of Directors of the Honble. East India Company. Hon. Sirs, Your Petitioner begs leave to submit to your Honble. Committee the reasons for preferring his claims to the Pension for your consideration and also to state, that he delayed applying sooner for it, because he was determined to struggle with, and combat the poverty and want and which surrounded him, and endeavor to abate and overcome the disease by which he is afflicted – but your Petitioner is sorry to observe, that he has failed in his exertions, and now his Health, and Constitution are so shattered that he is unable to follow his profession in your Honble Service, he is reduced in circumstances, and in such distress that he is compelled to apply to your Honble Committee for that relief which officers of his standing are allowed from the Poplar Fund. Your Petitioner, is a widower with five children, without any means to support them. Your Petitioner has performed six voyages in the service of the Honble. East India Company, two of which was in the capacity of second Mate. Your Petitioner was third mate on board the Honble Company's Ship 'Astell' commanded by Captain Robert Hay, the Voyage she engaged the two French Frigates and Corvette, and our Honble. Court was pleased to express their high approbation of the conduct of both officers and men on that occasion. Your Petitioner is aware of the many applicants to your Honble Committee for relief, but he trusts, that the length of time he has delayed making his application will not be considered as a bar to his claims, but rather serve to gain him a greater degree of your Honble Committees human consideration. He therefore humbly observes that he relies with the greatest confidence in the justice and good feeling of your Honble Committee, and feels satisfied that after a mature and due consideration of his case you will grant its prayer. [Signed] John Drake, 31st July 1832, London.

I John Drake, widower, hereby maketh Oath, that he was late a Second Mate in the Service of the United Company of Merchants of England trading to the East Indies: and this Deponent further swears, that he does not possess any Property or Income whatever, arising from any source whatever, either in right of himself, or any Person or Persons in trust for him. [Signed] John Drake. Sworn before me this 31st day of July 1832, J. Twyford.

Jerusalem Coffee House, London, October 7th, 1833
To the Honble Court of Directors of the East India Company. Gentlemen, I have the Honor to acknowledge the receipt of a letter bearing date the 13th ult., through the hands of the Secretary Mr Carter, in reference to a Memorial of the 5th of March, bearing my Signature, and have subjoined I trust a satisfactory reply, to the several questions therein named;

To how long I have been in the Service
I beg leave to state my first voyage was in 1804, my last in 1815, and were, as follows – my first going out, was, in the H.C. Ship 'Sovereign' as Midshipman, the second voyage, I went as 4th Mate of the same ship; 3rd voyage 4th Mate of the 'Phoenix'; 4th voyage 3rd Mate of the 'Astell', in this last expedition we were engaged in Action with two French Frigates and a Corvette, the Conduct of the Officers and Crew on that occasion, not only, met with the approbation of the Honble Court of Directors, but also that of the Lords of the Admiralty. 5th Voyage 2nd Mate of the 'Thames', 6th Voyage 2nd Mate of the 'Thames'. My reason for leaving the ship, was, that she had performed her Eight Voyages, and was broke up – and the Owner (Mr Abel Chapman) having no Ships in the Company's Service, appointed me to the Command of the 'Chapman', then engaged to take out Convicts to New South Wales, and which ship was on that Voyage tendered to the Honoble Company to bring home a Cargo of Tea from China, but was not accepted – this Voyage ended in 1819, and from an unfortunate occurrence of a Mutiny among the Convicts on Board, I was detained two years in this Country, partly, on the trial, and partly to recover from Government, £1000… expenses, which I ultimately succeeded in getting. By this time Death had deprived me of many Powerful friends, such as Mr Williams the Director &c &c – which melancholy event berieved me of the interest I stood in need of – and which induced me then, to Petition the Honble Court for the appointment of 3rd Mate in one of the Company's own ships, but in this I failed. In 1820, my Father in Law (Mr Freak) agreed to lend Captain Templar £20,000 on the security of the two ships he was then Building for the Honble Company's Service, in consideration of his giving me the Command of one of them but owing to Captain Templar not being able to give seen I was disappointed. About this time the Honble Hugh Lindsay presented my Petition to the Chairman (Sir Abercrombie Robinson) soliciting the appointment to a situation at Calcutta as by the Death of Captain Gunbee Brown, but in this I failed, the Chairman having previously disposed of it. In 1822 I tendered jointly with my Father in Law (Mr Freak) to Build a 1200 ton ship for the Company's Service, but did not succeed – since which no ships has been built. In 1824 having been unsuccessful in all my attempts and from the difficulty to procure a Chief or Second Mates situation from the circumstance of so many Officers being thrown out of Employ by the discontinuance of the Company's Trade to India induced me to make a Voyage to the Coast of Guinea which proved unsuccessful. In 1826 Captain Ladd, of the 'Kellie Castle', offered me Chief Mates birth of that ship but as the appointment was in the Gift of the Honble Hugh Lindsay, on my applying to him, I found he had unfortunately just disposed of the same. In the year 1827 having failed in almost every attempt to get… in the Company's Service and having no means of support I took the Command of the 'City of Rochester' 500 tons Ship purchased by my Father in law with which I remained two years up the Mediterranean. In 1829 I tendered the same ship… for Bengal, but she was not taken up. I was then resolved by the advice of my friends to wait an opportunity, and get in to the Company's Service. In the event of no change having taken place the commercial affairs of the Company, new ships would have been wanted, and my friends who Tendered

to Build a Ship for me in 1821 would have done so and I should in common with other Officers have had the chance at an appointment. Having thus I trust fully satisfied the several questions named in the letter I had the Honor of receiving – I beg leave to lay before the Honorable Court of Directors the untoward situation which I am placed, left with five children without the means of supporting either them or myself, and having an aged Parent who after spending her all to bring up five of us, in the Company's (three of whom died in India) the other surviving one now on the Madras Establishment a Captain of the 21st Regt of Native Infantry and myself on whom devolves the painful Office of supporting that Parent who has expended her all on us – added to which my long illness and the various disappointments I have met with, will I trust render me worthy of the attention of the Honorable Court of Directors, having stated my earnest endeavours hitherto, to seize every opportunity of embracing employment, it remains only for me to throw myself on the Mercy of the Honorable Court of Directors, and in requesting… seriously to take into consideration my misfortune… have the Honor to remain, Gentlemen, your obedient Humble servant John Drake.

Committee Room, Carolina Coffee House, Birchin Lane 18th June 1835
[To Peter Auber Esq., East India House] Sir, I am directed by the Committee of Excluded Officers of the East India Maritime Service to request that you will be pleased to submit to the Honorable the Court of Directors the respectful disclaimer on their behalf of all knowledge of or participation in a document published in the "Morning Herald" of this day purporting to be "an address from the East India Maritime Service to Lord Glenelg." This Committee have studiously abstained from any and every course in the pursuit of their claim to indulgent consideration which could bear the character of impertinent intrusion on the prerogative of the Honorable Court of Directors, in whose Justice and humanity this Committee have ever felt the most lively confidence. I have the honor to be Sir, Your most obedient humble servant, John Drake.

I hereby certify that Mr John Drake served two voyages in the H.C.S. 'Thames' under my command in the Seasons 1811.12 and 1813.14 as second Officer, much to my satisfaction. Matthew Riches, Commander, London… August 1835.

I hereby certify that Mr John Drake served two voyages in the H.C.S. 'Thames' under my command in the Seasons 1811.12 and 1813.14 as second Officer, much to my satisfaction and was after employed by me as Commander of my Ship 'Chapman' on a Voyage to New South Wales and India in the years 1816.17 & 18. Abel Chapman, Managing Owner, London …August 1835.

At Mr Freaks, Thames Street, Greenwich, 31st August 1835
To the Honorable the Court of Directors of the East India Company. Honorable Sirs, In the depth of my despair I am driven to make one more appeal to Your Honorable Court, in the humble hope that should you after a minute enquiry into the facts which I herein detail find them more than true that you will consider me an object worthy of your Charity. I beg leave to state my first Voyage in your Honble Service was in 1804 my last in 1815 and were as follows

1st in the H.C.S. 'Sovereign' as Midshipman
2nd in the H.C.S. 'Sovereign' as 4th Mate
3rd in the H.C.S. 'Phoenix' as 4th Mate

4th in the H.C.S. 'Astell' as 3rd Mate
5th in the H.C.S. 'Thames' as 2nd Mate
6th in the H.C.S. 'Thames' as 2nd Mate

On my 4th Voyage, in the 'Astell' we were in action with two French Frigates and a Corvette – the conduct of the Officers and Crew on that occasion met with not only the approbation of the Honble Court of Directors but also that of the Lords of the Admiralty – my last Voyage in the 'Thames' was the conclusion of that ships contract with the Honble Company, and she was broken up. The Owner Mr Abel Chapman, having no Ship in the Company's Service appointed me to the command of the 'Chapman' then engaged to take out Convicts to New South Wales and which ship was on that Voyage tendered to the Company to bring home Teas from China but was not accepted – this Voyage ended in 1819 – and from an unfortunate occurrence of a Mutiny among the Convicts on Board, I was detained two Years, in this Country, partly on the trial and partly to recover from Government £1000 lieu Expences, which I succeeded in recovering. By this time Death had deprived me of many powerful Friends, such as Mr William… the Director &c &c., which melancholy event berieved me of that Interest I stood so much in need of and which induced me then to petition the Honble Court for the appointment of third Mate in the Own Service, but in this I failed. In 1820 my Friends agreed to lend Mr Templar £20,000 on the security of the two ships he was then building for the Honble Company's Service, in consideration of his giving me the Command of one of them. Mr Templar did not fulfil this engagement and I was disappointed. About this time the Honble Hugh Lindsay presented my Petition to Your Honorable Chairman soliciting the appointment to a situation at Calcutta vacant by the death of Captn. G. Browne, in this I failed, the Chairman having previously disposed of it. In 1823 jointly with my friends I tendered to build a 1300 ton ship for the Company's service, but did not succeed, since which no ship has been built. In 1824 having been unsuccessful in all my attempts and from the difficulty to procure a Chief or Second Mates birth from the circumstance of so many Officers being thrown out of Employ by the redirection of the Company's trading to India, induced me to make a Voyage to the Coast of Guinea which proved very unsuccessful. In 1826 Captn. Ladd of the 'Kellie Castle' offered me the Chief Mate's birth of that Ship, but as the appointment was in the gift of the Honble Hugh Lindsay, on my applying to him I found he had just disposed of it. In the Year 1827 having failed in every attempt to get again into the Company's Service and having no means of support I took the command of the 'City of Rochester' a 500 ton ship purchased by my friends in which I remained two years up the Mediterranean. In 1829 I tendered that Ship to the Honble Company for Bengal, but she was not taken up, she was then sold. It was then resolved by the advice of my friends to wait an opportunity of giving into the Company's Service. In the event of no change having taken place in the Commercial affairs of the Company, New Ships would have been wanted and I should in common with other Officers have had the chance of an appointment. Having this fully laid before your Honorable Court the unfortunate situation in which I am placed left with Five Children without the means of supporting either them or myself, an aged parent who after spending her all to bring Five of us up in the Company Service (three of whom died in India) the other a Captain on your Madras Establishment and myself on whom has devolved till lately the natural but difficult Office of supporting their Parent which I was only enabled to do through the Charity of others, add to all these circumstances that I have lately been laboring under a severe attack of fever produced by events over which I had no control and I am much indebted… pecuniary assistance afforded me by my Excluded Brother Officer, for my present state of convalescence. I am still a Man in the prime of Life and would gladly embrace any situation that your Honorable Court (on enquiry) might find me capable of filling, in failure of this I respectfully and earnestly entreat your Honorable Court to place me out of the reach of the want of bread! by allowing me the Pension from the Poplar Fund. I have the Honor to be Honorable Sirs with great respect Your most Obedient Humble Servant, John Drake