

~ Louisa Ker's Eight Children ~

Note: This article contains information listed on death certificates which are notoriously unreliable documents - because they are filed by secondary sources - bereaved kin and sometimes not even family. Statements of dubious nature are in [blue](#). In these below cases, all informants were by people who had never met Johan Uhr, Peter Peterson or Louisa Ker.

The 3 Children of Louisa and Peter Peterson

1. Mary Louisa Peterson

Born – 12 Aug 1803

Baptised – 20 Dec **1822 (aged 19 years) St George in the East, London**

Her sister Louisa's baptism is the next entry on the same page.

Marriage to Richard Jones, Occupation - Merchant

– 24 Dec 1822, St George in the East, Tower Hamlets, London

Witnesses – Edward Jones (Richard's brother) & Daniel Peterson (Mary's brother)
(Mary Louisa Peterson was a minor – 19 years old – signed by Louisa Uhr)

Death – 10 Apr 1887, Mother – Louisa Ker - Father – Peter Peterson

Informant – Daughter – Frances Jones

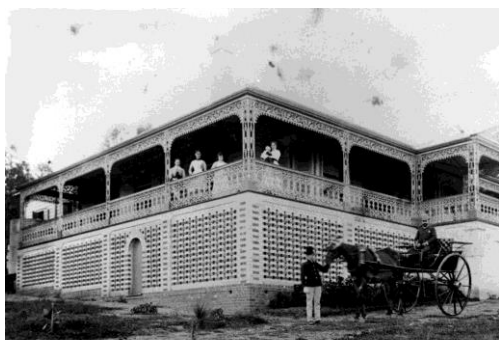
Arrival in Australia – Hugh Crawford - left London 10 Dec 1824 – arrived 3 Apr 1825.

Mary Louisa was baptised aged 19, four days before her marriage to Richard Jones. Her sister Louisa was baptised on the same day. Mary and Richard had their first child in London ten months later. The forthcoming seven children were all born in Australia, giving them a total of five daughters and three sons.

Richard was the instigator and enabler for Mary's siblings coming to Australia. He had ships, contacts and money. (More details for Richard Jones in the notes section of his profile in the tree).

Four of her children predeceased her. Mary died of 'old age' at 83, and is interred at South Brisbane Cemetery. A plaque (and tree) has been located at Jordon Terrace, Miegunyah, Bowen Hills, which is a heritage-listed house and museum.

https://www.monumentaustralia.org.au/australian_monument/display/107051



Mystery Question – Does or did a headstone exist for Mary Louisa?

2. Daniel Peterson

Born – 1 Apr 1805, London
*No baptism found

Marriage to Mary Ann Lothrop, 7 Jun 1835, Boston, Massachusetts, US
No parents listed on Marriage certificate

Death – 21 Jan 1855, Brisbane, QLD
Not in possession of a death certificate for Daniel.

Final arrival in Australia – Spartan – left London 13 June 1842 – arrived 23 Oct 1842.

Daniel would have been 18 months old when his father died in 1809.

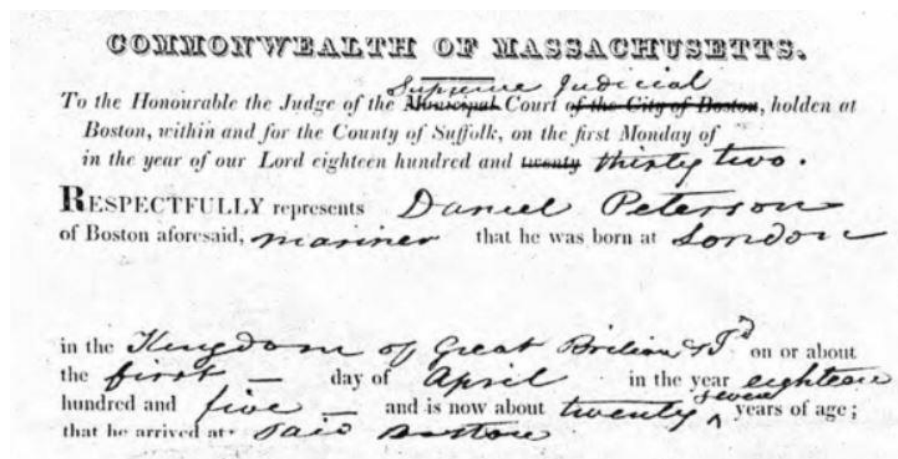
He worked for his brother-in-law Richard Jones at about age 15, coming briefly to Australia on *Prince Regent*. By age 21 he was master of Richard's ship called *Juno* travelling to New Zealand and back.

On 7 June 1835, Daniel married Mary Ann Lothrop in Boston, Massachusetts, USA. Their first child was born in Boston in the US. Seven years after their marriage, they're back in London before making their way to Australia in 1842 with two children, and a third child is born on the journey.

Daniel became a grazier in NSW, then two years later, after the birth of their fourth child, moved to QLD and became a merchant. They had their fifth child in Qld, giving them a total of four sons and one daughter.

Unfortunately, on the last day of 1854 he shot wife Mary Ann in the leg. Daniel died in gaol from disease, rather than the wounds he inflicted upon himself three weeks after incarceration. Mary Ann spent another 30 years living in NSW. Daniel is buried at the Paddington Cemetery in Brisbane.

Daniel's 1832 US naturalisation papers state his birthday was 1 April 1805. This is in conflict to his headstone which simply says aged 46, which would make him born in 1808.



Mystery Question – Was Daniel ever baptised anywhere?

3. Louisa Peterson

Born – 1 May 1806

Baptised – 20 Dec 1822 (Aged 16 years) St George in the East, London

Her sister Mary Louisa's baptism is the entry above on the same page.

Parents listed as Louisa & Peter (Peter had died in 1809)

i – Marriage to George Shephard – Occupation not stated on marriage documents.
 – 13 Feb 1823, St George in the East, Tower Hamlets, London
 Witnesses – Daniel Peterson (brother) & Margaret Layburn
 (Louisa was also a minor at the time of her marriage – 16 years)

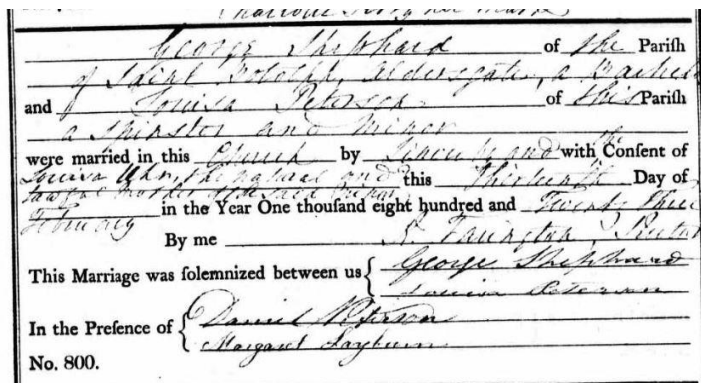
ii – Marriage to Edward McRoberts
 – 17 March 1846, Sydney, NSW, Australia

Death – 19 Apr 1881 – QLD – States parents as [Richard Peterson \(ship owner\)](#) & [Mary Louisa Ker](#)

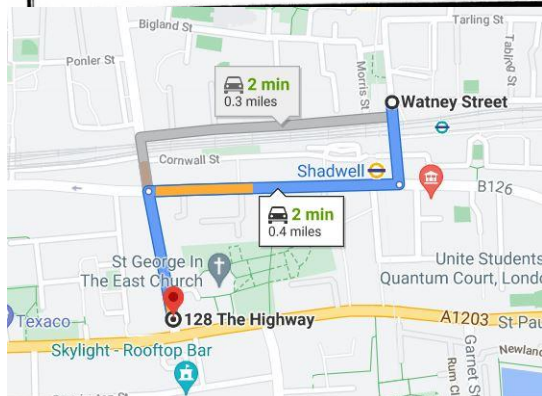
Informant – Daughter – Elizabeth Mary Peterson

Arrival in Australia – *Persian* – left Portsmouth, UK – 4 Sep 1845 – arrived 4 Jan 1846.

Witness Margaret Layburn may have been Louisa's Jr's friend – a Margaret Caroline Layburn has been located living in Watney St, a couple of Streets away from them and St George in the East. She was also born 1806.



Name:	Margaret Caroline Layburn
Gender:	Female
Birth Date:	3 Dec 1806
Baptism Date:	17 Jan 1808
Baptism Place:	Saint George IN The East, Stepney, London, England
Father:	John Layburn
Mother:	Sophia



Name:	Margaret Caroline Layburn
Gender:	Female
Record Type:	Marriage
Marriage Date:	23 Jun 1832
Marriage Place:	St George in the East, Tower Hamlets, England
Spouse:	John Westbuch
Register Type:	Parish Register

There are many **Mystery Questions** about Louisa Peterson; George Shephard; and their children, so another article has been written. (See articles – [Last to Leave](#) and [Was it Bigamy?](#)).

5 Children of Louisa and John Uhr

1. John James Uhr

Birth – 12 Sep 1811 – Living at Cannon St (Road)
Baptism – 27 Oct 1811 – St George in the East, London

Death – Dec 1845, Wivenhoe Station, QLD

First arrival in Australia – *Sir George Osborne* – London, 14 Aug 1825 – Sydney, 17 Dec 1825.

The 1828 census says John arrived on the [Sir George Osborne](#) in 1824. This year must have been in error, possibly information supplied by someone other than John himself. There was only ever one account of that ship arriving in Australia. He also wasn't on board the [Sir Godfrey Webster](#) as stated in the P & U book. That ship did arrive in Jan of 1824, but was loaded with convicts guarded by the 40th regiment. It's very unlikely Jones would have sent him to Australia before his own arrival in April 1825. Richard Jones would have put his brother-in-law, aged 14, on the [Sir George Osborne](#), along with his merino sheep, and John was probably tasked with feeding them. As John was the first to permanently make Australia his home, the year 1825 marks the start of this family on Oz soil. After John's brother Edmund had also arrived, they were soon pastoralists for brother-in-law Richard Jones. Together they moved livestock and traversed the country side of NSW and Qld. On 2 Dec 1838 John left for London on the ship *Dryade*, which was carrying produce and the largest weight of mail to leave Australia so far. He arrived 10 May 1839 and stayed with his half-sister Louisa Peterson (then Shephard) and her two children in Newington, Surrey - 1841 census, with no mention of her husband George or son George.

John had mail sent to him in London from Edmund and half-brother Daniel, which was redirected to an address in Jersey – an island off the coast of France in the English Channel. Interestingly a newspaper clip of half-sister Louisa's marriage to Edward McRoberts, says she was previously from Jersey. What were they doing there? (See Articles – [Last to Leave](#) and [Was it Bigamy?](#)).

John returned to Australia, 22 June 1844 on the barque *Georgetown*. It left London on 6 March 1844 also carrying cargo.



In Dec 1845, John died from an attack by aboriginals in Ipswich. No death certificate or full inquest papers have been found.

Mystery Question – Why was there no death registered?

2. Edmund Blucher Uhr

Birth – Unknown – Abt 1813 Living at Cannon St (Road)

Baptism – 18 May 1814, St Mary's Lambeth, London

Marriage – 6 Feb 1840 – Amy Kemp (Widow -Young), St James Church, Sydney, NSW

No parents listed.

Death – 13 July 1874, Brisbane, QLD

Parents - John [Frederick](#) Uhr – Mariner, & Louisa [Agatha](#) Ker

Informant – Wife – Amy

Arrival in Australia – Saracen – London, 25 Aug 1827 – Sydney, 27 Dec 1827.

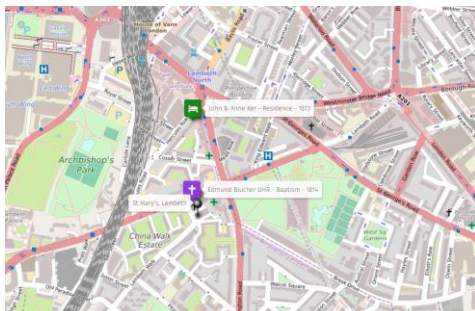
Edmund Blucher was about 14 when he arrived in Australia onboard the ship whaler *Saracen*.. Richard Jones owned this ship (not the naval ship by the same name). It was also carrying merino sheep owned by Richard Jones. Edmund was possibly put in charge of these woolly cargos as well as his elder brother John on their respective journeys. Strangely noted in one newspaper article was that an 'entire' horse was on board.

Edmund arrived at the Jones property "Fleurs" and worked on the land with his brother John. He become a magistrate, then he owned a boiling-down works in Queensland, and also became a Sargeant at Arms for the legislative assembly.

Edmund married Amy Kemp (who was previously married to Wharton Thomas Young at Hobart in 1835. Two years later, and without children, Wharton died). Amy and Edmund married in Sydney, 6 Feb 1840 and together they had 10 children – four daughters and six sons.

The middle name of Blucher does raise questions. Presumably it was after Field Marshal Gebhard Leberecht von Blucher, who led his army into the Battle of the Nations in 1813 and Waterloo in 1815. Blucher started his military career as a Hussar in the Swedish army, then joined the Prussian army. Why give Edmund this name? Was it because his father Johan/John really was with the Kings German Army 1st Hussars? (See article – [The Mystery Mariner](#)). Nothing definitive as to Johan's heritage as Blucher fought for both Sweden and Prussia (Germany).

Why was Edmund baptised at St Mary's Lambeth, when they still lived up the road from St George in the East? Maybe it was because Louisa's 'parents' were living within walking distance at the time – (See [Interactive London Map](#) in "Resources").



Mystery Question – Was Edmund given the name Blucher because his father 'knew' the Field Marshal, or only 'knew of' him?

3. Joseph Walter Uhr

Birth – 26 Apr 1817 – Living at Cannon St (Road)

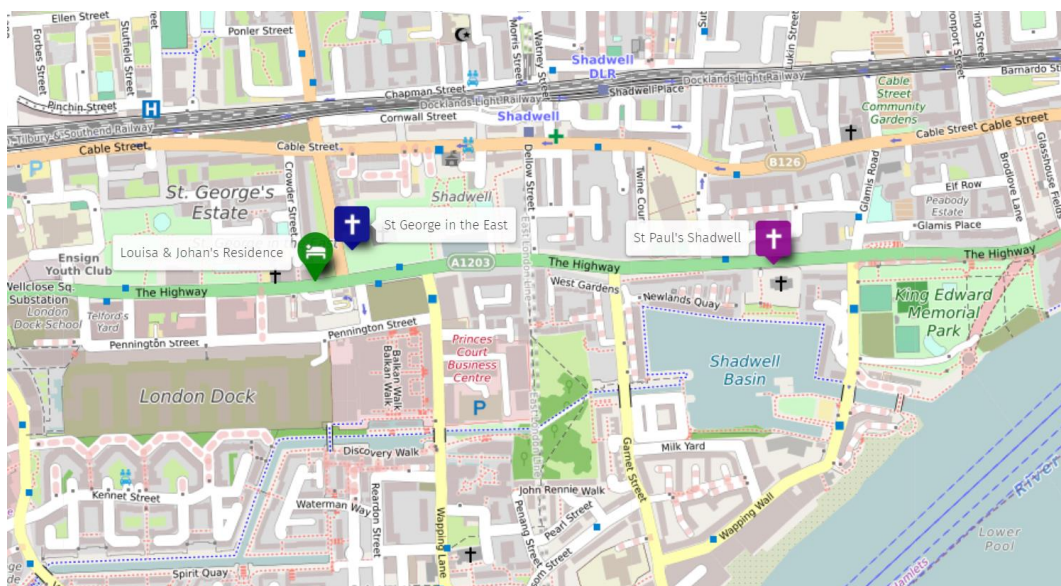
Baptism – 1 Apr 1818, St Paul's, Shadwell, Tower Hamlets, London

Marriage – ?

Death – ?

Arrival in Australia – Westmoreland – Downs, 8 Jan 1833 – Sydney, 19 May 1833

Joseph Walter's baptism was at St Paul's, not close to anything else of known interest about the area. Except to say it was close to their home, but not as close as St George in the East – which was down the road from their residence and where five of the eight children were baptised at St George in the East.

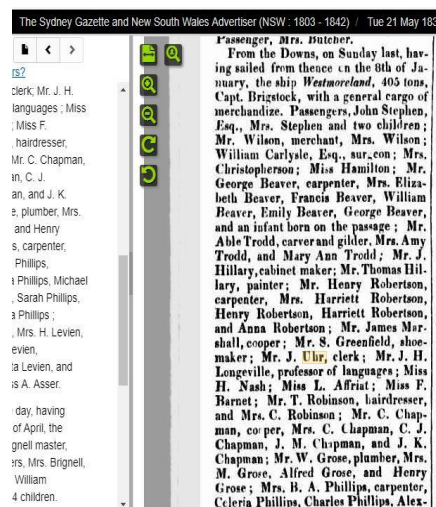


(See Interactive London Map in "Resources").

The *Westmoreland* was said to be brother William Cornelius's ship in the P&U Book, but Joseph's full name is on a copy of the original manifest, see below. Not much else is known about Joseph. No death document has ever been found.



Mystery Questions – What happened to Joseph? Did he live in another country? Why baptise Joseph at St Paul's?

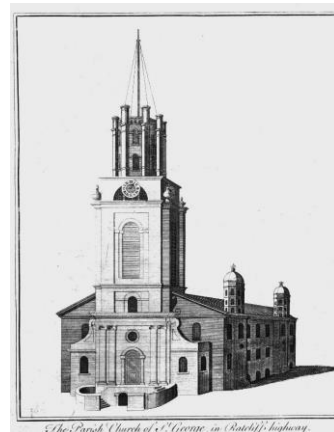


4. William Cornelius Uhr (Born Cornelius William)

Birth – 17 May 1819 – Living at Cannon St (Road)
Baptism – 9 Sep 1821, St George in the East, London

Marriage – 1 Mar 1860, Parramatta, NSW,
Augusta Louisa Campbell (Widow - Kinghorne)
Parents – John Uhr & [Mary](#) Louisa Ker

Death – 6 Mar 1896, Burwood, Sydney, NSW
Parents – John Uhr ([Naval Captain](#)) & [Anne](#) Ker
States birth as [Bremen, Germany](#)
Informant – Son, Arthur Ernest Ulrich Uhr



Arrival in Australia – *Lord Goderich* – London, 4 Apr 1836 – Sydney, 30 Aug 1836

Cornelius William was baptised at St George in the East, aged two years and four months. Apart from the baptism, William is not referred to as Cornelius as a first name again.

William's son Ernest states that his father was born in Bremen, Germany (Death cert). No proof has been found for this. It's wondered whether there was ambiguity in the questioning. Such as – Q. "Father's name?" A. "William Uhr". Q. "His father's name?" A. "John Uhr" Q. "Father's place of birth?" A. "Bremen, Germany" – meaning his grandfather.

William had been indentured as an apprentice in the merchant navy ship *Lord Goderich* on 18 March 1836. The document says it was for 4 months. He would have been aged 17. It was apparently a fine ship, which carried a huge assortment of cargo including a piano. No sheep were found on the cargo list. It did sustain damage to three cabin ports when it dropped anchor and ran into the *Runnymed*.

His wife Augusta was first married to James Kinghorne in Wellington, NSW in 1848, although I have no paperwork to support the date. Nor paperwork for her birth, but her headstone says she was born in 1836, making her 12 when she first married (legal at the time). She acquired some land in the area via James's Will. There are no known children from this marriage before James died in 1856. Four years later Augusta and William married in Parramatta when William was 40 years old. They had two daughters and five sons.

William composed many songs including *You Love Me Not* in 1853. A recording of this is available in the "Video" section for registered users.

He also worked in the sheriff's office beside his younger brother George, eventually becoming a chief clerk then undersheriff. William resided in Sydney during his lifetime, he's buried at St John's, Ashfield, Sydney, NSW.

Mystery Question – Was he really born in Bremen, Germany, or did the informant confuse this data with the grandfather Johan?

5. George Richard Uhr

Birth – 6 Jun 1822 – Living at Cannon St (Road)

Baptism – 26 Dec 1824, St George in the East, London

Marriage –

- i. 13 Jun 1843, Pyrmont, Sydney, NSW – Sarah Jane McRoberts
No parents listed
- ii. 19 Jan 1849, St Andrews Church, Sydney, NSW – Elizabeth Davies
No Parents listed (George, Widow 1848)

Death – 10 Sep 1864

Parents – John [Cornelius Uhr](#) – [Gentleman](#), & [Mary Louisa Agatha Kerr](#)

Informant – Thomas Brag the neighbour

Arrival in Australia – [Abel Gower](#) – London, 1 Apr 1837 – Sydney, 23 July 1837.

George was baptised at St George in the East, aged 18 months.

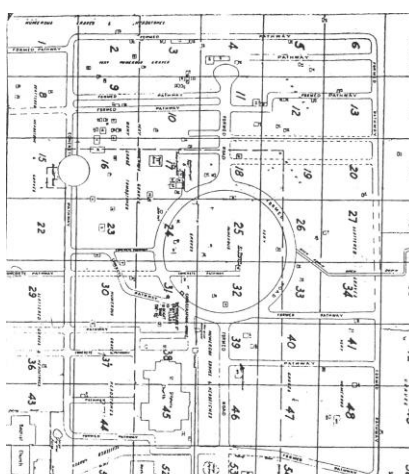
George was aged 15 when he left London, only 3 months after the death of his mother Louisa in Jan 1837. George attended Kings School in Parramatta.

His first marriage was to Sarah Jane McRoberts in 1843. Sarah was the daughter of Edward McRoberts. George's half-sister Louisa married the same Edward McRoberts in 1846, effectively making George's sister Louisa, also his step mother.

They had two sons before Sarah died in 1848. Five months later he married Elizabeth Davies. (See article [Real Innes in the House](#)). They had eight children, four sons and four daughters.

George worked his way up the ranks at the Sheriff's Office to become one of only 27 NSW sheriffs, full or acting, to date (2021).

His prominence was cut short when he had an accident with the wheel of a cart in



1863. His head injuries saw him trying to recuperate for over a year, but died from the injuries in 1864. The grave site of George is at the Camperdown Cemetery in Sydney, NSW. In 1948, it was decided to convert much of the cemetery to parkland. George's headstone (if he had one) didn't survive the transfer into the older section where many were placed against the walls. His remains still rest in the converted parkland, where the plot has now been identified, and a full map is in the "Cemetery" section of this website.

Mystery Question – Did he ever have a headstone, and if so, what happened to it?