

APPENDIX

THE COOPER MONEY

Details of the loss of the *Almorah* and the money sent via this ship to the orphan children of Charles Cooper may be read in *Historical Records of Australia* Series 1, Volume XI published by the Library Committee of the Commonwealth Parliament (1917) that covers the period January 1823 to November 1825.

The Memorial written by William Price on behalf of his wife Ann, sister-in-law Sarah Moore and brother-in-law Thomas Cooper in an attempt to obtain the money sent to them on the *Almorah* is found in the section on William Price starting on page 45. Details of the *Historical Records of Australia* information follow:

SIR THOMAS BRISBANE TO EARL
BATHURST

*(Despatch No 39, per ship Hope;
acknowledged by Earl Bathurst to
Governor Darling, 12th November 1826.)*

*Government House, New South Wales
My Lord,*

*As the circumstances connected
with the Merchant Ship "Almorah" have
cause a great sensation here¹ and as I
have no doubt every attempt will be
made in England to excite
misrepresentation, I deem it my Duty to
give your Lordship a detail of the whole.*

*At the end of August last, finding that
the price of wheat had risen to 30s [30
shillings] per bushel, Mr Wentworth,
Superintendent of Police having
subsequently stated to me it had*

*advanced to 50s., as it was then four
months from Harvest, combined with a
long continued drought, and as there
were other contingencies from physical
causes over which there was no human
control, as these might operated to
impair the crop when it did arrive, I
considered it expedient to instruct Mr
Wemyss, Deputy Commissioner General
to charter a Vessel to bring a cargo of
rice and flour from Batavia, our nearest
port for supplies, in which measure I
considered myself fully justified, not only
in guarding against the pressure of
want, or in diminishing the expense to
the Crown of the number to be fed, but
guided by the precedent of the Ports in
England being thrown open to the
importation of grain, when it exceeds a
certain price; I consider these as
legitimate motives for the step, and a
copy of this letter, No 1, I have the honor
to transmit to your Lordship.
The ship "Almorah being considered by
me as having tendered for this Service
most advantageously of those that were
in the Harbour, and disposable as
staged by Mr Wemyss, was
consequently engaged, and sailed the
10th September and arrived here on 17th
of last month. On the day following I
learnt with surprize of her having been
seized in the harbour by Captn Mitchell
commanding HM Ship "Slaney". On
communication with the Attorney
General as to the cause of the seizure I
learnt with surprize that it arose from
there being 300 quarter chests of Tea on
board; And on receiving a Report from
the Naval Officer, I discovered much to
my astonishment that there were 53
Chests more, 106,000 dollars, 288 Bags
of Sugar, and 480 Bushels or Bags of*

¹ Ser 1 Volume XI-2L – Note 139

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wheat. As none of these articles were even contemplated by me, or any others beyond those expressed in my letter above alluded to, I could not but consider that Mr Wemyss had assumed to himself a latitude he was by no means authorized to exercise; and, on my expressing myself to that effect, in the presence of the Attorney general, he said he considered himself fully borne out by his Instructions, producing them at the same time, and adding that he would relieve me from all responsibility; I therefore only felt it necessary for me to sanction the transaction on the part of the Government here, so far as to protect the interests of the Crown; and as I viewed it as a bona-fide transaction between the Commissary and the Crown, I state to the Attorney General that, under that impression solely, I should Sanction the transaction, in order to enable him to sue for it as Crown property, as having been paid for by Treasury Bills, reserving to myself the exoneration to your lordship as the items of the Cargo at a future period.

Touching these, I must view Mr Wemyss having sent for so large a quantity of Dollars as a most inexpedient measure, as one of the most obnoxious proceedings he had resorted to, and which excited increased confliction between him and the Inhabitants; and I am fully borne out in this opinion as the premium of Treasury Bills here, at the time they were negotiated at Batavia, did not differ one per cent, which would not justify the responsibility or warrant such a risk under any circumstances connected with it. Negotiations were going on for several days between the

Attorney General and the Law Officers of the Crown, and Captain Mitchell and his legal advisors, and I must lament to report the issue. After I had agreed to give Treasury Bills to the amount of the Cargo, as my letter (No 2) to the Attorney General on the subject will acquaint Your Lordship, which the Captors would not accede to unless I consented to lodge the money in the New South Wales Bank, which proposal I declined from many reasons; I then directed the Attorney General to obtain a Warrant and to proceed with Mr Clements the Commissariat Officer, who had gone to Batavia for the Cargo, and to identify Crown property, in order that he might recover it under the sanction of the Attorney General's presence, which seemed the best means of preventing personal violence; I however wrote myself a letter to Captain Mitchell (3) directing him to issue his orders that no violence should be used by his Officers or men on board the "Armora" in charge of her, whilst Mr Bannister was in the discharge of his duty going on board her; and I particularly instructed the Attorney General to give this letter to Captn Mitchell before he went. Your Lordship will learn with no less surprise than regret that after all these precautions that many loaded muskets were fired at his boat as he approached the "Almora" then in charge of Lieut Matthews of HM Ship "Slaney" and was told by that Officer that he would sink her; Mr Bannister not being allowed to come near the Ship deemed it prudent to return. Lieut Matthews and his lawless crew on this gave three cheers. The Attorney General saw Capt Mitchell after this had happened, and prepared

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to proceed a second time to see if he could be more Successful when Capt Mitchell told him from his boat "He had better not go on board" (the Almorah), thus identifying himself with the transaction and the felonious orders he had given to fire upon all boats which should approach the "Almorah"; and which reception the Attorney General experienced a second time, as he was repeatedly fired at with ball, which struck the water so near the boat that nobody could mistake them. I was anxious from the beginning to get so large an amount of Crown Property into my possession from various considerations; and one of my most cogent reasons was the impression that, in the event of a condemnation on behalf of the Captors the value might be lost before and appeal home could be obtained to direct restitution to the King. This was a chief ground of the anxiety to possess the cargo. Throughout the whole transaction I had shown the utmost forbearance to Capt Mitchell after Seizing the "Almorah"; although my opinion, and confirmed by Law Officers of the Crown that the seizure was illegal, still I was unwilling to recover the Almorah at so grievous a rate, as the expense of human life or shedding of blood, which I was fully aware would be the effect of proceeding to lay hold of Crown property, and which assertion is fully justified by the unwarrantable, illegal, and unjustifiable proceedings of Capt Mitchell with the Officers and men of HMS Slaney, who came here to protect the King's property, but have been the first to violate it, to outrage the Law in the grossest manner, and to set my

authority at defiance. Had I been as little regardless of life or the Shedding of blood as Capt Mitchell or his First Lieutenant, is it to be for a moment supposed that, by manning all the boats in the Harbour with troops, I could not have obtained possession of the Almorah? But I was actuated by very different feelings, both of a moral and political nature; and, as regards the former, could I have acquitted myself to my own mind in time of profound peace, to sacrifice many lives, whilst the bounty of Providence had happily placed us beyond the immediate want of the Cargo of the Almorah, so as to justify such a measure? In the next place, how could I reconcile establishing a conflict between the two Services? These grave considerations outweighed every other possible bearing of the case.

Although Capt Mitchell has no plea to justify his conduct, and seems to have been actuated by no motives beyond personal advantages which were at issue; and I should presume never once reflected on the baneful tendency of establishing here, above all countries in the world, the evil example of so dangerous a proceeding as a pre-eminence to the Law of Land, as also an utter contempt for my authority; and I have no hesitation in pronouncing that the danger arising from this example is incalculable; and if the Law as it now Stands, does not place a Naval Officer under the control of the Governor, I should humbly beg to Submit to your Lordship the propriety of an alteration being made on his head. I am induced to believe that your Lordship will hardly credit that, after all precautionary

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measures with Capt Mitchell and the amicable negotiations still pending, he should, in the course of the following night, have removed the Almorah and had her unlawfully sent to Sea without any Sanction and without a Port Clearance, as also in defiance of all remonstrance; and his First Lieutenant with a body of Marines are gone in her in order to defend her against any attempt to take her. I have to add another act of equal violence and injustice on the part of Capt Mitchell in refusing to allow Mr Clements, the Officer of the Commissariat to proceed in the Almorah to the Port he proposed to send her, I presume lest he might claim the property of the Crown, and Substantiate all the facts connected with this extraordinary transaction.

I have availed myself of a Ship going to India to transmit a Statement of this Case to the Governor General, and I have pressed the necessity of Sending Lieutenant Matthews down here to be tried for the offence he has committed against the Law of the Country; and I deem it of much importance that he should be tried here for the Sake of example, where he has so grossly outraged the Law; and I trust your Lordship will concur in the opinion of the propriety of this measure. I shall only further press in the Strongest manner upon your Lordship the urgent necessity of visiting Capt Mitchell with all the responsibility his conduct merits; as however lawful and fair the seizure of the Ship Almorah and her cargo might be, nothing in my mind can justify the unlawful and outrageous conduct of Capt Mitchell in the gross violation of

the Law as connected with the whole proceedings, or in personal disrespect to myself; and I fear he has allowed himself to be misled by his legal Advisors Dr Wardle and Mr W Wentworth, who, unfortunately are not responsible for any opinion they give, or act arising from it, and whose report of it in the "Australian" of which they are the Editors, is stated to me by the Attorney General to be grossly inaccurate.

I have the honor to send your Lordship a copy of the letter which I have transmitted to the Governor General in India, accompanying notarial copies of all Papers connected with the cast of the Almorah. I have also the honor to transmit to your Lordship the Attorney General's Report on the case, and I have only to hope they will view these proceedings in England as well as in India in their just Light.

I have, &c, THOS BRISBANE

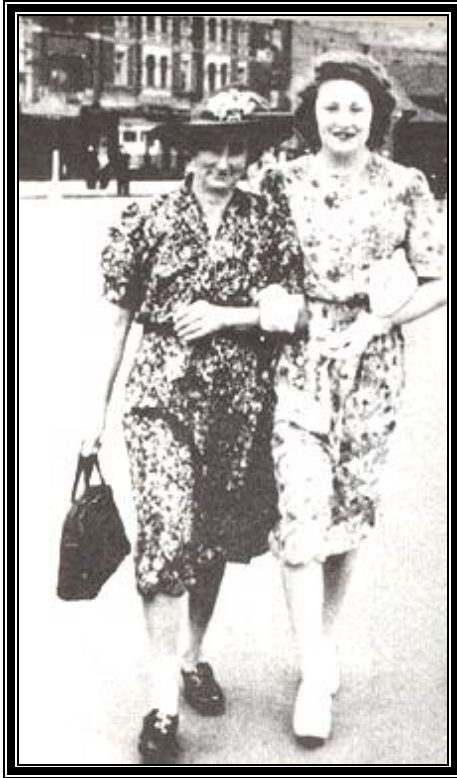
The next few pages in *Historial Records* continued with various correspondence re the above matter. The spelling of *Mitchell* varied from one *L* to two.

William also wrote a number of other memorials during the process of trying to get title deeds (or equivalent) to the land given to him in lieu of money as payment for work carried out for William Cox of Clarendon.

Unfortunately Mr Cox also gave the land to Mr Bowman and several others. Fortunately the land was surveyed in Macquarie's time and William Price noted as the owner.

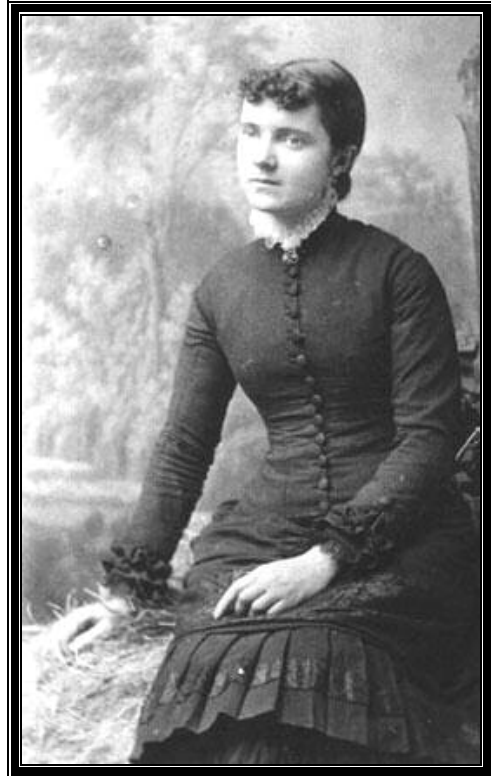
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Below: L-R Lily (nee Chapman) Clugston and her daughter Coral. Photographs taken in Sydney in 1940s. Robert Martin & Martha Price line.



Notes & updates

Next photograph of unknown Yeo relative and bottom, Yeo family at Maitland area.



The Next Life

Death Certificates post 1856 give details of the cause of death of our ancestors – and many appear to have suffered from the dreaded TB and asthma that caused their deaths. These documents give only a sketchy outline of their demise. By accident I came across the following document about the death of William Moore - son of Sarah nee Cooper - that ends on a happy note. He was greatly

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influenced by his uncle, William Price. His cousin, William Thomas Price at his retirement dinner spoke well about his cousin but bluntly pointed out that he was a man who was a boring speaker but his heart was in the right place.

Another article that I read spoke of the sacrifices that Rev Moore made in the time that he lived in Fiji – sacrifices of comfort etc. I thought at the time that there was no mention of the Rev Moore's wife and I think it was 16 children that she gave birth to...

MINUTES OF THE NSW WESLEYAN CONFERENCE 1894

QUESTION XIV – What Ministers have died since last Conference?

Answer

WILLIAM MOORE, who was born at Parramatta on the 24th March 1821 and died at Stanmore on the 12th of September 1893, in his seventy-third year. He was the subject of deep religious impressions in the days of his youth, and was converted to God in his early manhood, under the ministry of the Rev Samuel Wilkinson. Uniting himself at once with the Wesleyan Methodist Church, he soon after became a local preacher, and proclaimed the Gospel in many parts of the old Windsor Circuit, with acceptance and success. In response to the call of God and the Church he offered himself in 1847 for the work of Christian Missions in heathen and cannibal Fiji. After a brief term of arduous service in the district of Morton Bay which he laid the

foundation of Methodism in what is now the extensive colony of Queensland, he sailed with his wife for Fiji on the 12th December 1849. In those days the work of the Missionary required devotion and courage of the saintly and heroic order, and in these qualities William Moore was never lacking. For nearly twenty years he labored for the salvation of the Fijian people and his work was valuable to a high degree. He excelled as a preacher in the native language and his brother missionaries testify to his almost unsurpassed power over Fijian audiences. His personal influence over chiefs and natives alike was remarkable. In the work of translation and the training of native preachers he occupied a foremost place. On his final departure from Fiji in 1869 his old comrades among the native ministers gave expression in eloquent and pathetic words, and in tears to the honor and love with which they all regarded him, and the sorrow which his removal caused them. His colonial ministry was spent in Armidale, Wollongong, Kiama, Balmain and Windsor Circuits. As in Fiji, so in New South Wales, he showed himself a true and faithful minister of Jesus Christ and won the esteem and affection of the people to whom he ministered, by the spirit of his life and the character of his work. In 1883 the brethren in the ministry honored him by electing him to the Presidency of the New South Wales and Queensland Conference. On his retirement from the active duties of the ministry in 1885 his long and self-sacrificing services to the Church were suitable recognised in an expressive resolution. He spent the remaining seven years of his life at

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Stanmore, and assisted in local church work as far as his strength permitted, and maintained his interest and studies in all questions relating to mission affairs. He endured much suffering with Christian patience, and on the day preceding his decease clearly and triumphantly testified to his trust in the Lord Jesus as his Saviour, and his sure hope of the life immortal. "I am a sinner saved!" "A sinner save!" He exclaimed, "I want to go home."

Price Line - Martha Price & Robert Cooper Martin
Albert, fifth child of Robert William Martin and Rosetta Ann Taylor (nee Cooper).

Robert William Martin married Rosetta Ann Taylor
Son Alfred born 6th July, 1885 at Cobbara. 1 male and 3 females living. Rosetta Taylor (Rosetta Ann's mother) died on 26.11.1865 age 43 and was buried two days later at Campbell Hill in the Cof E Section of the cemetery. Her son, Harry Edward died on the 3rd December 1865 aged one month. He was buried in his mother's grave. The Rev George Keylock Rusden who married Rosetta also buried her and her son. Rosetta's sister Alice Cooper alias Gordon died the following year on 27th May, 1866 aged 53 and was buried the next day at Campbell's Hill. Rosetta Cooper married John Taylor (both of Maitand) on 28th October, 1839. The witnesses were Chet? Webster and Alice Cooper of Maitland. The children were Elizabeth 1840, James T 1844, Robert 1848, Mary 1841, Rosetta 1852, Rosetta

Anne 1856, Agnes A 1859, Harriet 1862, Agnes A 1864, Henry E (Harry) 1865.

Alfred married Myra Maysie Findlay Coleman (illigitimate) born 1 May, 1889 at Prospect Reservoir - mother Caroline Coleman aged 18 born at Yass. Alfred at the time of his marriage lived at Surrey Hill and his bride, spinster of Prospect NSW. Witnesses Charles Mouley and Albert Hirst. The minister was Robert Pickup and they married on 11th March, 1911 at Canley Vale. Alfred died in 1963 at Cabramatta and is buried Liverpool Cemetery Lot 160. His wife died in 1960 at Liverpool and is buried in Liverpool Cemetery.

Their children were:

1. William Herbert Charles born 1910 and married in 1943 to Gladys Tomlin. No other information
2. Sylvie born 1912 at Liverpool married Cladue W Gyler and had three children - Roy, Norman and John. She married again to Rick Reeves - no children of second marriage.
3. Ernest C born 1914 Liverpool and married Phyliss ? and had one son
- 4. Olive Ruth Rosita** born 13th May 1915 at Liverpool and married on 23rd May 1936 at Liverpool to Frederick Peter McInally who was born 10th November 1904 in Scotland. Olive died 2nd November 1978 at Coffs Harbour and Frederic on 24th May, 1973 at Canley Vale. They had five children.

Coleman Side of the Family

Caroline Coleman's mother was Jemima Hall who married twice - at the age of 14 to Charles Coleman and after his death at age about 42 to widower

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William Money. She was born in Cirencester Gloucester England and at the time of her death on 25th June 1920 she was 80 years of age and had lived 70 years in the colony (came c1850). She was buried CofE Liverpool and the details revealed by her daughter Harriet Wenzel of Coaldale Grafton stated that Jemima's mother was Elizabeth nee Hawker and father Richard Hall, stonemason. Harriett testified that living were Charles 63, Robert 60, Harriet 56, Caroline 50, and 9 males and 4 females deceased. Harriet was not aware of a son born to William and Jemima who died shortly after birth and another child Elsie born 1886 Ashfield.

Jemima married her second husband on 13th February 1883 at St Andrew's Manse Goulburn to widower William Whalan Money whose occupation was warder (at Goulburn Gaol?) and had as usual place of residence - Yass. The witnesses were Charles Matthew and Sarah Ann Currie. Her first marriage to Charles Coleman (bachelor) took place in church by banns 23rd August 1855. Charles signed his name and Jemima with an . The witnesses were Elizabeth Williams and EG Gairman. Goulburn (St

Saviour's Cathedral). Their children are listed in the BDM as Ruth 1855, Charles 1856, Robert D 1861, Margaret E 1863, Harriet D 1864, William J 1866, Emily 1869, Caroline 1870 (mother of Myra Maisie Findlay Coleman), George R 1872, Albert Stephen Henry 1874, John Percy 1876.

In 1890 Caroline Coleman married John Turner - registered Sydney. They were married on 12th April 1890 at the Manse, Jamison St Sydney - Presbyterian. John Turner was a bachelor born in Cambridgeshire England and was 34 years of age. His usual residence was Prospect Reservoir and his parents were Robert & Sarah Ann Turner. Caroline was age 19 and her usual place of residence was Cabramatta and place of birth Yass. The witnesses were Charlotte Turner and William Henry Thompson. The minister was William Marcus Dill Macky. The groom signed with his mark and the mother of the bride gave consent.

Caroline's first born was Myra, Her children with John Turner are listed in BDM as Ernest C 1891, Sydney JR 1893, Emily E 1894 and Charlotte J 1897.