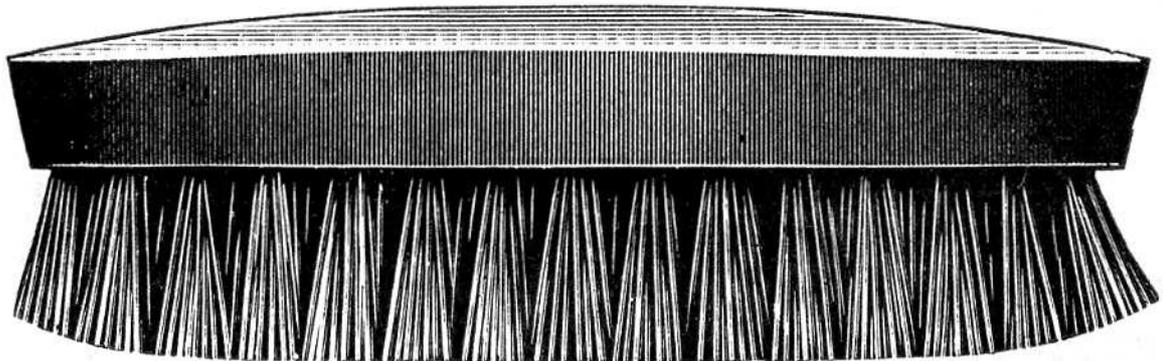


# Poynter, Brushmakers of Exeter & Plymouth, 1776-1969

By James M. Burton, 14<sup>th</sup> Apr 2016  
Updated 5<sup>th</sup> May 2016



STYLE "O."

*Antique newspaper print courtesy of [www.thegraphicsfairy.com](http://www.thegraphicsfairy.com)*

This paper attempts to trace the antecedents of the author along his grandmother's maternal tree. The line to his great-great grandfather is fully confirmed with documents, photos, medals and 1<sup>st</sup> hand witnesses still extant in the family. Stretching back another two generations is a very simple task due to the scarcity of the surname at the time in Devon and well oiled search engines. However the line stops abruptly at this point (in 1776) and will require extensive "work at the coalface" to get around the brick-wall.

The surname Poynter according to various genealogists derives from the occupation for the maker of cord that fastened a doublet (a lined waistcoat) with hose (men's stockings). The name derives from the Middle English "poynte" and originally from the Latin "puncta", meaning to pierce. Poynter may be (also) an Anglicised variant of the Huguenot name 'Pointier'. I have no proof so far that our Poynter line fled from France during the revolution or that they came in with the Normans, as there is yet no reliable trace of the furthest ancestor, William Pointer, before 1801. It could even be less so romantic an origin and simply derive from the occupation of "pointing" cement on brickwork, or even pointing spears in the front ranks of a battle ground. Variations of the surname that could have proceeded the former might have been Painter, Point, Poyntz, le Puintur, Pointner

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**William Pointer** (c.1776-1855, Plymouth)  
m.c.1800 **Ann** (c.1780-1850)

**Richard Poynter** (1799-1843, Plymouth, Exeter)  
m.1820, **Ann Perkins** (1800-1884, Topsham)

**William Thomas Poynter** (1822-1859, Exeter)  
**Mary Ann Poynter** (b.1837, Exeter)  
**Thomas Poynter** (1838-1857, Plymouth)  
**Richard Poynter** (1840-1879, Plymouth)

**John Richard Poynter** (1824-1889, Exeter)  
m.1850, **Elizabeth Tavener** (1828-1901, Tallington)

**Henry Poynter** (1851-1905, Exeter)  
**John Poynter** (1854-1905, Moretonhampstead)  
**Elizabeth Poynter** (1858-1925, Exeter)  
**Walter James Poynter** (1869-1924, Plymouth)

**Albert Poynter** (1856-1912, Exeter)  
m.1878, **Sarah Jane Lucock** (1857-1912, Plymouth)

**Albert John Poynter** (1878-1960, Plymouth)  
**William Thomas Lucock Poynter** (1880-81, Plymouth)  
**Sydney John Poynter** (1882-82, Plymouth)

**Kate Francina Poynter** (1882-1969, Plymouth)  
m.1909, **Percy Frank Dashper** (1886-1964, Devonport)

**Vera Kate Dashper** (1910-2004, Plymouth)  
m.1936, **Kenneth Joseph Burton** (1912-1976, Plymouth)

# Poynter Family Tree

Compiled, researched and published by James M. Burton, Apr 2016

# Kate Francina Poynter, 1882-1969

Daughter of Albert Poynter (p.11)

G. Grandmother to the author

The family connections with Poynter begin with the marriage of **Kate Francis Poynter** to a **Percy Frank Dashper** in Plymouth, 1910. He seems to be a man of many trades, and always a sharp but modestly dressed well groomed gentleman from the family photo album 1920-50, the type of respectable chap who wore a full lounge suit on the summer beach. In 1901 directly following his schooling he began an apprenticeship as an 'outfitter' one presumes for gentlemen's clothing in Plymouth city. In 1911 he is described as an "unemployed travelling brewer's salesman", suggesting he visited pubs, inns and hotels gathering orders for beer supplies.

In 1939 he was a collector of monies from repayment meters (one may suggest gas & electric), and a sergeant in the Air Raid Precaution patrols (A.R.P.) during World War II. This involved issuing gas masks, erecting air raid shelters, guiding civilians to bomb shelters, extinguishing lights in the blackout, rescuing people from bombed areas. Plymouth, the home of the Royal Navy was heavily bombarded during this time, suggesting he was a busy fellow. He received a 5 year service medal at the end of the war for his conduct and in his father's will of 1954 he is described as a "retired rate office inspector". A medal was presented to him around this time for services as Vice President to the Association of Conservative Clubs, family lore suggests he was active in promoting Baroness Joan Vickers to Parliament opposed to Michael Foot in 1945-55. My father remembers him as a jolly and slightly eccentric chap when he came to visit the grandchildren, dressing up in women's clothes, driving toy cars etc. His father in turn, **William Thomas** was a shipwright and recorder at H.M. Docks.

**Kate** was the ever dutiful wife, the census suggests that after her stint as a dressmaker before marriage she maintained the family home, where they co-habited with Percy's parents. The cramped conditions may suggest why they only had one child, **Vera Kate** in 1910.

There is one remarkable incident concerning Kate that appeared in the local newspapers reporting on an inquest into a fatal collision on 6<sup>th</sup> Aug 1939. She was driving with passengers, husband **Percy** and step-parents **William & Catherine Dashper** to Washfield where her daughter **Vera** lived at the local 'police house' with husband **PC Kenneth Burton**. A "group" of visiting Dutch cyclists suddenly appeared at a dangerous corner, at the bottom of Long Drag in Tiverton, two ploughing into her "Hillman Minx grey Coupee". **Kors Albert van der Veer** aged 20 from Amsterdam suffered fatal injuries, dying later in hospital.

A policeman witnessed the incident and all testimonies found that Kate was driving sensibly, and so the cause of death was recorded as an accident, but she never drove again. Representatives of the Dashpers were sent to the funeral in Tiverton. We have a picture of the car a few years before the incident, a popular end of range car before the company went into military production. She survived her husband by 9 years and died at 51 Belair Road with daughter Vera and left a considerable sum of £1663.

## Catherine (Kate) Francina Poynter – Vital Statistics

**BIRTH:** 20 Aug 1882 (5b 284 Plymouth J/S)

**MARRIAGE:** Oct Qtr 1909, 27yrs to **Percy Frank Dashper**. (O/D Plymouth 5b 513)

**DEATH:** 14 Apr 1969, 86 yr. (A/J Plymouth 7a 1717)

**PROBATE:** 24 Apr 1969, Bodmin. 51, Belair Rd, Peverell, Plymouth. £1663

**FATHER:** **Albert Poynter** (1856-1912) (see page 11)

**MOTHER:** **Sarah Jane Lucock** (1857-1912) (see page 11)

**BROTHER:** **Albert John Poynter** (1878-1960) (see page 10)

**CENSUS:** **1891:** 81, Cambridge St., Plymouth. 8 yrs, scholar. (RG12; 1733; 94; 17; 6096843)

**1901:** 3, William Lane, Plymouth. 17yrs, dressmaker. (RG13/2102/177/54)

**1911:** 14, Kingsley Road. 28yrs, housewife. (RG14/12947/G78P/747/276/1/9/254)

**1939:** 35, Royal Navy Avenue, Plymouth. 57yrs, housewife.

(RG101/6802G/020/36, ED:WETQ B:Plymouth 321. 27 613, 322/1)

NEWS: Tiverton Gazette (Mid-Devon Gazette), 15 Aug 1939, p.2, col 1, top

## Percy Frank Dashper – Vital Statistics

**BIRTH:** Jan Qtr 1886 (E. Stonehouse, 5b 307)

**MARRIAGE:** (as Kate above). 23 yrs

**DEATH:** 20<sup>th</sup> Feb 1964. 78 yrs. (Plymouth 7a 705)

**PROBATE:** 20 Parkside Flats, Plymouth. Bodmin, 9<sup>th</sup> Apr, to  
**Kenneth Joseph Burton**, marine engineer, £709

**FATHER:** **William Thomas Dashper** (1860-1954). Shipwright. Recorder, HM Docks

**MOTHER:** **Catherine Sarah Blackmore** (1860-1953)

**SIBLINGS:** **Beatrice Maud Dashper** (1883-1968), m. **George R. Page**

**Kate Louise Dashper** (1889-1966), m. **John E.T. Doidge**

**Nora Jane Dashper** (1901-1973), m. **John D. Davey**

**CENSUS:** **1891:** 32, Chapel Street, Plymouth. 5yrs, scholar, (RG12; 1738; 20; 33; 6096848)

**1901:** 17, Second Avenue, Devonport. 15yrs, outfitters apprentice, (RG13; 2109;10;12)

**1911:** (as Kate above). 25 yrs, travelling brewery salesman (unemployed)

**1939:** (as Kate above). 53Yrs, collector for repayment meters. Head warden ARP

**1954:** (Father's will, Paignton). Retired rate office inspector

**MEDALS:** c.1945, Sergeant A.R.P. (Air Raid Precautions) 5 year service

c.1960, Vice President A.C.C. (Association of Conservative Clubs)  
Distinguished Service

**CHILD:** **Vera Kate Dashper** (25 Jun 1910-May 2004, Plymouth). m.1936, **Kenneth Joseph Burton** (1912-1976, Plymouth), Police Constable, Marine Engineer, 2<sup>nd</sup> Lieut RFR.



A0. Percy Frank Dashper c.1920 (34yrs?)



A00. Sgt. Percy Frank Dashper, ARP c.1939 (53yrs?)

## Kate Francina Poynter – Images



A1. Albert J. Poynter (5yrs). Sara J. Lucock (26yrs). Kate Francina Poynter (1yr) c.1883



A2. Kate Francina Poynter c.1895 age 13?



**A3. Vera Kate Dashper (18yrs?). Kate Francina Poynter (46 yrs?) c.1928?**



A4. Percy Frank Dashper (50yrs). Hillman Minx Coupee. Kate Francina Poynter (54yrs). 1936.

TIVERTON GAZETTE & EAST DEVON HERALD, TUESDAY, AUGUST 15, 1939.

## YOUNG DUTCHMAN'S FATAL INJURIES

### Tragic End to a Cycling Holiday

#### COLLISION ON LONG DRAG, TIVERTON

**Police Constable on His Way Home.**

P.C. Harding, of Tiverton Borough Police, said that he lived on the Rackenford-road and was on his way home on Sunday at about 2 p.m. He had passed along Leat-street and was about 45 yards from the bottom of Long Drag when a Hillman Minx grey coupé car passed him. It was a 10 horse power car and he now knew that it was driven by Mrs. Dashper.

**The Driver of the Car.**

Mrs. Kate Dashper, the driver of the car, said that in the car on Sunday, 6th inst., were her husband, Percy Frank Dashper, and her husband's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Dashper, each aged 79. She lived at Plymouth and the old people at Paignton. That day Mr. and Mrs. Dashper, sen., were picked up at Paignton and the party was proceeding to Washfield, where witness's daughter lived. She had been on the road eight or nine times and knew Long Drag, but not by name.

On Tuesday afternoon the Borough Coroner of Tiverton (Mr. J. Follett Pugsley) held an enquiry into the circumstances of the death of Kors Albert van der Veer, of Linneauspark Weg 32, Amsterdam, who collided with a motor car when riding a pedal cycle at the bottom of Long Drag, Tiverton, on Sunday, 6th instant. The youth was touring England with three companions, and the car was driven by Mrs. Kate Dashper, of Plymouth. The cyclists were coming down the Drag and the car was proceeding up the hill from the direction of Tiverton to go to Washfield. The cyclist received head and leg injuries and died without regaining consciousness the same night in Tiverton Hospital. The father of deceased, Mr. Albert van der Veer, came to Tiverton by aeroplane the same night.

A5. Car Accident, Tiverton Gazette 15<sup>th</sup> Aug 1939

# Albert John Poynter, 1878-1960

Son of Albert Poynter (p.11)  
Great-Grand Uncle to the author

Albert persisted as a horse & cab driver, ferrying customers throughout Plymouth and later possibly from the popular train station at Yeovil in Somerset. In World War I he served to the rank of Sergeant, 11<sup>th</sup> Royal Fusiliers, based in London. It appears from a bar on his Victory war medal that he served in one of the battles of Champagne 1915-16 where he presumably was assisting French forces, which was a horrific field of combat and carnage. Unfortunately his army papers have not survived, so there is no clue of his later service or injuries. He never married, and definitely had no children, leaving £971 to Kate his sister in 1960.

**BIRTH:** Jan Qtr 1878 (Plymouth 5b 281)  
**BAPTISM:** 17 Jun 1880, Plymouth, St Peter  
**DEATH:** 1 Dec 1960. 82yrs. 2 Hendford Station Ctgs., Yeovil (Somerset 7c 420)  
**PROBATE:** 16 Dec 1960. Bristol. £971 to Kate F. Poynter (p.4)

**CENSUS:** 1881: 25, Cambridge St., Plymouth. 3yrs. (RG11; 2197; 10; 14; 1341529)  
1891: 13yrs, scholar. (as Kate above, p.4)  
1901: 23yrs, cab driver. (as Kate above, p.4)  
1911: 3, Patna Place, Plymouth. 31yrs, cab driver. (RG14;12994; 337)

**ARMY:** WWI Service Medal and Award Rolls; Class: WO 329; 762  
WWI Medal Rolls Index Cards, 1914-1920  
Sergeant 11<sup>th</sup> Royal Fusiliers. No. 2362



Name	Corps	Rank	Regtl. No.
POYNTER	11/R. Fus	SGT	1362
POYNTER	"	Sgt	11/2362
A.			

Medal	Roll	Page	Remarks
VICTORY	TP/104 B.2	11.0	
BRITISH	do	do	
15 STAR	TP/32A	17	1914/15 Gun taken on charge E.R.V. 432 dt 20.9.20 Re issued IV. 303/19/26 dt 20/10/20 2597dt

Theatre of War first served in 11/ Fusiliers  
Date of entry therein 26.7.15.

3593/121  
K 1380.

ROYAL FUSILIERS		REGIMENT OR CORPS	
ROLL OF INDIVIDUALS entitled to the Victory Medal and/or British War Medal			
Held by an individual in the Corps in respect of which the rolls are submitted.		In sequence Units and Corps previously served with by each individual and Regtl. Nos. therein; the highest rank, whether substantive, acting or temporary, recorded as having been held for any period in a theatre of War, unless reverted for misconduct, being shown against the name of the regiment or Corps which is to be inscribed on the medal.	
Regtl. No.	Rank	NAME	
G.S/2362	Sgt.	POYNTER, Albert	
		11/R. Fus., Sgt. GS/2362	
Theatres of war in which served			
1(a) 17.8.15 to 4.7.16			

A6. Albert John Poynter (45yrs) c.1923?

A7 & A7/5. A.J. Poynter medal award card 1914/15

# Albert Poynter, 1856-1912

Father to Kate Francina Poynter (p.4)

G.G. Grandfather to the author

Born in the centre of Exeter city into a family of brush-makers, Albert was destined to follow in this trade, and indeed apprenticed in the craft. Luckily however the family were also based in Plymouth, where following an adequate schooling was recruited into the Royal Navy age 16 in 1871, witnessed by his brother Henry who joined up at the same time. He stayed therein until 1894, a 23 year career, where he served with distinction, climbing through the ranks to become a Chief Petty Officer, the most senior non commissioned rank with the role of boatswain, responsible for the steering and navigation of the ship.

He travelled widely during his career to Europe and India, but was mainly based in ports or the channel. The only significant war action he took part in was the 1882 Anglo-Egypt war. The Royal Navy took part therein shelling the city of Alexandria to defuse the armament of the town. This was all in support of the Khedive of Egypt over an uprising against his rule, protecting British interests, notably the Suez canal. HMS Northumberland the ship he was stationed on at the time is not listed in those that took part in this battle, however naval researchers do recognise her presence there, so I imagine she must have been a support ship. In 1881 she was stationed in Gibraltar, so plenty time to get to Egypt. Indeed he received the Khedive's Star, a medal issued by Egypt for those who served in the battles, date stamped 1882. He also received his good conduct medal in 1884, and continued in service for another 10 years.

He sired four children with **Sarah Jane**, daughter of **John Ellis Lucock** who came from a long line of fishermen. There is an anomaly here I cannot explain in which **Kate** was born in Aug 1882, 5 months after her brother **Sydney** in March 1882, both are well documented people.

- **Kate Francina Poynter** (as above, p.4)
- **William Thomas Lucock Poynter & Sydney John Poynter**, died in infancy
- **Albert John Poynter** (as above, p.10)

## Albert Poynter – Vital Statistics

**BIRTH:** 22 July 1856, St Sidwell (Trinity). (J/S Exeter 5b 85)

**BAPTISM:** 13 Aug 1856, Exeter Holy Trinity. (1718A/PR/1/6 S W Heritage Trust)

**MARRIAGE:** Jan Qtr 1878, 22yrs to **Sarah Jane Lucock** (1857-1912). (Plymouth J/M 5b 449)

**DEATH:** Oct Qtr 1912, 55yrs. (O/D Plymouth 5b 299)

**CHILDREN:** **Albert John Poynter** (1878-1960, Plymouth) (as above, p.10)

**William Thomas Lucock Poynter** (1880-81, Plymouth)

**Sydney John Poynter** (1882-82, Plymouth)

**Catherine (Kate) Francina Poynter** (1882-1969) (as above, p.4)

**CENSUS:** 1861 Basket St. Court, Plymouth. 5yrs, scholar. (RG9; 1444; 19; 33; 542813)

1871 28, John St., Plymouth. 15yrs, scholar. (RG 10;2116; 45; 38; 831794)

1881 HMS Northumberland. 24yrs, leading seamen. (RG11; 5635; 14; 26; 1342354)

1901 1, William Lane, Plymouth. 44yrs, armourer, navyman. (RG13; 2102; 177; 54)

1911 3, Patna Place, Plym. 55yrs, navy pension, labourer. (RG14;12994;78P;749;276;3;18;337)

**NEWS:** London Evening Standard, 15 September 1884, p.3, col 7, mid

Hampshire Advertiser, 20 September 1884, p.8, col 6, top

**MEDALS:** Egypt Medal - Anglo-Egypt War (1882) (HMS Northumberland)

Khedive's Star - Anglo-Egypt War (1882) (HMS Northumberland)

Good Conduct Medal (1884). Long Service Medal (1894)

## Albert Poynter - Royal Navy Service – 1871-1894

Continuous Service Number: 53 675 / 17516B. Place of Birth: Trinity, Exeter, Devon. Date of Volunteering: 20 Sept 1871, HMS Implacable. Engagement 10 yrs, 22 July 1874, Boy 2nd Class. 4 ft 11", fair, dark brown hair, hazel eyes, 90 lbs. Re-engagement : 31 Jul 1884. 5ft 7", dark hair, dark eyes, tattoo- bracelet wrists, HMS Northumberland, 5/32 Coxswain 1st Class. PRO Ref: ADM 139/976 Engagement. ADM 188/27 Official.

HMS Ship	Rank	From	To	Location & Notes
Implacable	boy 2nd class	20 02 71	20 09 71	boy seman training ship from 1860, Devonport
Implacable	boy 1st class	02 10 72	14 08 73	
Implacable		01 01 73	14 08 73	
Resistance	Ordinary Seaman	15 08 73	21 07 74	From 1870 Coast Guard Service, Birkenhead
Resistance		22 07 74	28 02 75	
Resistance	Able Seamen	01 03 75	16 05 77	
Royal Adelaide		17 05 77	31 05 77	From 1870 Flag Ship, Devonport
Cambridge		01 06 77	16 06 79	Gunnery training, Devonport from 1879
Royal Adelaide	Leading Seamen	17 06 79	13 08 79	
Cambridge		14 08 79	14 08 79	
Defence		15 08 79	05 12 79	From 1879, channel squadron
Cambridge		06 12 79	23 02 80	
Royal Adelaide		24 02 80	17 07 80	
Cambridge		18 07 80	07 10 80	
Northumberland		08 10 80	10 04 81	Depot ship, 1879. Gibraltar, 1881.
Northumberland	Petty Officer 2C	14 04 81	31 12 82	Egypt. Bombing of Alexandria
Northumberland	Petty Officer 1C	01 01 83	11 07 83	
Northumberland		12 07 83	31 07 84	
Long Service Medal		26 08 84		
Cambridge		17 05 85	2 12 85	
Defiance		13 12 85	28 05 86	
Cambridge		29 05 86	13 07 86	
Tees		14 07 86		Coast Defence
Cambridge	Coxswain 1st C	05 09 86		
Tees		14 07 86	04 09 86	
Cambridge		05 09 86		
Griffon	Boatswain's Mate	16 03 87		
Griffon	Acting CPO	01 01 88	02 09 88	
Royal Adelaide		03 09 88	08 09 88	
Cambridge		09 09 88		
Cambridge	Chief Petty Officer	17 01 89	02 02 89	
Defiance		03 02 89	30 03 89	Torpedo training school
Himalaya		02 05 89	13 09 92	From 1890 troopship to India
Vivid I		14 09 92	11 10 92	
Cambridge		12 10 92	27 01 93	
Defiance		28 01 93	28 04 93	
Vivid I		29 04 93	22 07 94	RN Barracks 1889-1934

ACCOUNTANT-GENERAL  
OF THE NAVY  
Continuous Service Engagement.  
PAY OF THE NAVY

14516

M.S. "Implacable" } 6 OCT 1871  
20 September 1871 }

B

When Men or Boys enter for Continuous and General Service, (C.S.) Commanding Officers are immediately to fill up this Form and to transmit it to the Accountant-General of the Navy, at the end of the Month, with the List of Engagements executed. (Form, No. 41, vide Paymaster's Instructions, Page 40, Article 120, Clause 7.)

Christian and Surname in full.....

↑ Albert Poynter

Where Born.—[If born out of Her Majesty's Dominions, it must be stated whether the parents are British Subjects; Foreigners not being allowed to volunteer for Continuous Service.]

Trinity,  
Exeter, Devon

Date of Birth.—[Great care is to be taken that the date is correctly stated: and a careful examination is to be made of the written Documents produced by Boys in support of their alleged age, in order to ascertain that they have not been tampered with. Vide Foot Note, Chap. IX, Art. 2, Page 78, Admiralty Instructions.]

22<sup>nd</sup> July 1856

Description .....

Height 5ft 11in Complexion Fair

Weight 90 lbs

Hair Brown Eyes Hazel

Marks None

Ship in which he Volunteers .....

"Implacable" } and No. on Ship's Books

Date of Entry in Do. ....

20 September 1871

Rank in Do. ....

Boy 2 class

Date of actually Volunteering for Continuous Service .....

20 September 1871

Date of commencement of Engagement .....

22 July 1874

Date of ditto .....

Less Years

No. on Ship's Books - 22 July 84 - 101/5

A8. Albert Poynter, entry certificate into Royal Navy, 6<sup>th</sup> Oct 1871

53675

Names in full  
*Albert Poynter*

Date of Birth *22 July 1836*

Place of Birth *Trinity Exeter Devon*

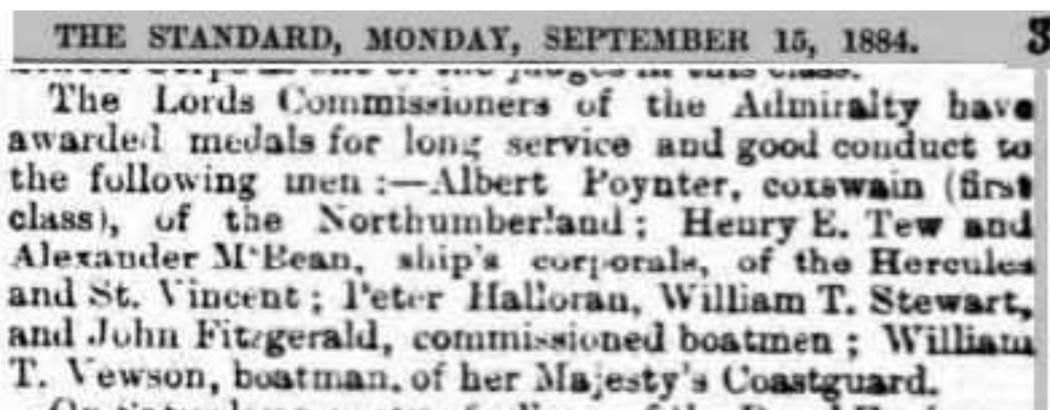
Date and Period of C. S. Engagement.	Personal Description.					Trade.	Gunnery Engagements.	
	Height.	Hair.	Eyes.	Complexion.	Wounds, Scars, or Marks.			
<i>22 July 1874 - 10 years 17 5 16 6 5 5 4 2 22 July 1884 - 10 yrs</i>	<i>14.11</i>	<i>Dark</i>	<i>Dark</i>	<i>Fair</i>	<i>None</i>	<i>Brush Maker</i>	<i>14.1C-4.2.78 Regd 7.12.85 S. J. J. L. 28.5.85</i>	
Ships served in. Coast Guard. Seamen Riggers.	Ships' Books. List. No.	Rating, &c.	G. C. Badges worn.	Period of Service. From To	Time. Years. Days.	Character.	If Discharged. Whither and for what cause.	Traced. Remarks.
<i>Implacable</i>	<i>15 16</i>	<i>13 1C</i>		<i>1 Jan 73 14 Aug 73</i>		<i>Wood</i>		
<i>Resistance</i>	<i>15 6</i>	<i>"</i>		<i>15 Aug 73 22 July 74</i>				
<i>Roy. Adelaide</i>	<i>15 1115</i>	<i>Ord</i>		<i>1 Mar 75 16 May 77</i>		<i>Coast Guard</i>		
<i>Cambridge</i>	<i>13 1271</i>	<i>"</i>		<i>17 May 77 31 May 77</i>		<i>Coast Guard</i>		
<i>R. Adelaide</i>	<i>16 2731</i>	<i>Ldg. Sea</i>		<i>17 June 77 16 June 77</i>				
<i>Cambridge</i>	<i>13 1271</i>	<i>"</i>		<i>17 June 77 13 Aug 77</i>				
<i>Defiance</i>	<i>5 492</i>	<i>"</i>		<i>14 Aug 79 14 Aug 79</i>		<i>Coast Guard</i>		
<i>Cambridge</i>	<i>13 2926</i>	<i>"</i>		<i>15 Aug 79 5 Dec 79</i>		<i>Coast Guard</i>		
<i>Roy. Adelaide</i>	<i>16 3439</i>	<i>"</i>		<i>6 Dec 79 23 Feb 80</i>		<i>Coast Guard</i>		
<i>Cambridge</i>	<i>13 357</i>	<i>"</i>		<i>24 Feb 80 17 July 80</i>		<i>Coast Guard</i>		
<i>Northumberland</i>	<i>5 363</i>	<i>"</i>		<i>18 July 80 7 Oct 80</i>				
<i>"</i>	<i>"</i>	<i>P.O. 2C</i>		<i>1 Oct 80 14 Sep 81</i>				
<i>Cambridge</i>	<i>13 1659</i>	<i>P.O. 1C</i>		<i>1 Jan 83 16 May 85</i>				
<i>Defiance</i>	<i>16 649</i>	<i>"</i>		<i>17 May 85 12 Dec 85</i>				
<i>Cambridge</i>	<i>13 1659</i>	<i>"</i>		<i>13 Dec 85 28 May 86</i>				
<i>Jess</i>	<i>5 8</i>	<i>"</i>		<i>29 May 86 13 July 86</i>				
<i>Cambridge</i>	<i>13 3099</i>	<i>"</i>		<i>14 July 86 5 Sep 86</i>				
<i>Jess</i>	<i>5 8</i>	<i>"</i>		<i>5 Sep 86 4 Sep 86</i>				
<i>Cambridge</i>	<i>13 3099</i>	<i>"</i>		<i>14 July 86 4 Sep 86</i>				
<i>Griffon</i>	<i>5 58</i>	<i>P.O. 1C</i>		<i>16 Nov 87</i>		<i>New Reporter</i>		
<i>Griffon</i>	<i>5 58</i>	<i>P.O. 1C</i>		<i>16 Nov 87</i>				
<i>R. Adelaide</i>	<i>16 915</i>	<i>"</i>		<i>1 Jan 88 2 Sep 88</i>				
<i>Cambridge</i>	<i>15 4791</i>	<i>"</i>		<i>3 Sep 88 8 Sep 88</i>				
<i>"</i>	<i>"</i>	<i>P.O. 1C</i>		<i>9 Sep 88</i>				
<i>Defiance</i>	<i>16 2886</i>	<i>"</i>		<i>17 Jan 89 2 Feb 89</i>				
<i>Cambridge</i>	<i>15 4624</i>	<i>"</i>		<i>3 Feb 89 30 Mar 89</i>				
<i>Himalaya</i>	<i>5 604</i>	<i>"</i>		<i>31 Mar 89 1 Mar 89</i>				
<i>Vivid I</i>	<i>15 2143</i>	<i>"</i>		<i>2 Mar 89 13 Sep 92</i>				
<i>Cambridge</i>	<i>15 4825</i>	<i>"</i>		<i>14 Sep 92 10 Oct 92</i>				
<i>Defiance</i>	<i>14 806</i>	<i>"</i>		<i>12 Oct 92 27 Jan 93</i>				
<i>Vivid I</i>	<i>15 2750</i>	<i>"</i>		<i>28 Jan 93 28 Apr 93</i>				
				<i>29 Apr 93 22 July 94</i>				

A9. Albert Poynter, Royal Navy Service History, 22<sup>nd</sup> July 1874 - 22 July 1894

**Coxswain:** The person who has charge of the boat and crew in the absence of officers. On a man-of-war, the Captain's coxswain ranked high among the petty officers and had charge of the Captain's boat and attends him. Later they were the senior Chief Petty Officer aboard a smaller vessel such as a corvette or submarine, who was responsible for the steering and also assumed the duties which would be performed by the Chief Boatswain's Mate and Master-at-Arms aboard larger vessels.

**Boatswain's mate:** The most versatile member of the Coast Guard's operational team is the boatswain's mate (BM). Boatswain's mates are masters of seamanship. BMs are capable of performing almost any task in connection with deck maintenance, small boat operations, navigation, and supervising all personnel assigned to a ship's deck force

**Chief Petty Office:** most senior non commissioned rank



A10. Albert Poynter, medal award. The Standard, 15<sup>th</sup> Sept 1884

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BAPTISMS solemnized in the Parish of *the Holy Trinity*  
in the County of *the City of Exeter* in the Year 18*56*

When Baptised.	Child's Christian Name	Parent's Name.		Abode.	Quality, Trade, or Profession.	By whom the Ceremony was performed.
		Christian.	Surname.			
18 <i>56</i> <i>Aug- 13<sup>th</sup></i>	<i>Albert</i>	<i>John</i> & <i>Elizabeth</i>	<i>Poynter</i>	<i>Sway Lane</i>	<i>Sway Lane</i>	<i>By J. Ham</i>
No. 1391						

A11. Albert Poynter, baptism record, 13<sup>th</sup> Aug 1856, Exeter Holy Trinity

# Henry Poynter, 1851-1905

Brother to Albert Poynter (p.11)

G.G. Grand-Uncle to the Author

Contrary to the family enterprise, but maybe assisting in it, Henry apprenticed in sail-making which put him in good stead when he joined the Royal Navy with his brother Albert in 1873. He continued in this craft until his death, never being promoted beyond the rank of Sailmaker, which was a mid ranking Petty Officer. Although coming to the end of the sail days there were plenty of canvases, flags, awning and smaller ships that travelled by sail, implicating he was forever mending, making and managing canvas sheets. Burials at sea were sown into canvas, lazy sailors might even tip him with beer to sow on his badges or repair a torn trouser leg. He was often seen on the same ships as his brother, even at the same time, he also received his good conduct medal the same month as him in 1884.

He married twice, 1<sup>st</sup> to **Mary Frances** daughter of **William Connabeer**, a carpenter supposedly with one child, **Thomas Edwin**. However it seems that as he was almost permanently at sea his 1st wife "played the field" as it were and remarried a royal marine, taking the boy with her who took the surname **Taylor**. His 2<sup>nd</sup> was **Mary Jane**, a widow with 10 children, daughter of **Richard Credicott**, an agricultural labourer.

He has also the dubious accolade of being one of the few people with double entries in the census. It seems that while the enumerators were taking the census in the streets, there were separate census being taken by the Captain's of ships abroad or at sea from the lists of personal, as they trusted the efficiency of the navy. For example the 1881 census was taken while Henry was on-board HMS Briton, stationed down in the Cape of Good Hope, S. Africa. By the time the completed census travelled back to the enumerator's office in England, he was back home on leave in Plymouth.

I find no accurate trace of his death suggesting he may have lived away from Plymouth or abroad in his retirement.

## Henry Poynter – Vital Statistics

**BIRTH:** 25<sup>th</sup> May 1851, Exeter. (Devon 10 118)

**1<sup>st</sup> MARRIAGE:** April 1873, 21yrs to **Frances Mary Connabeer**, Plymouth

**2<sup>nd</sup> MARRIAGE:** Mar 1891, 39yrs to **Mary Jane Credicott**, Plymouth

**DEATH:** bet 1893-1900? Plymouth or abroad?

**CENSUS:** 1861 Basket Street Court, Plymouth. 10yrs, scholar. (RG9; 1444; 19; 33; 542 813)

1871 28, John Street, Plymouth. 20yrs, sailmaker. (RG10; 2116; 45; 38; 831 794)

1881 HMS Britton, Cape, Africa. 29yrs, sailmaker. (RG11; 2214; 119; 14; 1 341 533)

1881 30, Brownlow St, E.Stonehouse. 29yrs, sailmaker. (RG11; 2203; 77; 62; 1 341 530)

1891 HMS Impregnable, Devonport. 39yrs, sailmaker. (RG12; 1739; 94; 45; 6 096 849)

1891 9, Carlton St., E.Stonehouse. 39yrs, sailmaker. (RG12; 1743; 176; 22; 6 096 853)

**NAVY:** 1<sup>st</sup> Sep 1873 - 7th Sep 1893. Sailmaker. Service No.: 83748.

**NEWS:** Hampshire Advertiser, 06 February 1884, page 3, col 6, top. (Good conduct medal)

**CHILDREN:** **Thomas Edwin Poynter?** (1878-c.1950), b.Newton Abbot. Labourer possibly at the Royal Military Barracks, Hampshire & Surrey. Changed surname to Taylor c.1891 on mother's remarriage, suggesting Henry may not be his father. Probably served in World War I, I have a possible war service record under name Taylor, but cannot prove it 100%. If it is, he served in the labour corps and was wounded out several times and discharged in 1917.

## Henry Poynter - Royal Navy Service - 1873-1893

No.83748. Date of Continuous Service Engagement; 9 Oct 1873; 10 years; 9 Oct 1883 to completion.  
 Date of Birth: 28 May 1851, Exeter, Devon. Height: 5' 11". Hair: Black. Eyes: Dark. Complexion: Fresh.  
 Trade: Sailmaker. Rank 73-93: Sailmaker. PRO: ADM 188/78/83748

HMS Ship	From	To	Location & Notes
Asia	01 09 73	08 10 73	Flag Ship of the Admiral Superintendent of Dockyard, Portsmouth
Swinger	09 10 73	08 07 76	
Modeste	09 07 76	13 11 76	Based in Hong Kong
Swinger	14 11 76	17 02 76	from 18 02 77, based in Hong Kong
Himalaya	18 02 77	25 05 77	
Royal Adelaide	26 05 77	05 06 77	based at Devonport
Indus	06 06 77		Recommissioned at Devonport from 1876
Indus	25 07 77	30 11 77	Promoted to Sail-maker's Mate
Cambridge	01 12 77	30 04 78	Recommissioned for gunnery training from 1876
Indus	01 05 78	31 05 78	
Himalaya	01 06 78	02 03 81	
Indus	03 03 81		
Indus	26 03 81	28 03 81	Promoted to Sailmaker
Briton	29 03 81	30 04 84	March 1881, Cape of Good Hope, Africa
Asia	01 05 84	09 06 84	Based at Portsmouth
Indus	10 06 84	10 04 85	Based at Devoport
Britannia	11 04 86	08 05 85	Officer training ship, Dart river
Indus	09 05 85	24 07 85	Based at Devoport
Hercules	25 07 85		
Hercules	20 11 86	17 03 87	Channel Squadron and Coastguard, Portland
Asia	18 03 87	24 03 87	Based at Portsmouth
Griffon		25 03 87	27 10 87
Royal Adelaide	28 10 87	21 12 87	Based at Devoport
Indus	22 12 87	24 02 88	Based at Devoport
Reindeer	25 02 88	28 06 90	Reindeer (1883) Sloop. East Indes
Wildfire	29 06 90	02 07 90	Flag Ship Sheerness, (nominal for barracks)
Indus	03 07 90		Based at Devoport
Indus	08 08 90	30 09 90	Based at Devoport
Impregnable	10 10 90	16 10 92	training ship for boys
Vivid I	17 Oct 92	07 09 93	(Naval barracks) Pensioned

**Conduct** : Very Good.

Names in full

Date of Birth 25 May 1851 83748

Henry Poynter

Place of Birth Exeter Devon

Date and Period of C. S. Engagement.	Personal Description.					Trade.	Gunnery Engagements			
	Height.	Hair.	Eyes.	Complexion.	Wounds, Scars, or Marks.					
9 Oct 1873-10 yrs. 17 Dec 1883 - to complete	5 11	Black	Dark	Fresh	None	Sailmaker				
Ships served in. Coast Guard. Seamen Riggers.	Ships' Books.		Rating, &c.	G. C. Badges worn.	Period of Service.		Time.	Character.	If Discharged. Whither and for what cause.	Remarks.
	List.	No.			From	To				
Asia	15	315	Sailmaker		10 Oct 73	8 Oct 73		Very good		
Swinger	5	33	"		9 Oct 73	8 July 76		Very good		C & Lady 23 1874
Modeste	16	35	"		14 Nov 76	13 Nov 76		Very good		
Swinger	5	33	"		14 Nov 76	17 Feb 77		Very good		
Himalayas	15	1284	"		18 Feb 77	25 May 77		Very good		
R. Adelaide	16	366	"		26 May 77	5 June 77		Very good		
Indus	15	557	"		6 June 77			Very good		
Carroll's Edge	5	180	Sailmaker		25 July 77	30 Nov 77		Very good		
Indus	15	941	"		1 Dec 77	30 Dec 77		Very good		
Himalayas	5	389	"		1 May 78	21 May 78		Very good		
Indus	15	619	"		1 June 78	2 March 81		Very good		
Briton	5	93	Sailmaker		26 March 81	28 March 81		Very good		
Asia	15	160	"		29 March 81	30 April 81		Very good		
Indus	15	289	"		1 May 81	June 81		Very good		
Britannia	5	162	"		11 April 81	8 May 81		Very good		
Indus	15	630	"		9 May 81	21 July 81		Very good		
Heracles	5	725	"		25 July 81			Very good		
Asia	15	1325	Sail Mtr		20 Nov 86	17 March 87		Very good		
Griffon	5	70	"		18 March 87	21 March 87		Very good		
R. Adelaide	16	488	"		25 March 87	27 Oct 87		Very good		
Indus	15	1616	"		22 Dec 87	21 Dec 88		Very good		
Reindeer	5	23	"		25 Feb 88	28 June 90		Very good		
Wildfire	16	432	"		29 June 90	2 July 90		Very good		
Indus	15	965	"		3 July 90			Very good		
Impregnable	5	244	Sailmaker		8 Aug 90	30 Sep 90		Very good		
Wild I	15	226	"		10 Oct 90	16 Oct 92		Very good		
					17 Oct 92	7 Sep 93		U.S.	Shore, Pensioned	

A12. Henry Poynter, service record, Royal Navy, 1873-1893

THE HAMPSHIRE ADVERTISER COUNTY NEWSPAPER February 6, 1884.] 3

**GOOD CONDUCT MEDALS.**—The following men have been awarded the medal for long service and good conduct by the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty:—Thomas Laffey, bandsman, George W. Howard, barber, and James Richards, first class ship's corporal, of the Duke of Wellington; John Courtnell, gunner's mate, of the Excellent; Henry S. Andrews, bandsman, and Thos. John Willis, signalman, of the Royal Adelaide; Thomas Tozer, acting chief boatswain's mate, of the Victor Emmanuel; Henry Poynter, sailmaker, of the Briton; Charles Gear, sailing mate, of the Condor; John Thomas

A13. Henry Poynter, medal award, The Hampshire Advertiser 6<sup>th</sup> Feb 1884

# John Richard Poynter, 1824-1889

Father to **Albert Poynter** (p.11)  
G.G.G. Grandfather to the author

John, born in the Exeter workhouse certainly received an apprenticeship in brush-making, but because of his father's "dabblings in crime" (see next entry, p.22) he seems to have left home early and worked for a time on a manor farm known as Great Dockham or Doccombe in Moretonhampstead leased by the Dean and Chapter of Canterbury, we may assume because of his origins in the workhouse that this may have been work charitably provided by the church.

On his father's presumed release from prison around 1836 the wider family moved to Plymouth, where John met and married **Elizabeth Tavener** the daughter of a toll booth collector based on the outskirts. Evidence from his children's baptisms locations suggests he plied his brush-making trade between Exeter, Mortenhamsptead and Plymouth, and this is how he may have met her from regular passage. He thereafter makes enough profit to run his own business, as listed in the local trade directory based at 28, John Street in the heart of Plymouth (now under the library).

In 1881 he finds himself a patient in South Devon and East Cornwall Hospital, being treated for some never-to-be-known malady, but recovered before dying age 64 in 1889 in his home town of Exeter. His wife survived him by 12 years, becoming a laundress to make ends meet. He had five children:

- **Henry Poynter** (see above entry, p.16)
- **John Poynter** becomes a house painter (free brushes from his father?!) and remains so for all his working life, siring 7 children in the London area with an **Ann Amelia**, daughter of **Thomas Redmore** a mason
- **Albert Poynter** (see above entry, p.11)
- **Elizabeth Mary Poynter** married a **John James Harris**, a boatswain in the coastguard raising 7 children in the North of England
- **Walter James Poynter** took the family craft, becoming a master brush-maker for over 40 years. He specialised in pan handling, thus dipping the bunched hairs or bristles into a pan of pitch before affixing to the handle. Although he married young to a **Maria Shipley**, daughter of a prison guard, he produced no children alive or dead

## John Richard Poynter – Vital Statistics

<b>BIRTH:</b>	24 Dec 1824, Exeter
<b>BAPTISM:</b>	9 Jan 1825, Saint Sidwell, Exeter. Abode: Workhouse
<b>MARRIAGE:</b>	9 Feb 1850, 25yrs to <b>Elizabeth Tavener</b> (1828-1901). (J/M 1850 Plymouth 9 419)
<b>DEATH:</b>	25 Aug 1889. 64yrs. (Plymouth 5b 181)
<b>CHILDREN</b>	<b>Henry Poynter</b> (1851-1905, Exeter) (see p.16) <b>John Poynter</b> (1854-1905, Moretonhampstead) <b>Albert Poynter</b> (1856-1912, Exeter) (see p.11) <b>Elizabeth Poynter</b> (1858-1925, Exeter) <b>Walter James Poynter</b> (1869-1924, Plymouth)
<b>CENSUS</b>	<b>1841</b> Great Dockham, Moretonhampstead. 15yrs, agri worker (HO107; 254;7;4;5;4;3; 241 324) <b>1851</b> 13, Morley Place, Plymouth. 25yrs, brushmaker. (HO107;1879; 524; 55; 221 027) <b>1861</b> Basket St. Court, Plymouth. 37yrs, brushmaker. (RG9; 1444; 18; 32; 542 813) <b>1871</b> 28, John St, Plymouth. 47yrs, brush maker. (RG10; 2116; 45; 38; 831 794) <b>1881</b> S.Devon & E. Cornwall Hospital. 57yrs, brushmaker. (RG11; 2199; 141; 52; 1 341 529)
<b>DIRECTORY:</b>	1878 White's History, Gazetteer and Directory. 28, John Street, brushmaker



# Devon Baptisms Transcription

First name(s)	John Richard
Last name	Poynter
Birth year	1825
Birth date	09 Jan 1825
Baptism year	1825
Denomination	Anglican
Baptism place	Exeter, St Sidwell
Father's first name(s)	Richard
Father's occupation	Brush-maker
Mother's first name(s)	Anne
Residence	Workhouse
County	Devon
Archive	South West Heritage Trust
Record set	Devon Baptisms
Category	Birth, Marriage, Death & Parish Records
Subcategory	Births & baptisms
Collections from	Great Britain

Devon Family History Society

Transcriptions © Devon Family History Society

[Report an error in this transcription](#)

## A14. John Richard Poynter, baptism, Exeter St Sidwell, 1825

1850. Marriage solemnized at the parish Church in the parish of Charles the Martyr in the County of Devon

No.	When Married.	Name and Surname.	Age.	Condition.	Rank or Profession.	Residence at the Time of Marriage.	Father's Name and Surname.	Rank or Profession of Father.
134	9 <sup>th</sup> Feb 1850	John Richard Poynter	full age	Bachelor	Brushmaker	Richmond Street	Richard Poynter	Brushmaker
		Elizabeth Taverner	full age	Spinster		20 Tavistock Street	James Taverner	Labourer

Married in the parish church according to the Rites and Ceremonies of the Established Church, by Richard or after Richard by me, Richard

This Marriage was solemnized between us, John Richard Poynter's mark in the Presence of us, Richard Elizabeth Taverner's mark Anthony Jolley's mark

## A15. John R. Poynter & Elizabeth Taverner, marriage, 9<sup>th</sup> Feb 1850, Charles the Matyr, Plymouth

**BAPTISMS** solemnized in the Parish of *the Holy Trinity*  
in the County of *the city of Exeter* in the Year 1858

When Baptised.	Child's Christian Name	Parent's Name.		Abode.	Quality, Trade, or Profession.	By whom the Ceremony was performed.
		Christian.	Surname.			
1858 Sept- 26 <sup>th</sup> No. 1531	Elizabeth Ann	John and Elizabeth	Poynter	Lucy Lane Brushmaker		Henry Martin

A16. John R. Poynter, brushmaker, baptism of child Elizabeth Ann, 1858, Exeter

**BAPTISMS** Solemnized in the Parish of **ST. ANDREW, PLYMOUTH**, in the  
County of **DEVON**, in the Year 1869.

When Born.	When Baptized.	Child's Christian Name.	Parents' Name.		Abode.	Quality, Trade, or Profession.	By whom the Ceremony was performed.
			Christian.	Surname.			
1869 January 10 No. 1099	27	Walter James son of	John Richard and Elizabeth	Poynter	John Street Labourer	F. W. Taylor Curate	

A17. John R. Poynter, labourer, baptism of child Walter James, 1869, Plymouth

**History, Gazetteer & Directory of Devon, 1878-79**

**Plymouth,**

- s Poynter John, brushmaker, 28 John street
- Pradridge Miss Elizabeth, lodgings, 183 North road
- e Prance Chas. Rooke, M.D., M.R.C.S. physician, 18 Princess sq

A18. John Richard Poynter, brushmaker, Whites Directory 1878-9

# Richard Poynter 1801-1843

Father to **John Richard Poynter** (see entry above, p.19)

G.G.G.G. Grandfather to the author

Richard, born in Plymouth apprentices in brush-making for 7 years from age 14, and marries on attaining his mastery age 21 to an **Anne**, daughter of **John Perkins**, possibly a farm worker, in 1820. Due to unfortunate circumstances of the period he finds himself first living in the poor quarter of Preston Street, noted for hostelrys, prostitution and rowdy inns, and by 1824 the family were inmates of the local workhouse, but still continued with his trade.

His outlook was so poor he stooped to the levels of criminality to feed his family, and is caught stealing a "pair of breeches" from a William Rawlins, a labourer up in Clifton (Bristol) and is sent to Gloucestershire gaol in 1822 for one month. We are 100% sure it is our man, as his name and occupation (brushmaker) is unique in Exeter at the time, and happened but 6 days after his first child's (William Thomas) baptism. It was also common for brushmakers to travel in a wide circuit plying their trade. We have a unique description of his facial features from the court records, which, if you compare it to a picture of his direct descendant **Albert John Poynter** (page 10), you will remark at the similarities.

**Gloucester Gaol Register, 22<sup>nd</sup> Feb 1822.** Accused: Richard Poynter. Brushmaker, Exeter.  
Marks, Stature, Etc: Light brown hair. Light brown eyes, dark sallow complexion, long face, large nose, a scar on his forehead, two moles on his right cheek, a large mole between his shoulders.  
Several small moles on his back, a pock mark right side his nose. Can read and write. Height 5'5".

It appears he was in and out of jail and poverty, and the records indicate he may have been transported to Australia, as there is a large gap between 1824 and the birth of his next child in 1837. A newspaper report and ships records record a Richard Poynter being transported for life to N.S.W. for robbery in 1826 at the Old Bailey. Whether through penance, hard work and favouritism he managed to gain a pardon after 10 years I am not sure, it was known, but I cannot actually prove it is him at this moment.

It may not be so contrived, and that he simply took his brush-making trade to other cities between those years before moving back to Exeter, however a wide search for any baptisms of children by him in any other area between those years gives no results. The oldest child on the 1841 census is 5, so you would expect to see some older children if he had indeed had any elsewhere returning with him. It is possible that he may have left his wife in Exeter while he was a journeyman brush-maker, but 10 years seems a long stretch if he was a freeman. Otherwise did he contract a long term disease that affected his fertility? Syphilis etc?

Whatever actually happened we are sure though that he has returned in 1837 as we have the same named man baptising his child in that year, in the same church, living at the same address, with same trade, and same wife as in 1825, too many matching facts to be fable. The family was definitely back on track around 1841 having moved to Plymouth, living at Willow Street, where estranged sons **John Richard** & **William Thomas** join them in the immediate area around this time from Exeter to set up a family brush-making enterprise and later to care for their widowed mother, as Richard died an early death age of 43 in 1843. Since 3 of his sons also died before they were 40, and one of those from tuberculosis, I deem this was probably their fate in insanitary Victorian Plymouth. Of his children:

- **William Thomas Poynter** continues the trade of brushmaker in Exeter before moving to join the wider family in Plymouth around 1845 marrying a **Susannah** daughter of **George Benbow** a labourer. They rear 7 children, but dies young age 37. His wife continues to work as a charwoman living next door to her brother-in-law **John Richard Poynter** (p.19)
- **John Richard Poynter** (see above entry, p.19)
- **Mary Ann Poynter** marries **William Alexander** a soldier in around 1865 but appear to produce no children, although they may have married abroad. She takes in her widowed mother **Anne** in 1881 then aged 80 at Willow Street, Plymouth
- **Thomas Poynter** is set to task hawking his fathers brushes, but is dead by 1857 age 19

- **Richard Poynter** becomes a mason, whether he was master at his craft it is difficult to say as he also died of tuberculosis at a young age 39 and childless after marrying twice to a **Susan** and an **Emma**, surnames unknown

## Richard Poynter - Vital Statistics

**BIRTH:** 1801, Plymouth, Devon  
**BAPTISM:** 25<sup>th</sup> Oct 1801, Plymouth, St. Andrews  
**MARRIAGE:** 11 Jun 1820, **Ann Perkins** (1800-1884), Exeter, St George  
**DEATH:** Jan Qtr 1843. 42yr. (Exeter 10, 71)

**CHILDREN** **William Thomas Poynter** (1822-1859, Exeter)  
**John Richard Poynter** (1824-1889, Exeter) (see p.19)  
**Mary Ann Poynter** (b.1837, Exeter)  
**Thomas Poynter** (1838-1857, Plymouth)  
**Richard Poynter** (1840-1879, Plymouth)

**CENSUS** 1841: William Lane, Plymouth. 40yrs, brushmaker (HO107; 269; 6; 6; 28; 50; 3; 241 332)

## COURT RECORDS

- Gloucestershire Criminal Records 1822. Name: Richard Poynter. Birth Year: abt 1799 Age: 23. Committal Date: 25 Feb 1822. Residence Year: 1822. Residence Place: Exeter, Devon. Occupation: Brushmaker. Reference Number: Q/Gc5/2
- Australian Convict Transportation Registers – Other Fleets & Ships, 1791-1868
- New South Wales, Australia Convict Ship Muster Rolls and Related Records, 1790-1849  
Name: Richard Pointer. Vessel: Prince Regent I. Arrival Year: 1827. Date of Conviction: 26 Oct 1826
- NSW Australia Goal & Entrance Books 1818-1930: Admission to Sydney Goal: 3 Dec 1831
- Australian Joint Copying Project. Microfilm Roll 88, Class and Piece Number HO11/6, Page 193 (98)  
Prince Regent Convict Ship 1827 deliveries (life sentence from London goal)  
<http://www.convictrecords.com.au/convicts/pointer/richard/118523>
- Richard Pointer, one of 180 convicts transported on the Prince Regent, 08 June 1827.  
[http://onsearch.slq.qld.gov.au/SLQ:SLQ\\_PCI\\_EBSCO:slq\\_alma2 113 105 636 0002061](http://onsearch.slq.qld.gov.au/SLQ:SLQ_PCI_EBSCO:slq_alma2 113 105 636 0002061)

## NEWS

- Morning Advertiser 03 November 1826 p.3 col 2 bot. Transported for life Richard Pointer
- Morning Chronicle 03 November 1826 p.4 col 2 mid bot. Transported for life Richard Poynter stealing from the person

*St Andrew in Plymouth.*  
*Baptisms in P<sup>l</sup> of Oct<sup>r</sup> 1801*  
*25 Rich<sup>d</sup> son of W<sup>m</sup> & Ann Pointer*

A19. Richard Pointer baptism 25<sup>th</sup> Oct 1801, Plymouth, St Andrews

MARRIAGES solemnized in the Parish of *Saint George, Exeter*  
in the County of *Devon* in the Year 1820

*Richard Poynter (Bachelor)* of this Parish  
*Brush Maker*  
and *Ann Perkins (Spinster)* of this Parish  
were married in this Church by *Banns* with Consent of  
— — — — — this *Eleventh* Day of  
*June* in the Year One thousand eight hundred and *Twenty*  
By me *John Kingsley (Cleric) Rector*

This Marriage was solemnized between us { *Richard Poynter*  
*Ann Perkins*

In the Presence of { *Wm Allen*

No. 61.

A20. Richard Poynter, brush-maker & Ann Perkins, marriage, 11<sup>th</sup> June 1820, St. George, Exeter

Page 90.

BAPTISMS solemnized in the Parish of *St. Mary Major*  
in the County of *The City of Exeter* in the Year 1822

When Baptized.	Child's Christian Name.	Parents Name.		Abode.	Quality, Trade, or Profession.	By whom the Ceremony was performed.
		Christian.	Surname.			
<i>18 22</i> <i>Feb 9</i> <i>18 -</i> No. 713.	<i>William</i> <i>Thomas</i> <i>son of</i>	<i>Richard</i> <i>&amp;</i> <i>Ann</i>	<i>Poynter</i>	<i>Preston Street</i>	<i>Brush-</i> <i>Maker</i>	<i>J. B. Wood</i>

A21. Richard Poynter, brushmaker, Preston St, baptism of child, William Thomas, St Mary Maj, Exeter

## Richard Poynter

in the Web: Gloucestershire, England, Gaol Registers, 1815-1879



 Add Alternative Information

 Report Issue

Name:	Richard Poynter
Birth Year:	abt 1799
Age:	23
Committal Date:	25 Feb 1822
Residence Year:	1822
Residence Place:	Exeter, Devon
Occupation:	Brushmaker
Reference Number:	Q/Gc5/2

### A22. Richard Poynter, brushmaker, send to Gloucestershire goal from Exeter, 1822

#### Lent Assizes Gloucester Gaol – (Transcript of above)

**Brought In:** February 25th 1822. No.142. **Name:** Richard Poynter. **Age:** 23.

**Parish:** Exeter. **Occupation:** Brushmaker. **Judge:** Gabriel Goldney Esq.

**Crime:** Charged upon the opath of William Rawlins of the parish of Clifton, labourer on suspicion of having at the parish of Clifton aforesaid this 23rd instant feloniously stolen taken and carried away one pair of men's corded breeches value four shillings his property.

**Marks, Stature, Etc:** Light brown hair. Light brown eyes dark sallow complexion, long face, large nose, a scar on his forehead two moles on his right cheek a large mole between his shoulders. Several small moles on his back a pock mark right side his nose. can read and write. Brushmaker. Height 5'5"

**Sentence:** sent to the assizes April 3rd 1822 One calender month in penity. (see penitentiary register)

**Removed:** 9th April 1822 **How Behaved:** Indifferent

### A23. Richard Poynter, brushmaker, 1822 Gaol Gloucester Registers Q/Gc5/2



### A24. Richard Poynter, sentenced to transportation for life at Old Bailey, 3<sup>rd</sup> Nov 1826

BAPTISMS solemnized in the Parish of *St Mary Major*  
 in the County of *the City of Exeter* in the Year 1837

When Baptized.	Child's Christian Name.	Parents Name.		Abode.	Quality, Trade, or Profession.	By whom the Ceremony was performed.
		Christian.	Surname.			
<i>July 18<sup>th</sup></i> No. 768.	<i>Mary Ann</i>	<i>Rich<sup>d</sup></i>	<i>Poynter</i>	<i>Preston St</i>	<i>Brushmaker</i>	<i>J. M. Lupton</i> <i>Officiary</i>

A25. Richard Poynter, brushmaker, Preston St, baptism of child Mary Ann, 1837, St Mary, Exeter

# William Pointer c.1776-1855

Father to Richard Poynter above (p.22)

G.G.G.G.G. Grandfather to the author

There is firm convincing evidence to state that William is the father of Richard. There is only one baptism for a Richard Poynter found so far in the in the whole of the U.K. in the appropriate date range and that is for a Richard Pointer baptised in 1801 in Plymouth, St. Andrews. This is where Richard came to live and work after his sojourning in Exeter and Australia. Concerning the difference between Poynter and Pointer, surnames often changes over the centuries due to changes in language, illiteracy and spelling, or lack of it.

Considering Richard ends up in the workhouse and later in court and prison, William may even have been a captured soldier or religious refugee from France, the surname is not uniquely English, and was born around the time of the French Revolution and Napoleonic Wars. However to counter that theory, all his children and descendants have uniquely English names, and I find no variations of the Poynter name anywhere in lists of known Huguenots who came to Devon, unless it was drastically changed from something like Poyntz. Richard was certainly apprenticed locally in the brush-makers trade, at the time a respected and secret guild, evidenced by his marriage age 21yrs, employment: brush-maker, the age of release from a 7 year apprenticeship.

I suspect he may have outlived his son and there is only one William Pointer found in the 1841 census, listed as a "Dissenter's Minister", suggesting or hinting at religious persecution, giving some credence to the theory above, but this alone is no proof it is him.

## William Pointer – Vital Statistics

**BIRTH:** c.1776, Plymouth?

**MARRIAGE:** c.1800 to Ann, Plymouth?

**DEATH:** c.1850, Plymouth?

**CHILDREN:** Richard Pointer 1800-1843 (brushmaker, p.22)

**CENSUS:** 1841 William Pointer age c.65, Dissenter's Minister (Possible entry)

# Brushmaking – A Snippet into the Craft

Brushmaking is a very wide term and could encompass those used for brushing paint, hair, yards, animals, teeth, furniture, make-up or toilets and I am sure that the Poynter family would have dabbled in all these areas with their inherited skills through 3 generations.

The finest brushes of the 1800s were made of wild boar bristles, the best being imported from Russia. Raw bundles were bought from importers which were combed, sorted, graded and greased. A magical mystery of the craft was to ensure that all the bristles were facing the right way. This was done by simple rubbing a stick over a pile of hairs, and because of their tapered structure would separate neatly into 2 piles, tip up and root up.

The bundles are then passed to the pan-handlers, 4 men who stand each side of an upright oven powered by charcoal, keeping a pan of pitch very hot. They pinch the bundles at the root and dip them into the pitch and tie with a "thrum" a piece of yarn, dip a 2nd time and then push them into the hole of the prepared wood stock and twist to fan the hairs. This would be repeated depending on the number of holes making up the stock. The amount of bristles used per brush was measured by experience and a time served master would make brushes of almost equal weight.

The stock would be prepared by foot treadled lathe drill the required amount of holes, without a gauge, and each at a different angle, for example the side holes of a brush point more outwards than the inner.

**CYCLISTS CHAIN CLEANERS.**  
The "Southwark,"  
Per dozen ... 4/9

**Cyclists Spoke Brush**  
SPECIAL PRICE EACH

**CYCLISTS SPOKE BRUSHES.**  
Six on Card, assorted.  
The "Victoria," 9/- per Card.  
For other descriptions see Guide, page 565.

**TOOTH BRUSHES.**  
In Boxes of 1 dozen.  
Small, 2/3; Large, 3/- per box.  
For other descriptions see Guide, pages 970 to 973.

**No. D 372. BUTCHERS SCRUBBING BRUSHES.**  
The "Unique."  
Bass ... 1/3 each.

**BUTCHERS BLOCK BRUSHES.**  
Bass ... 1/3 each.

**CLOTHES OR CARRIAGE BRUSHES.**  
The "Vienna," Fine Whisk,  
Small, 2/6; Large, 3/4 each.

**CLOTHES BRUSHES WITH HANDLE.**  
The "Special," All Bristle,  
Small, 2/1; Large, 3/- each.

**CLOTHES BRUSHES WITH HANDLE.**  
Bevelled Back, Best Finish.  
Each ... 3/8  
For other descriptions see Guide, pages 515 and 566.

**THE BEST QUALITY Guaranteed SHAVING BRUSH**  
→ PRICE EACH ←

**SHAVING BRUSHES, METAL HANDLE.**  
The "London," Glass Top Box,  
Per Box of Twelve ... 8/-  
For other descriptions see Guide, page 804.

**HAIR SCRUBBING BRUSH.**  
MADE FROM SPECIAL FINISHED METAL,  
HANDLED & OILED AND STRENGTHENED BY SPECIAL  
TREATMENT.  
In Cardboard Box ... 1/8 each.

**SCRUBBING BRUSHES.**  
Hair, The "New Century."  
In Cardboard Box ... 1/8 each.

**CLOTHES BRUSHES.**  
The "Captain."  
Roach Back, All Bristle.  
Each ... 3/4

**HAT & CLOTHES BRUSHES.**  
The "Sensible,"  
Complete in Box ... 3/4

**SINK BRUSHES.**  
The "Special," Bass.  
Small, -/5; Large, -/6 each.  
For other descriptions see Guide, page 432.

**LAUNDRY BRUSHES.**  
String Drawn.  
Large 7/- per dozen.  
For other descriptions see Guide, pages 400 and 1034.

**TOY SCRUBBING BRUSHES.**  
The "Southwark."  
Bass or Union 4/6 per doz.

**PAINT SCRUBBING BRUSHES.**  
The "Universal."  
White Fibre -/7 1/2 each.  
For other descriptions see Guide, pages 400, 451 and 1034.

Old newspaper advert courtesy of fotlibra.com

## **Identification of Royal Navy Ships Served on by Henry & Albert Poynter 1871-1896**

Ship's names will follow in succession on the disposal of old and launching of new, therefore the same name could be given to 10 ships over a 200 year period. Therefore the correct vessel must be identified by matching the sailors service within the dates of the ships service in the Royal Navy.

**HMS Asia (1824).** Type: 2nd rate ; Armament : 84  
[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/HMS\\_Asia\\_\(1824\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/HMS_Asia_(1824))  
<http://www.pbenyon.plus.com/18-1900/A/00354.html>  
<http://www.pdavis.nl/ShowShip.php?id=1080>

**HMS Briton (1869).** Type: Corvette ; Armament 10  
[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/HMS\\_Briton\\_\(1869\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/HMS_Briton_(1869))  
<http://www.pbenyon.plus.com/18-1900/B/00702.html>  
<http://www.pdavis.nl/ShowShip.php?id=103>

**HMS Britannia (Prince of Wales (1860) renamed Britannia 1869).** Type: Cutter  
[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/HMS\\_Prince\\_of\\_Wales\\_\(1860\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/HMS_Prince_of_Wales_(1860))  
<http://www.pbenyon.plus.com/18-1900/B/00689.html>  
<http://www.pdavis.nl/ShowShip.php?id=1165>

**HMS Cambridge (Windsor Castle (1858), renamed Cambridge 1869).** 1st rate 100 guns  
[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/HMS\\_Windsor\\_Castle\\_\(1858\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/HMS_Windsor_Castle_(1858))  
<http://www.pbenyon.plus.com/18-1900/W/05255.html>  
<http://www.pdavis.nl/ShowShip.php?id=1196>

**HMS Defence (1861).** Ironclad frigate, 22 guns  
[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/HMS\\_Defence\\_\(1861\)](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/HMS_Defence_(1861))  
<http://www.pbenyon.plus.com/18-1900/D/01316.html>  
<http://www.pdavis.nl/ShowShip.php?id=1332>

**HMS Defiance (1861).** Type: 2nd rate ; Armament 81  
[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/HMS\\_Defiance\\_\(1861\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/HMS_Defiance_(1861))  
<http://www.pbenyon.plus.com/18-1900/D/01321.html>  
<http://www.pdavis.nl/ShowShip.php?id=47>

**HMS Griffon (1877).** Composite screw gunvessel  
<http://www.pbenyon.plus.com/18-1900/G/02078.html>  
<http://www.pbenyon.plus.com/18-1900/G/02078.html>

**HMS Hercules (1868).** Type: Battle Ship, 2<sup>nd</sup> Class, battery ironclad ; Armament 14  
[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/HMS\\_Hercules\\_\(1868\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/HMS_Hercules_(1868))  
<http://www.pbenyon.plus.com/18-1900/H/02235.html>  
<http://www.pdavis.nl/ShowShip.php?id=1562>

**HMS Himalaya (1854).** Type: Iron Troopship  
[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/HMS\\_Himalaya\\_\(1854\)](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/HMS_Himalaya_(1854))  
<http://www.britishempire.co.uk/forces/navyships/troopships/troopshiphimalaya.htm>  
<http://www.pbenyon.plus.com/18-1900/H/02282.html>

**HMS Impacable (Captured French Duguay-Trouin (1805)).** Type: 3rd rate 74 guns  
[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/HMS\\_Implacable\\_\(1805\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/HMS_Implacable_(1805))  
<http://www.pbenyon.plus.com/18-1900/I/02386.html>  
<http://www.pdavis.nl/ShowShip.php?id=1598>

**HMS Impregnable** (Howe (1860) renamed Bulwark, 1885. Renamed Impregnable, 1886).

Type: 1st rate ; Armament: 110

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/HMS\\_Howe\\_\(1860\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/HMS_Howe_(1860))

<http://www.pbenyon.plus.com/18-1900/H/02328.html>

<http://www.pdavis.nl/ShowShip.php?id=8>

**HMS Indus** (1839). Type: 2nd rate ; Armament 80

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/HMS\\_Indus\\_\(1839\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/HMS_Indus_(1839))

<http://www.pbenyon.plus.com/18-1900/I/02416.html>

<http://www.pdavis.nl/ShowShip.php?id=1611>

**HMS Modeste** (1873). Type: Corvette ; Armament 14

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/HMS\\_Modeste\\_\(1873\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/HMS_Modeste_(1873))

<http://www.pbenyon.plus.com/18-1900/M/03066.html>

<http://www.pdavis.nl/ShowShip.php?id=119>

**HMS Northumberland** (1866). Minotaur class ironclad battleship, 28 guns

[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/HMS\\_Northumberland\\_\(1865\)](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/HMS_Northumberland_(1865))

<http://www.pbenyon.plus.com/18-1900/N/03281.html>

<http://www.pdavis.nl/ShowShip.php?id=1825>

**HMS Reindeer** (1883). Type: Sloop

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/HMS\\_Reindeer\\_\(1883\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/HMS_Reindeer_(1883))

<http://www.pbenyon.plus.com/18-1900/R/03866.html>

**HMS Resistance** (1861). Type: Ironclad Battleship

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/HMS\\_Resistance\\_\(1861\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/HMS_Resistance_(1861))

<http://www.pbenyon.plus.com/18-1900/R/03904.html>

<http://www.pdavis.nl/ShowShip.php?id=1978>

**HMS Royal Adelaide** (1828). Type: 1st rate, 26 guns

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/arts/yourpaintings/paintings/hms-royal-adelaide-70119>

<http://www.pbenyon.plus.com/18-1900/R/04006.html>

<http://www.pdavis.nl/ShowShip.php?id=2007>

**HMS Swinger** (1872). Type: Gun Boat, 2<sup>nd</sup> Class ; late Composite Gunboat ; Armament 4

<http://www.pbenyon.plus.com/18-1900/S/04534.html>

**HMS Tees** (1879). Type: Gun Boat 3rd Class

<http://www.pbenyon.plus.com/18-1900/T/04590.html>

**HMS Vivid I.** RN Barracks (1889-1934)

<http://www.pbenyon.plus.com/18-1900/U/05094a.html>

**HMS Wildfire** (1889). Type: Yacht

<http://www.pbenyon.plus.com/18-1900/W/05234.html>

<http://www.pdavis.nl/ShowShip.php?id=2538>

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**Archive Material** – All sites are live as of 2016. If the link wont open just copy paste the text into the search bar. Also for some reason you sometimes need to fill in the missing http:// or https://. If the article has been moved in the future, you might find it on the same main site by doing a general search.

All census, certificates and naval records can all be found under my username “spooksprung” at <http://Ancestry.co.uk>, under the family tree “Burton” in my public profile. Search for my account at <http://community.ancestry.co.uk/directory/directory.aspx>

Wills: <https://probatesearch.service.gov.uk/#calendar>

Newspapers, Baptisms & Marriages: <http://www.findmypast.co.uk/>

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