SLATTER, William (*c*. 1826, Batsford, Gloucestershire – 13 March 1862, Durban)

Butcher

1826 *c.* Born Batsford, Gloucestershire. (RSC 1/8/5 no. 321)

1851.01.01 Came with wife on the *Amazon*. Aged 25, wife 22. (Hatt. lists). [It is possible that he and his wife were due to sail on the *Amazon* and then couldn’t make the sailing date. The Shipping Lists were compiled up to 12 months prior to the date of departure. Also they are not all that accurate. BMS]

1851.12.30 Arrived at Port Natal on the *Iris* with his son [*sic*] aged 9. Intermediate passengers. (Hatt. lists)

1852.01.02 William and Alfred ex-*Iris*. (*NT* 02.01.52)

1852.01.16 Signed the letter to Capt Robert Dobson of the barque *Iris* thanking him for the kindness and care, and the satisfaction with the food and civility of the officers. (*NT* 16.01.1852)

1852 end Butcher, Erf 17 Pietermaritz St, Pmb. (*DDP* 1853)

1853 08.00 A butcher, went insolvent. (*NW* 12.08.53)(*NI* 18.08.53)

1855.05.21 Bought from A.K. Murray no. 1 Block C in Pinetown (CSO 2244 no. D 285 dated 16.01.1856)

1856.03.00 Signed a petition of Pinetown residents. (CSO 2245 no. D 344)

1856.09.30 When Alfred was called as a witness in an attempted rape case, William made deposition that Alfred had lied about being at [W.H.] Middleton’s on the night of the assault on Miss Butler and had in fact returned home between 10-12 that night. (AGO Dep. 1/4/3/ p. 463) [This resulted in Alfred being arrested for perjury. (BMS)]

1856.10.25 Writing from Pinetown, enclosed a memorial from 99 inhabitants of town and County of Dbn about his younger brother’s incarceration in Dbn. The memorial asked for Alfred’s liberation. The first signatures on the memorial were those of William and John C. Slatter.(CSO 2245 no. D 480 dated Oct. 1856)

1857.10.00 Of Dbn, announced he had opened a butchery on premises next door to William Leathern Jun’s former butchery. (English vol. 2, p. 8)

1858.10.21 Butcher, will open his shop on premises in West St, Dbn. (*NM* 21.10.58)

1858.10.26 Of Pinetown, butcher, made agreement with Wm Leathern whereby he hired a certain wooden house or shop (15ft x 20ft) now lately erected on Erf 3, Block G, the property of Leathern, to be occupied as a butcher’s shop for 5 years from 15 Oct., for £3 per month. He may have the use of two iron pots used by Leathern for melting fat or boiling meat. Witnesses: Thomas Williams Deer and James Louis Paull. (RSC IV/19/32 no. 157)

1858.11.02 Butcher Dbn. He agreed to hire from Wm Leathern for 5 years from 1 Feb. 1859 at £2.10.0d per month, a kitchen and a room adjoining, together with three other rooms erected on certain premises belonging to Wm Leathern Jun., heretofore used as a bakehouse but now in occupation of Leathern, and adjoining others of Leathern’s premises. (RSC IV/19/32 no. 155)

1861.05.18 Butcher , Dbn, has been in business for 2½ years, advertising he can’t give more than one month’s credit. (*NS* 18.05.61)

1862.03.10 Slatter the butcher and two boatmen, John Williams and William James drowned when their boat capsized on the Bar. The butchers had been competing to get to the ships anchored outside to gain orders. This boatful persisted in going although conditions were dangerous. (*NS* 10.03.62)

1862.03.14 Poor Mr Slatter and three [*sic*] others drowned in crossing the Bar. (Greathead diary 14.03.62 – p. 8 of notes)

1862.03.15 Application for provisional executor to be appointed in intestate estate of William Slatter. According to death notice signed by J.C. Slatter, his brother, William was born in Batsford Gloucestershire. A butcher, he was drowned on the Natal Bar on 13 Mar 1862, aged 35. Widow is Helen [*sic*]. Children are Evelina, Emma, Helen, William and Thomas, all under age. Owns a house in Dbn, a farm, cattle and has money in the bank. J.C. Slatter applied to be executor. Application granted. (RSC 1/8/5 no. 321)

1862.03.19 J.C. Slatter of Dbn, saddler, brother of Wm Slatter of Dbn, butcher deceased, says Wm at time of death was under contract to the govt to supply meat and it was desirable to prevent serious loss or damage to the estate to continue the business until permanent arrangements could be made. He had been appointed by the Supreme Court to make an inventory and valuation of the estate to see whether it was solvent or not. He will do this but protests against any action of his in this connection being constituted as an acceptance of the inheritance. (RSC IV/16/4 no.117)

1862.03.22 Business of the late Wm Slatter, butcher, West St, will be carried on as usual. Accounts to be paid to J.C. Slatter, provisional executor. (*NS* 22.03.62)

1862.03.00 Widow was Ellen. A meeting of his creditors and next of kin held. (MSCE 3/20 no. 56)

1863.10.03 Widow Ellen (born Mills), 29, b. Plymouth m. in Dbn William Shortt, 26, butcher, b. Capetown. (CSO 2284)(R. Cong. Dbn). At residence of Wm Leathern, Smith St by Revd Jeffreys. (*NM* 00.10.63)

CHILDREN

**Evelina West** (1852*c*. - 15.06.1863, Dbn)

1852*c*. Evelina West born.

1863.06.15 Died. She was a dau. of Mrs W. Slatter of Dbn. (*NM* 00.06.63)(*NS* 25.06.63)

1863.06.16 Aged 11, of West St, buried. (R. St P. Dbn)

**Helen/Ellen Elizabeth** (1854*c*. - )

1854*c*. Helen Elizabeth born.

1872.12.24 Second and eldest surviving dau., 18, m. Dbn, Wm Henry Humphrey, 24, son of Robert Humphrey. (R. St P. Dbn)(*NM* 27.12.72)

**Emma Elizabeth** (00.01.1856, Pinetown - )

1856.01.00 Emma Elizabeth born. Father a butcher, Pinetown. (R. St P. Dbn)

1856.03.24 Baptised. Father a butcher, Pinetown (R. St P. Dbn)(R. St J. PT)

1878.07.03 Youngest dau. of the late Wm Slatter of Natal m. in Kimberley H.J. Scott of Cape Town. (*NM* 17.07.78)(*NW* 20.07.78)

1926.05.06 A Henry Joseph Scott died aged 74½ on either the 6th or the 8th May, date unclear on gravestone. Possibly this is the husband of Emma Elizabeth? (Tomb C.R.C. 3)

**William (**15.10.1857- 05.05.1904, Greyville, Dbn)

1857.10.15 William born. Father a butcher, Pinetown (R. St P. Dbn)

1857.11.25 William baptized. Father a butcher, Pinetown. (R. St J. PT)

1884.04.02 Aged 25, bricklayer, m. Emma Swallow, youngest dau. of the late Walter Swallow, spinster, both of Dbn. (R. Cong. Dbn)(*NM* 04.04.84)

1895 end Bricklayer, living in Botanical Gardens Road. (DNA 1895)

1904.05.15 Bricklayer. Died at Greyville aged 46. (DGR Deaths)

**Thomas** (1860*c*. - )

1860*c*. ?Thomas born.

1860.06.00 Child of William, butcher, and Ellen baptized. (St P. Dbn)

**James** (1861 –

1861.05.00 James born. (*NM* 00.05.61)

1861.05.07 James baptized. Son of William, butcher, and Ellen. (R. St P. Dbn)

1861.10.13 James died at Dbn aged 5 months. Father a butcher. (*NM* 00.10.61)(*NCPA* 23.10.61)(*NW* 25.10.61)

1861.10.15 James, 5 months, of West St, buried Dbn. (R. St P. Dbn)

SOURCES

**Books & Directories**

*DDP – Directory of Durban & Pietermaritzburg*

**Cemeteries**

CRC3 – Catholic cemetery, Commercial Rd, Pmb.

**Church Registers**

R. Cong. – Register Congregational Church, Dbn/Pmb.

R. St P. – Register St Paul’s Church, Dbn

R. St J. – Register St Jame’s Church Pinetown

**Newspapers**

*NCPA –Natal Courier & Pmb. Advertiser*

*NI – Natal Independent*

*NM – Natal Mercury*

*NS – Natal Star*

*NT – Natal Times*

*NW – Natal Witness*

**Official Documents** (All in Pmb. Archives Repository)

AGO – Attorney General’s Office

CSO – Colonial Secretary’s Office

DGR – Dbn Govt Register. Births/Deaths

MSCE – Master of the Supreme Court. Estates

RSC – Registrar of the Supreme Court

**Shipping Lists**

Hatt lists – Hattersley, Alan F.

**Unpublished Manuscripts**

English, G.D. *The story of the Royal D’Urban Rangers*. Typescript. 1954

Greathead, Mary Milner. *Diary*. 1856 – 1864