

The Girl and the Army! *Behind many good men was an even stronger woman.*

Mary Polson the wife of Enrolled Pensioner Guard (EPG) William Butler was born 1820 in Madras India. Her dad was Glaswegian Drum Major and Sergeant Daniel Polson a veteran of 21 years mostly in India but including being at Waterloo and the fierce Burmese War. The service took its toll and he died aged 45 in 1840.

Aged 16 daughter Mary married, was widowed and married again aged 23 all in India losing at least one child to disease. Her 2nd husband also dies and she marries Irishman William in her late 20s, probably in Ireland and they have nine children.

William too had been a soldier in India and earned the medals in some brutal conflicts:

- Cabul Afghan Medal in the spring and summer of 1842 to restore British standing in Afghanistan
- The Sutlej Medal for the battles of Ferozeshah 1845 and Soobraon 1846 to help defeat the Sikhs in the 1st Anglo-Sikh War in India.

Later transferred to Ireland he and Mary made the decision to join the EPG and came to WA on the Pyrenees in 1853 and four years later moved to Port Adelaide where William worked as a cabinet maker.

They were solid members of their community and Mary lived a fascinating life and aged 85 when she passed in 1905.

Check them out at:

<https://enrolledpensionerforcewa.org.au/epf-profiles/b/butler-william-9th-regiment/>



He served throughout the Campaign 1842 in Affghanistan
 for which he received a Medal
 and also the Campaign 1845/6 on the Sutledge
 & wears a Medal and two Clasps for the
 actions of Moodkee, Ferozshah & Sobrace

WILLIAM BUTLER MEDALS FOR CABUL AND SUTLEJ

Daniel Polson - Service Details

Served in the East Indies Twenty one Years One hundred and
 one days. was in Holland, Flanders, and France about
 two Years. was at the Battle of Waterloo, at the Bombardment
 of Antwerp and the Siege of Breda and of Zorn. and
 in Sicily, in 1835 about one Month during the Bismarck
 2nd
 Hat

