

# Child criminals

Young offenders in Victorian Dorset

*An education pack for schools using historical records from the Dorset History Centre*



## CONTENTS

Session overview (for teachers)	3
Historical background	4
<b>Section 1: Photographs</b>	<b>5</b>
Photos activity	6
Photos of child criminals	7-26
<b>Section 2: Prisoner records</b>	<b>28</b>
Prison records activity	29
Prisoner record sheets	30-49
<b>Section 3: Reformatory schools</b>	<b>50</b>
Photograph of children at Milborne school	51
Annual report activity	52
Milborne school annual report	53-59
Letter activity	60
Letter from Bandsman Puttock	61-66
Transcript of Bandsman Puttock's letter	67-68
Extension activities	69

## SESSION OVERVIEW



This session looks at how children and teenagers who committed crimes during the Victorian period were treated and punished.

It is organised into three main sections, each of which includes activities using images of (or extracts from) historical documents.

The activities are, of course, just examples - you could design your own using the copies of our documents as stimulus material. Extension activities are also included, which can be used as additions or alternatives to the main exercises.

We have not provided 'answers', as most of the questions are open-ended or subjective, and are mainly designed to stimulate discussion and debate.

The pack is principally aimed at Key Stages 2 and 3, but can be adapted for use by higher Key Stages.

### **Section 1: Prisoner photos**

This activity gets participants thinking about what we can learn from historical sources, and in particular the value of photographs as evidence. Also starts to engage with empathy skills.

### **Section 2: Prisoner records**

The purpose of this section is to encourage participants to study the records in more detail, extracting basic facts, and building up the story of the child prisoners.

### **Section 3: Reformatory schools**

Activities in this section combine elements of the previous two sections - examining sources to extract factual detail, but also asking participants to try to identify and understand the thoughts of feelings of someone who attended Milborne Industrial School.

## HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

The records in this pack are all from the later half of the Victorian period - covering the 1870s up to 1900.

During this period most children attended school from the age of 5 until age 10. After that, they would normally go straight into work, or might take an apprenticeship so they could learn a specific trade.

At this time, children from 7 years of age were believed to be responsible for their criminal actions and could be tried and punished for them. Young children were sent to adult prisons and suffered the same punishments. There are records of children as young as 12 years old being hanged.

In 1847 the Juvenile Offences Act said that young people under the age of 14 should be tried in a special court, not an adult court. The children shown in this pack would have been sent to one of these juvenile courts.

Nevertheless, until 1899 children would normally spend some of their sentence in adult prison. Reformatory Schools for under 16 year olds were set up in 1854, these were really tough places designed to work the children hard and teach them the basic skills necessary to 'reform' their behaviour and build an honest life once they were released.



## Section 1: Photographs



For this first section, we suggest you do not tell your group anything about the documents being handed out in advance.

This way, participants have to think harder about what you can learn *just from looking* at photographs and historical documents!

This section includes:

- **20** photographs of child criminals from the records of Bridport police from the 1870s
- **1** activity sheet - What can we learn from photographs?

## Photographs

Look at the photographs and answer these questions:

What words immediately come to mind when you see your photograph?

What do you see?

What do you definitely know about this person ?

How do you know this?

How old do you think they are?

Why do you think they were photographed?

Who are they and what is their story?

What questions would you ask these children? Write them down on the back of this page.

No. and Page in Charge of  
Register Book,

No. 702 page 14

NAME

Albert Hall

ALIAS

DATE

21<sup>st</sup> December 1902

REMARKS

Living in Camp with ...



No. and Page in Charge of }  
Register Book, }

NAME *Miss Elizabeth Hanson*

ALIAS \_\_\_\_\_

DATE \_\_\_\_\_

REMARKS \_\_\_\_\_



No. and Page in Charge of }  
Register Book, }

No and Page in Charge of  
Register Book, \_\_\_\_\_

NAME

*John Bowden*

ALIAS \_\_\_\_\_

DATE \_\_\_\_\_

REMARKS \_\_\_\_\_



No. and Page in Charge of } \_\_\_\_\_  
Register Book, } \_\_\_\_\_

NAME Charles Lee

ALIAS \_\_\_\_\_

DATE \_\_\_\_\_

REMARKS \_\_\_\_\_



No and Page in Charge of }  
Register Book, }

NAME

*Fanny Bennett*

ALIAS

DATE

REMARKS



No. and Page in Charge of }  
Register Book,

NAME

*Fredrick Harwood*

ALIAS

DATE

REMARKS



No. and Page in Charge of  
Register Book,

*P. M. Papworth*

NAME

*George Parrott*

ALIAS

DATE

*8th October 1912*

REMARKS

*Lenny*



No. and Page in Charge of Page 62 d  
Register Book,

NAME Harry Parker

ALIAS \_\_\_\_\_

DATE 10 January 1873

REMARKS Arrest



No. and Page in Charge of  
Register Book, }

NAME

*Sarah Corbett*

ALIAS

DATE

REMARKS



No. and Page in Charge of  
Register Book. }

NAME

*Henry Cooper*

ALIAS

DATE

REMARKS



No. and Page in Charge of  
Register Book,

NAME Henry Beckford

ALIAS \_\_\_\_\_

DATE \_\_\_\_\_

REMARKS \_\_\_\_\_



No. and Page in Charge of } Chapman  
Register Book,

NAME Mary Mills

ALIAS \_\_\_\_\_

DATE 7th December 1878

REMARKS Travelling on Camp and H. H.



No. and Page in Charge of } \_\_\_\_\_  
Register Book, }

NAME Henry Theodor

ALIAS \_\_\_\_\_

DATE \_\_\_\_\_

REMARKS \_\_\_\_\_



No. and Page in Charge or  
Register Book,

*No. 11 Page 11*

NAME

*James F. Davis*

ALIAS

DATE

*1st January 1873*

REMARKS

*Larson*



No. and Page in Charge of  
Register Book.

NAME

*John Dorey*

ALIAS

DATE

REMARKS



No. and Page in Charge of } 1020 page 6th page  
Register Book,  
NAME John Wood  
ALIAS \_\_\_\_\_  
DATE January 1913  
REMARKS Living in Camp 4 and 10



No. and Page in Charge of  
Register Book, }

NAME

*John Martin*

ALIAS \_\_\_\_\_

DATE \_\_\_\_\_

REMARKS \_\_\_\_\_



No. and Page in Charge of }  
Register Book, }

NAME *John Menden*

ALIAS \_\_\_\_\_

DATE \_\_\_\_\_

REMARKS \_\_\_\_\_



No. and Page in Charge of 1227 page 84  
Register Book,  
NAME John Sawyer  
ALIAS \_\_\_\_\_  
DATE 20 June 1910  
REMARKS Home visiting



No. and Page in Charge of  
Register Book.

1030 page 2 charge

NAME

Leah Barham

ALIAS

DATE

10 May 1873

REMARKS

Larceny



## Section 2: Prisoner records



This builds on the first section by giving pupils additional historical evidence to work with.

Includes:

- **20** 'prisoner record sheets' - information extracted from the Dorchester prison register for the 1870s.
- **1** activity - What facts can you extract from the records? How has punishment changed since Victorian times?

## Prisoner records

Look at the prison records and answer these questions:

What was the most common crime shown on the list?

How old was the youngest child? And the oldest?

Were the children at school or did they have jobs? What jobs did they have?

What different punishments were there?

Why do you think these punishments were used? What was the aim of the punishment?

Do you think the punishment fitted the crime? Were they fair?

Which do you think is the most serious crime?

What do these records not tell you about the children?

What would happen if children committed these crimes today?

Prisoner record sheet  
(extracted from Dorchester Prisoner Register)

<u>Name</u>	ALBERT HALLETT See page 7 for photo
<u>Date enters prison</u>	4 Jan 1873
<u>Age</u>	10
<u>Male or Female</u>	male
<u>Height</u>	4'1 $\frac{3}{4}$
<u>Eyes</u>	dark hazel
<u>Complexion</u>	ruddy
<u>Distinguishing features</u>	Cut upper part of nose between the eyes
<u>Parish</u>	Lyme Regis
<u>Occupation</u>	School boy
<u>Crime</u>	Stealing cocoa
<u>Previous offences</u>	1 <sup>st</sup> time
<u>Punishment</u>	One calendar month imprisonment and 2 years at Reformatory School (refused admission to Reformatory)

Prisoner record sheet  
(extracted from Dorchester Prisoner Register)

<u>Name</u>	ANNIE ELIZABETH HANSFORD See page 8 for photo
<u>Date enters prison</u>	10 Nov 1874
<u>Age</u>	15
<u>Male or Female</u>	female
<u>Height</u>	?
<u>Eyes</u>	?
<u>Complexion</u>	?
<u>Distinguishing features</u>	?
<u>Parish</u>	?
<u>Occupation</u>	?
<u>Crime</u>	Stealing drapes, table cloth, work box etc
<u>Previous offences</u>	1 <sup>st</sup> time
<u>Punishment</u>	One calendar month to hard labour and 5 years in Reformatory School (sent to Limpley Stoke Reformatory)

Prisoner record sheet  
(extracted from Dorchester Prisoner Register)

<u>Name</u>	CALEB BOWDEN See page 9 for photo
<u>Date enters prison</u>	17 May 1876
<u>Age</u>	13
<u>Male or Female</u>	male
<u>Height</u>	4'4
<u>Eyes</u>	light hazel
<u>Complexion</u>	fair
<u>Distinguishing features</u>	2 moles left corner right eye cut side left thumb
<u>Parish</u>	Bridport
<u>Occupation</u>	Twine worker
<u>Crime</u>	Stealing a fowl
<u>Previous offences</u>	1 <sup>st</sup> time
<u>Punishment</u>	?

Prisoner record sheet  
(extracted from Dorchester Prisoner Register)

<u>Name</u>	CHARLES LEE See page 10 for photo
<u>Date enters prison</u>	18 May 1873
<u>Age</u>	10
<u>Male or Female</u>	male
<u>Height</u>	4'3½
<u>Eyes</u>	blue
<u>Complexion</u>	fair
<u>Distinguishing features</u>	Two very large upper front teech, nose short and turns up, scar over right eyelid
<u>Parish</u>	Devizes [Wiltshire]
<u>Occupation</u>	Gipsy
<u>Crime</u>	Stealing silver watch and german silver chain
<u>Previous offences</u>	1 <sup>st</sup> time
<u>Punishment</u>	14 days imprisonment and 5 years at Reformatory School (sent to Milborne Reformatory)

Prisoner record sheet  
(extracted from Dorchester Prisoner Register)

<u>Name</u>	FANNY BENNETT See page 11 for photo
<u>Date enters prison</u>	8 Jul 1876
<u>Age</u>	15
<u>Male or Female</u>	female
<u>Height</u>	?
<u>Eyes</u>	?
<u>Complexion</u>	?
<u>Distinguishing features</u>	?
<u>Parish</u>	?
<u>Occupation</u>	?
<u>Crime</u>	Stealing gold brooch locket, earring etc
<u>Previous offences</u>	1 <sup>st</sup> time
<u>Punishment</u>	Three calendar months imprisonment and 3 years in Reformatory

Prisoner record sheet  
(extracted from Dorchester Prisoner Register)

<u>Name</u>	FREDERICK HARWOOD See page 12 for photo
<u>Date enters prison</u>	8 Jul 1876
<u>Age</u>	15
<u>Male or Female</u>	female
<u>Height</u>	?
<u>Eyes</u>	?
<u>Complexion</u>	?
<u>Distinguishing features</u>	?
<u>Parish</u>	?
<u>Occupation</u>	?
<u>Crime</u>	Stealing gold brooch locket, earring etc
<u>Previous offences</u>	1 <sup>st</sup> time
<u>Punishment</u>	Three calendar months imprisonment and 3 years in Reformatory

Prisoner record sheet  
(extracted from Dorchester Prisoner Register)

<u>Name</u>	GEORGE BARRATT See page 13 for photo
<u>Date enters prison</u>	5 Oct 1872
<u>Age</u>	12
<u>Male or Female</u>	male
<u>Height</u>	4'4½
<u>Eyes</u>	dark hazel
<u>Complexion</u>	ruddy
<u>Distinguishing features</u>	several scars about the head, extremely deaf, speech rapid and indistinct consequently; dent in forehead
<u>Parish</u>	Whitchurch Canonorum
<u>Occupation</u>	no occupation
<u>Crime</u>	Stealing one clasp knife
<u>Previous offences</u>	1 <sup>st</sup> time
<u>Punishment</u>	14 days imprisonment and 5 years at Reformatory School (refused admission to Reformatory)

Prisoner record sheet  
(extracted from Dorchester Prisoner Register)

<u>Name</u>	HARRY PARKER See page 14 for photo
<u>Date enters prison</u>	1873
<u>Age</u>	7
<u>Male or Female</u>	male
<u>Height</u>	4'1½
<u>Eyes</u>	light grey
<u>Complexion</u>	fair
<u>Distinguishing features</u>	slightly freckled near the eyes
<u>Parish</u>	Wareham
<u>Occupation</u>	School boy
<u>Crime</u>	Arson (stable)
<u>Previous offences</u>	1 <sup>st</sup> time
<u>Punishment</u>	Ten days imprisonment and 5 years at Reformatory School (sent to Milborne Reformatory)

Prisoner record sheet  
(extracted from Dorchester Prisoner Register)

<u>Name</u>	HENRY BURFITT See page 15 for photo
<u>Date enters prison</u>	21 Jun 1875
<u>Age</u>	12
<u>Male or Female</u>	male
<u>Height</u>	4'3
<u>Eyes</u>	light grey
<u>Complexion</u>	ruddy
<u>Distinguishing features</u>	several very small moles each side of face
<u>Parish</u>	Bourton
<u>Occupation</u>	Twine maker
<u>Crime</u>	Embezzlement
<u>Previous offences</u>	1 <sup>st</sup> time
<u>Punishment</u>	Two calendar months imprisonment and 5 years in Reformatory School (sent to Milborne Reformatory)

Prisoner record sheet  
(extracted from Dorchester Prisoner Register)

<u>Name</u>	HENRY COOPER See page 16 for photo
<u>Date enters prison</u>	15 May 1874
<u>Age</u>	13
<u>Male or Female</u>	male
<u>Height</u>	4'5 $\frac{3}{4}$
<u>Eyes</u>	light brown
<u>Complexion</u>	fair
<u>Distinguishing features</u>	Scar right side forehead, cut left corner left eyebrow, slightly freckled around the nose, cut back left thumb.
<u>Parish</u>	Sherborne
<u>Occupation</u>	Silk factory worker
<u>Crime</u>	Stealing chest of tea
<u>Previous offences</u>	1 <sup>st</sup> time
<u>Punishment</u>	?

Prisoner record sheet  
(extracted from Dorchester Prisoner Register)

<u>Name</u>	HENRY MILES See page 17 for photo
<u>Date enters prison</u>	12 Dec 1872
<u>Age</u>	12
<u>Male or Female</u>	male
<u>Height</u>	4'8 $\frac{3}{4}$
<u>Eyes</u>	dark hazel
<u>Complexion</u>	ruddy
<u>Distinguishing features</u>	Slightly freckled, slight scar right side face. Top little finger right injured.
<u>Parish</u>	Gillingham
<u>Occupation</u>	Dairy boy
<u>Crime</u>	Stealing a bag and eight nets
<u>Previous offences</u>	1 <sup>st</sup> time
<u>Punishment</u>	?

Prisoner record sheet  
(extracted from Dorchester Prisoner Register)

<u>Name</u>	HENRY HECKFORD See page 18 for photo
<u>Date enters prison</u>	21 Aug 1875
<u>Age</u>	12
<u>Male or Female</u>	male
<u>Height</u>	4'2½
<u>Eyes</u>	hazel
<u>Complexion</u>	fair
<u>Distinguishing features</u>	Small mole on right cheek and on right side chin. Scar near knuckle of right little finger, eyelids drop slightly
<u>Parish</u>	Lytchett Minster
<u>Occupation</u>	Works in brickyard
<u>Crime</u>	Stealing silver watch and german silver chain
<u>Previous offences</u>	1 <sup>st</sup> time
<u>Punishment</u>	?

Prisoner record sheet  
(extracted from Dorchester Prisoner Register)

<u>Name</u>	HENRY SNOOK See page 19 for photo
<u>Date enters prison</u>	12 Jan 1875
<u>Age</u>	13
<u>Male or Female</u>	male
<u>Height</u>	?
<u>Eyes</u>	?
<u>Complexion</u>	?
<u>Distinguishing features</u>	?
<u>Parish</u>	?
<u>Occupation</u>	?
<u>Crime</u>	Stealing a pair of boots value 6s
<u>Previous offences</u>	?
<u>Punishment</u>	One calendar month imprisonment and 3 years at Reformatory School (sent to Milborne Reformatory)

Prisoner record sheet  
(extracted from Dorchester Prisoner Register)

<u>Name</u>	JAMES FREDERICK DARE See page 20 for photo
<u>Date enters prison</u>	4 Jan 1873
<u>Age</u>	15
<u>Male or Female</u>	male
<u>Height</u>	5'4
<u>Eyes</u>	dark grey
<u>Complexion</u>	sallow
<u>Distinguishing features</u>	Cut under left eyebrow; small mole near left corner left eye also on left cheek. Three small moles left side upper lip, scar and mole near right ear, nostrils wide. Cut side of finger left hand
<u>Parish</u>	Bridport
<u>Occupation</u>	School boy
<u>Crime</u>	Stealing a towel
<u>Previous offences</u>	1 <sup>st</sup> time
<u>Punishment</u>	One calendar month imprisonment and 3 years at Reformatory School (sent to Milborne Reformatory)

Prisoner record sheet  
(extracted from Dorchester Prisoner Register)

<u>Name</u>	JOHN DOREY See page 21 for photo
<u>Date enters prison</u>	25 Jun 1874
<u>Age</u>	13
<u>Male or Female</u>	male
<u>Height</u>	5'2 $\frac{3}{4}$
<u>Eyes</u>	dark hazel
<u>Complexion</u>	sallow
<u>Distinguishing features</u>	slightly freckled, nostrils wide
<u>Parish</u>	Portland
<u>Occupation</u>	Fisherman
<u>Crime</u>	Stealing three iron nuts
<u>Previous offences</u>	1 <sup>st</sup> time
<u>Punishment</u>	?

Prisoner record sheet  
(extracted from Dorchester Prisoner Register)

<u>Name</u>	JOHN LOCOCK See page 22 for photo
<u>Date enters prison</u>	13 Jan 1873
<u>Age</u>	15
<u>Male or Female</u>	male
<u>Height</u>	5' $\frac{3}{4}$
<u>Eyes</u>	dark grey
<u>Complexion</u>	fair
<u>Distinguishing features</u>	dent on left cheek, nose wide
<u>Parish</u>	Bridport
<u>Occupation</u>	Works in rope walk
<u>Crime</u>	Stealing 5 rabbit skins
<u>Previous offences</u>	1 <sup>st</sup> time
<u>Punishment</u>	One month imprisonment and 2 years at Reformatory School (refused admission to Reformatory)

Prisoner record sheet  
(extracted from Dorchester Prisoner Register)

<u>Name</u>	JOHN MARTIN See page 23 for photo
<u>Date enters prison</u>	27 Feb 1875
<u>Age</u>	14
<u>Male or Female</u>	male
<u>Height</u>	4'8
<u>Eyes</u>	dark grey
<u>Complexion</u>	fair
<u>Distinguishing features</u>	much freckled and slightly pockmarked, nose short
<u>Parish</u>	Bridport
<u>Occupation</u>	Works in twine factory
<u>Crime</u>	Stealing knives
<u>Previous offences</u>	1 <sup>st</sup> time
<u>Punishment</u>	?

Prisoner record sheet  
(extracted from Dorchester Prisoner Register)

<u>Name</u>	JOHN MUNDEN See page 23 for photo
<u>Date enters prison</u>	27 Feb 1875
<u>Age</u>	13
<u>Male or Female</u>	male
<u>Height</u>	4'7½
<u>Eyes</u>	grey
<u>Complexion</u>	sallow
<u>Distinguishing features</u>	scar back left hand
<u>Parish</u>	North Allington, Bridport
<u>Occupation</u>	Works in twine factory
<u>Crime</u>	Stealing knives
<u>Previous offences</u>	1 <sup>st</sup> time
<u>Punishment</u>	?

Prisoner record sheet  
(extracted from Dorchester Prisoner Register)

<u>Name</u>	JOHN STAINER See page 25 for photo
<u>Date enters prison</u>	29 May 1872
<u>Age</u>	10
<u>Male or Female</u>	male
<u>Height</u>	?
<u>Eyes</u>	?
<u>Complexion</u>	?
<u>Distinguishing features</u>	?
<u>Parish</u>	?
<u>Occupation</u>	?
<u>Crime</u>	Housebreaking with intent to commit a felony
<u>Previous offences</u>	?
<u>Punishment</u>	One month imprisonment and 5 years at Reformatory School (sent to Milborne Reformatory)

Prisoner record sheet  
(extracted from Dorchester Prisoner Register)

<u>Name</u>	LEAH WAREHAM See page 26 for photo
<u>Date enters prison</u>	29 May 1872
<u>Age</u>	10
<u>Male or Female</u>	male
<u>Height</u>	?
<u>Eyes</u>	?
<u>Complexion</u>	?
<u>Distinguishing features</u>	?
<u>Parish</u>	?
<u>Occupation</u>	?
<u>Crime</u>	Housebreaking with intent to commit a felony
<u>Previous offences</u>	?
<u>Punishment</u>	One month imprisonment and 5 years at Reformatory School (sent to Milborne Reformatory)

## Section 3: Milborne Industrial School



The final section looks at a 'reformatory' or 'industrial school'.

Includes:

- 4 pages from the Milborne Industrial School annual report, 1900, listing what has happened to former pupils
- 1 letter from former pupil, 1900, now serving in army in Malta
- 1 photograph of pupils at Milborne Industrial School, c1900
- 2 activities - What can you find out from these records? What can you tell about this former pupil's feelings and personality?



Milborne St Andrew Industrial School, c1900 (ref: D/TRD/X8)

After they had been in Dorchester prison, some of the child prisoners were sent to Reformatory School in Milborne St. Andrew near Dorchester. A Reformatory school was a very strict boarding school, which they could not leave and were away from their families, and where the children were made to work very hard. They were also taught to read, write and to develop skills in a trade which would help them get a job when they left, like woodwork, farming or gardening. Many children were trained to join the Army and Navy to fight wars overseas in places as far away as South Africa and the Crimea in Russia.

The Reformatory school records show information on what happened to the children and young people as soon as they left (disposal) and what they went on to do afterwards.

There are no names on the records, only initials. See if you can match any of the initials to the children on your records.

See if you can find:

1. Someone who emigrated to Canada. What are their initials?
2. Someone who stayed at Milborne for over 4 years. How old were they when they left?
3. Someone who was 16 when they left Milborne. What date were they heard of last?
4. Someone who left in 1892. What month did they leave and where did they go?
5. Someone whose initials begin with the letter C. What was their career?
6. Someone who ended up working on the land. What were their initials and when did they leave?

APPENDIX I.—continued.

No.	Initials.	Actual Stay at School.	Age on Leaving.	Date of Leaving.	Disposal.	Subsequent Career.	When last heard of.
195	C. P.	1 year 11 months	15	May 25, 1896	Farm service	In the same place	Jan., 1900
196	G. H.	" 6 "	16	Jan. 22, 1897	Regimental Band	Dorset Regiment	Dec., 1899
197	B. J.	" 8 "	14½	Mar. 27, 1896	Reformatory ship		
198	E. R.	" 5 "	14	May 31, 1899	Regimental Band	King's Liverpool Regiment	April, 1900
199	W. C.	" 8 "	14	May 31, 1899	"	Durham Light Infantry	Jan., 1900
200	H. F.	" 2 "	14	April 23, 1897	"	Stone mason	Mar., 1900
201	D. E. F.	" 4 "	14	April 23, 1897	Regimental Band	Kneller Hall	"
202	W. V.	" 4 "	14	Mar. 23, 1899	Dairy boy	In same place	"
203	A. S.	" 3 months	14	July 27, 1898	"	"	"
204	H. Y.	" 1 "	15	June 27, 1899	Farm service	"	"
205	F. F. J.	" 9 "	15	Feb. 9, 1898	Regimental Band	Discharged from Regiment	Dec., 1899
206	F. J.	" 9 "	14	Mar. 14, 1898	Farm service	In same place	April, 1900
207	W. R.	" 11 "	14	June 30, 1898	Regimental Band	Kneller Hall	"
208	J. K.	" 7 "	14	Feb. 3, 1900	"	King's Liverpool Regiment	"
209	W. C.	" 3 "	14	Mar. 14, 1899	"	"	"
210	H. G. B.	" 2 "	15	June 30, 1898	"	"	"
211	F. W.	" 7 "	15	Sept. 22, 1897	"	"	"
212	J. S.	" 10 "	15	April 11, 1899	Farm service	Suffolk Regiment	"
213	A. G.	" 3 "	13½	June 30, 1898	Regimental Band	In same place	"
214	A. P.	" 3 "	14	June 30, 1898	"	King's Liverpool Regiment	Mar., 1900
215	R. J. F.	" 4 "	14	Mar. 23, 1900	Farm service	Lancashire Fusiliers	April, 1900
216	G. B.	" 2 months	14	June 22, 1898	"	Helper in yard	"
217	W. S.	" 4 months	13	Aug. 21, 1896	"	In same place	"
218	H. N.	3 years 2 months	15	July 24, 1899	Not fit for Industrial Training		
219	B. S.	" 11 "	15	May 5, 1898	Regimental Band	Lancashire Fusiliers	Mar., 1900
220	C. D.	" 8 "	15	May 11, 1898	"	King's Liverpool Regiment	"
221	H. P.	" 4 "	15	June 2, 1898	Regimental Band	Training ship	"
222	W. L.	" 6 "	14	Dec. 30, 1899	Dairy service	Lancashire Fusiliers	"
223	W. C.	" 6 "	14½	Dec. 12, 1898	Tailor in army		"
224	W. C.	" 9 "	14	Mar. 14, 1900	Regimental Band	King's Liverpool Regiment	April, 1900
225	E. M.	" 8 "	14	Mar. 14, 1900	"	"	"
226	E. H. L.	" 1 "	14	Oct. 18, 1899	"	"	"
227	R. C. F.	" 4 "	14	Feb. 22, 1900	"	"	"
228	L. R.	" 3 "	13	April 9, 1900	Farm service	H. R. J.	"
229	J. G.	" 10 "	14	April 9, 1900	"	Worcester Regiment	"
230	C. M.	" 6 "	14	April 24, 1900	Regimental Band	"	"

## APPENDIX I

No.	Initials.	Actual stay at School.	Age on Leaving.	Date of Leaving.	Disposal.	Subsequent Career.	When last heard of.
1	G. M. D.	2 years	13	Sept. 15, 1883	Returned to friends	Joined the merchant service. Visited school 1897	July, 1899
2	C. C.	3 "	12	Sept. 15, 1884	" "	Now working at Rope Works, Poole. Fairly good	" 1899
3	J. H. A. J. R.	4 " 2 years, 9 months	15 14	July 14, 1885 Aug. 16, 1884	" " " (shoemaker)	Working in Poole Now in Dorset Regiment. Was wounded Frontier Campaign	Dec., 1891 Oct., 1899
4	A. J. R.	2 years, 9 months	14	Aug. 16, 1884	" "	Served 6 years. Now game-keeper. Visited school, 1896. Reserve	
5	G. C.	4 " 9 "	16	Aug. 16, 1886	" "	(See No. 77)	
6	R. E. B.	2 months	9	Jan. 1882	Discharged on account of disease	Farm work.	
7	W. J. P.	4 years	13	Nov. 18, 1885	Detention extended to the age of 16	As attendant to invalid gentleman in London	Mar., 1889
8	W. J. P.	3 years 9 months	15	Aug. 8, 1885	Returned to friends	Groom	July 17, 1888
9	J. H.	1 "	14	June 19, 1883	Sent to a reformatory	Lost sight of	
10	C. C.	3 " 2 "	16	Feb. 28, 1885	Service	In business as butcher for himself. Doing well	
11	M. C.	3 " 3 "	16	Mar. 9, 1885	Friends claimed this boy		
12	J. J.	4 " 3 "	16	Mar. 31, 1885	Emigrated to Canada		Dec., 1895
13	S. L.	2 " 11 "	14	Nov. 24, 1884	Service as page boy	Now a valet and doing well	
14	J. D.	4 " 4 "	15	Feb. 25, 1886	Farm service	Doubtful	" 1893
15	A. V. E.	3 " 1 "	15	Jan. 19, 1885	To friends	Boy's friends claimed him, soon returned to old paths	Jan., 1888
16	R. C. F.	2 " 3 "	14	Mar. 4, 1884	Regimental Band	Now Superintendent of Police in Bombay	Dec., 1899
17	H. G.	5 " 11 "	15	Nov. 21, 1887	Farm work	Doubtful	Jan., 1895
18	J. M.	3 " 7 "	14	July 10, 1885	Regimental Band	Returned to the Home invalided; after six months nursing, died of consumption	July, 1894
19	H. W.	6 " "	14	Jan. 3, 1888	Emigrated to Canada	Doing well; still in Canada	June, 1896
20	A. W.	8 " "	14	Jan. 3, 1880	" "	" "	June, 1896
21	V. R.	1 year, 9 months	16	Oct. 3, 1883	Service in London	In Dorset Regiment in India.	Dec., 1896
22	G. K.	3 " 3 "	14	Feb. 11, 1885	Returned to friends		" 1889
23	W. N.	4 " 4 "	16	Mar. 10, 1886	Farm service		" 1887
24	A. K.	2 " 11 months	16	Feb. 25, 1885	" "		" 1899
25	H. S.	5 " 1 "	15	April 30, 1887	" "		Jan., 1892
26	H. S.	4 " 8 "	14	Nov. 11, 1886	Regimental Band	Doing well	June, 1889
27	E. C.	1 " 10 "	13	Feb. 9, 1884	Friends	In a farm dairy	
28	F. M.	2 " 3 "	15	June 30, 1884	Service	Now butler	Dec., 1899

APPENDIX I.—continued.

No.	Initials.	Actual Stay at School.	Age on Leaving.	Date of Leaving.	Disposal.	Subsequent Career.	When last heard of.
29	R. M.	8 years 4 months	14	Aug. 31, 1890	Grocery trade with brother		
30	F. R.	" "	16	April 12, 1886	Returned to friends	New footman in London	Dec., 1899
31	A. T. G.	" "	15	May 11, 1884	Farm work	In Rifle Brigade; India	Nov., 1897
32	W. S.	" "	16	July 30, 1889	Farm work	Lost sight of	Dec., 1886
33	W. H.	2 years 9 months	15	Feb. 28, 1885	Service	Labourer	Dec., 1899
34	J. H.	" "	14	Jan. 31, 1885	Farm and garden work	Dorset Regiment	" "
35	J. R.	" "	16	Mar. 14, 1887	Returned to friends	Married and doing well	Jan., 1897
36	A. R.	" "	14	Oct. 29, 1888	Regimental Band	Northumberland Fusiliers; India	" "
37	J. S.	" "	16	Jan. 20, 1888	Farm service	Midland Railway. Dorset Reserve	Dec., 1899
38	E. J. S.	" "	16	July 30, 1889	Farm service	Visited school 1896	Dec., 1896
39	W. P. T.	" "	15	Mar. 29, 1887	Regimental Band	South Africa. Reserve	" "
40	J. C.	" "	14	July 27, 1886	Regimental Band	In London	Aug., 1899
41	A. S.	" "	16	Mar. 14, 1887	Service as page boy	Married and doing well	1893
42	S. S.	" "	14	May 29, 1887	Returned to friends	Visited school 1893	1893
43	G. C.	" "	15	Oct. 19, 1888	Farm service	Surrey Regiment; India	Dec., 1899
44	F. G.	" "	15	Apr. 16, 1890	Regimental Band		Dec., 1894
45	A. M.	" "	15	Aug. 14, 1886	Farm service	Farm work	Dec., 1894
46	H. D.	" "	14	Oct. 11, 1886	Regimental Band		Jan., 1892
47	W. P.	" "	15	Apr. 30, 1888	Regimental Band	Dorset Regiment; in Frontier Campaign	Dec., 1899
48	H. P.	" "	15	July 29, 1889	Regimental Band	Corporal in Dorset Regiment	Dec., 1899
49	F. B.	" "	13	Aug. 20, 1885	Regimental Band	Shoker in H. M. Navy	June, 1896
50	W. J.	" "	16	Oct. 25, 1886	Service as a hall boy	Living in Dorchester. Last seen 1896	Dec., 1897
51	F. D.	" "	16	May 24, 1887	Returned to friends	Service, coachman	Dec., 1897
52	M. R.	" "	14	May 18, 1888	Service as strand boy	In dairy at Sturminster	May, 1897
53	J. P.	" "	14	Oct. 12, 1887	Service as page boy	Support of family; father dead. Jan., 1894	May, 1897
54	J. C.	" "	15	July 15, 1887	Went to sea	Working at Blandford	May, 1898
55	W. S.	" "	15	July 11, 1888	Returned to friends	Lance-Corporal in Dorset Regiment. Passed exam. for regimental schoolmaster	Xmas., 1898
56	T. M.	" "	16	May 7, 1890	Returned to friends	Surrey Regiment	Jan., 1892
57	W. R. G.	" "	16	May 7, 1891	Returned to friends	Weak intellect	Mar., 1900
58	W. M.	" "	15	Oct. 2, 1888	Sent to a reformatory		Dead
59	T. W. V. E.	" "	14	Feb. 22, 1892	Regimental Band		
60	T. M.	" "	16	July 18, 1890	Returned to friends	Doing well	



APPENDIX I—continued.

No.	Initials.	Actual Stay at School.	Age on Leaving.	Date of Leaving.	Disposal.	Subsequent Career.	When last heard of.
92	A. J. K.	4 years 9 months	15	Oct. 8, 1891	To service as page boy	Enlisted in the King's Liverpool. Africa.	Dec., 1899
93	T. C. C.	4 " 5 "	16	July 18, 1891	Returned to friends	Same situation. Handler for several years.	June, 1897
94	J. W.	5 " 4 "	15	June 6, 1891	Farm service	Royal Navy. Visited Weymouth	Jan., 1897
95	T. B.	5 " 9 "	16	Jan. 28, 1892	Regimental Band	Oxford Light Infantry	Mar., 1900
96	S. G.	6 " "	15	Mar., 1893	Died at school		Dead
97	E. S.	2 years 6 months	15½	July 11, 1889	Shoemaking	Farm boy	Dec., 1894
98	G. P.	5 " "	15	June 28, 1892	Farm service	Marines	Dec., 1899
99	F. T.	5 " "	14	Mar. 3, 1892	To farm service	Farm dairy	Mar., 1900
100	J. T.	3 years 9 months	14	Mar. 30, 1890	Returned to friends	Merchant service	Dec., 1894
101	A. T.	3 " 9 "	13	Oct. 30, 1890	" "	" "	" "
102	B. E.	3 " 1 "	16	June 30, 1892	" "	Working in baker's shop	Nov., 1897
103	J. W.	4 " 9 "	15 9	Oct. 21, 1891	" "	Enlisted in Dorset Regiment	Jan., 1897
104	A. W. V.	3 " 5 "	15½	June 12, 1887	" at school	Deserted	Jan., 1897
105	H. S.	3 " 3 "	15	Dec. 12, 1891	Regimental Band 43rd Light Infantry	Somerset and Dorset Railway. Married	Mar., 1900
106	S. M.	4 " 3 "	14½	Dec. 9, 1892	Farm service		
107	H. L. H.	4 " 6 "	15½	Mar. 26, 1892	Removed to a reformatory		
108	E. S.	4 " "	15 3	Aug. 21, 1892	Regimental Band	Durham Light Infantry. India	Jan., 1897
109	F. R.	4 years 6 months	15	May 17, 1893	" "	Dorset Regiment	Dec., 1897
110	H. R.	4 " 3 "	13 1	Sept. 28, 1892	" "	Shoemaker in Regiment	Mar., 1900
111	T. H.	3 " "	15	Mar. 11, 1892	" "	Durham Light Infantry	" "
112	W. M.	3 years 4 months	14 4	Dec. 8, 1892	Returned to friends	Working at Weymouth	Dec., 1899
113	H. P.	4 " "	16	Aug. 31, 1889	Discharged on account of fits	Dorset Regiment. Malta	Mar., 1897
114	G. T.	6 months	16	Mar. 20, 1895	Absconded		Dec., 1897
115	A. E. H.	1 year 6 months	15	Aug. 25, 1890	Farm service	Transferred to a reformatory	Mar., 1900
116	F. P. F.	3 years 6 months	12 1	Aug. 1, 1892	Regimental Band	Highland Light Infantry. India	Dec., 1899
117	C. B.	5 " 6 "	15½	Mar. 1, 1894	Returned to friends	Dorset Regiment. India	Mar., 1900
118	W. G. M. S.	5 " 7 "	16	May 4, 1894	Tailor in Regiment	3rd Hussars	Mar., 1900
119	C. R.	6 " "	14 2	Dec. 5, 1892	Regimental Band	Lancashire Fusiliers. Malta	" "
120	G. C.	8 " "	15½	Feb. 12, 1895	" "	Highland Light Infantry	" "
121	W. W.	3 " 3 "	15	Sept. 28, 1892	" "	King's Liverpool	" "
122	G. H.	4 " 4 "	15	Mar. 1, 1894	" "	Friends claimed him	" "
123	W. A.	3 " 9 "	14	Feb. 15, 1893	" "		Aug. 12, 1896
124	F. E.	3 " 10 "	14	Mar. 15, 1893	" "		
125	W. L.	3 " "	15	Mar. 15, 1893	" "		

APPENDIX I—continued.

No.	Initials.	Actual Stay at School.	Age on Leaving.	Date of Leaving.	Disposal.	Subsequent Career.	When last heard of.
126	J. H.	5 years 6 months	15	Feb. 12, 1895	Regimental Band	3rd Hussars	Mar., 1900
127	J. S.	6 " 9 "	15	Apr. 17, 1896	" "	In service; groom	" 1900
128	W. W. R.	8 " 8 "	14	Feb. 15, 1893	" "	King's Liverpool Regiment	" 1897
129	J. F.	5 " 8 "	14	Aug. 30, 1894	" "	Durham Light Infantry	Feb., 1900
130	J. L.	3 " 7 "	14	Mar. 23, 1893	" "	King's Liverpool Regiment	Jan., 1897
131	D. L.	6 " 9 "	15	Apr. 6, 1896	Service. Remained at the school until September, 1897, on leave	King's Liverpool Regiment	
132	S. L.	6 " 8 "	14	Mar. 11, 1896	Regimental Band	In service; groom	Apr., 1900
133	A. R.	3 " 9 "	16	June 10, 1893	Regimental Band	King's Liverpool Regiment	Jan., 1897
134	W. B.	4 " 9 "	14	July 9, 1894	Farm service	Emigrated to America	Dec., 1897
135	W. M.	4 years 9 months	13 9	Mar. 16, 1894	Regimental Band	Rifle Brigade, Dublin	Dec., 1897
136	P. D.	3 " 9 "	13 9	Dec. 10, 1893	Returned to friends	Returned to London. In a paper factory	Mar., 1899
137	A. D.	3 " 9 "	12 9	Dec. 10, 1893	" "	Apprenticed to a draper's brothers	Mar., 1900
138	S. F.	4 " 6 "	14	May 12, 1894	" "	Apprenticed to a draper	Mar., 1900
139	H. E.	4 " 4 "	12	Feb. 13, 1894	" "	Dorset Regiment	" 1900
140	C. H.	5 " 5 "	12	Nov. 2, 1895	Service	Enlisted	Dec., 1899
141	J. R.	2 years 10 months	14	June 27, 1893	" "	Dairy boy	" 1897
142	J. K.	2 " 4 "	15	Feb. 15, 1893	Regimental Band	Farm work	Mar., 1900
143	D. T.	4 " 6 "	15	July 10, 1895	Service	King's Liverpool Regiment. West Indies	Mar., 1899
144	A. L.	3 " 11 "	16	Nov. 13, 1894	" "	Returned to his home	1899
145	W. S. C.	3 " 8 "	15	Nov. 9, 1893	Navy	Enlisted in the Dorset Regiment	1899
146	R. B.	2 " 6 "	14	Sept. 16, 1894	Regimental Band	On H. M. S. Revenge	1899
147	S. T.	6 " 5 "	14	Aug. 23, 1897	" "	Leicestershire Fusiliers. India	1899
148	T. J. H.	4 " 9 "	15	Nov. 11, 1895	" "	Rifle Brigade as tailor	1899
149	J. D.	4 " 9 "	15	Jan. 22, 1896	" "	Dorset Regiment. Malta	1899
150	A. R.	5 " 3 "	14	Oct. 26, 1896	" "	" "	1899
151	R. P.	4 " 9 "	16	Apr. 6, 1896	Tailoring	King's Liverpool Regiment. Belfast	Mar., 1900
152	W. W.	3 " 3 "	15	Dec. 21, 1894	Service	Apprenticed at Blandford	Dec., 1899
153	T. W.	2 " 6 "	16	May 14, 1900	Regimental Band	Assistant gardener	Dec., 1900
154	F. B.	2 " 3 "	14	Feb. 16, 1894	Service	King's Liverpool Regiment	Mar., 1899
155	H. B.	4 " 6 "	16	Nov. 1, 1894	" "	Warehouseman and porter	Dec., 1899
156	T. P.	4 " 6 "	15	Feb. 1, 1896	" "	Carter boy	1899
157	H. J. F.	4 " 6 "	15	Nov. 13, 1894	Regimental Band	Returned to his home	1899
158	G. S.	4 " 2 "	15	Sept. 26, 1895	Service	Durham Light Infantry	" 1899
159	E. M.	3 " "	15	Mar. 23, 1895	Returned to friends	Returned to his home	" 1899
						Working on railway	" 1899

APPENDIX I.—continued.

No.	Initials.	Actual Stay at School.	Age on Leaving.	Date of Leaving.	Disposal.	Subsequent Career.	When last heard of.
160	N. M.	5 years	16	May 27, 1897	Returned home		
161	S. P.	1 month	14	Mar. 12, 1895	Unit for Industrial Training	Unsatisfactory	Mar., 1900
162	A. M. H.	2 years 8 months	16	Aug. 12, 1895	Regimental Band	3rd Hussars, India	
163	E. D.	2 "	16	April 26, 1895	Farm	Labourer	
164	R. W.	3 "	14½	June, 1897	Regimental Band	Highland Light Infantry	
165	B. H.	3 "	15	Dec. 1, 1896	"	Dorset Regiment, India	
166	J. S. L.	4 "	16	July 24, 1895	"	Half-witted	
167	J. S. L.	2 "	15	June 26, 1896	Farm service	Dorset Regiment	
168	L. I.	3 "	15½	June 26, 1896	Regimental Band	Comnaught Rangers	Mar., 1900
169	F. K.	3 "	15	June 20, 1899	"	"	
170	W. G.	3 "	14	June 20, 1899	"	"	
171	T. G.	5 "	14	Jan. 1, 1897	"	Lancashire Fusiliers	Jan., 1900
172	C. R. C. P.	4 "	16	Feb. 23, 1895	Farm service	Rifle Brigade	
173	H. C.	2 months	16	June 13, 1896	"	Farm service	
174	W. B.	3 "	15	Aug. 20, 1896	"	Not heard of	
175	E. B.	3 "	15	Mar. 8, 1898	House service	Footman	Jan., 1900
176	J. S.	5 "	15	Sep. 27, 1896	Farm service	Band King's Regiment	Dec. 25, 1899
177	W. D.	3 "	16	Oct. 18, 1898	"	Carter boy	Jan., 1900
178	A. C.	5 "	15	Jan. 1, 1897	Dairy boy	Still in dairy	
179	A. T.	3 "	14½	June 2, 1897	Farm service	Joined Marines	
180	W. C.	4 "	16	June 1, 1897	"	Labourer	
181	E. N.	2 "	15	Nov. 5, 1895	Regimental Band	Dorset Regiment	Mar., 1900
182	W. B.	2 "	15½	Dec. 11, 1895	"	Dorset Navy	Jan., 1900
183	A. K.	3 "	15½	Jan. 20, 1897	Regimental Band	Rifle Brigade	Aug., 1899
184	F. S.	3 "	15	June 14, 1897	"	In India	Mar., 1900
185	W. D.	11 "	12	June 27, 1894	"		
186	R. D.	9 months	13½	Oct. 26, 1897	To friends	Still in dairy	Mar., 1900
187	T. W.	2 "	16	Nov. 14, 1896	Dairy boy	Still in band	
188	J. C.	11 "	15	Feb. 10, 1898	Regimental Band	Carter boy	
189	H. R.	4 "	15	July 30, 1898	Farm service	Still in dairy	
190	T. N.	2 "	15½	Aug. 7, 1899	Dairy boy	Carter boy	
191	H. D. M.	5 "	16	Sep. 29, 1896	Farm service	Dorset Regiment	Nov., 1899
192	A. D.	2 "	16	Oct. 18, 1898	Regimental Band	Labouring	
193	F. C. R.	4 "	15	Sep. 21, 1897	Returned to friends	Dorset Regiment	
194	T. C. M.	4 "	14½	April 15, 1898	Regimental Band	3rd Hussars	Dec., 1899

Bandsman H. Puttock was sent to Milborne Reformatory School, probably in the 1870's and 1880's. We don't have any records of what he did or how long he spent there. Bandsman Puttock must have been trained to join the army and ended up serving abroad.

We are very lucky to have a letter that he sent back to Milborne Reformatory School, which tells an exciting story of adventures he was having abroad.

See if you can read his handwriting and find out what he has been doing. If you are struggling with any words, look at the transcript which has already been written for you.

1. What sort of person do you think Bandsman H. Puttock was?
2. Do you think he enjoyed being in the Army?
3. Do you think he liked being in a different country?
4. Can you tell whether he enjoyed his time at Milborne Reformatory School?
5. How can you tell?



Bandsman H Puttock. Band  
3<sup>rd</sup> Bat. Lanc. Fus Lower  
St Elmo, Malta

15/1/1900

Dear Sir

I received your nice and I must say welcome letter, and I was very glad to hear that you all was in the best of health and spirits.

I am also in good health and I like Malta alright but not like home though for all the Maltese think about is their "mongee" which is bread and all you can hear all day is "Gibber <sup>(or give me food)</sup> mongee for de goats and donkeys".

But hush? Dear Sir  
I have unravelled the

dark mystery, for round the corner of the barracks you may see every day and at one o'clock scores of these so-called goats and donkeys with two legs - eating their "monger" and as to live stock well - you cant beat Malta and every night when the clock strikes twelve the beetles and mosquitoes hold high revels, and one night I met with a terrible adventure and its a wonder how I lived to tell the tale, well it was night and the room and its inmates was all in profound slumber, all except your right honorable Harry who was deeply thinking that he deserved

a rise in life that was before he got bandsman when all off a sudden he felt his bedcot and himself rise very high in the air and he felt himself moving (and at the same time felt his hair rise.) along when he came to a hole which somebody was trying to take me down, of course human nature couldnt stand time this so I done the bravest act I have ever done and with great presence of mind I - started shouting out) "not with fear, mind I thought if I didnt shout it, would come back for the other boys and carry them off too" and the

other boys quickly  
came to my help  
and pulled the cot  
out of the hole and  
when they lifted the  
cot up guess what  
was under there - well  
there was about two  
hundred beetles  
what had tried to  
carry me off, ("you can  
believe this if you like")  
but we quickly  
dispatched the blood-  
thirsty animals by  
placing some of our  
guaranteed fresh meat  
on the floor so after  
this I have chained  
my cot to the wall  
and I never eat more  
than eight cheese  
cakes of a night time  
now and I dont want  
another rise they are  
so unpleasant.

no doubt you will  
be very glad to hear  
I am in the Army  
Temperance Association  
so is Patmore and  
Hislop and we will  
all soon get a medal.  
Hislop has gone to  
Mellekia Camp to  
go through a course  
of field training he  
is still very fond  
of ~~at~~ conjuring and  
he is always fond  
of teaching us tricks  
but I must confess  
I am not very good  
at it nature has evident-  
ly not meant me to  
be a Acrobat, I dare say  
Hislop feels the absence  
of his two chums the  
Hobsons who we had

the pleasure of seeing  
also Gajop and  
Keale but it was  
not for long as they  
got shifted to Crete  
which is not such  
a good place as this.  
Thanks to the Officers  
of this battalion the  
band goes to a opera  
every Monday and  
Thursday in turns  
and I have been  
three times and seen  
three pieces called  
"La Boheme", "Borgia"  
and "Larmen" which  
was very good but  
the worst of it is  
they are done in  
Italian so we cant  
understand them

but we go principally  
to hear the singing  
for the Italians can  
sing very good and  
also to hear the  
orchestra. We had a  
Austrian squadron in  
the harbour the other  
day and one of our  
companies and the  
band was the Guard  
of Honour and we  
played them into  
Valletta the the Govern-  
or and the Austrian  
Officers inspected us  
and we did the march  
past in front of them  
which they said was  
very good, They had  
a very magnificent  
dress on all gold brade  
and they had plumes  
in thre cornered hats.  
Our barracks is over-

looking the harbour  
and we bathe in the  
summer I am a pretty  
good diver and swim  
mer now Patmore can  
swim also he has  
grown very stout, and  
taller than me about  
five inches (for I have  
grown since I came  
away about three -  
eights of an inch) and  
he's like a good  
natured rhinoceros  
in the water. I have  
got on very well at  
school I have got my third  
and second class certificates  
and I am now sitting for  
my first voluntary,  
Patmore is slow and  
steady and he will  
sit for his third class  
next month. I must now  
close my brief letter hoping  
you will give my best respects to  
Mrs Pleydell and Mr and Mrs

Dear Mother  
I have been  
holding on  
and hoping  
to get my  
third class  
certificate  
and I am  
now sitting  
for my first  
voluntary  
and I will  
sit for my  
third class  
next month  
I must now  
close my  
brief letter  
hoping you  
will give  
my best  
respects to  
Mrs Pleydell  
and Mr and  
Mrs

Bandsman H Puttock. Band 3<sup>rd</sup> Bat. Lanc. Fus Lower St Elmo. Malta  
15/1/1900

Dear Sir

I received your nice and I must say welcome letter and I was very glad to hear that you all was in the best of health and spirits. I am also in good health and I like Malta alright but not like home though for all the Maltese think about is their "mongee" which is bread and all you can hear all day is

(or give me food)

("Gibler mongee for de goats and donkeys") But hush dear Sir I have unravelled the dark mystery, for round the corner of the barracks you may see everyday at one o' clock scores of these so called goats and donkeys with two legs - eating their "mongee" and as to livestock well - you can't beat Malta and every night when the clock strikes twelve the beetles and mosquitoes hold high revels and one night I met with a terrible adventure and it is a wonder how I lived to tell the tale, well it was night and the room and its inmates was all in profound slumber, all except your right honourable Harry P. who was deeply thinking that he deserved a rise in life that was before he got bandsman when all of a sudden he felt his bedcot and himself rise very high in the air and he felt himself moving (and at the same time felt his hair rise) along when he came to a hole which somebody was trying to take me down, of course human nature couldn't stand this so I done the bravest act I ever done and with great presence of mind I started shouting out ("not with fear, mind I thought if I didn't shout it would come back for the other boys and carry them off too") and the other boys quickly came to my help and pulled the cot out of the hole and when they lifted the cot up guess what was under there - well there was about two hundred beetles what had tried to carry me off, ("you can believe this if you like") but we quickly dispatched the blood thirsty animals by placing some of our guaranteed fresh meat on the floor so after this I have chained my cot to the wall and I never eat more than eight cheese cakes of a night time now and I don't want another rise they are so unpleasant.

No doubt you will be very glad to hear I am in the army Temperance Association so is Patmore and Hislop and we will all soon get a medal. Hislop has gone to Mellehia Camp to go through a course of field training he is still very fond of conjuring and he is always fond of teaching us tricks but I must confess I am not very good at it nature has evidently not meant me to be an acrobat, I daresay Hislop feels the absences of his two chums the Hobsons who he had the pleasure of seeing also Gallop and Neale but it was not for long as they got shifted to Crete which is not

such a good place as this. Thanks to the Officers of this battalion the band goes to a opera every Monday and Thursday in turns and I have been three times and have seen three pieces called "La Boheme", "Borgia" and "Carmen" which was very good but the worst of it is they are done in Italian so we can't understand them but we do go principally to hear the singing for the Italians can sing very good and also to hear the orchestra. We had a Austrian squadron in the harbour the other day and one of our companies and the band was the Guard of Honour and we played them into Valletta the Governor and the Austrian Officers inspected us and we did the march past in front of them which they said was very good. They had a very magnificent dress on all gold brade and they had plumes in three cornered hats. Our barracks is over looking the harbour and we bather in the summer I am a pretty good diver and swimmer now Patmore can swim also he has grown very stout, and taller than me about five inches (for I have grown since I came away about three-eighths of an inch) and he's like a good natured rhinoceros in the water. I have got on very well at school I have got my third and second class certificate and am now sitting for my first voluntary, Patmore is slow and steady and he will sit for his third class next month. I must now close my brief letter hoping you will give my best respects to Mrs Pleydall and Mr and Mrs Walker and the children and the officers and boys and hoping this will find you in the best of health from your late schoolboy H Puttock

## Extension activities



Imagine you are a policeman in the 1870's. Take one of the examples from the prisoner record sheets. Write a crime report, include details of who was involved, descriptions and exactly what happened. You can include pictures and drawings.

Imagine you are one of the child criminals. Write a letter to your mother and father explaining what has happened to you. Imagine how you would be feeling and include this as well.

Write a poem, story or script based on the child prisoner you have chosen.

Using the prisoner record sheets create a pie-chart or bar-graph showing one of the following: ages of criminal (you could do the same for pupils at Milborne Reformatory using the annual report); type of crime; number of males versus number of females.

Choose one of the children in the prisoner record sheets. Using the Family Search website, search the 1881 British Census and see if you can find them in 1881. Make a note of where they are living and what their job is 1881. Are they still in prison or a reformatory school?

- [http://www.familysearch.org/eng/search/frameset\\_search.asp?PAGE=census/search\\_census.asp](http://www.familysearch.org/eng/search/frameset_search.asp?PAGE=census/search_census.asp)