Anna Maria EDWARDS (1854-1858)

Feb. 4	Anna Maria born	D' of Christopher Edwar	ds D.º	2:	J. Spurgin
No. 782.		Harriett. (Deeks)			Vicar.

Anna was born on 14 September 1854 in Hockham, Norfolk and baptised on 4 February 1855. When embarking on the 'Trade Wind', with her parents and brother, she was aged three. Anna was one of the many deaths on board. She died at sea on 11 February 1858, just prior to the ship's arrival at the Quarantine Station at Impression Bay.

There is some confusion on ancestry.com by researchers about Anna Maria.

'Trade Wind' records show she died at sea on 11 February 1858.



An unnamed female child was born on 25 April 1859. The parents were James Edwards (farmer of Trafalgar) and Harriett nee Saunders. A note on the birth record records her baptism (CofE) at Evandale and named Anna Maria.

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66425 Opril	F. James Edwards Flamett Caware		y May Amen Minnes Jama Maria
3	formerly Saunders	Or of the Mapagar	1. Chinathousland

A marriage record on 4 May 1881 in the Independent Church, Tamar Street, Launceston of George William Chamberlain, adult, farmer, bachelor and Anna Maria Edwards, adult, spinster.

640 July George William Chamberlowin Sommer of Chromate Chamber of Chamberlowing Commer of Chamberlow	adult	Harmer				Independent Minutes
Married in the Independent Church This Marriage was solemnized Corners between us	William &	hankerle	ionies of Inde	sence } forh	n box Davis	Minister.

According to the marriage announcement in the Launceston *Examiner* on Monday, 9 May 1881, p2. Anna was the only daughter of Christopher Edwards, farmer, Trafalgar.

CHAMBERLAIN—EDWARDS—On May 4th, at the Independent Church, Tamar-street, Launceston, by the Rev. C. Price, George William, the only son of Jesse Chamberlain, Evandale, to Anna Maria, only daughter of Christopher Edwards, farmer, Trafalgar, late of Norfolk, England. (English papers please copy.)

This raises the question of whether the 'Trade Wind' records were accurate and did Anna Maria die at sea as indicated.

A request for information on a Tasmanian Family History site has solved the mystery by Meryl Yost who advised Harriet was pregnant while on the 'Trade Wind'. A daughter was born soon after arrival in Tasmania. Anna Maria was baptised on 30 January 1859 in the registers for St Peter's Church of England, St Leonards. Her date of birth was recorded as 13 June 1858. The female child was given the same name as her recently deceased three-year old sister, Anna Maria. Anna Maria, the second, who married George William Chamberlain (1851-1923) is Meryl's great-great grandmother. George William was the son of convict parents Jesse Chamberlain (1811-1860) and Mary previously Burnside (1809-1884). Anna Maria, the daughter of James Edwards and Harriet nee Saunders, born 25 April 1859, was married as Hannah Maria Edwards to Augustus Wells on 7 April 1877 in the Evandale district.