

## A172 Mary Burnside

## Head Matron, Liverpool

Title/rank: Head Matron of Liverpool Asylum for Infirm and Destitute men.

Born – date/year: 1835

Place of origin: Not Known.



Marital status & children: Wife of retired Army Sergeant. Thomas Burnside, who became the first government appointed superintendent of the branch of the Sydney Benevolent Asylum which was established in Liverpool in November 1851. They had five daughters, two of whom subsequently became assistant matrons of the institution.

Place where lived: Liverpool

Role/job: Head Matron of Liverpool Asylum from 1862 and stayed on after her husband Thomas died in 1869. With his second successor, William Strong, they formed a remarkable and professional team at the Asylum.

Contribution to Liverpool: She was a woman of great capacity and cared for the 403 inmates when first appointed. The whole of the Asylum's working management devolved upon Mary and during her time, the number of inmates doubled to 750. She was indefatigable in her attention to the wants of the inmates.

Died/age: 9 April 1913 - aged 88

Religion: Church of England Grave No. A 172

Source of info. Pamela Valentine, MLDFHS