

Chapter 2.24

JOHN AND ELIZABETH GRAHAM

1807 - 1867

MARINER'S REGISTER TICKET.
Issued pursuant to the Act of 7th & 8th of Victoria, Cap. 112.

No. of Ticket... **83,795**
Eighty-three Thousand Seven Hundred and Ninety Five

Name *John Graham*
Born at *Glasgow* in the County of *Lanark*
on the *24 February 1817*
Capacity *2nd Mate*
Height *5 feet 3 inches* Hair *Brown*
Complexion *Fair* Eyes *Hazel*
Marks on Person *None*
Bearer's Signature *John Graham*

This Ticket was issued from the General Register and Record Office of Seamen to the Collector and Comptroller of Customs of the Port of *Liverpool* for the purposes of the above-mentioned Act.

John W. B. Registrar.
Issued to the above-named *John Graham* by the Collector and Comptroller of Customs of the Port of *Liverpool* on the *28 Decr - 1844*.
Thomas Berry Collector, or Comptroller.

Examined and Entered by *[Signature]*

John Graham's Mariner's Register ticket. This ticket, issued at Liverpool in 1844, it shows John to be qualified as a 2nd Mate. This would be his position in the hierarchy of a ship's company, although his trade was a sailmaker.

Chapter 2.24. John and Elizabeth Graham

John Graham was born in Glasgow on 24 February 1807 the eldest son of William and Janet Graham. He was the second child of a family of nine children - seven sisters and one younger brother. He became a mariner, being a sailmaker in a number of ships whose names we know from testimonials he received, presumably at the ends of his voyages, to help him find another ship to employ him. Sailmaker was a skilled job in the tall ships era, carrying with it the status of a ship's officer such as third mate or second mate, but did not lead to the position of master where different skills were required. Whether John ever served in any of the ships of Semple and Co. we do not know, but even if he did the connection between the Semples and the Goffeys was not in existence at the time. The possibility that he served on any of the J. and W. Goffey ships can be discounted as he would have been too old, in fact when Mary Graham married Alfred Goffey in 1870 there was already a presumption that John and Elizabeth were both dead (see Chapter 2.22).

The 25-year old John married Elizabeth Irvine in Liverpool on 25 May 1832 and thereafter made his home in Liverpool.

These are to Certify, that John Graham
has sailed in the Ship Nimrod with me as Sail-
maker and Second Mate, and given every
satisfaction, he was with me in the above Capacity between
^{five & six years}
Liverpool Sept 5th 1834
Robert Atkins

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Testimonial from Captain Robert Atkins of the ship *Nimrod*, dated Liverpool 1834.

This Is to Certify that John Graham
has been with me in the ship Helen on
Voyage as 2^d officer & is a good sober
steady officer & met my approbation
Oct 2^d 1835
Gowd S. Matison

Testimonial from Captain Matison of the ship *Helen*, dated 1835.

This one to certify that John Graham has
made the sails for the ship *Rasalama* of
Liverpool during four years she was running
with Messrs. Brinkley and you may be satisfied
Liverpool Dec^r 31 1846
J. Brinkley late master
of the ship *Rasalama*

Testimonial from Captain Brinkley of the ship *Rasalama*, dated Liverpool, 1846(?).

Mr John Graham has been in our employ
 as Foreman for nearly ten years and during that
 period has given very general satisfaction both to the
 Masters of Ships in regard of well cut and good fitting
 sails and to ourselves in the general good management
 of the Sail room - During the time he has been with us
 we have had our entire confidence and we believe him to be
 honest, sober and of good principle and we have our best
 wishes for his success

J^{nr} W^m Murray
 Liverpool 4th January 1847

Testimonial for nearly ten years' service, from an unidentified shipowner, dated Liverpool 1847.

LIVERPOOL, 18th Sept: 1850

Mr John Graham
 To CARRON COMPANY.....Dr.

For Freight of their Sloop *Nestor* from LEITH,
 of 20 Packages Furniture 150^{ft} 6ⁱⁿ } £. s. d.
 @ 4^{pp} } 2. 10. 2

Charges paid at Leith.....
 Town's Duty at Liverpool.....
 Cartage at Liverpool.....

Received the above,
 For Carron Company,
 James Green

£ 2. 10. 2

18th Sep^r 1850

Advice Note for furniture which John Graham shipped from Leith (Edinburgh) to Liverpool in 1850.