

I was Born in the year one thousand eight
Hundred and sixteen in the parish off Crumpton
Somersetshire My Parents where Shopkeepers
I Remained with My Parents untill I was
nine years of age from that time I got
connected with a Bad set off Boys and at
the age off eleven I was in the Height of
My Career off wickedness I Remained about from
My friends from the next three years although
they made every Search to find me and during
that time was engaged in every bad practice
and when ~~the~~ My Associates found that I
was discovered by My friends they was very
Loth to part with me Considering me very
clever in the arts I was then following
when My friends got Me home again they
could not keep me Long they allowed me
every Indulgence allowing me Money for my use
but I was never satisfied without I was
in the public house a spending of it
My friends persuaded me to leave of My
bad Company but I was never satisfied
untill I was away with my old Confederates
I kept following on one step after another
untill I became an adept in Stealing horses
which was the Cause of My apprehension and
Banishment from my native Land the
Foundation of all my Crimes was Intoxicating
Liquors

now I doubted not but on my arrival
in this Colony I would be enabled to begin
my old games again but I soon found out
my mistake but I soon found out the
way to get at intoxicating Liquors
which I followed and sought for with all
the ardour of an adept straggler which
caused me to abscond from my Master
and take up arms in the Bush
I was soon attacked by the Police and killed
I was wounded and ~~spare~~ but I still
made my escape one month after I
was apprehended and with a very heavy
sentence I now begin my misery I again
absconded in the Bush and was absent
for six months more I was taken
and sent to Port Arthur there I
resolved to Reform I am now through
my trouble I have my Indulgence and
I see my sorrow I now Reform
from all intoxicating Liquors which
I consider the Cause of all my troubles
I have gone through now I hope all present
will take an example by me and stop fornication
and sign the pledge you will find it the best
thing you ever wore in your life

When I take my walks abroad
around my native land
I saw many with their eyes
rise from the drinking land

If to the right I cast a look
to see if I see over the
sea Beer and port wine for sale
Come welcome in before

If to the left I cast my eye
to see if I see a good
justice word, I read there as
but not there and there

If you come in with a good
thing of spirit, strong and good
But when you are fit to be any and
go out and walk in need

Go out you filthy Drunking set
to see what you have seen
there in a Watch house just before
go there and take your bed

W7/62 (2)

Confession of a
Drunkard
6 Mo 1844