

Introduction

Joseph Hawkes with what little we know of him seemed to have tried his best to help his mother to support the family after his father's death by instead of poaching with his big brothers he and Septimus Drage went and stole tame rabbits thinking it would be safer than getting caught poaching. Sadly this backfired on them and they got caught and were sent to reformatory for 21 days hard labour and then five years detention in 1877 which rather harsh I think because the boys were only thirteen.

Septimus Drage got sent to Tiffeld Reformatory for boys in Northamptonshire which is now St Johns School a recent Inspection of the admissions register confirmed he emigrated in 1884.

Joseph is not on this register and despite searches of the county I don't know where he was sent it is likely to be out of the county and he did not serve all the five years because he is with George in August 1880 and release should not have been before Jan 1881.

Joseph went to prison in Pentonville London, Brixton, and then Portland Prison in Dorset for five years.

Joseph was released on License at the beginning of 1885 the License being issued on the 30th Dec 1884 but did not live long to enjoy his freedom dying from a Strangulated Hernia in 1886.