

**NAME:** BROTCHE, William

**PARISH:** Thurso, Caithness  
also Leith, Edinburgh SCOTLAND

**ENTERED SERVICE:** ca. 1830

**DATES:** b. 1799  
d. 28 Feb. 1859

Appointments & Service

Outfit Year\*:

\*An Outfit year ran from 1 June to 31 May

		Position:	Ship:	District: HBCA Reference:
1830, 17 Jan.-17 Aug.	Seaman	<i>Dryad</i>	London-Columbia	C.3/13 fo. 98; B.223/d/105a fo. 485
1831-1833	Seaman	<i>Dryad</i>	Columbia	B.239/g/11-13
1833-1834	2nd Mate	<i>Ganymede</i>	Columbia-London	C.3/14 fo. 6
1834, May-Nov.	2nd Mate	<i>Ganymede</i>	London-Hudson Bay	C.3/14 fo. 14
1834, 7 Dec.-1835, 15 Sept.	1st Mate	<i>Ganymede</i>	London-Columbia	C.3/14 fo. 32; A.32/22 fos. 289-290; A.1/59 fo. 22d; A.6/23 fo. 99d
1835, 14 Sept.-1838	Commander	<i>Cadboro</i>	Columbia	A.32/22 fo. 289; B.239/g/15-17; B.239/k/2 p. 163
1838-1840	Commander	<i>Nereide</i>	Columbia-London	B.239/g/18-19
1840-1841	Commander	<i>Cowlitz</i>	London-Columbia	A.10/16 fo. 89
1841-1842, September	Commander	<i>Cowlitz</i>	Columbia	B.239/k/2 pp. 229, 258, 281
1842-1843	Commander	<i>Beaver</i>	Columbia	B.239/k/2 p. 281; B.239/g/22
1843-1844	Commander	<i>Vancouver</i>	Columbia-London	B.239/g/23, 24
1844	Retired at close of voyage because his wife was refused passage			A.10/18 fo. 591
1847	Application to rejoin, having lost the last ship he was on, was refused			A.10/23 fos. 478-479
1848	Application supported by Board of Management in Ft. Vancouver			A.10/25 fos. 2,17
1848	Obtained a license from the Admiralty and HBC to cut spars on Vancouver Island			Walbran, p. 64; HBRS Vol. XXXII p. xl, 162
1850	Supercargo	<i>Albion</i>	London-Columbia (via Australia)	Walbran, p. 64; HBRS Vol. XXXII p. xl
1850-1855	Carried on the spar industry near Fort Rupert, ending in complete failure			Walbran, p. 64; HBRS Vol. XXXII p. xli, 80, 162-163
1858	Appointed Harbour Master by Governor Douglas			Walbran, p. 64
1859, 28 February	Died after a long illness, at Victoria			“Tribute of Respect”, <i>Colonist</i> , 5 March 1859

Father: David Brotchie, Mason, Thurso, Caithness

A.10/16 fo. 89; A.10/18 fo. 235

Wife: Already married in 1840, asked for his wife to come out with him in 1840, 1844

A.10/16 fo. 455; A.10/18 fo. 472, 591, 604

Mary Frances Brotchie (in Stepney, 1851; Newport, Tipperary, and Kingstown nr Dublin, 1853)

A.10/30 fo. 903; A.10/33 fo. 594; A.10/34 fo. 459

See Search File, biography in J.T. Walbran, *British Columbia Coast Names, 1592-1906* (Ottawa: Government Printing Bureau, 1909), pp. 64-65.

Believed to have introduced the “Brotchie potato” from England (Walbran, p. 65; *Oregon Historical Quarterly*, September 1903, p. 265)

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