

Elizabeth Bell
(*uxor Elizabeth Crabtree*)

POLICE NUMBER 482 ¹	LITERACY neither read nor write
TRIAL DATE 28 August 1840	AGE ON EMBARKATION 20
TRIAL PLACE Lancaster (Preston) Quarter Sessions ²	AGE ON ARRIVAL 20
OFFENCE stealing money from the person, Richard Falkland ³	HEIGHT 5' ¾"
SENTENCE 10 years	COMPLEXION fresh
GAOL REPORT once for trial, bad, single	HEAD oval
PREVIOUS CONVICTIONS once 2 months for stealing an umbrella	HAIR light brown
SURGEON'S REPORT good	VISAGE oval
ON THE TOWN 12 months	FOREHEAD high
MARITAL STATUS single	EYEBROWS brown
CHILDREN 0	EYES blue
FAMILY	NOSE rather long
NATIVE PLACE Preston, Lancashire, England	MOUTH small
TRADE ON EMBARKATION servant	CHIN round
TRADE ON ARRIVAL house servant, wash and iron	MARKS small scar on forehead

c1821 **Born** at Preston, Lancashire, England.⁴

20 August 1840 Committed for trial for stealing 7 sovereigns and some silver.⁵

Newspaper report:

COMMITMENT. – *On Thursday last, Elizabeth Bell and Susannah Rawcliffe, two women of disreputable character, were committed for trial at the sessions, for stealing seven sovereigns and some silver from a foolish old countryman, who has been in their company. The whole of the money had been spent by the prisoners in clothing.*⁵

28 August 1840 Tried at Lancaster Quarter Sessions, Preston, Lancashire, England with shipmate Susannah Rawcliffe (*qv*) indicted for larceny in stealing 7 sovereigns and some silver from the person of Richard Fairclough;⁶ sentence 10 years transportation.⁷

5 April 1841 Departed Woolwich, England on the *Rajah*.⁸

19 July 1841 Arrived at Hobart on the *Rajah*.⁸

c24 July 1841 Upon arrival at Hobart, detained on board for assignment; assigned to Government House.⁹

31 December 1841 Mustered in the service of Mr Reichenberg, Davey Street, Hobart.¹⁰

22 July 1842 Charged at the Police Court, Hobart on the complaint of Constable Hadfield with absconding from the service of Mr Reichenberg on 19 July and remaining illegally at large until she surrendered this morning; plea guilty; sentence 3 months at the wash tub at Cascades Female Factory, Hobart.¹¹

¹ TAHO, CON40/1/2 p.85 No.482 [image 83] (Elizabeth Bell); TAHO, CON19/1/1 p.227 [image 117] (Elizabeth Bell); ML, CY 1282 p.145 (Elizabeth Bell); ML, CY 1197 p.154 (Elizabeth Bell); ML, CY 958 p.442 (Elizabeth Bell)

² Trial place given as Lancaster Sessions of the Peace on assignment list (ML, CY 958 p.442 (Elizabeth Bell)) and embarkation list (ML, CY 1197 p.154 (Elizabeth Bell)).

³ Name given as Richard Fairclough in the newspaper report of the trial.

⁴ TAHO, CON19/1/1 p.227 [image 117] (Elizabeth Bell)

⁵ *Preston Chronicle*, 22 August 1840 Issue 1450 Article 46 (Elizabeth Bell)

⁶ Name given as Richard Falkland on Elizabeth's conduct record.

⁷ *Blackburn Standard*, 2 September 1840 Issue 294 Article 47 (Elizabeth Bell)

⁸ AJCP, ADM 101/63 *Rajah*

⁹ ML, CY 1282 p.140 (Elizabeth Bell); ML, CY 1274 p.254 (Elizabeth Bell)

¹⁰ AJCP, HO 10/51 p.350 No.482 (Elizabeth Bell)

¹¹ TAHO, AC480/1/1, 22 July 1842 (Elizabeth Bell)

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- 28 September 1842 Remainder of punishments and sentence remitted by the Lieutenant Governor, to be returned to the service of Mr Reichenberg, her former master.¹²
- 7 August 1843 Charged at the Police Court, Hobart on the complaint of her master Mr Reichenberg with being insolent on Saturday 5 August; plea guilty; reprimanded and returned to the service of the Crown for assignment.¹³
- 11 April 1844 Classified as a 3rd class probation pass-holder; gazetted 12 April.¹⁴
- 16 August 1844 Hired in private service as a probation pass-holder to Alfred Garrett, New Town Road, Hobart.¹⁵
- 7 September 1844 Hired in private service as a probation pass-holder to Alfred Garrett, New Town, transferred for 6 months to Mr John Hartridge, Davey Street, Hobart.¹⁶
- 6 March 1845 Charged at the Police Court, Hobart by Constable Smith with being out after hours in a disorderly house last night from the service of Mr John Hartridge; plea guilty; sentence 2 months hard labour at Cascades Female Factory, Hobart.¹⁷
- 7 March 1845 Ticket of Leave granted; gazetted 11 March.¹⁸
- 6 January 1847 Charged with misconduct; sentence 3 months hard labour at Cascades Female Factory, Hobart.¹²
- 11 June 1847 Application for permission to marry Charles Harris (free) sent to the Secretary; approved.¹⁹
- 12 June 1847 Notice given of approval for permission to marry Charles Harris; Elizabeth a ticket-of-leave holder, resident of Longford; Charles free, resident of Longford.²⁰
- 15 April 1848 Application for permission to marry William Crabtree²¹ (free) sent to the Secretary; approved.²²
- 24 April 1848 Notice given of approval for permission to marry William Crabtree; Elizabeth a ticket-of-leave holder, resident of the Morven district; William free, resident of the Morven district.²³
- 6 May 1848 **Married** William Crabtree at St Andrew's Anglican Church, Evandale; Elizabeth aged 25, a ticket-of-leave holder, illiterate; William aged 34, free; witnesses shipmate Elizabeth Ayliffe (*qv*)²⁴ and George Powell.²⁵
- 9 April 1850 **Daughter** Harriet Crabtree born at Evandale; mother Elizabeth Bell; informant father William Crabtree, labourer, resident of Evandale.²⁶
- 16 August 1850 Husband William Crabtree departed Launceston for Melbourne as a passenger on the steamer *Shamrock*; a conditional-pardon holder, ship to colony *Moffatt*.²⁷
- 3 September 1850 Certificate of Freedom issued.¹²
- 19 February 1852 Departed Launceston for Melbourne with husband William Crabtree and one child, as steerage passengers on the steamer *Shamrock*; Elizabeth free by servitude, ship to colony *Rajah*, William free, ship to colony *Raven*,²⁸ child born in the colonies.²⁹

¹² TAHO, CON40/1/2 p.85 No.482 [image 83] (Elizabeth Bell)

¹³ TAHO, AC480/1/1, 7 August 1843 (Elizabeth Bell)

¹⁴ *Hobart Town Gazette*, 12 April 1844 p.424 (Elizabeth Bell)

¹⁵ *Hobart Town Gazette*, 16 August 1844 p.978 (Elizabeth Bell)

¹⁶ *Hobart Town Gazette*, 1 October 1844 p.1208 (Elizabeth Bell)

¹⁷ TAHO, AC480/1/1, 6 March 1845 (Elizabeth Bell)

¹⁸ *Hobart Town Gazette*, 11 March 1845 p.326 (Elizabeth Bell)

¹⁹ TAHO, CON52/1/2 p.381 (Charles Harris & Elizabeth Bell)

²⁰ *Hobart Town Gazette*, 15 June 1847 p.526 (Charles Harris & Elizabeth Bell)

²¹ William Crabtree was transported for life on the *Moffatt* in 1834, tried at Durham on 27 July 1833 for stealing from the person; single, farm labourer, aged 21, native place near Halifax; Conditional Pardon approved 4 August 1846; in the Morven district in 1842 (TAHO, CON31/1/7 p.246 No.1678 [image 261] (William Crabtree); TAHO, CON18/1/15 No.1678 [image 195] (William Crabtree)).

²² TAHO, CON52/1/2 p.307 (Elizabeth Bell & Wm Crabtree)

²³ *Hobart Town Gazette*, 25 April 1848 p.429 (William Crabtree & Elizabeth Bell)

²⁴ This witness was shipmate Elizabeth Riley (*qv*) who married John Ayliffe at Evandale on 20 February 1847.

²⁵ TAHO, RGD37/1/7 1848/2156 Morven (Elizabeth Bell & William Crabtree)

²⁶ TAHO, RGD33/1/27 1850/1284 Morven (Harriett Crabtree)

²⁷ TAHO, POL220/1/1 p.259 (William Crabtree)

²⁸ *Raven* is possibly the ship William returned on from Melbourne.

- 1852 Daughter Harriet Crabtree died at Melbourne, VIC, aged 2; father William Crabtree.³⁰
- 1852 **Daughter** Maria Crabtree born at Melbourne, VIC; father William Crabtree; mother Elizabeth Crabtree.³¹
- c1854 Moved with family from Victoria to Tasmania.
- 22 June 1855 **Daughter** Mary Ann Crabtree born in the Morven district; mother Elizabeth Bell; informant father William Crabtree, farmer, resident of *Clarendon*.³²
- 1858 Husband William Crabtree occupier of 36 acres of agricultural and pastoral land at *Clarendon*, annual value £16, owner James Cox, *Clarendon*.³³
- before 1870 Moved with her family from Tasmania to Victoria.
- 17 December 1874 Daughter Mary Ann Crabtree married Francis Desmond at Christ Church, South Yarra, VIC; Mary Ann aged 20, born Evandale, TAS, spinster, resident of Park Street, South Yarra, VIC; father William Crabtree, labourer; mother Elizabeth Bell; Francis aged 20, born Swanport, TAS, bachelor, resident of Nagambie, VIC; father John Desmond,³⁴ labourer; mother Annette Myers;³⁵ witnesses John Desmond (illiterate) and Annette Desmond.³⁶
- 1875 Grandson Francis John William Desmond born at Melbourne, VIC; father Francis William Desmond, mother Mary Crabtree.³⁷
- 1876 Grandson Francis John William Desmond died at Melbourne, VIC, aged 2 months.³⁸
- 1878 Grandson John Desmond born at South Yarra, Melbourne, VIC; father Francis Desmond, mother Mary Crabtree.³⁹
- 16 December 1876 Daughter Maria Crabtree married Joseph Swales Jellis at the residence of Mr Thomas Jellis, Little Derby Street, Kew, VIC; Maria aged 24, spinster, domestic servant, abode Hawthorn; born Melbourne, VIC; father William Crabtree, labourer; mother Elizabeth Bell; witnesses Thomas George Jellis and William Joseph Butterfield.⁴⁰
- 1879 Grandson John Desmond died in Victoria, aged 1.⁴¹
- 1880 Granddaughter Annie Desmond born at Carlton, VIC; father Francis Desmond, mother Mary Crabtree.⁴²
- 1882 Grandson John Desmond born at Hotham, VIC; father Francis Desmond, mother Mary Crabtree.⁴³
- 1885 Granddaughter Mary Lillian Desmond born at Richmond, VIC; father Francis Desmond, mother Mary Crabtree.⁴⁴
- Granddaughter Mary Lillian Desmond died at Richmond, VIC, aged 9 months.⁴⁵
- 1889 Daughter Mary Ann Crabtree died at Collingwood, VIC, aged 32, father William Crabtree, mother Mary.⁴⁶

²⁹ TAHO, POL220/1/1 p.582 (Elizabeth Crabtree, William Crabtree, child Crabtree)

³⁰ VIC Death Record 1852/28573 CoFE St Peters, Melbourne Fiche 415 (Harriet Crabtree))

³¹ VIC Birth Record 1852/17705 CoFE St James, Melbourne Fiche 299 (Maria Crabtree)

³² TAHO, RGD33/1/33 1855/1119 Morven (Mary Ann Crabtree)

³³ Cowley, *1858 Valuation Rolls for Northern Tasmania* p.L2-22 (William Crabtree)

³⁴ John Desmond was transported on the *Samuel Boddington* arriving in 1846 (TAHO, CON31/1/12 p.32 No.1418 [image 33] (John Desmond)).

³⁵ Annette Myers was transported on the *Emma Eugenia* arriving in 1851 (TAHO, CON41/1/29 No.1210 [image 102] (Annette Myers)).

³⁶ VIC Marriage Certificate 1874/3933 (Mary Crabtree & Francis Desmond)

³⁷ VIC Birth Record 1875/26002 (Francis John William Desmond)

³⁸ VIC Death Record 1876/3551 (Francis John William Desmond)

³⁹ VIC Birth Record 1878/5385 (John Desmond)

⁴⁰ VIC Marriage Certificate 1876/4683 (Maria Crabtree & Joseph Swales Jellis)

⁴¹ VIC Death Record 1879/639 (John Desmond)

⁴² VIC Birth Record 1880/945 (Annie Desmond)

⁴³ VIC Birth Record 1882/9962 (John Desmond)

⁴⁴ VIC Birth Record 1885/12899 (Mary Lillian Desmond)

⁴⁵ VIC Death Record 1885/10142 (May Lillian Desmond)

⁴⁶ VIC Death Record 1889/1402 (Mary Ann Desmond)

Notes

- Elizabeth's husband may be the William Crabtree who died of disease of the stomach at Launceston on 30 March 1869, aged 45, farmer; informant undertaker Thomas J Doolan; buried in the parish of St Paul, Launceston on 31 March 1869.⁴⁷
- Elizabeth may be the Elizabeth Crabtree who died of consumption at Longford on 7 August 1877, aged 60, widow, resident of Longford; informant Charles Wright, undertaker's son, Longford.⁴⁸ She was buried at Christ Church Anglican Cemetery, Longford on 10 August 1877.⁴⁹

⁴⁷ TAHO, RGD35/1/38 1869/874 Launceston (William Crabtree); NS472/1/35 p.28 No.17 (William Crabtree)

⁴⁸ TAHO, RGD35/1/46 1877/447 Longford (Elizabeth Crabtree)

⁴⁹ TAHO, NS970/1/23 p.66 No.28 1070 (Elizabeth Crabtree)

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