

Louisa Dale*

POLICE NUMBER 295¹
TRIAL DATE 17 August² 1840
TRIAL PLACE Central Criminal Court (Old Bailey), London
OFFENCE stealing 2 pair of trowsers
SENTENCE 7 years
GAOL REPORT convicted before, poor, single
PREVIOUS CONVICTIONS 3 months for stealing a dress
SURGEON'S REPORT industrious but passionate, made an attempt to destroy herself
ON THE TOWN no
MARITAL STATUS widow
CHILDREN 0
FAMILY
NATIVE PLACE North of Ireland
TRADE ON EMBARKATION
TRADE ON ARRIVAL tailoress

LITERACY read and write well
AGE ON EMBARKATION 34
AGE ON ARRIVAL 34
HEIGHT 4' 11¾"
COMPLEXION pale
HEAD oval
HAIR brown
VISAGE oval
FOREHEAD flat
EYEBROWS brown
EYES hazel
NOSE medium
MOUTH medium
CHIN medium
MARKS none

c1807

Born in Northern Ireland.³

17 August 1840

Tried at the Central Criminal Court (Old Bailey), London, England indicted for larceny in stealing on 18 July 1840 16 pieces of woollen cloth value 18 shillings, the goods of Thomas William Parkinson, with a previous conviction for felony; found guilty; sentence 7 years transportation; aged 34.⁴

Statement of witness Thomas William Parkinson:

I am a tailor, and live in Short's-gardens, Drury-lane – the prisoner never worked for me. On Friday the 22th of July she came to my shop and asked for work, she mentioned a name I knew, and said she lived there – she had asked for work several times – I gave her two pairs of trowsers to make – there were perhaps sixteen pieces of cloth – she promised to come next morning for different things to finish them, but she did not – I went to where she stated, but she did not live there, and had not for twelve months – I gave her into custody ten or eleven days after.

Prisoner. Q. I worked for you a length of time, and I did not give a false direction. A. You never worked for me, that I am aware of – I offered to pay for the things if you would tell me where they were.⁴

Statement of witness Thomas Davis:

I live in Bowl-yard. I am the person the prisoner represented herself to have lived with – I have not seen her these last eight months.⁴

Statement of defendant Louisa Dale:

I went to ask for work – his wife gave me two pairs of military trowsers without any fittings, and told me to call for them in the morning; she then asked where I lived, as I had worked with her mother many months – I met some friends, and getting the worse for liquor, I lost the trowsers, and not finding them, I wrote to the prosecutor's mother-in-law, saying I would pay 2s. a-week till I had paid; in a few hours the prosecutor came to where I was working, and gave me in charge.⁴

Statement of witness John Summer, Police Constable S 257:

I produce a certificate from Mr. Clark's office, of the prisoner's former conviction – (read) – the prisoner is the person.⁴

¹ TAHO, CON40/1/4 p.33 No.295 [image 37] (Louisa Dale); TAHO, CON 19/1/1 p.191 [image 99] (Louisa Dale); ML, CY 1282 p.146 (Louisa Dale); ML, CY 958 p.440 (Louisa Dale); ML, CY 1197 p.150 (Louisa Dale)

² Trial month given as October on conduct record (TAHO, CON40/1/4 p.33 No.295 [image 37] (Louisa Dale)).

³ TAHO, CON19/1/1 p.191 [image 99] (Louisa Dale)

⁴ *Old Bailey Proceedings Online*, t18400817-2071 (Louisa Dale)

This biography supplements our book *Patchwork Prisoners* available from www.researchtasmania.com.au.

5 April 1841	Departed Woolwich, England on the <i>Rajah</i> . ⁵
19 July 1841	Arrived at Hobart on the <i>Rajah</i> . ⁵
c24 July 1841	Upon arrival at Hobart, assigned to Mr Macgregor, Elizabeth Street, Hobart. ⁶
6 December 1841	Charged with being drunk and disorderly; in the service of Nicholls; reprimanded and returned to her service. ⁷
30 December 1841	Charged with being absent without leave from the service of Nicholls and representing herself to be free; sentence 3 months hard labour at Cascades Female Factory, Hobart. ⁷
31 December 1841	Mustered in the service of Mr Sprent of Hobart. ⁸
11 April 1844	Classified as a 3 rd class probation pass-holder; gazetted 12 April. ⁹
1 September 1844	Hired in private service for 4 months as a probation pass-holder to James Sprent, Survey Department. ¹⁰
30 November 1844	Ticket of Leave granted; gazetted 3 December. ¹¹
August 1845	Resident in the Campbell Town district with J Hamilton. ¹²
November 1845	Resident in the Campbell Town district with J Mercer, to December 1845. ¹³
January 1846	Resident in the Campbell Town district, then to Hobart. ¹³
16 November 1846	Charged with being drunk; sentence 2 months hard labour at Cascades Female Factory, Hobart. ⁷
26 March 1847	Charged with feloniously stealing a handkerchief; her existing term of transportation extended 12 months and recommended that she be detained on probation for 6 months at Cascades Female Factory, Hobart, and Ticket of Leave to be cancelled. ⁷
10 May 1847	Ticket of Leave revoked for misconduct; gazetted 11 May. ¹⁴
25 November 1847	At Brickfields Hiring Depot, Hobart. ⁷
26 November 1847	Charged at Brickfields Hiring Depot, Hobart with drunkenness; sentence 4 months hard labour at Cascades Female Factory, Hobart. ⁷
27 June 1848	Charged with insolence; in the service of Langley; sentence 4 months hard labour, half that time to be passed in the separate apartments, at Cascades Female Factory, Hobart. ⁷
	Charged at the Police Court, Hobart upon complaint of Constable Haughton with being drunk and misconduct in disturbing the public peace in a public street at ½ past 10 pm on 26 June; sentence 6 months imprisonment, 1 month with hard labour, at Cascades Female Factory, Hobart. ¹⁵
	Statement of defendant Louisa Doyle: <i>I cannot say anything in my defence.</i> ¹⁵
17 August 1848	Free by servitude. ⁷
27 October 1848	Certificate of Freedom issued, gazetted 4 November. ¹⁶

⁵ AJCP, ADM 101/63 *Rajah*

⁶ ML, CY 1282 p.146 (Louisa Dale); ML, CY 1274 p.255 (Louisa Dale)

⁷ TAHO, CON40/1/4 p.33 No.295 [image 37] (Louisa Dale)

⁸ AJCP, HO 10/51 p.358 No.295 (Louisa Dale)

⁹ *Hobart Town Gazette*, 12 April 1844 p.424 (Louisa Dale)

¹⁰ *Hobart Town Gazette*, 15 October 1844 p.1310 (Louisa Dale)

¹¹ *Hobart Town Gazette*, 3 December 1844 p.1479 (Louisa Dale)

¹² TAHO, POL47/1/2 (Louisa Dale)

¹³ TAHO, POL47/1/3 (Louisa Dale)

¹⁴ *Hobart Town Gazette*, 11 May 1847 p.446 (Louisa Dale)

¹⁵ TAHO, LC251/1/1 (Louisa Doyle)

¹⁶ *Hobart Town Gazette*, 7 November 1848 p.1105 (Louisa Dale)