

## *Mary Donovan 2<sup>nd</sup>*

POLICE NUMBER 301 <sup>1</sup>	LITERACY neither read nor write
TRIAL DATE 9 July 1840 <sup>2</sup>	AGE ON EMBARKATION 16
TRIAL PLACE Somerset (Bath) Quarter Sessions	AGE ON ARRIVAL 19
OFFENCE robbery— stealing a quantity of wearing apparel	HEIGHT 4' 11½"
SENTENCE 7 years <sup>3</sup>	COMPLEXION fair
GAOL REPORT unknown, <sup>4</sup> single	HEAD oval
PREVIOUS CONVICTIONS 3 months for stealing a pair of shoes	HAIR dark brown
SURGEON'S REPORT in the hospital nearly all the time, ophthalmia	VISAGE oval
ON THE TOWN no	FOREHEAD medium
MARITAL STATUS single	EYEBROWS dark brown
CHILDREN 0	EYES brown
FAMILY	NOSE short
NATIVE PLACE Kingsale, County Cork, Ireland	MOUTH medium
TRADE ON EMBARKATION labourer	CHIN round
TRADE ON ARRIVAL housemaid	MARKS none

c1822                      **Born** at Kinsale, County Cork, Ireland.<sup>5</sup>

9 July 1840              Tried at the Quarter Sessions, Bath, Somerset, England indicted for robbery; sentence 7 years transportation.<sup>6</sup>

5 April 1841             Departed Woolwich, England on the *Rajah*.<sup>7</sup>

24 April 1841            Put on the *Rajah* sick list suffering from ophthalmia;<sup>8</sup> aged 20.<sup>9</sup>

Observation of doctor:  
*... put on the list April 24<sup>th</sup> complaining of pain in her right eye. Upon examining it I found it slightly inflamed, the vessels of the conjunctival being infected and the Fovea with their margins read. She is of a scrofulous habit of body, the glands of her neck being much enlarged and altogether her appearance shows deranged health. She was given two purgative pills and shortly afterwards a purgation draft as her bowels were slow and the tongue ... A solution of the acetate of lead was ordered to be kept constantly applied to the eye.*<sup>9</sup>

25 April 1841            Observation of doctor:  
*Bowels frequently open. Infection of conjunctival vessels continues but the pain is somewhat less.*<sup>9</sup>

26 April 1841            Observation of doctor:  
*Says she feels her eye better this morning.*<sup>9</sup>

27 April 1841            Observation of doctor:  
*Redness of the eye as well as pain much increased. She has been crying almost constantly since yesterday in consequence of some dispute with one of the women. She is extremely obstinate and difficult to manage. She will scarcely allow an examination of the eye on account of pain caused by exposure to the light ...*<sup>9</sup>

<sup>1</sup> TAHO, CON40/1/4 p.35 No.301 [image 39] (Mary Donovan); TAHO, CON19/1/1 p.194 [image 100] (Mary Donovan (2)); ML, CY 1282 p. 147 (Mary Donovan (2)); ML, CY 1197 p.156 (Mary Donovan); ML, CY 958 p.443 (Mary Donovan)

<sup>2</sup> Trial date given as 23 March 1840 on conduct record (TAHO, CON40/1/4 p.35 [image 3] (Mary Donovan)), but 9 July 1840 on Embarkation List (ML, CY 1197 p.156 (Mary Donovan)) and Assignment List (ML, CY 958 p.443 (Mary Donovan)).

<sup>3</sup> Sentence given as 14 years on Embarkation List (ML, CY 1197 p.156 (Mary Donovan)), but 7 years on Assignment List (ML, CY 958 p.443 (Mary Donovan)).

<sup>4</sup> Gaol report given as convicted before, bad on Embarkation List (ML, CY 1197 p.156 (Mary Donovan)).

<sup>5</sup> TAHO, CON19/1/1 p.194 [image 100] (Mary Donovan (2))

<sup>6</sup> TAHO, CON 40/1/4 p.35 No.301 [image 39] (Mary Donovan)

<sup>7</sup> AJCP, ADM 101/63 *Rajah*

<sup>8</sup> Ophthalmia is an inflammation of the eye.

<sup>9</sup> AJCP, ADM 101/63 *Rajah* Case No.4 (Mary Donovan)

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- 28 April 1841      Observation of doctor:  
*Pain less, complained this morning, other symptoms the same. Bowels freely moved, no complaint of disturbance of her stomach ...*<sup>9</sup>
- 29 April 1841      Observation of doctor:  
*She was again crying last night when the Nurse was dressing the blister. The redness of the eye is rather increased which the intolerance of light is so great as to almost prevent any examination of it. There is no general excitement. A second blister was applied behind her right ear. The glands in her neck seem to be swelling as if they would suppurate. The Tanter Emetic was discontinued as she complained of being ... at the stomach, but the cold application to the eye was kept constantly in use.*<sup>9</sup>
- 30 April 1841      Observation of doctor:  
*Says the pain is less this morning, but is much increased by the slightly exposure to the light. The blister discharged largely and was simply dropped.*<sup>9</sup>
- 1 May 1841        Observation of doctor:  
*For a few days she seemed slowly to improve. The inflammation appeared gradually to ... the pain was only complained of when the eye was exposed to the light on which account she cannot be permitted to go on deck and upon any attempt to control her she has immediate recourse to tears. The glands in the neck are becoming larger.*<sup>9</sup>
- 4 May 1841        Observation of doctor:  
*On the 4<sup>th</sup> the pain was again severe, redness of the Fovea and lining membrane of the p... more apparent. Red vessels are seen running along the conjunctiva to the cornea. The intolerance of light is so great as to make even an inadequate examination of eye a matter of great difficulty ...*<sup>9</sup>
- 6 May 1841        Observation of doctor:  
*A small abscess in the eye has burst. I appears to have been formed beneath the conjunctiva low to the external edge of the cornea. The matter was brought away by wringing warm water between the lids. She describes the pain as less but says she can no longer distinguish external objects.*<sup>9</sup>
- 7 & 8 May 1841    Observation of doctor:  
*The injection of warm water is repeated occasionally with a dosage. Pain is less but the redness still continues. The bowels are regular ...*<sup>9</sup>
- 9 May 1841        Observation of doctor:  
*Symptoms as yesterday, the same treatment continued. The neck is puffy and swollen.*<sup>9</sup>
- 10 May 1841      Observation of doctor:  
*The application of the tincture of opium although at first producing great pain seems to give her relief.*<sup>9</sup>
- 11 May 1841      Observation of doctor:  
*Redness of the eye less and the discharge diminishing. She can distinguish objects but is very unwilling to expose the eye to the light. A poultice was applied to her neck to ... the suppuration of the sluggish glands in hopes that the discharge ...*<sup>9</sup>
- 19 May 1841      Observation of doctor:  
*On the 19<sup>th</sup> the ship rolling heavily in the night she struck her head against the list of the ship when the other eye became slightly inflamed but it soon yielded to the application of ...*<sup>9</sup>
- 21 May 1841      Observation of doctor:  
*I this morning exposed an abscess in the neck and the right ear which discharged a thick ... matter. She was allowed a more liberal diet and her quantity of wine was increased. The eye appears to improve a little ... She can now look upon objects with little pain and goes on deck daily having a shade over the eye.*<sup>9</sup>
- 22 May 1841      Observation of doctor:  
*The abscess continues to discharge and poultices are kept constantly applied. Another abscess is forming under the opposite ear. From this time the eye gradually improved but the neck became one mass of disease. Abscesses formed one after another which it was necessary to open. Her general health was rather better, she went daily on deck which she never could be persuaded to do when the eye was painful.*<sup>9</sup>

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11 June 1841	Put off the <i>Rajah</i> sick list. <sup>9</sup> Observation of doctor: <i>I put her off the sick list on the 11<sup>th</sup> of June although she was a continued object of care during the voyage.</i> <sup>9</sup>
19 July 1841	Arrived at Hobart on the <i>Rajah</i> . <sup>7</sup>
c24 July 1841	Upon arrival at Hobart, sent to Cascades Female Factory; sickly, not fit for assignment. <sup>10</sup>
31 December 1841	Mustered at Cascades Female Factory, Hobart. <sup>11</sup>
4 April 1842	Charged with being absent without leave from the service of Herbert all night; sentence 1 month hard labour in the Crime Class at Cascades Female Factory, Hobart. <sup>6</sup>
1 <sup>12</sup> May 1842	Admitted to Ward B of the Invalid Hospital, New Norfolk from Cascades Female Factory, Hobart suffering from scrofula, with detailed symptoms; aged 17. <sup>13</sup>
15 May 1842	Put on a restricted diet until 31 May 1842—13 days on half rations, <sup>14</sup> 3 days on low rations <sup>15</sup> and 1 day on spoon rations <sup>16</sup> . <sup>17</sup>
2 December 1842	At the Invalid Hospital, New Norfolk <sup>18</sup> with a case of chronic strenuous superficial ulceration of the neck of 3 years standing which has been improving lately under treatment but is now in a stationary state. <sup>13</sup>
9 January 1843	At the Invalid Hospital, New Norfolk with the ulceration now nearly as healed as it seems capable of becoming; to be discharged. <sup>13</sup>
10 January 1843	Discharged from the Invalid Hospital, New Norfolk to the Police Office, New Norfolk, then forwarded to Cascades Female Factory, Hobart. <sup>19</sup>
25 September 1843	Charged at the Police Court, Hobart by her mistress Mrs McTavish with misconduct in clandestinely leaving her premises on Saturday night 23 September; <sup>20</sup> plea guilty; sentence 7 days in solitary confinement at Cascades Female Factory, Hobart. <sup>21</sup>
17 February 1844	Charged at the Police Court, Hobart by Constable Anderson with misconduct in being absent 10 days without leave from the service of Mr Moodie, Sandy Bay, until she surrendered this morning; plea guilty; sentence 3 months hard labour at Cascades Female Factory, Hobart. <sup>22</sup>
27 February 1844	Classified as a 3 <sup>rd</sup> class probation pass-holder; gazetted 1 March. <sup>23</sup>
31 July 1844	Charged at Brickfields Hiring Depot, Hobart with disobedience of orders; sentence 7 days in solitary confinement at Cascades Female Factory, Hobart. <sup>6</sup>
1 November 1845	Ticket of Leave granted; gazetted 4 November. <sup>24</sup>
20 March 1846	Charged with not reporting her change of residence; sentence 14 days hard labour at Cascades Female Factory, Hobart. <sup>6</sup>
16 November 1846	Charged with misconduct; sentence 7 days in solitary confinement at Cascades Female Factory, Hobart. <sup>6</sup>

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<sup>10</sup> ML, CY 1282 p.143 (Mary Donovan); ML, CY 1274 p.256 (Mary Donovan)

<sup>11</sup> AJCP, HO 10/51 p.358 No.301 (Mary Donovan)

<sup>12</sup> Date given as 14 May in diets book (TAHO, HSD104/1/1 May 1842 p.3 (Marg<sup>t</sup> Donovan)).

<sup>13</sup> TAHO, HSD55/1/1 Folio 63 (Mary/Marg<sup>t</sup> Donovan); TAHO, HSD104/1/1 May 1842 p.3 (Marg<sup>t</sup> Donovan)

<sup>14</sup> Half rations consisted of 1 lb bread, ½ lb meat; ½ lb vegetables, ¼ oz tea; 1½ oz sugar, ½ oz salt; ¾ oz barley; 1/6 pint milk (TAHO, HSD104/1/1 Title Page).

<sup>15</sup> Low rations consisted of ½ lb bread, ¼ lb meat, ½ lb vegetables, ¼ oz tea, 1½ oz sugar, ¼ oz salt, ¾ oz barley, 1/6 pint milk (TAHO, HSD104/1/1 Title Page).

<sup>16</sup> Spoon rations consisted of ½ lb bread, ¼ oz tea, 1½ oz sugar, ¼ pint milk (TAHO, HSD104/1/1 Title Page).

<sup>17</sup> TAHO, HSD104/1/1 May 1842 p.3 (Marg<sup>t</sup> Donovan)

<sup>18</sup> Case book notes carry over from Folio 174.

<sup>19</sup> TAHO, LC167/1/1 p.134 (Mary Donovan)

<sup>20</sup> Conduct record has charge as being absent without leave.

<sup>21</sup> TAHO, AC480/1/1, 25 September 1843 (Mary Donovan No.301)

<sup>22</sup> TAHO, AC480/1/1, 17 February 1844 (Mary Donovan No.301)

<sup>23</sup> *Hobart Town Gazette*, 1 March 1844 p.265 (Mary Donovan 301)

<sup>24</sup> *Hobart Town Gazette*, 4 November 1845 p.1387 (Mary Donovan 301)

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- 2 January 1847 Charged with misconduct; sentence 3 months' hard labour at Cascades Female Factory, Hobart.<sup>6</sup>
- 22 August 1848 Charged upon complaint of Constable Tuke with misconduct in being in bed on her master's premises with a male pass-holder servant at ½ past 10pm on 21 August; in the service of Mr Serjeant, Elizabeth Street, Hobart; found guilty; sentence 4 months hard labour, half that time to be passed in the separate apartments, at Cascades Female Factory, Hobart; cannot read and write.<sup>25</sup>
- Statement of defendant Mary Donovan:  
*I did not know this man was there.*<sup>25</sup>
- 29 March 1849 Certificate of Freedom issued.<sup>6</sup>

### Notes

- Mary may be the Mary Donovan (*Rajah*) engaged in private service as a probation pass-holder on 4 September 1844 to Hugh Murray, Collins Street, Hobart.<sup>26</sup> Alternatively, it may be shipmate Mary Donovan 1<sup>st</sup> (*qv*).
- Mary may be the Mary Donovan (*Rajah*) engaged in private service as a probation pass-holder on 4 September 1844 to Ann S Clark, Hobart.<sup>27</sup> Alternatively, it may be shipmate Mary Donovan 1<sup>st</sup> (*qv*).
- Mary may be the Mary Donovan whom George Williams (*Emily*) applied for permission to marry on 23 April 1850.<sup>28</sup> They married on 13 May 1850 at St John the Baptist Anglican Church, Hobart; Mary adult, illiterate, free; George adult, shoemaker; witnesses John Wright and Lydia Dunn.<sup>29</sup>
- If Mary did marry George Williams, then she was the mother of an unnamed son born at Barrack Street, Hobart on 17 July 1857.<sup>30</sup>
- Mary may be the Mary Donovan who died of senilitas and debility at Harrington Street, Hobart on 1 June 1892; aged 69, born Ireland, widow; informant WH Petterd, undertaker, Bathurst Street, Hobart.<sup>31</sup> She was buried in pauper section A No.231 at Cornelian Bay Cemetery, Hobart on 2 June 1892; last address Harrington Street, Hobart; buried with 22 others.<sup>32</sup>

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<sup>25</sup> TAHO, LC251/1/1 (Mary Donovan)

<sup>26</sup> *Hobart Town Gazette*, 6 September 1844 p.1087 (Mary Donovan)

<sup>27</sup> *Hobart Town Gazette*, 1 October 1844 p.1205 (Mary Donovan)

<sup>28</sup> TAHO, CON52/1/3 p.482 (Mary Donovan & George Williams)

<sup>29</sup> TAHO, RGD37/1/9 1850/393 Hobart (Mary Donovan & George Williams)

<sup>30</sup> TAHO, RGD33/1/6 1857/698 Hobart (male Williams)

<sup>31</sup> TAHO, RGD35/1/13 1892/1284 Hobart (Mary Donovan)

<sup>32</sup> SRCT, *SRCT Record Search* No.8760 (Mary Donovan)