

*Catherine Donovan*¹

(*uxor Catherine Johnson, Catherine Stott, aka Caroline Chalker*)

<i>Place Tried</i> Co. Cork	<i>Date Tried</i> 26 March 1849
<i>Offence</i> stealing boots	<i>Sentence</i> 7 years
<i>Prosecutor</i> Mr Phillips, Co. Cork	<i>Previous Convictions</i> 1 – stealing clothes (2m)
<i>Gaol Report</i> quiet, useful	<i>Surgeon's Report</i> quiet
<i>Station of Gang</i> not stated	<i>Class</i> 3 rd from 18 February 1850

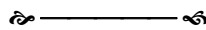
<i>Religion</i> Roman Catholic	<i>Literacy</i> neither read nor write
<i>Marital Status</i> single	<i>Trade</i> nurse girl, servant, housemaid
<i>Age</i> 18 ^a	<i>Native Place</i> Co. Cork
<i>Height</i> 4' 11 ³ / ₄ " , 5'	<i>Complexion</i> fair
<i>Head</i> round	<i>Hair</i> black, brown
<i>Visage</i> round	<i>Forehead</i> high
<i>Eyebrows</i> black	<i>Eyes</i> blue
<i>Nose</i> medium	<i>Mouth</i> medium
<i>Chin</i> medium	<i>Marks</i> none
<i>Family</i> brother Martin (in America)	

19 April 1849	Received at Grangegorman Depot, Dublin at 9:30am. ²
30 October 1850	Application for permission to marry Benjamin Johnson (<i>John Calvin</i>) (approved 5 November). ³
19 November 1850	Married as full age, spinster, to Benjamin Johnson, full age, turnkey, at St George's CE Church, Battery Point; witnesses George Page & S Oakes. ⁴
September 1851	Daughter Mary Johnson, turnkey's child, born at Norfolk Island. ⁵
May 1852	Mustered at Norfolk Island. ⁶
21 September 1852	Ticket-of-Leave granted. ⁶
November 1852	Husband Benjamin Johnson appointed overseer at Port Arthur, annual salary £50, quarters provided. ⁷
28 December 1852	Daughter Emily Jane Johnson born at Port Arthur; baptised 1853 at Port Arthur. ⁸
1 February 1853	Husband Benjamin Johnson granted Ticket-of-Leave. ⁹
26 August 1853	Husband Benjamin Johnson charged at Hobart PC with being drunk; fined 5s. ⁹
9 January 1855	Husband Benjamin Johnson granted Conditional Pardon. ⁹
18 January 1855	Husband Benjamin Johnson appointed water policeman at Hobart, salary 1s per diem. ¹⁰
1 March 1855	Unnamed daughter _ Johnson, constable's child, born at Brisbane St, Hobart. ¹¹
28 May 1855	Husband Benjamin Johnson dismissed from water police, Hobart. ¹⁰
26 March 1856	Free by servitude.
7 April 1856	Certificate of Freedom collected. ⁶
10 April 1856	Daughter Emily Jane Johnson, 3y 3m, labourer's child, died of consumption at Sackville St, Hobart. ¹²
c1856	Formed a de facto relationship ^b with George Chalker. ¹³
15 August 1857	Daughter Emily Chalker, messenger's child, born at Battery Square, Hobart. ¹³
c1860	Son George Chalker born. ¹⁹
2 July 1861	Son John Chalker, coach guard's child, born at Launceston. ¹⁴

^a Age given as: 17y on description list; 20y on Grangegorman prison register and Irish transportation register (though this may have been a different Catherine Donovan as date given as 14 May 1849 and offence as stealing lamb, but place of trial and sentence were correct).

^b The whereabouts of husband Benjamin Johnson have not been determined. No death has been found for him on the TPI or the convicts' death register.

- 1 July 1868 Unnamed **son** _ Chalker, coach guard's child, born at Launceston.¹⁵
- 27 April 1869 Charged at 11:50pm at Launceston PC with being drunk & incapable; fined 5s, fine paid.¹⁶
- 9 January 1870 Charged at 2:45pm at Launceston PC with being drunk & disorderly; fined 10s, fine paid.¹⁷
- 22 January 1873 Sons John & George Chalker tried at Launceston PC with Edward Roe, brought up from 16 & 20 January on remand for production of further evidence, charged with having on 3 January broken & entered the house of Henry Reading in York St, Launceston known as the *Railway Tavern* & stolen therefrom 14 brass door knobs; committed for trial.¹⁸
- 27 March 1873 Present at Launceston SC for trial of sons John & George Chalker with Edward Roe charged with stealing on 3 January 14 door handles fixed to a building, property of Henry Reading; in a second count they were charged with receiving; sentences John Chalker *nolle prosequi*, Edward Roe acquitted, George Chalker convicted, to be imprisoned 10d then sent to Cascades Reformatory Training School 5y; mother admonished.¹⁹
- 5 October 1875 Charged at 5:15pm at Launceston PC with daughter Emily Chalker with being drunk & disorderly in Elizabeth St, Launceston; property of 11/6; each fined 10s, fine paid & omitted, respectively.²⁰
- 6 August 1876 **Married** as adult, widow, to David Stott,^c adult, mechanic, widower, at Independent Church, Tamar St, Launceston; witnesses James Duncan & Sarah Lawson.²¹
- 16 June 1877 Charged at 9:45pm at Launceston PC with being drunk & disorderly in Brisbane St, Launceston; detained 17 hours; fined 10s, fine paid.²²
- 19 December 1881 Former *de facto* husband George Chalker appeared at Launceston PC charged with indecent exposure; fined 10s.²³
- 20 February 1885 Former *de facto* husband George Chalker, 59y, groom, died of chronic pneumonia at Launceston Hospital.²⁴
- 13 May 1895 Daughter Emily Chalker married William Leggett at York St Baptist Manse, Launceston.²⁵
- 18 February 1897 Husband David Stott, 66y, carter, died of acute pneumonia at Victoria St, Launceston.²⁶



^c This may have been David Stott transported on the *Pestonjee Bomanjee* 1, 23y, labourer and collier, NP Rochdale.

References

- ¹ AOT, CON 41/24 *Australasia* No.672 (Catherine Donovan); AOT, CON 19/8 *Australasia* (Catherine Donovan); AOT, CON 15/6 *Australasia* No.59 (Catherine Donovan); NAI, Prisons 1/9/4 No.1853 (Catherine Donovan); NAI, TR9 p.12 (Cath Donovan)
- ² NAI, Prisons 1/9/4 No.1853 (Catherine Donovan)
- ³ AOT, CON 52/4 (Benjamin Johnson & Catherine Dunnavan); AOT, CON 52/3 p.240 (Benjamin Johnson & Catherine Dunnavan)
- ⁴ AOT, RGD 37/9 1850/322 Hobart (Benjamin Johnson & Catherin Donlean)
- ⁵ AOT, RGD 33/29 1851/63 Norfolk Island (Mary Johnston)
- ⁶ AOT, CON 41/24 *Australasia* No.672 (Catherine Donovan)
- ⁷ AOT, CSO 50/29 1852 pp.92 & 201-202 (Benjamin Johnson)
- ⁸ AOT, RGD 32/3 1853/4292 Port Arthur (Emily Jane Johnson)
- ⁹ AOT, CON 33/88 *John Calvin* No.20344 (Benjamin Johnson)
- ¹⁰ AOT, AC 486/1 Hobart (Benjamin Johnson)
- ¹¹ AOT, RGD 33/5 1855/1932 Hobart (female Johnson)
- ¹² AOT, RGD 35/5 1856/723 Hobart (Emily Jane Johnson)
- ¹³ AOT, RGD 33/7 1857/798 Hobart (female Chalker)
- ¹⁴ AOT, RGD 33/39 1861/246 Launceston (John Chalker)
- ¹⁵ AOT, RGD 33/46 1868/242 Launceston (male Chalker)
- ¹⁶ AOT, POL 450/1 p.367 No.212 (Caroline Chalker)
- ¹⁷ AOT, POL 450/1 p.376 No.25 (Caroline Chalker)
- ¹⁸ *Launceston Examiner*, 18 January 1873 p.5 col.3 (Edward Roe, John & George Chalker); *Launceston Examiner*, 21 January 1873 p.3 col.6 (Edward Roe, John & George Chalker); *Launceston Examiner*, 23 January 1873, p.3 cols.4-5 (Edward Roe, John & George Chalker)
- ¹⁹ *Launceston Examiner*, 29 March 1873 p.3 col.1 (Edward Roe, George Chalker & John Chalker); AOT, SC 41/7 (Charles Chalker, Edward Roe & John Chalker); AOT, CON 37/10 No.5868 (George Chalker)
- ²⁰ AOT, POL 450/2 1875 Nos.326 & 327 (Caroline Chalker & Emily Chalker)
- ²¹ AOT, RGD 37/35 1876/503 Launceston (David Stott & Caroline Johnson)
- ²² AOT, POL 450/2 1877 No.177 (Caroline Stott)
- ²³ *Launceston Examiner Supplement*, 21 December 1881 p.3 col.4 (George Chalker)
- ²⁴ AOT, RGD 35/54 1885/105 Launceston (George Chalker)
- ²⁵ AOT, RGD 37/54 1895/520 Launceston (William Leggett & Emily Chalker)
- ²⁶ AOT, RGD 35/66 1897/54 Launceston (David Stott)