

Mary Ford
(*uxor Mary Collins*)

POLICE NUMBER 197 ¹	LITERACY read and write
TRIAL DATE 31 August ² 1840	AGE ON EMBARKATION 36
TRIAL PLACE Lancaster (Salford) Sessions of the Peace	AGE ON ARRIVAL 27
OFFENCE felony, receiving a watch	HEIGHT 5' 6½"
SENTENCE 10 years	COMPLEXION pale
GAOL REPORT convicted before, bad, married 4 children	HEAD oval
PREVIOUS CONVICTIONS once 4 months for obtaining goods under false pretences	HAIR black
SURGEON'S REPORT has been cook on board and done her duty well	VISAGE oval
ON THE TOWN no	FOREHEAD medium
MARITAL STATUS married	EYEBROWS dark brown
CHILDREN 4	EYES brown
FAMILY husband Matthew parted from me 3 years ago	NOSE pointed
NATIVE PLACE Salford, Manchester, England	MOUTH wide
TRADE ON EMBARKATION servant	CHIN round
TRADE ON ARRIVAL housemaid, laundry maid	MARKS blind right eye, 2 long scars on right arm, pockpitted

c1814	Born Salford, Greater Manchester, Lancashire, England. ³
31 August 1840	Tried at Lancaster Sessions of the Peace, Salford, Lancashire, England indicted for receiving a watch; sentence 10 years transportation. ⁴
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, sent to Launceston for assignment. ⁶
29 November 1841	Returned to the service of the Crown, to the Police Office, Evandale, at the request of her master Mr D Cameron. ⁷
31 December 1841	Mustered in the service of Mr D Ralston, Launceston. ⁸
5 May 1843	Application for permission to marry James Collins ⁹ (<i>Southworth</i>) sent to the Muster Master. ¹⁰
11 April 1843	At Launceston. ⁴
17 June 1843	Application for permission to marry James Collins sent to the Secretary; approved if the clergyman is satisfied. ¹⁰
21 June 1843	Notice given of approval for permission to marry James Collins; Mary in assigned service in the Morven district; James a ticket-of-leave holder. ¹¹

¹ TAHO, CON40/1/4 p.176 No.197 [image 134] (Mary Ford); TAHO, CON19/1/1 p.200 [image 103] (Mary Ford); ML, CY 1282 p.147 (Mary Ford); ML, CY 1197 p.155 (Mary Ford); ML, CY 958 p.442 (Mary Ford)

² Trial month given as March on Embarkation List (ML, CY 1197 p.155 (Mary Ford)), but August on Assignment List (ML, CY 958 p.442 (Mary Ford)).

³ TAHO, CON19/1/1 p.200 [image 103] (Mary Ford)

⁴ TAHO, CON40/1/4 p.176 No.197 [image 134] (Mary Ford)

⁵ AJCP, ADM 101/63 *Rajah*

⁶ ML, CY 1282 p.141 (Mary Ford); ML, CY 1274 p.256 (Mary Ford)

⁷ TAHO, LC137/1/1 (Mary Ford)

⁸ AJCP, HO 10/51 p.363 No.197 (Mary Ford)

⁹ James Collins was transported for 14 years on the *Southworth* in 1830, tried at Bristol City Quarter Sessions on 11 January 1830 for stealing wearing apparel; single, aged 31, plain cook and house servant, native place Bristol, Protestant, read and write, proper name John Collins; transported before for 7 years for robbing a stable, sent out in the *Neptune*, went home in the *Louisa* from New South Wales in September 1829; tried at Richmond Quarter Sessions on 21 January 1833, existing sentence extended 3 years; Ticket of Leave 2 July 1840, restored to his freedom 2 July 1845 (TAHO, CON31/1/7 p.43 No.1130 [image 47] (James Collins); TAHO, MM33/1/2 No.1130 (James Collins); TAHO, CON23/1/1 No.1130 (James Collins)).

¹⁰ TAHO, CON52/1/2 p.29 (Mary Ford & Jas Collins)

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

10 July 1843	Married James Collins at St Andrew's Anglican Church, Evandale; Mary aged 39, assigned servant; James aged 40, ticket-of-leave holder; witnesses Charles Savage and GG Savage. ¹²
16 May 1844	Son Thomas Collins born in the Launceston district; father James Collins, shepherd; mother Mary Collins; informant Patrick Walsh, resident of Morven district. ¹³
31 July 1844	At Launceston. ⁴
21 February 1845	Ticket of Leave granted; gazetted 25 February. ¹⁴
2 July 1845	Remainder of a 3 years' sentence passed on husband James Collins remitted by the Lieutenant Governor in January 1833; restored to freedom. ¹⁵
25 June 1846	Son James Collins born at Logan Falls; father James Collins, labourer; mother Mary Collins. ¹⁶
13 September 1846	Son James Collins baptised at St Andrew's Anglican Church, Evandale. ¹⁶
12 May 1847	In the Morven district. ⁴
24 June 1847	Conditional Pardon recommended; gazetted 29 June. ¹⁷
3 August 1847	In the Morven district. ⁴
1 July 1848	Charged with being absent without leave from the service of Atkinson; sentence 3 months hard labour at Launceston Female Factory.
22 August 1848	Conditional Pardon approved. ⁴
31 August 1850	Free by servitude. ⁴
30 January 1851	Certificate of Freedom issued at Launceston. ⁴

Notes

- Mary may be the Mary Stretch who married Matthew Ford at Manchester Cathedral, Lancashire, England on 28 May 1822.¹⁸
- Mary may be the Ann Folend who was returned to the service of the Crown, to the Police Office, Evandale, at the request of her master Mr D Ralston on 21 September 1842; ship to colony *Rajah*, sentence 10 years.¹⁹
- Mary may be mother of James Collins born to James Collins and Mary Finn in the Longford district on 2 November 1847.²⁰
- Mary may be the Mary Collins who died at *Eagle's Return* public house on 26 September 1865. An inquest into her death found she died from choking on a piece of beef or mutton.²¹

Newspaper report:

SUDDEN DEATH. – About 3 o'clock on Tuesday afternoon a Mrs. Collins, servant to Mr. Webb, whilst partaking of dinner with her husband at the "Eagle's Return" public-house, was choked by a potatoe which she endeavored to swallow without mastication. Every effort was made to remove the obstruction in her throat, but without success, and the unfortunate woman expired in a few moments. An inquest is to be held before Adam Jacson, Esq., Coroner.²²

- Mary may be the Mary Collins who died on 12 September 1867 in the Longford district; aged 58, ostler's wife, informant John White, Sergeant of Police, Perth.²³

¹¹ *Hobart Town Gazette*, 23 June 1843 p.726; 30 June 1843 p.761; 7 July 1843 p.793 (James Collins & Mary Ford)

¹² TAHO, RGD37/1/3 1843/682 Launceston (Mary Ford & James Collins)

¹³ TAHO, RGD33/1/23 1844/284 Launceston (Thomas Collins)

¹⁴ *Hobart Town Gazette*, 25 February 1845 p.234 (Mary Ford)

¹⁵ TAHO, CON31/1/7 p.43 No.1130 [image 47] (James Collins)

¹⁶ TAHO, RGD32/1/3 1846/2985 Evandale (James Collins)

¹⁷ *Hobart Town Gazette*, 29 June 1847 p.605 (Mary Ford)

¹⁸ *Family Search*, IGI Batch No. M005466, Source Film No.0438192 (Mary Stretch & Matthew Ford)

¹⁹ TAHO, LC137/1/1 (Ann Folend)

²⁰ TAHO, RGD33/1/23 1847/894 Longford (James Collins)

²¹ TAHO, SC195/1/49 No.5958 (Mary Collins)

²² *Examiner*, 28 September 1865 p.3 (Mrs Collins)

²³ TAHO, RGD35/1/36 1867/273 Longford (Mary Collins)