

## *Rose Ford* (*uxor Rose Hill*)

POLICE NUMBER 200 <sup>1</sup>	LITERACY neither read nor write
TRIAL DATE 9 September 1840	AGE ON EMBARKATION 13
TRIAL PLACE Glasgow Court of Justiciary	AGE ON ARRIVAL 13
OFFENCE housebreaking and previous conviction	HEIGHT 4' 7"
SENTENCE 7 years	COMPLEXION fair
GAOL REPORT convicted and imprisoned before, bad, single	HEAD oval
PREVIOUS CONVICTIONS once 4 months for stealing clothes, 6 days for stealing a shawl, 8 days for being disorderly; 2 years lived by thieving	HAIR brown
SURGEON'S REPORT very good	VISAGE full
ON THE TOWN no	FOREHEAD flat
MARITAL STATUS single	EYEBROWS light brown
CHILDREN 0	EYES hazel
FAMILY sisters Margaret Ford ( <i>Elizabeth and Henry</i> ), Mary ( <i>Emma Eugenia</i> ) and Sally ( <i>Gilbert Henderson</i> )	NOSE medium
NATIVE PLACE Glasgow, Scotland	MOUTH medium
TRADE ON EMBARKATION	CHIN round
TRADE ON ARRIVAL nurse girl	MARKS none

c1821 Sister Margaret Ford born at Glasgow, Lanarkshire, Scotland.<sup>2</sup>

c1824 Sister Sally Ford born in Scotland<sup>3, 4</sup>  
Sister Mary Ford born at Glasgow, Lanarkshire, Scotland.<sup>5</sup>

c1828 **Born** at Glasgow, Lanarkshire, Scotland.<sup>6</sup>

31 January 1839 Charged at the Police Court, Glasgow, Lanarkshire, Scotland with theft in stealing a table cloth, a printed gown, a silk handkerchief and a pair of worsted stockings from the house of James Grindlay, pastry baker, Gallowgate Street, Glasgow; sentence 60 days imprisonment in the Bridewell, Glasgow.<sup>7</sup>

16 July 1839 Tried at the Burgh Court, Glasgow, Lanarkshire, Scotland indicted for theft and previous conviction in stealing a mantle from the house of Betsy Wyllie of Rotten-run Street, Glasgow, aggravated by previous conviction of theft; sentence 4 months imprisonment in the Bridewell, Glasgow.<sup>7</sup>

19 September 1839 Sister Sally Ford tried at the Court of Justiciary, Glasgow, Lanarkshire, Scotland with Elizabeth Welsh nee Campbell,<sup>8</sup> James McGowan and James McDonald indicted for theft, habit and repute and previous conviction; verdict guilty; sentence 7 years transportation; resident of Old Wynd, Glasgow.<sup>9</sup>

24 April 1840 Sister Sally Ford arrived at Hobart as a prisoner on the *Gilbert Henderson*; sent to Launceston.<sup>10</sup>

11 July 1840 Arrested for theft by housebreaking; to be tried at the Court of Justiciary, Glasgow; remanded to the Tollboth, Glasgow.<sup>7</sup>

<sup>1</sup> TAHO, CON40/1/4 p.177 No.200 [image 135] (Rose Ford); TAHO, CON19/1/1 p.198 [image 102] (Rosie Ford); ML, CY 1282 p. 147 (Rosie Ford); ML, CY 1197 p.158 (Rosie Ford); ML, CY 958 p.444 (Rosie Ford)

<sup>2</sup> TAHO, CON15/1/4 pp.10–11 No.350 [images 14–15] (Margaret Ford)

<sup>3</sup> Native place on Sally's description list reads Rantin—this may be Renton, Dunbartonshire.

<sup>4</sup> TAHO, CON19/1/12 p.517 [image 543] (Sally Ford)

<sup>5</sup> TAHO, CON19/1/3 p.201 [image 105] (Mary Ford)

<sup>6</sup> TAHO, CON19/1/1 p.200 [image 102] (Rosie Ford)

<sup>7</sup> NAS, JC26/1840/324 (Rose Ford)

<sup>8</sup> Elizabeth Welsh nee Campbell was transported for 7 years on the *Gilbert Henderson*.

<sup>9</sup> NAS, AD14/40/385 (Sally Ford); NAS, JC26/1839/345 (Sally Ford)

<sup>10</sup> TAHO, CON40/1/4 p.168 [image 126] (Sally Ford)

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9 September 1840

Tried at the Court of Justiciary, Glasgow, Lanarkshire, Scotland with James Rankine, Isabella Munro and shipmate Margaret Neillis (*qv*) indicted for the crime of theft by housebreaking, habit and repute and previous conviction of theft in breaking into and entering a house in Piccadilly Street, Anderston, near Glasgow on 11 July 1840 occupied by Alexander McArthur, wine and spirit merchant, and stealing a pair of blankets; verdict guilty; sentence<sup>11</sup> 7 years transportation; resident with sister Margaret Ford, New Wynd, Glasgow.<sup>12</sup>

Statement of defendant Rose Ford:

*Rosie Ford who being judicially examined, admonished and interrogated Declares That she is Eleven years of age, is not engaged in any occupation, and she resides with her sister Margaret Ford in the New Wynd of Glasgow. Declares That the Declarant does not know the Prisoners Margaret Neillis James Rankine, and Isabella Munro and the Declarant was not in company with them or any of them on the morning of Saturday last the Eleventh current. Declares That the Declarant does not know Piccadilly Street of Anderston near Glasgow and she was not in it that morning, either by herself or in company with the parties above named, and she had no concern whatever in breaking into a House there that morning or of stealing the two pair of Blankets which are now produced and labelled as relative hereto, and she knows nothing about said Blankets Declares That the Declarant was apprehended in her Sisters House about seven o'clock upon said Saturday morning, and taken to the Police Office. That the Declarant had just got out of bed when so apprehended, and she had not left her Sisters House before she was seized. And all this she declares to be truth, and declares that she cannot write.<sup>7</sup>*

Statement of defendant James Rankine:

*That the Declarant had no concern in breaking into a House in Piccadilly Street of Anderston on said morning or of stealing therefrom the two pairs of Blankets now produced and labelled as hereto relative. Declares that the Declarant was not in a Close in any Street in Anderston that morning, nor was in the Old Wynd or in King Street of Glasgow. And all this he declares to be truth.<sup>7</sup>*

Statement of defendant Margaret Neillis:

*Margaret Neillis who being judicially examined, admonished and interrogated Declares That she is nineteen years of age is a steam loom weaver and resides in King Street of Glasgow. Declares That a little before six o'clock of the morning of Saturday last the Eleventh current, the Declarant left her Lodgings in King Street aforesaid alone, with the intention of going to Finnieston to seek for work. That she proceeded along Clyde Street & Broomielaw towards Finnieston & she was still alone. That she struck up from Broomielaw by a Street, the name of which she does not know to get to Anderston Walk, & when near the foot of said Street, a stranger woman who was at the time carrying a Basket & a Bundle came up to Declarant & requested her to carry the Bundle as she the Woman complained of being tired. That the Woman desired Declarant to carry the Bundle up the Street a piece for her, and the Declarant accordingly went up the Street with it, but a man came forward & apprehended the Declarant and took her & the Bundle to the Police Office. That the Bundle was found to contain two pairs of Blankets & she now sees & identifies them with a label appended docketed signed as relative hereto. That the declarant does not know where the Woman is to be found, and the Declarant had never seen her before & does not know her name. Declares That the Declarant was not in any close in the foresaid Street. Declares That the Declarant was never in company with the Prisoners Isabella Munro, Rosie Ford, & James Rankine, and Declarant was not in company with them or any of them on the said Saturday morning, and she denies that she had any concern whatever in breaking into a House in Piccadilly Street of Anderston on said morning or of stealing said Blankets from it. And all this she declares to be truth. And declares that she cannot write.<sup>7</sup>*

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<sup>11</sup> James Rankine, Isabella Munro and Margaret Neillis were also transported for 7 years – Isabella was not transported until 1851, for a later crime, on the *Aurora II*; James was transported on the *Layton*; Margaret was transported on the *Rajah*. James was a weaver, resident of Fountain Close, Glasgow; Isabella resided with William Shields, a carter of Drygate, Glasgow; Margaret was a steam loom weaver, resident of King Street, Glasgow.

<sup>12</sup> NAS, JC26/1840/324 (Rosie Ford); NAS AD14/40/81 (Rosie Ford)

Statement of defendant Isabella Munro:

*Isabella Munro who being judicially examined, admonished and interrogated Declares That she is fifteen years of age, is at present out of employment, and she resides with her Brother in Law William Shields Carter Drygate of Glasgow. Declares That a little after five OClock of the morning of Saturday last the Eleventh current the Declarant left Drygate Street to look for work. That she came down High Street along Trougate[?] & Argyle streets & to Warroch Street of Anderston where she applied for work at Buchans Cotton factory, but the man at the Gate said there were no new hands wanted and the Declarant returned from the Factory towards Glasgow. Declares That the Declarant on getting to the next street, observed two men apprehend a Boy & Girl Viz. the Prisoners James Rankine & Margaret Neillis . That said men handed the Prisoners over to some persons who were passing, and one of the two men ran after the Declarant and caught her. That the Declarant does not know what she was apprehended for and she had not been in company with Rankine or Neillis or the Prisoner Rosie Ford that morning, and had no concern whatever in breaking into a House in Piccadilly Street of Anderston, or of stealing therefrom two pairs of Blankets being those now produced & labelled as relative hereto. That the Declarant was not in King Street of Glasgow or in the Old Wynd on said morning & she saw none of the Prisoners till she chanced to see them in Anderston. And all this she declares to be truth. An declares that she cannot write.<sup>7</sup>*

- 5 April 1841 Departed Woolwich, England on the *Rajah*.<sup>13</sup>
- 19 July 1841 Arrived at Hobart on the *Rajah*.<sup>13</sup>
- c24 July 1841 Upon arrival at Hobart, sent to Launceston for assignment.<sup>14</sup>
- 14 August 1841 Charged at the Police Office, Longford with uselessness by her master Mr Ball; returned to Government.<sup>15</sup>
- 1 October 1841 Sister Mary Ford tried at the Court of Justiciary, Glasgow, Lanarkshire, Scotland indicted for robbery and theft, habit and repute, and previous conviction; verdict guilty; sentence 7 years transportation.<sup>16</sup>
- 31 December 1841 Mustered in the service of Mr Suter, Longford.<sup>17</sup>
- 10 February 1842 Charged at the Police Court, Longford with uselessness by her master Mr Smith; returned to Government.<sup>18</sup>
- 9 April 1842 Sister Mary Ford arrived at Hobart as a prisoner on the *Emma Eugenia*; sent to Launceston.<sup>19</sup>
- 6 June 1842 Mentioned in Kezia Hayter's diary, resident at *Brickendon*, near Longford.  
Diary entry:  
*I have had a day of fatigue with the children but one of profit & pleasure too and I have much to be thankful too for my kind friend knowing how anxious I am about Rosa Ford has agreed to take her and retain her in her family until I leave here when with your permission I shall dearest Charles take this poor child to be my handmaid and strive with God's blessing to make her a good and useful seroant to her heavenly Father.<sup>20</sup>*
- 7 June 1842 Charged at the Police Court, Longford with uselessness by her master Mr Suter; returned to Government; reported.<sup>21</sup>
- 19 June 1842 Hired in private service as a probation pass-holder to Kezia Hayter, resident at *Brickendon*, as her handmaid.<sup>22</sup>

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<sup>13</sup> AJCP, ADM 101/63 *Rajah*

<sup>14</sup> ML, CY 1282 p.141 (Rosa Ford); ML, CY 1274 p.256 (Rosie Ford)

<sup>15</sup> TAHO, LC362/1/5 p.124 (Rosa Ford)

<sup>16</sup> NAS, JC26/1841/372 (Mary Ford)

<sup>17</sup> AJCP, HO 10/51 p.363 No.200 (Rosie Ford)

<sup>18</sup> TAHO, LC362/1/5 p.195 (Rosa Ford)

<sup>19</sup> TAHO, CON40/1/4 p.183 [image 141] (Mary Ford)

<sup>20</sup> TAHO, NS202/1/1 pp.123-124 (Rosa Ford)

<sup>21</sup> TAHO, LC362/1/5 (Rosa Ford)

<sup>22</sup> TAHO, NS202/1/1 p.125 (Rosa Ford)

Diary entry:

... The recent object of my solicitness Rosa Ford entered our family to day as my little handmaid.<sup>22</sup>

- 11 April 1843 At Launceston.<sup>23</sup>
- 13 March 1844 Classified as a 3<sup>rd</sup> class probation pass-holder; gazetted 15 March.<sup>24</sup>
- 3 May 1844 Sister Margaret Ford tried at the Court of Justiciary, Glasgow, Lanarkshire, Scotland with William MacIver, John Gibson and William Glass indicted for theft by housebreaking, habit and repute; verdict not guilty; assoilzied simpliciter and dismissed; steam loom weaver, resident of Old Wynd, Glasgow.<sup>25</sup>
- 31 July 1844 At Launceston.<sup>23</sup>  
Hired in private service as a probation pass-holder to GT Harrison, *Panshanger*.<sup>26</sup>
- 21 August 1844 Hired in private service as a probation pass-holder to William Coade, Launceston.<sup>27</sup>
- 21 November 1844 Hired in private service for 1 month as a probation pass-holder to Sarah Hines, Launceston.<sup>28</sup>
- 7 January 1845 Hired in private service for 3 months as a probation pass-holder to WD Grubb, West Tamar; also engaged was shipmate Jane Houghton (*qv*).<sup>29</sup>
- 27 January 1845 Sister Sally Ford married Henry Green at St John's Anglican Church, Launceston; Sally aged 19, single, holding a Ticket of Leave, illiterate; Henry aged 30, single, mariner, free; witnesses David Weed and J Wood.<sup>30</sup>
- 17 February 1845 Hired in private service for 1 month as a probation pass-holder to William Chick, Launceston.<sup>31</sup>
- 15 May 1845 Ticket of Leave granted; gazetted 20 May.<sup>32</sup>
- 6 October 1845 Charged with larceny under £5; existing term of transportation extended 18 months.<sup>23</sup>  
Charged with larceny under £5; sentence 12 months hard labour at Cascades Female Factory, Hobart.<sup>23</sup>
- 29 April 1846 Sister Margaret Ford tried at the Court of Justiciary, Glasgow, Lanarkshire, Scotland with David Murdoch and Jean Robertson<sup>33</sup> indicted for robbery; verdict guilty; sentence 7 years transportation; aged c26, weaver, resident of New Wynd, Glasgow.<sup>34</sup>
- 23 October 1846 Charged with larceny under £5; existing sentence of transportation extended 12 months, 6 months imprisonment at Cascades Female Factory, Hobart, and Ticket of Leave cancelled.<sup>23</sup>
- 14 November 1846 Ticket of Leave revoked; gazetted 17 November.<sup>35</sup>
- 4 January 1847 Sister Margaret Ford arrived at Hobart as a prisoner on the *Elizabeth and Henry*; sent to the *Anson* probation station for 6 months, then to Launceston.<sup>36</sup>
- 3 May 1847 Classified as a 3<sup>rd</sup> class probation pass-holder; gazetted 4 May.<sup>37</sup>
- 10<sup>38</sup> July 1847 Charged at the Police Court, Hobart upon complaint of Constable Ridge with misconduct in being out after hours at about ¼ to 11pm on 9 July from her service

<sup>23</sup> TAHO, CON40/1/4 p.177 No.200 [image 135] (Rose Ford)

<sup>24</sup> *Hobart Town Gazette*, 15 March 1844 p.306 (Rose Ford)

<sup>25</sup> NAS AD14/44/244 (Margaret Ford); NAS, JC26/1844/292 (Margaret Ford)

<sup>26</sup> *Hobart Town Gazette*, 2 August 1844 p.915 (Rose Ford)

<sup>27</sup> *Hobart Town Gazette*, 23 August 1844 p.1010 (Rosanna Ford)

<sup>28</sup> *Hobart Town Gazette*, 10 December 1844 p.1498 (Rosannah Ford)

<sup>29</sup> *Hobart Town Gazette*, 28 January 1845 p.111 (Rosannah Ford)

<sup>30</sup> TAHO, RGD37/1/4 1845/1960 Launceston (Henry Green & Sarah Ford); Gunn & Kippen, 'Household and Family Formation in Nineteenth-Century Tasmania' No.3739 (Henry Green & Sarah Ford)

<sup>31</sup> *Hobart Town Gazette*, 18 March 1845 p.361 (Rosannah Ford)

<sup>32</sup> *Hobart Town Gazette*, 20 May 1845 p.609 (Rose Ford)

<sup>33</sup> Jean Robertson transported for 7 years on the *Elizabeth and Henry*.

<sup>34</sup> NAS, AD14/46/417 (Margaret Ford); NAS, JC26/1846/230 (Margaret Ford)

<sup>35</sup> *Hobart Town Gazette*, 17 November 1846 p.1325 (Rose Ford)

<sup>36</sup> TAHO, CON41/1/11 No.350 [image 47] (Margaret Ford)

<sup>37</sup> *Hobart Town Gazette*, 4 May 1847 p.426 (Ann Muir)

<sup>38</sup> Date given as 18 July 1847 on conduct record (TAHO, CON40/1/4 p.177 No.200 [image 135] (Rose Ford)).

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- and being drunk and disorderly in a public street; in the service of Mr Aaron, Liverpool Street, Hobart; plea guilty; sentence 3 months imprisonment and hard labour at Cascades Female Factory, Hobart.<sup>39</sup>
- 6 August 1847 Charged at Cascades Female Factory, Hobart with misconduct; sentence 5 days in solitary confinement at Cascades Female Factory, Hobart.
- 29 March 1848 Sister Mary Ford married Benjamin Constantine at St John's Anglican Church, Launceston; Mary aged 24, single, prisoner, illiterate; Benjamin aged 36, single, brick maker, illiterate; witnesses Henry Green and J Wood.<sup>40</sup>
- 15 May 1849 At Westbury.<sup>23</sup>
- 26 May 1849 Petition for Ticket of Leave.<sup>23</sup>
- 19 June 1849 Ticket of Leave re-issued.<sup>23</sup>
- 1 February 1850 **Married** William Hill<sup>41</sup> at the Independent Chapel, Tamar Street, Launceston; Rose adult, illiterate; William adult, stable keeper; witnesses John Richardson Wilson and Maria Wilson (illiterate).<sup>42</sup>
- 9 March 1850 Free by servitude.<sup>23</sup>
- 25 March 1850 Sister Margaret Ford married Thomas Bentley at Holy Trinity Church, Launceston; Margaret adult, illiterate; Thomas adult, shoemaker; witnesses brother-in-law Benjamin Constantine (illiterate) and John Richardson.<sup>43</sup>
- 13 May 1850 Sister Mary Ford died of palpitation of the heart at Launceston; aged 27, brickmaker's wife; informant husband Benjamin Constine, illiterate, resident of St John Street, Launceston.<sup>44</sup>
- 25 January 1852 Departed Launceston for Melbourne with husband William Hill and Ellen Walton Hill<sup>45</sup> as steerage passengers on the schooner *Swift*; Rose free by servitude, ship to colony *Rajah*; William free, ship to colony *City of Melbourne*; Ellen born in the colonies.<sup>46</sup>
- 12 March 1866 Step-daughter Ellen Walton Hill married<sup>47</sup> Batista Borsa in the house of Reverend HS Cramer, Hargreave Street, Castlemaine, VIC; Ellen aged 27, spinster, born Launceston, TAS; resident of Spring Creek; father William Hill, digger; mother Mary Walton;<sup>48</sup> Batista aged 35, bachelor, butcher, born Bellinzina, Switzerland, resident of Spring Creek; father Jovani Batista Borsa, merchant; mother Rosa Otiniti; witnesses Arthur J Hodgson and Elizabeth Cramer.<sup>49</sup>

<sup>39</sup> TAHO, LC251/1/1 (Rose Ford)

<sup>40</sup> TAHO, RGD37/1/7 1848/1977 Launceston (Benjamin Constantine & Mary Ford); Gunn & Kippen, 'Household and Family Formation in Nineteenth-Century Tasmania' No.6196 (Benjamin Constantine & Mary Ford)

<sup>41</sup> William Hill was transported for life on the *Prince Regent* in 1830, tried at Gloucester on 1 April 1829 for house breaking; single, blacksmith's labourer, aged 21, native place Bristol; appropriated to Mr Ball; Ticket of Leave 10 March 1838; Conditional Pardon No.3398 20 October 1841; Conditional Pardon extended to all ports save the United Kingdom 30 December 1851 (TAHO, CON31/1/19 p.334 No.1002 [image 170] (W<sup>m</sup> Hill); TAHO, CON18/1/10 p.429 No.1002 [image 222] (W<sup>m</sup> Hill); TAHO, CON27/1/4 [image 63] (William Hill)).

<sup>42</sup> TAHO, RGD37/1/9 1850/719 Launceston (Rosina Ford and William Hill)

<sup>43</sup> TAHO, RGD37/1/9 1850/644 Launceston (Thomas Bentley and Margaret Ford); Gunn & Kippen, 'Household and Family Formation in Nineteenth-Century Tasmania' No.7938 (Thomas Bentley & Margaret Ford)

<sup>44</sup> TAHO, RGD35/1/3 1850/209 Launceston (Mary Constine); Gunn & Kippen, 'Household and Family Formation in Nineteenth-Century Tasmania' No.506572 (Mary Constine)

<sup>45</sup> Ellen was Rose's step-daughter. An unnamed female child was born to William and Mary Hill (see footnote 48) at Launceston on 29 November 1843; father William Hill, boatman; informant mother Mary Hill, illiterate, resident of Tamar (TAHO, RGD33/1/23 1843/1787 Launceston (female Hill)).

<sup>46</sup> TAHO, POL220/1/1 p.547 (Rosa Hills, William Hills & Ellen Hills)

<sup>47</sup> Ellen and Batista had at least 11 children between 1858 and 1878 in Forest Creek then Daylesford, VIC.

<sup>48</sup> Mary Walton married William Hill at St John's Anglican Church, Launceston on 16 October 1839; William aged 29, holding a Ticket of Leave, labourer, single; Mary aged 25, convict, servant, single, illiterate; witnesses Thomas Newton and William Jones (TAHO, RGD37/1/1 1839/351 Launceston (William Hill and Mary Waldon)). Mary was transported for 7 years on the *Hector* in 1835, tried at Chester Quarter Sessions on 5 January 1835 for stealing a handkerchief (TAHO, CON40/1/9 p.370 No.279 [image 362] (Mary Walton)). She died on 8 August 1847 of apoplexy at Launceston, aged 32, livery stable keeper's wife; informant John Simpson, resident of Launceston (TAHO, RGD35/1/16 1847/769 Launceston (Mary Rowland Hill)).

<sup>49</sup> VIC Marriage Certificate 1866/831 (Ellen Hill & Batista Borsa)

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1897

Step-daughter Ellen Walton Hill died at Hepburn, VIC; aged 58, father William Hill, mother Mary Walton.<sup>50</sup>

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<sup>50</sup> VIC Death Record 1897/5462 (Ellen Walton Borsa)

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