

# Frances Green

(proper name *Frances Ford*; ux<sup>or</sup> *Frances Wade*)

POLICE NUMBER 251 <sup>1</sup>	LITERACY read only
TRIAL DATE 17 August <sup>2</sup> 1840	AGE ON EMBARKATION 20
TRIAL PLACE Central Criminal Court (Old Bailey), London	AGE ON ARRIVAL 22
OFFENCE larceny in a dwelling house— stealing wearing apparel	HEIGHT 4' 11¾"
SENTENCE 14 years	COMPLEXION pale
GAOL REPORT connexions poor, single	HEAD oval
PREVIOUS CONVICTIONS none	HAIR brown
SURGEON'S REPORT quiet	VISAGE oval
ON THE TOWN no	FOREHEAD medium
MARITAL STATUS single	EYEBROWS light brown
CHILDREN 0	EYES hazel
FAMILY	NOSE medium
NATIVE PLACE Bromlow Street, Holborn, London, England	MOUTH medium
TRADE ON EMBARKATION	CHIN round
TRADE ON ARRIVAL housemaid, wash, iron	MARKS pockpitted

c1820

**Born** at Bromlow Street, Holborn, London, Middlesex, England.<sup>3</sup>

17 August 1840

Tried at the Central Criminal Court (Old Bailey), London, England with Charles Green<sup>4</sup> indicted for larceny in a dwelling house in stealing on 26 June 1 gown value £6, 2 shawls value £5, 1 pair of breeches value £1 8 shillings, 1 waistcoat value 7 shillings, 2 handkerchiefs value 8 shillings, 1 pin cushion value 2 shillings and 1 brooch value £1, the goods of Charles James Airstrop, in his dwelling house at St Andrew, Holborn; one of six indictments; found guilty; sentence 14 years transportation; aged 20.<sup>5</sup>

Statement of witness Ann Airstrop:

*I am the wife of Charles John Airstrop, who keeps the King's Arms public-house, Gray's Inn-lane, in the parish of St. Andrew, Holborn. On Friday evening, the 26th of June, I had been out, and when I came home I desired my niece to take my bonnet and shawl up stairs – I went up to bed between eleven and twelve o'clock that night – my bed-room is on the second floor, over the parlour – it was not locked – the room under mine is used as a parlour for the customers – when I got up I found my bonnet on the drawer, but no shawl there – I did not particularly look any further that night, but next morning I looked about more particularly, and missed from the drawers a pin-cushion, the shawl, and a garnet and pearl brooch, with one stone out – I looked into a large chest, which I do not often go to, and missed a large green silk dress, and cape, and a white crape shawl, and out of the drawer a pair of kerseymere small clothes, a waistcoat and two silk handkerchiefs – one shawl is worth three guineas – the value of all the articles is 4l. at least – I gave information, and was shown some of the articles on the following Monday – I had seen the male prisoner several times at our house – he used to come two or three times a week – I saw him there that evening, about half-past seven o'clock, and a female with him – I saw him go out of the house about ten o'clock – there was a female waiting up stairs in the parlour for him – I passed the parlour as I went up stairs, and could see the female in it, but could not identify her.*

*Charles Green. Q. At what hour did you discover the robbery? A. When I went to bed between eleven and twelve o'clock, my shawl was not there – I did not communicate it to any body that night – I thought the servant might have put the shawl away – I saw you go out*

<sup>1</sup> TAHO, CON40/1/4 p.263 No.251 [image 190] (Frances Green); TAHO, CON19/1/1 p.201 [image 104] (Frances Green); ML, CY 1282 p. 148 (Frances Green proper name Fra<sup>s</sup> Ford); ML, CY 958 p.440 (Frances Green); ML, CY 1197 p.150 (Frances Green)

<sup>2</sup> Trial month given as October on conduct record (TAHO, CON40/1/4 p.263 No.251 [image 190] (Frances Green)).

<sup>3</sup> TAHO, CON19/1/1 p.201 [image 104] (Frances Green)

<sup>4</sup> Charles was also found guilty and sentenced to transportation for life; aged 23.

<sup>5</sup> *Old Bailey Proceedings Online*, 618400817-2154 (Charles Green & Frances Green)

This biography supplements our book *Patchwork Prisoners* available from [www.researchtasmania.com.au](http://www.researchtasmania.com.au).

*with a bundle, but I had not the slightest suspicion of being robbed – when I missed the property in the morning I did not suspect you.*<sup>5</sup>

**Statement of witness John Mills:**

*I am barman to Mr. Aistrop. On the 26th of June I had been five weeks in his service – on the evening of the robbery I saw the two prisoners in the back-parlour, up one pair of stairs – I saw them come to the house between eight and nine o'clock in the evening, and served them myself with a glass of gin and water – I retired down stairs to the bar, and the man passed the bar while I was in it, going out at the front-door – I did not observe any bundle with him – I saw them go away about ten o'clock, or soon after, together – I had seen them in the house two or three times before.*

*Charles Green. Q. What quantity of gin and water did you supply? A. One glass – you ordered it – there were no other persons in the room besides you – I had a full view of your faces and persons – I first heard of the robbery next morning – I suspected you, as there were no other persons in the room – there was company in the front-room during the evening, but not before you left the back-room – I was examined at the police-office, and pointed you out from other prisoners.*<sup>5</sup>

**Statement of witness William Henry Limley:**

*I am shopman to William Dicker, Church-place, Lambeth Marsh. I produce a handkerchief, a gown, a shawl, and a pair of socks, all pawned at our shop on the evening of the 27th of June – one was pawned about nine o'clock by a female, in the name of Mary Green, and the other in the name of Ann Green – I cannot say whether they were pawned by the same person – I do not know the person.*<sup>5</sup>

**Statement of witness Mary Ann Nixon:**

*I am the wife of Joseph Nixon, a carpenter in Field-lane. I have known the female prisoner two years last June – on Saturday, the 27th of June, at five o'clock in the evening, she brought some pieces of velvet to my house for me to make her a bonnet – they appeared to be pieces of a cape – I agreed to make her the bonnet – she left them with me – I afterwards gave them up to Shackell the inspector.*<sup>5</sup>

**Statement of witness Joseph Shackell:**

*I am a police-inspector. In consequence of information on Monday morning, the 29th of June, I went to No. 4, Whiting-street, Waterloo-road, with Kershaw – I found the street door ajar – I went to the back-room, first floor, and knocked at the door – the male prisoner opened it – he was in his night-shirt – I told him I had come there about a robbery in Pentonville, showing him a bill at the same time – the female prisoner was sitting up in bed – I told them to dress, and they must go with me – on a chair, by the side of the bed, I saw some things lying – I found this green silk gown on the chair – I asked the woman who it belonged to – she said to herself – I asked who this shawl belonged to – she said it was her own – I asked the man who these trowsers belonged to – he said they belonged to him, and this waistcoat he also said was his – I asked him whose brooch this was on the mantel-piece – the female said it was hers – I found this handkerchief there – I do not recollect any thing being said about it – on the mantel-piece I found a duplicate for a gown, a shawl, and a pair of socks, pawned for 9s., on the 27th of June, at Dicker's; and in a small gallipot, among other tickets, was one for a handkerchief pawned on the 27th of June for 1s. 6d. – I received this velvet from Nixon – it is the cape of a silk dress – I found in the room a bunch of keys, some of them pick-locks, a chisel, a knife, three small files, and a screw.*

*Charles Green. Q. When you entered the room what did you represent as your mission to me? A. I had come to apprehend you for a robbery at Pentonville – I suspected you of committing it, or I should not have come there – I did not open the street door with a string, I found it ajar – I did not begin to ask you a variety of questions the moment I came in – to the best of my belief I took the brooch off the mantel-piece – I am certain I did not take it out of a waistcoat-pocket – I found the skeleton keys hanging up in the cupboard – I did not ask the female any questions about her relatives until she told me the gown belonged to her mother, I asked where her mother lived, and her name, and she said, "Nixon, 2, Field-lane" – she did not appear drowsy, as if just awake – she asked if she was to go with me, and I said "Yes" – I did not elicit these answers from her to criminate herself – I told you both I did not want you to say any thing – three of these keys are skeleton ones – on our road to the station-house you*

pointed out a man going along the street, who I knew, and told me to take him into custody, but I had you two in custody at the same time, and could not.

Q. Are you aware, when the female called from the cab window to that man, what he did; did he run away? A. I do not know – I saw him within two hours after – he did not wait at the station-house for the purpose of accompanying me to the house I had taken you from – he did not go there with me – he was seen there with me afterwards, which I will explain – when you were taken I told Kershaw it was requisite to go and search again – we went, and while we were in the room this man came there to the door, I said, “Whoever it is, let him in,” and I found it was the same man, but there was no evidence against him – when I was gaoler of Bow-street, six years ago, the prostitute that man was living with was locked up occasionally, and he was in the habit of coming backwards and forwards to her – I knew him by that.<sup>5</sup>

Statement of witness John Kershaw:

*I am a policeman. I was with Shackell – he has given a correct account.*<sup>5</sup>

Statement of witness Mary Ann Nixon:

*Mrs. Nixon re-examined. These are the pieces of velvet I gave the officer – I am not the mother of the female prisoner, nor at all related to her.*<sup>5</sup>

Statement of witness Ann Aistrop:

*Ann Airstrop re-examined. All these things are mine – the velvet is the cape of this dress – they were all safe on the premises that day.*<sup>5</sup>

Statement of defendant Charles Green:

*(The prisoner, Charles Green, in an exceedingly long address, stated that he was by trade a dealer in wearing apparel, by which means he became acquainted with a man named Stewart, in whom he placed the greatest confidence, but having refused to lend him money, he (the prisoner) supposed had excited his resentment; that he had purchased some of the stolen articles of Stewart in the way of business, together with other property, afterwards found to be stolen, some of which he (the prisoner) had given to the female prisoner, with whom he cohabited, and some he had sent her to pledge; that Stewart, in order to gratify his revenge, had placed the other articles in his room, which were found, and then given information to the police; that the skeleton keys did not belong to him, but must have been placed on the bunch by Stewart, for the purpose of strengthening the suspicion, as also the file; that as they were being taken to the station-house, he pointed out Stewart to the officer, who, for some reason, declined taking him; and that the barman did not identify them at the office until they were pointed out to him.)*<sup>5</sup>

Statement of witness William McLinnan:

*I am a City policeman. I produce a certificate of the prisoner Charles Green's former conviction – (read) – I was present at his trial, and know him to be the person named in the certificate.*<sup>5</sup>

Newspaper report of trial:

*Charles Green, a painter, aged 23, and Frances Green, spinster, aged 20, were indicted for stealing one dress, one cape, two shawls, and other articles, value 12l., the property of Charles James Aistrop, in his dwelling-house.*

*Mr. Ryland conducted the prosecution.*

*It appeared that on the night of the 26<sup>th</sup> of June last, both prisoners were in the parlour of the King's Arms Tavern, Gray's Inn-lane, kept by the prosecutor. They remained there a considerable time, and the male prisoner was observed to pass the bar twice, but without exciting any suspicion. After the prisoners left the house, the landlady, on going to her bedroom, missed one of the shawls mentioned in the indictment, and on the following morning the rest of the articles were found to have been stolen. A portion of the property was found to have been pledged by a woman, but the pawnbroker could not say that the female prisoner was the person. Information of the robbery having been given to Shackell, Inspector of police, that officer proceeded to the residence of the prisoners in the Waterloo-road, and found the female in bed, and the male prisoner undressed. On a chair by the side of the bed Shackell found a portion of the stolen property, and upon searching the room other articles were found, together with some pawnbrokers' duplicates relating to other portions of the stolen goods. The officer also took possession of a bunch of keys, three of which were skeleton keys, two files, a saw, and chisel.*

The male prisoner addressed the jury, at considerable length, and endeavoured to show that his companion and himself were victims to a foul plot concocted by a man named Stewart, for the purpose of revenge, he being himself the person who stole the property, which he left with him (the prisoner), and then sent the officer to the house in order to entrap him and the unfortunate young woman who stood beside him at the bar.

The jury found the prisoners Guilty.

Evidence was then given proving that the male prisoner had been previously convicted of felony in this court.

He was then asked if he had anything to say why sentence should not be passed upon him?

The prisoner said, that for himself he had nothing to say, but he hoped the Court would be merciful to his companion.

Mr. Baron Gurney told the prisoner that the appeal he had just made to the Court was the only symptom of proper feeling he had exhibited; for a more daring thief had seldom appeared at the bar of a court of justice. The sentence of the Court was, that he be transported for life, and that his companion, Frances Green, be transported for 14 years.<sup>6</sup>

- 17 March 1841 Common-law husband Charles Green<sup>7</sup> arrived at Hobart on the *Lady Raffles*, transported for life; painter; aged 24, native place Reading, single.<sup>8</sup>
- 5 April 1841 Departed Woolwich, England on the *Rajah*.<sup>9</sup>
- 19 July 1841 Arrived at Hobart on the *Rajah*.<sup>9</sup>
- c24 July 1841 Upon arrival at Hobart, assigned to Mr J Davis, the wharf, Hobart.<sup>10</sup>
- 18 September 1841 Common-law husband Charles Green sent to Saltwater Creek Probation Station.<sup>12</sup>
- 31 December 1841 Mustered in the service of Mrs Scott, Hobart.<sup>11</sup>
- 18 March 1842 Common-law husband Charles Green died at Saltwater Creek Probation Station.<sup>12</sup>
- 25 May 1842 Charged at the Police Court, Hobart on the complaint of Constable Mullins with misconduct in being absent without leave all last night from the service of Mr Scott, Elizabeth Street, Hobart; plea guilty; sentence 10 days in solitary confinement at Cascades Female Factory, Hobart.<sup>13</sup>
- 24 September 1842 Application for permission to marry Peter Wade<sup>14</sup> (free) sent to the Muster Master.<sup>15</sup>
- 1 October 1842 Application for permission to marry Peter Wade sent to the Secretary; approved.<sup>15</sup>
- 24 October 1842 **Married** Peter Wade at St David's Anglican Church, Hobart; Frances aged 22, spinster, illiterate; Peter aged 28, brick maker, bachelor, illiterate; witnesses Robert Willey, Alfred Revill and Josias Heyward.<sup>16</sup>
- 27 March 1844 Classified as a 3<sup>rd</sup> class probation pass-holder; gazetted 29 March.<sup>17</sup>
- 14 August 1845 Ticket of Leave granted; gazetted 19 August.<sup>18</sup>
- 16 April 1847 Conditional Pardon recommended; gazetted 20 April.<sup>19</sup>
- 1 July 1848 Conditional Pardon approved upon condition she shall not return to or be found within the country in which she was convicted during the remaining term of her transportation; gazetted 4 July.<sup>20</sup>

<sup>6</sup> *Standard*, 25 August 1840 Issue 5049 Article 2 (Charles Green & Frances Green)

<sup>7</sup> Charles Green was tried with Frances at the Old Bailey (*Old Bailey Proceedings Online*, t18400817-2154 (Charles Green & Frances Green)).

<sup>8</sup> TAHO, CON33/1/6 No.1299 [image 112] (Charles Green); TAHO, CON18/1/26 [image 124] (Charles Green)

<sup>9</sup> AJCP, ADM 101/63 *Rajah*

<sup>10</sup> ML, CY 1274 p.257 (Frances Green proper name Frances Ford)

<sup>11</sup> AJCP, HO 10/51 p.366 No.251 (Frances Green)

<sup>12</sup> TAHO, CON33/1/6 No.1299 [image 112] (Charles Green)

<sup>13</sup> TAHO, AC480/1/1, 25 May 1842 (Frances Green)

<sup>14</sup> There was no convict named Peter Wade or similar transported to Tasmania.

<sup>15</sup> TAHO, CON52/1/2 p.223 (France Green & Peter Wade)

<sup>16</sup> TAHO, RGD37/1/3 1842/49 Hobart (Frances Green & Peter Wade)

<sup>17</sup> *Hobart Town Gazette*, 29 March 1844 p.355 (Frances Green)

<sup>18</sup> *Hobart Town Gazette*, 19 August 1845 p.1018 (Frances Green)

<sup>19</sup> *Hobart Town Gazette*, 20 April 1847 p.373 (Frances Green)

<sup>20</sup> *Hobart Town Gazette*, 4 July 1848 p.590 (Frances Green)

*Frances Green*

- 6 January 1860      Husband Peter Wade died of disease of the heart and dropsy at Geelong Hospital, VIC, aged 45, brick maker, born Maidstone, Kent, England, marriage particulars not given; informant house steward, Geelong Hospital.<sup>21</sup>
- 8 January 1860      Husband Peter Wade buried at Geelong Cemetery, VIC.<sup>21</sup>

**Notes**

- Frances may be the Frances Green who departed Hobart for Melbourne on 6 May 1857 as a steerage passenger on the *City of Hobart*; aged 31.<sup>22</sup>

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<sup>21</sup> VIC Death Certificate 1860/2168 (Peter Wade)

<sup>22</sup> TAHO, CUS36/1/112 (Frances Green)