

Mary Ann Harrison
(*aka Mary White, uxor Mary Ann Fewster*)

POLICE NUMBER 401 ¹	LITERACY read and write imperfectly
TRIAL DATE 23 November 1840	AGE ON EMBARKATION 28
TRIAL PLACE Central Criminal Court (Old Bailey), London	AGE ON ARRIVAL 33
OFFENCE stealing a watch from the person and former conviction, "committed this crime to get transported having lost my character"	HEIGHT 5' 1" ²
SENTENCE 10 years	COMPLEXION fresh
GAOL REPORT convicted before, poor, widow	HEAD oval
PREVIOUS CONVICTIONS once 6 months for a similar offence	HAIR black
SURGEON'S REPORT occasionally disobedient	VISAGE oval
ON THE TOWN no	FOREHEAD medium
MARITAL STATUS widow	EYEBROWS brown
CHILDREN 1, 0 on board	EYES light blue
FAMILY	NOSE medium
NATIVE PLACE near Cork, Ireland	MOUTH medium
TRADE ON EMBARKATION	CHIN round
TRADE ON ARRIVAL plain cook, housemaid	MARKS none

c1810

Born near Cork, County Cork, Ireland.³

23 November 1840

Tried at the Central Criminal Court (Old Bailey), London, England indicted for larceny from the person in stealing on 11 October 1 watch value 26 shillings, 2 seals value £2, 1 chain value 1 shilling and 1 key value 4 pence from the person of Thomas Pepper, with previous conviction; found guilty; sentence 10 years transportation; aged 28.⁴

Statement of witness Thomas Pepper:

I am a butcher, and live at Baker's-row, Walworth. On the 11th of October, about nine o'clock at night, I was at the end of New-street – I had had some drink, but was quite capable of managing myself – the prisoner accosted me, and said, where was I going – I said, not with her – she drew my watch out of my fob in a moment after accosting me – I told her she had got my watch – she said she had not – I said I would hold her till she gave it up – she said she would not, and she would send word to my wife – I called out, and a policeman came up – I gave her in charge, and as she was going to the station I saw her drop the watch – she denied having it – I did not see it drop from her, but I saw it rolling on the ground.

Cross-examined by Mr. Phillips. Q. Did you always say you saw it roll on the ground? A. I saw the person pick it up – I was sober – I did not tell the Magistrate I was the worse for liquor – she took hold of my arm – she was not walking with me.⁴

Statement of witness William Cook:

I am a policeman. On the night of the 11th I was returning home, and met the prosecutor and the prisoner in company with the witness – they told me she had taken a watch from him – I asked if he charged her with stealing it – he said he did, and he was confident she had it about her – I immediately took her, made her walk a little in advance, and when we got about a hundred yards I distinctly saw it drop on the ground from her person.⁴

¹ TAHO, CON40/1/6 p.48 No.401 [image 50] (Mary Ann Harrison); TAHO, CON19/1/1 p.208 [image 107] (Mary Ann Harrison); ML, CY 1282 p.148 (Mary Ann Harrison); ML, CY 958 p.441 (Mary Ann Harrison alias Mary White); ML, CY 1197 p.152 (Mary Ann Harrison)

² Height given as 5'13/4" on absconded notice in *Hobart Town Gazette*, 4 March 1842 p.217 (Mary Ann Harrison).

³ TAHO, CON19/1/1 p.208 [image 107] (Mary Ann Harrison)

⁴ *Old Bailey Proceedings Online*, t18401123-231 (Mary Ann Harrison)

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Statement of witness Henry Wenman:

I am a walking-stick manufacturer. I saw the prisoner pressing the prosecutor to go down a street – he objected, and walked on towards the end of the street, and she was with him, having hold of his arm – at the bottom of the street I heard him say to her, “You have got my watch” – she said, “Nonsense, don’t talk in that way; people will think by and bye that I have it, if you talk so; I shall send after your wife” – she called a lad, and sent him for his wife, and a policeman came up – he gave her in charge – the watch fell in front of her, and there was nobody in front of her.

Cross-examined. Q. Did you tell the Magistrate about what she said about his wife? A. Yes – the man is a butcher, and this being close to his house, people knew him as a tradesman – I imagined that she knew him – they did not appear intimate – he was not sociable – he might have drunk something, but was not tipsy – I should believe him if he swore he was the worse for liquor, but I would sooner believe what I saw.

(Property produced and sworn to.)⁴

Statement of witness Samuel Gardiner:

I am a policeman. I have a certificate of the prisoner’s former conviction from the office of the Clerk of the Peace for Surrey – (read) – I was a witness at the trial – she is the person who was convicted.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, assigned to Mrs Logan, Macquarie Street, Hobart. ⁶
4 December 1841	Charged with being absent without leave from the service of Fletcher; sentence 1 month in the separate working cells at Cascades Female Factory, Hobart. ⁷
31 December 1841	Mustered at Cascades Female Factory, Hobart. ⁸
21 February 1842	Charged with being absent without leave from the service of Wilson; reprimanded and returned to her service. ⁷
27 February 1842	Absconded from the service of Mrs Wilson, Liverpool Street, Hobart. ⁹
5 March 1842	Charged with absconding from the service of Wilson; sentence 6 months hard labour at Cascades Female Factory, Hobart. ⁷
9 January 1843	Charged at the Police Court, Hobart on the complaint of Constable Leer ¹⁰ with insolence to her mistress Mrs Haig ¹¹ this morning; plea guilty; sentence 6 months probation at the wash tub at Cascades Female Factory, Hobart. ¹²
27 February 1844	Classified as a 1 st class probation pass-holder; gazetted 1 March. ¹³
22 April 1844	Charged at the Police Court, Hobart by her master with neglect of duty and insolence yesterday; in the service of Mr Coombs, Collins Street, Hobart; plea guilty; sentence 14 days hard labour at Cascades Female Factory, Hobart. ¹⁴
25 May 1844	Charged at the Police Court, Hobart by her master Mr H Ashton with being drunk and admitting 2 men into his house last evening for an improper purpose; plea guilty; sentence 6 months hard labour at Cascades Female Factory, Hobart. ¹⁵
23 July 1844	Hired in private service as a probation pass-holder to Henry Ashton, Hobart. ¹⁶
17 December 1844	Hired in private service for 12 months as a probation pass-holder to Sarah Neilson, Liverpool Street, Hobart. ¹⁷

⁵ AJCP, ADM 101/63 *Rajah*

⁶ ML, CY 1274 p.257 (Mary Ann Harrison)

⁷ TAHO, CON40/1/6 p.48 No.401 [image 50] (Mary Ann Harrison)

⁸ AJCP, HO 10/51 p.370 No.401 (Mary Ann Harrison)

⁹ *Hobart Town Gazette*, 4 March 1842 p.217 (Mary Ann Harrison)

¹⁰ This name is difficult to decipher so may not be Leer.

¹¹ Mrs Haig was the wife of Captain Haig.

¹² TAHO, AC480/1/1, 9 January 1843 (Mary Harrison)

¹³ *Hobart Town Gazette*, 1 March 1844 p.265 (Mary A Harrison)

¹⁴ TAHO, AC480/1/1, 22 April 1844 (Mary Ann Harrison)

¹⁵ TAHO, AC480/1/1, 25 May 1844 (Mary Ann Harrison)

¹⁶ *Hobart Town Gazette*, 26 July 1844 p.877 (Mary Ann Harrison)

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