

Sarah Hughes

(*uxor Sarah Jones*)

POLICE NUMBER 400¹
TRIAL DATE 19 October 1840
TRIAL PLACE Central Criminal Court (Old Bailey), London
OFFENCE stealing a sheet
SENTENCE 7 years
GAOL REPORT convicted before, poor, single
PREVIOUS CONVICTIONS once 2 months for pledging, again 12 months for pledging
SURGEON'S REPORT quiet
ON THE TOWN 12 months
MARITAL STATUS single
CHILDREN 0
FAMILY
NATIVE PLACE Willin, Kent, England
TRADE ON EMBARKATION
TRADE ON ARRIVAL servant of all work, nursery maid

LITERACY read and write well
AGE ON EMBARKATION 23
AGE ON ARRIVAL 23
HEIGHT 5' 3½"
COMPLEXION ruddy
HEAD oval
HAIR black
VISAGE long
FOREHEAD flat
EYEBROWS brown
EYES hazel
NOSE medium
MOUTH wide
CHIN round
MARKS anchor HRN on right arm & Young SH & YJS on left arm, several moles on face

c1818

Born Willin,² Kent, England.³

8 May 1837

Tried at the Central Criminal Court (Old Bailey), London, England indicted for larceny in stealing on 8 April 1837 1 shawl value 9 pence, 1 gown value 2/6, 1 cap value 10 pence and 1 bed gown value 1/3, the goods of Sarah Adamson; found guilty; sentence 1 month imprisonment; aged 19.⁴

Statement of witness Sarah Adamson:

I am single, and live in Bull-fields, Woolwich. On the morning of Saturday, the 8th of April, I went to my mother's, and left the prisoner in my house – on my return she was gone, and I missed these articles – I tried to find the prisoner, and saw her on the 10th of April – she had got my things on – I asked her for the child's frock – she said she had pledged it at Mr. Davison's – I asked for the ticket, and she said she had torn it up – she had on my frock, and shawl, and cap – I was not in the habit of lending her clothes – she had been with me a week.

Prisoner. She lent me the frock on Friday night, while my own was drying. Witness. The frock was dry, and fit to wear – I had not lent her one while she washed, she went without.⁴

Statement of witness Mary Ann Fraser:

I am single, and live in Hare-street, Woolwich. I was at the prosecutrix's house on the Saturday morning, about eight o'clock – the prisoner was there – she went up stairs and put on the prosecutrix's frock, as she wanted to wash her own – I told her not to put it on – she said she would not be long, she was only going to her sister to get some money for breakfast.⁴

Statement of witness Donald Stewart:

I am a policeman. I was on duty in Greenwich – the prisoner was given to me – she said she had part of the things upon her, and the child's bed-gown she had pledged for 3d. – I found it at Mr. Davison's, the pawnbroker, in Woolwich – this is it.⁴

Statement of witness Sarah Adamson:

These are my things – I did not know she was going away with them – she had paid no rent – she was to pay 1s. a week – I do not know how she gets her living.⁴

¹ TAHO, CON 40/1/6 image 50 p.48 No.400 (Sarah Hughes); TAHO, CON 19/1/1 image 107 (Sarah Hughes); ML, CY 1282 p.148 (Sarah Hughes); ML, CY 1197 p.152 (Sarah Hughes); ML, CY 958 p.441 (Sarah Hughes)

² There is no place in Kent called Willin, this may be Willington.

³ TAHO, CON 19/1/1 image 107 (Sarah Hughes)

⁴ *Proceedings of the Old Bailey*, t18370508-1356 (Sarah Hughes)

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Statement of defendant Sarah Hughes:

*She does the same as I do, she goes into the street.*⁴

9 July 1838

Tried at the Central Criminal Court (Old Bailey), London, England with Ann Pearce and Mary Ann Reeves indicted for larceny in stealing on 4 July 1838 48 yards of printed cotton value £1, the goods of Thomas Beckensale King; found guilty;⁵ sentence 12 months imprisonment; aged 20.⁶

Statement of witness Bradford Jefferies:

I am in the service of Mr. Thomas Beckensale King, of King-street, Covent Garden – he is a linen draper. On the evening of the 4th of July, I saw the three prisoners at my employer's shop – they were at the door first, standing talking – they then came into the shop, and Reeves asked to look at some calico – I showed it her, and she desired me to cut off three yards – I cut it off, and she then wished to see reel of white cotton, and purchased it – during that time the prisoner Hughes took from the counter two pieces of printed cotton and placed them under her shawl – Reeves then asked me to show her a reel of black cotton, but as I had seen Hughes take the print, I sent Reeves to the other side of the shop to get her black cotton – Pearce and Reeves then [went] to the other side of the shop, and Hughes left the shop with the print under her shawl – she got a few yards from the door when I stopped prisoner, took it from under her shawl, and brought her back – she had not bought any thing – I sent for a policeman who took the prisoner – I delivered the cotton to the officer – this is it – (looking at it) – it is worth 1l.

Pearce. I was not aware of any thing of the sort – what I wanted I paid for.

Witness. She did so, and Reeves bought a reel of cotton at the other counter I believe, but I did not serve her – Reeves and Hughes denied all knowledge of each other, but I had seen them in our shop together a fortnight before.

Reeves. No, I did not; I said I had a slight knowledge of her.

Witness. She said, "I do not know them" – and Hughes said, "They have nothing to do with me – they do not know me."⁶

Statement of witness John Carey, Police Constable E 139:

I was in company with Vear, an officer – I took Reeves and Pearce into custody – they both of them denied any knowledge of each other.

Reeves. Q. Did I not say I had a slight knowledge of her? A. You did not say so at the station-house – you said the next day at the office, or just before you went in, that you had slept together.⁶

Statement of witness Thomas Vear, Police Constable E 54:

I took Hughes into custody, and have produced the cotton.

Hughes's Defence. I did not take it to steal it – I went in with the two females to purchase the calico, and the witness Jefferies began larking with me – I turned away from the counter, and whether I knocked the cotton down or not I do not know – I took it up when it fell down, but I had not got out of the shop.⁶

Statement of witness Bradford Jefferies:

Bradford Jefferies re-examined. She had got out about four yards.⁶

19 October 1840

Tried at the Central Criminal Court (Old Bailey), London, England indicted for larceny in stealing on 14 September 1840 1 sheet value 2 shillings, the goods of Louisa Jackson, and previous conviction; found guilty; sentence 7 years transportation; aged 23.⁷

Statement of witness Louisa Jackson:

I live in Dowling-street, Deptford. I let the prisoner a room – she occupied it for about two months – she was to pay 3s. a week – she went away without notice, and owed me 6s. 6d. – after she was gone I missed the sheet, which had been let to her with the lodging – this is it – (looking at one.)⁷

⁵ Ann Pearce and Mary Ann Reeves were both found not guilty.

⁶ *Old Bailey Proceedings Online*, t18380709-1747 (Ann Pearce, Sarah Hughes & Mary Ann Reeves)

⁷ *Old Bailey Proceedings Online*, t18401019-2662 (Sarah Hughes)

Statement of witness Thomas Jones Cavannah:

I am in the service of a pawnbroker. I received this sheet from a female, who I believe was the prisoner.⁷

Statement of witness Benjamin Lovell:

I am a sergeant of police. I received information of this robbery, on the 24th of September – I went to Greenwich, and found the prisoner – I told her she must go with me about this sheet – she said, “If Mrs. Jackson does any thing to me, I will do a little something for her” – there was another woman who lived with the prisoner, and I said, “You had better both go” – the prisoner said, “She knows nothing about it, I pledged it myself”.⁷

Statement of witness John Stewart, Police Constable R 35:

I produce a certificate of the prisoner’s former conviction, which I got at Mr. Clark’s office – (read) – the prisoner is the person.⁷

5 April 1841	Departed Woolwich, England on the <i>Rajah</i> . ⁸
19 July 1841	Arrived at Hobart on the <i>Rajah</i> . ⁸
c24 July 1841	Upon arrival at Hobart, sent to Launceston for assignment. ⁹
31 December 1841	Mustered in the service of Mr J Solomon, Evandale. ¹⁰
14 October 1843	Application for permission to marry William Jones ¹¹ (<i>Coromandel</i>) sent to the Muster Master. ¹²
15 November 1843	Application for permission to marry William Jones sent to the Secretary; approved. ¹²
30 November 1843	Notice given of approval for permission to marry William Jones; Sarah in assigned service at Evandale; William a ticket-of-leave holder. ¹³
18 December 1843	Married William Jones at St Andrew’s Anglican Church, Evandale; Sarah aged 24, assigned servant; William aged 33, ticket-of-leave holder; witnesses Daniel Pestill and James Cullings. ¹⁴
2 October 1844	At Launceston. ¹⁵
1 November 1844	Ticket of Leave granted; gazetted 5 November. ¹⁶
5 March 1847	Charged at the Police Court, Launceston upon complaint of her husband William Jones with misconduct in being absent from her authorised place of residence; plea guilty; verdict guilty; sentence 14 days hard labour at Launceston Female Factory. ¹⁷
19 October 1847	Free by servitude; Certificate of Freedom available for collection. ¹⁸
21 October 1847	Certificate of Freedom issued. ¹⁵

Notes

- Sarah may be the Sarah Jones who married Thomas Schofield at the Baptist Chapel, York Street, Launceston on 9 January 1863; Sarah aged 47, widow; Thomas aged 43, labourer; witnesses Henry Dowling and William Elliott.¹⁹

⁸ AJCP, ADM 101/63 *Rajah*

⁹ ML, CY 1282 p.141 (Sarah Hughes); ML, CY 1274 p.257 (Sarah Hughes)

¹⁰ AJCP, HO 10/51 p.370 No.400 (Sarah Hughes)

¹¹ There were 3 convicts named William Jones transported for 10 years on the *Coromandel* in 1838, 2 of which could be this William Jones, the first of which is most probable. William Jones No.1094 was tried at the Central Criminal Court (Old Bailey), London on 1 January 1838 for larceny in a dwelling house; single, labourer, 34, native place Southwark; Ticket of Leave 13 October 1843, Certificate of Freedom 7 January 1848; at Evandale in 1843 and 1844 (TAHO, CON31/1/25 p.89 No.1094 [image 89] (William Jones), TAHO, CON18/1/5 p.192 [image 102] (William Jones)). William Jones No.1102 was tried at Stafford Quarter Sessions on 17 October 1837 for housebreaking; widower with 1 child, coalminer, 45, native place Wellington, Shropshire; Ticket of Leave 10 February 1843, Conditional Pardon approved 7 January 1847, Certificate of Freedom 18 October 1847; at Launceston in December 1845 (TAHO, CON31/1/25 p.92 No.1102 [image 9] (William Jones), TAHO, CON18/1/5 p.191 [image 102] (William Jones)).

¹² TAHO, CON52/1/2 p.89 (Sarah Hughes & Wm Jones)

¹³ *Hobart Town Gazette*, 1 December 1843 p.1327; 8 December 1843 p.1350; 15 December 1843 p.1364 (William Jones & Sarah Hughes)

¹⁴ TAHO, RGD37/1/3 1843/690 Launceston (Sarah Hughes & William Jones)

¹⁵ TAHO, CON40/1/6 p.48 No.400 [image 50] (Sarah Hughes)

¹⁶ *Hobart Town Gazette*, 5 November 1844 p.1405 (Sarah Hughes)

¹⁷ TAHO, LC346/1/9 (Sarah Hughes ux Jones)

¹⁸ *Hobart Town Gazette*, 12 October 1847 p.1021 (Sarah Hughes)

¹⁹ TAHO, RGD37/1/22 1863/415 Launceston (Sarah Jones & Thomas Schofield)

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- Sarah may be the Sarah Jones who died of dropsy in the Campbell Town district on 28 February 1875; aged 52, labourer's wife; informant A Greg & Son, undertakers, Campbell Town.²⁰
- Alternatively, Sarah may be the Sarah Jones who died of internal cancer in the Longford district on 16 August 1883; aged 67, farmer's wife; informant WC Wright, undertaker's son of Longford.²¹

²⁰ TAHO, RGD35/1/44 1875/59 Campbell Town (Sarah Jones)

²¹ TAHO, RGD35/1/52 1883/484 Longford (Sarah Jane Jones)

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