

## Mary Ann Lee\*

POLICE NUMBER 227 <sup>1</sup>	LITERACY read only
TRIAL DATE 7 September 1840	AGE ON EMBARKATION 19
TRIAL PLACE Middlesex (Hicks Hall) Sessions of the Peace	AGE ON ARRIVAL 19
OFFENCE stealing bedclothes, 'I was first sentenced to 3 months, but having requested to be sent out of the country they gave me 7 years'	HEIGHT 5' 1"
SENTENCE 7 years	COMPLEXION fair
GAOL REPORT poor, single	HEAD oval
PREVIOUS CONVICTIONS none	HAIR brown
SURGEON'S REPORT mess woman and good	VISAGE long
ON THE TOWN no	FOREHEAD medium
MARITAL STATUS single	EYEBROWS brown
CHILDREN 0	EYES grey
FAMILY	NOSE rather large
NATIVE PLACE Holborn, England	MOUTH very small
TRADE ON EMBARKATION	CHIN round
TRADE ON ARRIVAL housemaid, nursemaid, needlewoman	MARKS long scar on throat, small scar over right eye

c1822 **Born** at Holborn, London, Middlesex, England.<sup>2</sup>

7 September 1840 Tried at Hicks Hall Sessions of the Peace, Clerkenwell, London, Middlesex, England indicted for larceny in stealing bedclothes; sentence 7 years transportation.<sup>3</sup>  
Newspaper report:  
*MIDDLESEX SESSIONS. – MONDAY.*  
*Phoebe Davis and Mary Ann Lee pleaded guilty to an indictment charging them with having robbed their ready-furnished lodgings.*  
*On behalf of Davis it was stated that she was not in her right senses, having been dreadfully frightened a few years ago by her clothes catching fire, whereby she was dreadfully burnt. She was sentenced to be imprisoned one hour, and the other prisoner, who, it appeared, had led her into the commission of the offence, was transported for seven years.*<sup>4</sup>

5 April 1841 Departed Woolwich, England on the *Rajah*.<sup>5</sup>

19 July 1841 Arrived at Hobart on the *Rajah*.<sup>5</sup>

c24 July 1841 Upon arrival at Hobart, sent to Launceston for assignment.<sup>6</sup>

31 December 1841 Mustered in the service of Mr M Kenneday, Launceston.<sup>7</sup>

12 January 1844 At Launceston.<sup>3</sup>

7 February 1844 Classified as a 3<sup>rd</sup> class probation pass-holder, gazetted 9 February.<sup>8</sup>

21<sup>9</sup> March 1844 **Daughter** Mary Ann Lee, illegitimate, born at Launceston Female Factory; mother Mary Ann Lee; informant Robert Pearson, Superintendent of the Female House of Correction.<sup>10</sup>

23 March 1844 Listed on the return of the Assistant Superintendent for having been confined of an illegitimate child.<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup> TAHO, CON40/1/6 p.300 No.227 [image 232] (Mary Ann Lee); TAHO, CON19/1/1 p.226 [image 116] (Mary Ann Lee); ML, CY 1282 p.150 (Mary Ann Lee); ML, CY 1197 p.151 (Mary Ann Lee); ML, CY 958 p.443 (Mary Ann Lee)

<sup>2</sup> TAHO, CON19/1/1 p.226 [image 116] (Mary Ann Lee)

<sup>3</sup> TAHO, CON40/1/6 p.300 No.227 [image 232] (Mary Ann Lee)

<sup>4</sup> *Morning Post*, 8 September 1840 Issue 21722 Article 5 (Mary Ann Lee)

<sup>5</sup> AJCP, ADM 101/63 *Rajah*

<sup>6</sup> ML, CY 1282 p.142 (Mary Ann Lee); ML, CY 1274 p.259 (Mary Ann Lee)

<sup>7</sup> AJCP, HO 10/51 p.378 No.227 (Mary Ann Lee)

<sup>8</sup> *Hobart Town Gazette*, 9 February 1844 p.204 (Mary Ann Lee 223)

<sup>9</sup> Date given as 20 March 1844 on baptism register.

<sup>10</sup> TAHO, RGD33/1/23 1844/194 Launceston (Mary Ann Lee)

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

- 31 March 1844 **Died** of natural causes<sup>11</sup> at Launceston Female Factory.<sup>12</sup>
- 1 April 1844 Inquest into death held at the *Prince of Wales Inn*, Launceston before Captain Gardiner.  
Verdict: died from natural causes.<sup>13</sup>  
Newspaper report:  
*INQUEST. – An inquest was held on Monday afternoon, at the Prince of Wales inn, before Captain Gardiner, on the body of Mary Ann Lee, a young woman about twenty years of age, who died at the female factory. It was satisfactorily proved that death resulted from natural causes, and a verdict to that effect was returned.*<sup>13</sup>
- c1 May 1844 Buried in Cypress Street Church of England Cemetery, Launceston; registered at Holy Trinity Church of England Church.<sup>14</sup>
- 2 May 1844 Daughter Mary Ann Lee baptised in the Chapel at Launceston Female Factory; mother Mary Ann Lee.<sup>15</sup>
- 7 September 1847 Free by servitude; Certificate of Freedom available for collection.<sup>16</sup>
- 6 November 1847 Daughter Mary Ann Lee died of natural causes at Launceston Female Factory; aged 4 years; informant Arthur Gardiner, coroner.<sup>17</sup>
- 8 November 1847 Inquest held at Launceston Female Factory into the death of daughter Mary Ann Lee. Verdict: died by the visitation of God.<sup>18</sup>  
Newspaper reports:  
*Inquests. – On Monday at the Female House of Correction, Inquests were held by Captain Gardiner on the bodies of Mary Ann Lee, a little girl about 3 years of age, and a child about 3 months old named Rowland,<sup>21</sup> the verdict in each case was died from natural causes. – And on the following day another Inquest was held upon the body of a third deceased child, named Tierney,<sup>19</sup> and a similar verdict was returned.*<sup>20</sup>  
*INQUESTS. – Three children have recently died at the Factory. On Monday two inquests were held there, on infants, named Mary Ann Lee and William Dayle<sup>21</sup>. To-day another inquest will set on the body of a child named Tierney<sup>19</sup>.*<sup>22</sup>

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<sup>11</sup> Mary Ann's death was most probably associated with childbirth.

<sup>12</sup> AJCP, HO 10/39 image 435 p.479 (Mary Ann Lee); *Examiner*, 3 April 1844 p.3 (Mary Ann Lee)

<sup>13</sup> *Examiner*, 3 April 1844 p.3 (Mary Ann Lee)

<sup>14</sup> As Mary Ann is listed in the Holy Trinity Index held at Launceston Library, she is most probably buried at Cypress Street Church of England Cemetery, Launceston (personal communication, Dianne Cassidy, 18 August 2012).

<sup>15</sup> TAHO, NS748/1/5 p.95 No.1255 (Mary Ann Lee)

<sup>16</sup> *Hobart Town Gazette*, 7 September 1847 p.894 (Mary Ann Lee) – Mary Ann had died by the time this was published!

<sup>17</sup> TAHO, RGD35/1/16 1847/854 Launceston (Mary Ann Lee)

<sup>18</sup> TAHO, SC195/1/21 No.1781 (Mary Ann Lee)

<sup>19</sup> This is Bartholomew Tearney who died 8 November 1847, aged 3 months.

<sup>20</sup> *Cornwall Chronicle*, 13 November 1847 p.3 (Mary Ann Lee)

<sup>21</sup> This is William Doyle who died 8 November 1847, aged 3 months.

<sup>22</sup> *Examiner*, 13 November 1847, p.732 (Mary Ann Lee)