

Mary Richardson

POLICE NUMBER 226 ¹	LITERACY read only
TRIAL DATE 19 October 1840	AGE ON EMBARKATION 18
TRIAL PLACE Durham Quarter Sessions	AGE ON ARRIVAL 20
OFFENCE stealing wearing apparel	HEIGHT 5'
SENTENCE 7 years (after 1 week's imprisonment)	COMPLEXION fair
GAOL REPORT convicted before, ² not known, single	HEAD oval
PREVIOUS CONVICTIONS once 1 month for being drunk	HAIR red
SURGEON'S REPORT disorderly	VISAGE long
ON THE TOWN no	FOREHEAD wrinkled
MARITAL STATUS single, I lived 3 years with a man	EYEBROWS light red
CHILDREN 0	EYES light hazel
FAMILY	NOSE medium
NATIVE PLACE Hodney Springs, England	MOUTH medium
TRADE ON EMBARKATION	CHIN medium
TRADE ON ARRIVAL farm servant, wash, milk, butter, bake	MARKS freckled both hands and arms

c1822 **Born** at Hodney Springs,³ England.⁴

19 October 1840 Tried at the Quarter Sessions, Durham, England indicted for larceny in stealing wearing apparel at New Lambton, the property of Elizabeth Summerson; sentence 7 years transportation, after 1 week's imprisonment.⁵

Newspaper report:

*MARY RICHARDSON (18), pleaded guilty to a charge of having at New Lambton, on the 14th of August last, feloniously stolen two cotton gowns, and various other articles, the property of Elizabeth Summerson.*⁶

5 April 1841 Departed Woolwich, England on the *Rajah*.⁷

19 July 1841 Arrived at Hobart on the *Rajah*.⁷

c24 July 1841 Upon arrival at Hobart, assigned to Captain Read, New Town.⁸

11 September 1841 Received at Cascades Female Factory, Hobart.⁹

12 September 1841 Admitted to the hospital at Cascades Female Factory, Hobart.⁹

5 November 1841 **Died** of fever at Cascades Female Factory, Hobart Hospital, Hobart; aged 19.¹⁰

6 November 1841 Inquest held at 10 am at Cascades Female Factory, Hobart before William Thomas Napier Champ Esquire, coroner.

Verdict: died by the visitation of God in a natural way, to wit by fever.⁹

Statement of witness and shipmate Margaret Shaw (*qv*):

The information on oath of Margaret Shaw saith I am a prisoner of the crown and am nurse at the hospital of this establishment. I have seen the body on which this inquest is sitting it is that of Mary Richardson she was a prisoner she was admitted into the hospital on the evening of the 12th of September inst. She then complained of fever and cold she remained in the hospital until she died yesterday morning (5th Nov^r) about six o'clock. She was ill

¹ TAHO, CON40/1/8 p.261 No.226 [image 208] (Mary Richardson); TAHO, CON19/1/1 p.246 [image 126] (Mary Richardson); ML, CY 1282 p.153 (Mary Richardson); ML, CY 958 p.442 (Mary Richardson); ML, CY 1197 p.154 (Mary Richardson)

² Gaoler's report on the Embarkation List notes "not convicted before" (ML, CY 1197 p.154 (Mary Richardson)).

³ No place named Hodney Springs is listed in the UK Gazetteer.

⁴ TAHO, CON19/1/1 p.246 [image 126] (Mary Richardson)

⁵ TAHO, CON40/1/8 p.261 No.226 [image 208] (Mary Richardson); *Newcastle Courant*, 23 October 1840 Issue 8657 Article 11 (Mary Richardson)

⁶ *Newcastle Courant*, 23 October 1840 Issue 8657 Article 11 (Mary Richardson)

⁷ AJCP, ADM 101/63 *Rajah*

⁸ ML, CY 1274 p.262 (Mary Richardson)

⁹ TAHO, SC195/1/7 No.595 (Mary Richardson)

¹⁰ TAHO, RGD34/1/2 1841/717 Hobart (Mary Richardson); TAHO, SC195/1/7 No.595 (Mary Richardson)

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during the whole time that she was in the hospital, she was attended during the time by Dr. Dermer who saw her once every day. She was nineteen years old. She received every attention that the hospital could afford. She was in assigned service and came into the factory only the day before she was admitted into the hospital.⁹

Statement of witness Dr William Dermer:

The information on oath of William Dermer saith I have seen the body of the deceased it is that of Mary Richardson. I have charge of the hospital of this establishment. On the 12th September last I admitted the deceased into the hospital, she complained of being exceedingly ill, which her appearance indicated she complained of extreme debility with pain in the right side. I prescribed the usual remedies which appeared to relieve her at the time. A few days after symptoms of fever showed themselves and in about three weeks she became convalescent & appeared to be doing well about a fortnight ago she had a relapse and in spite of every thing I could do and of every medical aid, she gradually got worse and yesterday morning about six o'clock she died the cause of her death was fever. I saw her every day during her illness as far as I know she received every possible attention from the nurses and I believe my orders respecting her were strictly obeyed. If she had been in any way neglected I should have heard of it. I never heard her complain of her illness being caused by any illtreatments. She appeared uneasy in her mind, as I understood in consequence of a brother¹¹ being transported.⁹

Buried at St David's Anglican Cemetery, Hobart; aged 19.¹²

19 October 1847

Free by servitude.¹³

¹¹ Mary's brother may be the Robert Richardson who was tried at Durham Quarter Sessions on the same day as Mary for stealing a silk handkerchief and sentenced to 7 years' transportation, arriving in 1841 on the *Lord Goderich*; aged 15, single, native place Newcastle Upon Tyne; father William, sister Ann (TAHO, CON33/1/14 No.3292 [image 140] (Robt Richardson); TAHO, CON14/1/7 pp.96-97 No.3292 [images 98-99] (Robert Richardson)).

¹² TAHO, NS282/11/1 p.53 (Mary Richardson)

¹³ TAHO, CON40/1/8 p.261 No.226 [image 208] (Mary Richardson)

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