

# Margaret Shaw

POLICE NUMBER 441 <sup>1</sup>	LITERACY read and write well
TRIAL DATE 14 September 1840	AGE ON EMBARKATION 46
TRIAL PLACE Central Criminal Court (Old Bailey), London	AGE ON ARRIVAL 47
OFFENCE larceny, pledging clothes	HEIGHT 5' 5"
SENTENCE 7 years	COMPLEXION florid
GAOL REPORT before convicted, poor, widow, 8 children	HEAD oval
PREVIOUS CONVICTIONS I was never convicted before	HAIR brown to grey
SURGEON'S REPORT in Hospital as nurse and very good	VISAGE full
ON THE TOWN no	FOREHEAD broad
MARITAL STATUS widow	EYEBROWS large
CHILDREN 8 or 9, 0 on board	EYES dark brown
FAMILY	NOSE medium
NATIVE PLACE East Indies	MOUTH wide
TRADE ON EMBARKATION	CHIN round
TRADE ON ARRIVAL plain cook, laundress, hospital nurse – mid wife (plain cases) reported competent by the Surgeon	MARKS stout made, large hands

c1792 **Born** in the East Indies.<sup>2</sup>

14 September 1840 Tried at the Central Criminal Court, London, England indicted for larceny in stealing on 10 September 1840 1 coat value 10 shillings, the property of Maurice Connolly; plea guilty; sentence 7 years transportation.<sup>3</sup>

5 April 1841 Departed Woolwich, England on the *Rajah*.<sup>4</sup>

19 July 1841 Arrived at Hobart on the *Rajah*.<sup>4</sup>

c24 July 1841 Upon arrival at Hobart, sent to the hospital, Cascades Female Factory, Hobart as a nurse.<sup>5</sup>

31 December 1841 Mustered at Cascades Female Factory, Hobart.<sup>6</sup>

21 July 1843 Witness as nurse at the inquest into the death of shipmate Mary Brown (*qv*) at the hospital, Cascades Female Factory, Hobart.<sup>7</sup>

11 October 1843 Ticket of Leave granted; gazetted 13 October.<sup>8</sup>

12 August 1844 Recommended by the Comptroller General to fulfil the vacancy of Infant Nurse in the Female School, Queen's Orphan Schools, New Town, on a salary of £18 per annum plus a personal ration; upon recommendations from John Hutchinson, Superintendent, Cascades Female Factory, Hobart and Dr William Dermer, Assistant Colonial Surgeon.<sup>9</sup>

Letter from Charles O'Hara Booth, Superintendent of the Queen's Orphan Schools to the Comptroller General William Nairn Esquire dated 25 July 1844:

*Sir, I have the honor to submit, for the information of His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor, the Resignation of the person named in the margin (Anne Thompson). She has been employed as one of the Infant Nurses in the Female School.*

*I consider it a duty, to bring under the notice of the Comptroller General, that this individual (as well as others) on obtaining appointment was granted the privilege of bringing*

<sup>1</sup> TAHO, CON40/1/10 p.49 No.441 [image 52] (Margaret Shaw); TAHO, CON19/1/1 p.253 [image 129] (Margaret Shaw); ML, CY 1282 p.153 (Margaret Shaw); ML, CY 1197 p.151 (Margaret Shaw); ML, CY 958 p.440 (Margaret Shaw)

<sup>2</sup> TAHO, CON19/1/1 p.253 [image 129] (Margaret Shaw)

<sup>3</sup> *Old Bailey Proceedings Online*, t18400914-2357 (Margaret Shaw)

<sup>4</sup> AJCP, ADM 101/63 *Rajah*

<sup>5</sup> ML, CY 1282 p.143 (Margaret Shaw); ML, CY 1274 p.262 (Margaret Shaw)

<sup>6</sup> AJCP, HO 10/51 p.396 No.441 (Margaret Shaw)

<sup>7</sup> TAHO, SC195/1/11 No.916 (Margaret Shaw)

<sup>8</sup> *Hobart Town Gazette*, 13 October 1843 p.1122 (Margaret Shaw)

<sup>9</sup> TAHO, CSO22/1/112 Folio 2385 No.1829/1, 25 July 1844 (Anne Thompson & Margaret Shaw)

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

a young family with her (one of whom is now borne on the strength of the Establishment) I shall therefore, feel obliged by being instructed, whether or not, in such cases, that the children are to be withdrawn from the Institution on the retirement of the Parent.

PS At the same time I have the honor to request that a successor may be nominated to take Mrs Thompson's situation, on or before the 31<sup>st</sup> Proximo.<sup>9</sup>

Memo from the Comptroller General William Nairn Esquire dated 29 July 1844:

Captain Booth is requested to name some person for this situation.<sup>9</sup>

Memo from Captain O'Hara Booth dated 30 July 1844:

Captain Booth would beg to submit the name of Margaret Shaw for this vacancy, she appears to understand the duties and bears good testimonials (herewith sent).<sup>10</sup>

Memo from the Comptroller General William Nairn Esq. dated 3 August 1844:

Margaret Shaw recommended to fill this vacancy. Approved 5 August.<sup>10</sup>

Testimony from John Hutchinson, Superintendent, Cascades Female Factory, Hobart dated 30 July 1844:

Margaret Shaw the bearer of this Certificate was three years Nurse and Midwife in this Establishment and during that time was exceedingly well conducted, she discharged her duties very much to our Satisfaction and is in my opinion a most suitable person for the care of Children, especially in time of Sickness.<sup>10</sup>

Testimony from Dr William Dermer dated 29 July 1844:

The woman named in the margin was nurse in the Hospital, Female House of Correction, for a period of three years, and gave me every satisfaction in the discharge of her duties, and I should consider her well fitted, to look after children, or act as a Nurse in a Public Establishment.<sup>10</sup>

Memo from JEB dated 12 August 1844:

On the recommendation of the Comptroller General, the L.G. approves of the appointment of Margaret Shaw as an Infant Nurse at the Queen's Orphan Schools in succession to Ann Thompson resigned and at the same rate of salary which will commence from the date to which the Comptroller General may certify.<sup>10</sup>

8 November 1844

Recommended by the Comptroller General to be transferred from her duties as nurse to be placed in charge of the laundry at the Queen's Orphan Schools, New Town, on a salary of £18 per annum plus a personal ration.<sup>11</sup>

Letter from Charles O'Hara Booth, Superintendent of the Queen's Orphan Schools to the Assistant Comptroller General dated 31 October 1844:

Sir, I have the honor to submit for the consideration of His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor, the names of the persons inserted below for the appointments and changes set opposite their respective names.

Name	Appointment	Remarks
Henriette Mathews	Nurse, Female School	Vice "Martha Smith" dismissed by the approval of His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor
Maria Jacobs	Cook, Female School	Vice "Mary Meaney" dismissed, approval of His Excellency, the Lieutenant Governor
Mary Ann Smith	Nurse, Female School	To succeed Margaret Shaw who is recommended to be removed to the charge of the Laundry.
Ann Eldridge	Laundress	This appointment recommended to be cancelled from subsequent circumstances of character having come to knowledge, and her not having taken charge.
Margaret Shaw	Nurse	To be removed to the charge of the Laundry, vice Ann Eldridge whom is recommended

<sup>10</sup> TAHO, CSO22/1/112 Folio 2385 No.1829/1 (Margaret Shaw)

<sup>11</sup> TAHO, CSO22/1/112 Folio 2385 No.2273/3, 31 October 1844 (Henriette Mathews, Maria Jacobs, Mary Ann Smith, Ann Eldridge & Margaret Shaw)

(as above) to be cancelled.

*In submitting the names of Henriette Mathews, Maria Jacobs and Mary Ann Smith, for the vacant appointments, I have every reason to hope they are a better class of persons than can generally be obtained.*

*The appointments and changes to take effect from the 1<sup>st</sup> Proximo with the same salary and allowances as their predecessors, viz. –*

*Each, £18, per annum, with a personal ration.<sup>11</sup>*

Memo from William Nairne Esquire dated 4 November 1844:

*The Comptroller General recommends these appointments for the Lieutenant Governor's approval.<sup>12</sup>*

Memo from JEB dated 8 November 1844:

*On the recommendation of the Compt. Genl. The LG approves of the following changes to appointments in the Queen's Orphan Schools.*

*Henriette Mathews to be Nurse in the Female School in the room of Martha Smith, dismissed.*

*Maria Jacobs to be Cook in the Female School v. Meaney.*

*Mary Ann Smith to be Nurse in the Female School in the room of Marg. Shaw.*

*Marg. Shaw to be placed in charge of the Laundry in the room of Eldridge whose appointment is cancelled.*

*These persons will receive the same wages & allowances as their predecessors respectively, viz, £18 each p.a. & a personal ration. To commence on the date to which the Compt. Genl. May certify.<sup>12</sup>*

14 September 1847

Free by servitude; Certificate of Freedom available for collection.<sup>13</sup>

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<sup>12</sup> TAHO, CSO22/1/112 Folio 2385 No.2273/3 (Margaret Shaw)

<sup>13</sup> *Hobart Town Gazette*, 7 September 1847 p.894 (Margaret Shaw)