

Mary Sim

(uxor Mary Taylor)

POLICE NUMBER 454 ¹	LITERACY read only
TRIAL DATE 28 September 1840	AGE ON EMBARKATION 25
TRIAL PLACE Aberdeen Court of Justiciary	AGE ON ARRIVAL 25
OFFENCE stealing from the person and former conviction	HEIGHT 5' 1"
SENTENCE 7 years	COMPLEXION fair
GAOL REPORT convicted before, very bad, a prostitute, single	HEAD oval
PREVIOUS CONVICTIONS 3 times imprisoned, 60 days, 30 days, 30 days, for stealing money	HAIR red
SURGEON'S REPORT quiet	VISAGE oval
ON THE TOWN 3 years	FOREHEAD flat
MARITAL STATUS single	EYEBROWS light brown
CHILDREN 0	EYES grey
FAMILY	NOSE medium
NATIVE PLACE Peter Head, Aberdeenshire, Scotland	MOUTH medium
TRADE ON EMBARKATION prostitute	CHIN long
TRADE ON ARRIVAL laundry maid, housemaid	MARKS long scar along inside left side

c1816 **Born** at Peter Head, Aberdeenshire, Scotland.²

28 September 1840 Tried at the Court of Justiciary, Aberdeen, Aberdeenshire, Scotland indicted for theft, habit and repute and previous conviction in stealing from the person; verdict guilty; sentence 7 years transportation; resident of Piershill, Aberdeen.³

5 April 1841 Departed Woolwich, England on the *Rajah*.⁴

19 July 1841 Arrived at Hobart on the *Rajah*.⁴

c24 July 1841 Upon arrival at Hobart, sent to Launceston for assignment.⁵

11 April 1844 Classified as a 3rd class probation pass-holder; gazetted 12 April.⁶

17 May 1844 Application for permission to marry John Taylor⁷ (*Neptune*) sent to the Muster Master; approved.⁸

30 May 1844 Notice given of approval for permission to marry John Taylor; Mary a ticket-of-leave holder, resident of Longford; John a ticket-of-leave holder.⁹

1 July 1844 **Married** John Taylor at Christ Anglican Church, Longford; Mary aged 25, assigned servant, spinster, illiterate; John aged 25, ticket-of-leave holder, bachelor; witnesses Hugh Hughes (illiterate) and S Dowsett (clerk).¹⁰

October 1845 Husband John Taylor at Norfolk Plans.¹²

1 November 1845 Ticket of Leave granted; gazetted 4 November.¹¹

18 November 1845 Husband John Taylor recommended for a Conditional Pardon.¹²

¹ TAHO, CON40/1/10 p.53 No.454 [image 56] (Mary Sim); TAHO, CON19/1/1 p.258 [image 132] (Mary Sim); ML, CY 1282 p.154 (Mary Sim); ML, CY 1197 p.157 (Mary Sim); ML, CY 958 p.443 (Mary Sim)

² TAHO, CON19/1/1 p.258 [image 132] (Mary Sim)

³ NAS, JC26/1840/114 (Mary Sim); NAS, AD14/40/90 (Mary Sim)

⁴ AJCP, ADM 101/63 *Rajah*

⁵ ML, CY 1282 p.142 (Mary Sim); ML, CY 1274 p.263 (Mary Sim)

⁶ *Hobart Town Gazette*, 12 April 1844 p.425 (Mary Sim)

⁷ John Taylor was transported for 14 years on the *Neptune* in 1838, tried at Lincoln (Holland) Quarter Sessions on 28 June 1837 for housebreaking and stealing therein; single, ploughman, aged 21, native place Lincoln; Ticket of Leave 15 March 1844, Conditional Pardon 6 October 1846 (TAHO, CON31/1/44 p.51 No.1104 [image 53] (John Taylor); TAHO, CON27/1/7 No.1104 [image 153] (John Taylor)).

⁸ TAHO, CON52/1/2 p.200 (Mary Lims & Jno Tayler)

⁹ *Hobart Town Gazette*, 7 June 1844 p.616; 14 June 1844 p.644; 21 June 1844 p.685 (John Taylor & Mary Sim)

¹⁰ TAHO, RGD37/1/3 1844/856 Launceston (Mary Sim & John Taylor)

¹¹ *Hobart Town Gazette*, 4 November 1845 p.1386 (Mary Sim)

This biography supplements our book *Patchwork Prisoners* available from www.researchtasmania.com.au.

6 October 1846	Husband John Taylor approved for a Conditional Pardon. ¹²
27 June ¹³ 1847	At Longford. ¹⁴
28 September 1847	Free by servitude; Certificate of Freedom available for collection. ¹⁵
16 April 1873	Husband John Taylor charged at the Police Office, Torquay with a breach of the Cattle Stealing Act; fined £20 and costs or 3 months' imprisonment. ¹²

Notes

- Mary may be the Mary Taylor who died on 8 August 1853 of dropsy in the Longford district; aged 34, labourer's wife; informant Mary Cook, illiterate, resident of Perth.¹⁶ No burial has been found.
- Alternatively, Mary may be the Mary Taylor who died on 2 April 1869 of haemoptysis in the Bothwell district, aged 50, servant; informant William Bedford, occupier of the house *Strathbarton*.¹⁷
- Mary's husband may be the John Taylor who died of asthma on 1 November 1873 in the Emu Bay district, aged 48, farmer; informant Arthur B Willis, coroner. Inquest held into his death on 4 November 1873 at the Police Office, Wynyard before Arthur Berthon Willis Esquire, coroner. Verdict: died by the visitation of God in a natural way from a grievous disease of the body, to wit asthma.¹⁸

¹² TAHO, CON31/1/44 p.51 No.1104 [image 53] (John Taylor)

¹³ This month may not be June, it is difficult to decipher.

¹⁴ TAHO, CON40/1/10 p.53 No.454 [image 56] (Mary Sim)

¹⁵ *Hobart Town Gazette*, 7 September 1847 p.894 (Mary Sinn)

¹⁶ TAHO, RGD35/1/22 1853/346 Longford (Mary Taylor)

¹⁷ TAHO, RGD35/1/38 1869/3 Bothwell (Mary Taylor)

¹⁸ TAHO, RGD35/1/42 1873/102 Emu Bay (John Taylor); TAHO, SC195/1/56 No.7265 (John Taylor)