

Elizabeth Slater 2nd

POLICE NUMBER 451 ¹	LITERACY neither read nor write
TRIAL DATE 16 October 1840	AGE ON EMBARKATION 35
TRIAL PLACE Middlesex (Westminster) Quarter Sessions	AGE ON ARRIVAL 34
OFFENCE larceny, pledging pieces of print	HEIGHT 5' 1"
SENTENCE 7 years	COMPLEXION fair
GAOL REPORT 1 month in the House of Correction before, poor, married	HEAD oval
PREVIOUS CONVICTIONS once 2 months for misdemeanour, 2 months for stealing a handkerchief	HAIR brown
SURGEON'S REPORT in every kind of work good	VISAGE oval
ON THE TOWN no	FOREHEAD wrinkled
MARITAL STATUS married	EYEBROWS dark brown
CHILDREN 0	EYES dark brown
FAMILY husband John in London at Lambeth, an upholster	NOSE medium
NATIVE PLACE County Cork, Ireland	MOUTH small
TRADE ON EMBARKATION	CHIN round
TRADE ON ARRIVAL laundress	MARKS long scar on left leg

c1806

Born in County Cork, Ireland.²

16 October 1840

Tried at the Quarter Sessions, Westminster, Middlesex, London, England indicted for larceny in pledging pieces of print; sentence 7 years transportation.³

Newspaper report:

QUEEN-SQUARE. – Elizabeth Slater, a smartly-dressed young woman, was yesterday placed at the bar, charged with shoplifting.

There were no fewer than four charges against the prisoner, but as the witnesses in two only of these were in attendance, the whole were not gone into. It appeared that on Saturday afternoon prisoner went into Mr. Beazley's, a linendraper, No.5, Great Chapel-street, Westminster, and asked for fourteen yards of the best flannel. The shopman immediately proceeded to get it, and had cut off the quantity and was in the act of folding it up, when he discovered the prisoner had gone, and that a piece of printed cotton (28 yards) was missing. He ran out, but could not even catch a glimpse of prisoner, who had evidently made the best use of her heels. Information was given to the police, and in three or four hours afterwards Mr. Beazley was informed that prisoner was in custody on another charge, and that the duplicate of his cotton, which was worth 1l., had been found on her.

John Street, shopman to Mr. Ravenor, pawnbroker, of Tothill-street, stated that between nine and ten on Saturday night prisoner came into his master's shop and asked the price of a cotton gown which hung up. She was informed that it was 7s. 6d., and, on its being taken down, admired it very much, but said she had not money enough, and must, therefore, leave some cotton which she had no immediate use for. She then pulled from under her shawl a parcel and asked 4s. On it, stating that there were fourteen yards in the length. The money she had named was lent upon the cotton, and given with the duplicate to the prisoner, when she remembered that she should like to see some articles of dress. The shopman hastened to comply with her request, and while he was occupied in getting them down he observed her pull the gown which had lain upon the counter on to the floor, and then, by raising it with her foot, place it in a small compass under her shawl and then run off. He pursued and gave her into custody.

¹ TAHO, CON40/1/10 p.52 No.451 [image 55] (Elizabeth Slater); TAHO, CON19/1/1 p.256 [image 131] (Elizabeth Slater (2)); ML, CY 1282 p.154 (Elizabeth Slater (2)); ML, CY 1197 p.152 (Elizabeth Slater); ML, CY 958 p.443 (Elizabeth Slater)

² TAHO, CON19/1/1 p.256 [image 131] (Elizabeth Slater (2))

³ TAHO, CON40/1/10 p.52 No.451 [image 55] (Elizabeth Slater)

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

William Wadlowe, 87 B, said he was on duty in Tothill-street on Saturday night, and hearing a cry of "Stop thief!" he secured prisoner, whom he saw running, and took the gown from under her shawl. He also found the duplicate of the cotton on her person.

Mr. Beazley observed that the cotton, instead of being fourteen, was twenty-six yards in length, and he thought some inquiry ought to have been made at the pawnbroker's before it had been taken in from a perfect stranger for such a sum as four shillings.

Mr. Ravenor's man identified the prisoner and the gown which she had stolen.

The policeman said there were two other charges against prisoner, the one for stealing a table-cloth and the other a piece of cotton.

Prisoner denied having stolen anything. She was fully committed for trial on both these charges, and ordered to be brought up again on Wednesday next, to be examined on the others.⁴

5 April 1841	Departed Woolwich, England on the <i>Rajah</i> . ⁵
19 July 1841	Arrived at Hobart on the <i>Rajah</i> . ⁵
c24 July 1841	Upon arrival at Hobart, sent to Launceston for assignment; assigned to Thomas Archer Esquire, <i>Woolmers</i> , near Longford. ⁶
31 December 1841	Mustered in the service of Thomas Archer Esquire, <i>Woolmers</i> . ⁷
24 August 1843	Died in the Launceston district. ⁸
cAugust 1843	Buried in the Catholic Cemetery at Launceston. ⁹

⁴ *Morning Post*, 6 October 1840 Issue 21746 Article 6 (Elizabeth Slater)

⁵ AJCP, ADM 101/63 *Rajah*

⁶ ML, CY 1282 p.142 (Elizabeth Slater); ML, CY 1274 p.263 (Elizabeth Slater 2)

⁷ AJCP, HO 10/51 p.396 No.451 (Elizabeth Slater)

⁸ AJCP, HO 10/51 p.396 No.448 (Elizabeth Slater). This death was erroneously attributed to Elizabeth Slater 1st.

⁹ TAHO, CON66/1/1, within the register for CON65/1/1 (Elizabeth Slater, *Rajah*)