

*Madge Towie*<sup>1</sup>  
(*uxor Madge Smith*)

<i>Place Tried</i> Antrim	<i>Date Tried</i> 8 January 1849
<i>Offence</i> stealing money	<i>Sentence</i> 10 years
<i>Prosecutor</i> unknown, Belfast	<i>Previous Convictions</i> 2—stealing money (discharged)
<i>Gaol Report</i> good	<i>Surgeon's Report</i> good
<i>Station of Gang</i> Anson	<i>Class</i> 3 <sup>rd</sup> from 24 January 1850
<i>Other Information</i> 12 months on the town	
<i>Religion</i> Roman Catholic	<i>Literacy</i> neither read nor write, read
<i>Marital Status</i> single	<i>Trade</i> housemaid, country servant
<i>Age</i> 19 <sup>a</sup>	<i>Native Place</i> Belfast
<i>Height</i> 4' 10", 4' 9"	<i>Complexion</i> ruddy, deeply pock-pitted; fair
<i>Head</i> round	<i>Hair</i> auburn, red
<i>Visage</i> round	<i>Forehead</i> high
<i>Eyebrows</i> auburn	<i>Eyes</i> black
<i>Nose</i> straight	<i>Mouth</i> wide
<i>Chin</i> round	<i>Marks</i> B J Q A on left arm, arms freckled
<i>Family</i> father Patrick; mother Bridget; <sup>b</sup> brother Thomas (transported on the <i>Isabella Watson</i> ); sisters Catherine, Mary, Nancy & Betty <sup>c</sup>	
6 January 1842	Brother Thomas Towie tried at Antrim, Ireland charged with stealing a shawl from Henry Gilmore; sentence 7y transportation. <sup>2</sup>
3 August 1842	Brother Thomas Towie, 17y, arrived in VDL, prisoner on the <i>Isabella Watson</i> . <sup>2</sup>
8 January 1849	Brother Thomas Towie received Certificate of Freedom. <sup>2</sup>
20 April 1849	Received at Grangegorman Depot, Dublin at 9am. <sup>3</sup>
12 July 1849	Put on <i>Australasia</i> sick list for syphilis (off 27 August, cured). <sup>4</sup>
c1852	To Mr Heron, Liverpool St, Hobart. <sup>5</sup>
26 May 1852	Tried at Hobart PC charged with being drunk when given into custody yesterday by her mistress Mrs Heron, Liverpool St, Hobart; sentence 1m HL, Cascades FF, being her first offence. <sup>6</sup>
1 June 1852	Charged at Cascades FF with having a dirty apartment; sentence not known. <sup>7</sup>
12 July 1852	Contracted as PPH to Emanuel Kearney, Church St, <sup>d</sup> Hobart, 12m at £7 pa. <sup>8</sup>
18 October 1852	To Cascades FF, then to Mrs Pettingall, Hampden Rd, Hobart. <sup>5</sup>
3 January 1853	Tried at Hobart PC with Ann Horley ( <i>Earl Grey</i> ) & Mary McLeary ( <i>Emma Eugenia</i> ) charged by their mistress Mrs Pettingall, Hampden Rd, Hobart with misconduct in having a man in their bedroom at 12 o'clock last night without authority & for some improper purpose; sentence 6m HL, Cascades FF and not allowed to enter service in Hobart. <sup>5,6</sup>
13 January 1853	Charged at Cascades FF with having a dirty apartment; admonished. <sup>9</sup>
21 August 1853	Illegitimate <b>child</b> born at Cascades FF. <sup>5</sup>
7 July 1854	To Queen's Orphanage, New Town. <sup>5</sup>
14 October 1854	To Cascades FF, Hobart. <sup>5</sup>
16 October 1854	To John Mills, Macquarie St, Hobart. <sup>5</sup>
15 December 1854	Charged with being drunk; sentence 4m HL, Cascades FF. <sup>5</sup>

<sup>a</sup> Age given as on 20y *Australasia* sick list.

<sup>b</sup> Not listed on Madge's indent, but listed on brother Thomas' indent in 1842, so may have been dead by 1849.

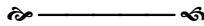
<sup>c</sup> Name given as Bridget on brother Thomas' indent, so could have meant to have been Bidy on Madge's indent.

<sup>d</sup> Address given as Bathurst St on conduct record.

16 March 1855	To Mrs Benjamin, Murray St, Hobart. <sup>5</sup>
10 April 1855	Charged at Hobart by her mistress Mrs Benjamin with absconding; sentence 6m HL, Cascades FF. <sup>5</sup>
28 August 1855	To William Townley, Patrick St, Hobart. <sup>5</sup>
4 January 1856	To Cascades FF, Hobart. <sup>5</sup>
7 January 1856	To John Feneran, Forest Rd, Hobart. <sup>5</sup>
25 March 1856	Ticket-of-Leave granted. <sup>5</sup>
30 August 1856	Tried at Hobart PC charged with misconduct in being out after hours at 10:50pm last night; sentence 7d HL, Cascades Gaol. <sup>10</sup>
2 February 1857	Tried at Hobart PC charged with being an absconder; discharged, not being an absconder. <sup>11</sup> Charged also with misconduct in being out after hours past 2am on 1 February; sentence 3d or 4d SC, Cascades Gaol. <sup>11</sup>
3 April 1857	Tried at Hobart PC charged with being drunk in a public street in Hobart on 2 April; sentence 5d SC & fined £1. <sup>11</sup>
30 April 1857	Charged with being drunk, fined 20s. <sup>5</sup> To Cascades Gaol. <sup>5</sup>
5 May 1857	Tried at Hobart PC charged with being drunk in a public street in Hobart on 4 May, fined 20s (£1) as a free <sup>e</sup> person. <sup>10</sup> To Cascades Gaol. <sup>5</sup>
19 June 1857	Tried at Hobart PC charged with being drunk in a public street in Hobart on 18 June; sentence 14d HL, Cascades Gaol. <sup>11</sup>
1858	Occupier of a house near 45 Barrack St, Hobart. <sup>12</sup>
10 March 1858	To Cascades Gaol. <sup>5</sup>
23 April 1858	Tried at Hobart PC charged with misconduct in being out after hours at 11 o'clock last night & disturbing the peace on a public road at New Town; pleaded guilty; fined 5s for disturbance only. <sup>11</sup>
6 May 1858	To Cascades Gaol. <sup>5</sup>
14 May 1858	Charged with larceny under £5; sentence 6m HL. <sup>5</sup>
24 June 1858	Ticket-of-Leave revoked for misconduct, to be detained on probation on expiration of sentence & conduct to be reported in 6 months. <sup>5,13</sup>
17 October 1858	Illegitimate <b>son</b> John Towie born at Brickfields Nursery, Hobart; baptised 31 October 1858 at Brickfields Nursery in parish of St Joseph's RC Church, Hobart; sponsor Bridget Rourke. <sup>14</sup>
8 January 1859	Free by servitude. <sup>15</sup>
19 January 1859	Certificate of Freedom at Hobart for collection. <sup>5</sup>
15 April 1862	Son John Towie, 3y 1m, admitted to Infants School, Queen's Orphanage, New Town. <sup>16</sup>
29 June 1863	Tried at Bothwell PC for resisting a constable; sentence 14d HL, Cascades Gaol (discharged w/e 11 July). <sup>17</sup>
18 January 1864	<b>Married</b> as 30y, servant, to Robert Smith ( <i>Oriental Queen</i> ), 33y, labourer at York St Baptist Chapel, Launceston; witnesses Henry Dowling & Miriam Russell. <sup>18</sup>
27 February 1864	<b>Daughter</b> Mary Smith, born at Sand Hill, Launceston; baptised 9 April 1864 at Pontville, sponsor Mrs Plummer. <sup>19</sup>
9 April 1864	Tried at Richmond PC with husband Robert Smith charged with being drunk & disturbing the public peace at Jerusalem on 6 April; discharged owing to their being confined in the watch house from 6 to 9 April. <sup>20</sup>
7 February 1865	Charged at 10pm at Launceston PC with being drunk & disorderly; fined 10s. <sup>21</sup>

<sup>e</sup> Madge was a Ticket-of-Leave holder at this time.

- Husband Robert Smith charged at 9pm at Launceston PC, with disturbing the peace; fined 10s. Charged also with assaulting Constable Daniel O'Keefe in the execution of his duty; fined 40s.<sup>22</sup>
- 17 February 1865 Tried at Launceston PC, brought up from 16 February, charged with being drunk & disorderly & indecent exposure of her person; fined 20s for drunkenness & 40s for indecency, in default 1m HL.<sup>23</sup>
- 22 July 1865 Admitted to New Norfolk Insane Asylum on justices' order for amentia, FS, c40y, pauper, married, from Hobart,<sup>f</sup> supposed cause intemperance, bodily condition good, existing attack 3 months.<sup>15,24</sup>
- 4 April 1866 Warrant issued for arrest of husband Robert Smith charged with deserting his child at Hobart & leaving it without means of support; supposed to have gone to New Norfolk district.<sup>g</sup><sup>25</sup>
- 24 May 1870 Visit from children at New Norfolk Insane Asylum.<sup>26</sup>
- 21 April 1871 Application for son John Towie, 12y, to be admitted to Queen's Orphanage, New Town; father supposed dead, mother at New Norfolk Insane Asylum (admitted 7 August, absconded 7 August).<sup>27</sup>
- 24 July 1871 Application for daughter Mary Smith, 8y, to be admitted to Queen's Orphanage, New Town; father supposed dead, mother at New Norfolk Insane Asylum (admitted 7 August).<sup>27</sup>
- 25 October 1871 Son John Towie discharged<sup>h</sup> from Queen's Orphanage, New Town to aunt Grace Towie.<sup>i</sup><sup>27</sup>
- 1 May 1872 Application approved for daughter Mary Smith to be discharged from Queen's Orphanage, New Town to her aunt Grace Towie, Hobart (discharged 3 May).<sup>27</sup>
- 1 April 1879 Husband Robert Smith tried at Hobart PC charged with stealing 2 pair of blankets, a skirt & a rug, value 22/6, from widow Grace Towers<sup>j</sup> of Bathurst St, Hobart; sentence 3m HL.<sup>28,29</sup>
- c1888 Daughter Mary Smith married John Higgins at Hobart.<sup>30</sup>
- 1 July 1900 **Died** at 10:30pm of malignant disease of the brain at New Norfolk Insane Asylum, 75y, pauper.<sup>24,31</sup>



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<sup>f</sup> Residence given as Longford district in register of cases admitted to New Norfolk Insane Asylum.

<sup>g</sup> It is possible Robert had gone to visit Madge at the asylum.

<sup>h</sup> John must have been apprehended, after he absconded the day he was admitted to the Queen's Orphanage.

<sup>i</sup> Grace was married to Madge's brother Thomas Towie, but no record of their marriage has been found.

<sup>j</sup> This was most probably Grace Towie, sister-in-law to Robert's wife Madge Towie and guardian of their children.

## References

- <sup>1</sup> AOT, CON 41/24 *Australasia* No.361 (Madge Towie); AOT, CON 19/8 *Australasia* (Madge Town); AOT, CON 15/6 *Australasia* No.187 (Madge Towie); NAI, Prisons 1/9/4 No.1855 (Madge Towie)
- <sup>2</sup> AOT, CON 14/15 *Isabella Watson* No.6402 (Thomas Towie); AOT, CON 33/26 *Isabella Watson* No.6402 (Thomas Towie)
- <sup>3</sup> NAI, Prisons 1/9/4 No.1855 (Madge Towie)
- <sup>4</sup> AJCP, ADM 101/6 *Australasia* Sick List (Madge Towie)
- <sup>5</sup> AOT, CON 41/24 *Australasia* No.361 (Madge Towie)
- <sup>6</sup> AOT, LC 251/2 (Madge/Margaret Torvie/Currie)
- <sup>7</sup> AOT, CON 138/1 (Margaret Towie)
- <sup>8</sup> AOT, CON 30/1 p.247 (Margaret Towie)
- <sup>9</sup> AL&MFA, Beattie Papers, Record Book Women's Punishments 1852-1854, p.181 (Margaret Towie)
- <sup>10</sup> AOT, LC 247/26 (Madge Towie)
- <sup>11</sup> AOT, LC 247/27 (Madge/Margaret Towie/Towey)
- <sup>12</sup> *Hobart Town Gazette*, 16 March 1878 p.272 (Madge Towey)
- <sup>13</sup> *Hobart Town Gazette*, 13 July 1858 p.999 (Madge Towie)
- <sup>14</sup> AOT, RGD 33/7 1859/2093 Hobart (John Towie); AOT, NS 1052/9 p.65 (John Towie)
- <sup>15</sup> AOT, SWD 36/1 p.8 (Madge Towie or Smith)
- <sup>16</sup> AOT, SWD 6/1 (John Towie)
- <sup>17</sup> AOT, POL 709/1 p.111 (Madge Towie)
- <sup>18</sup> AOT, RGD 37/23 1864/422 Launceston (Robert Smith & Madge Turvey)
- <sup>19</sup> AOT, NS 519/1 p.5 (Mary Smith); CCMA, OAT3 p.117 (Mary Smith); CCMA, OAT4 p.9 (Mary Smith); CCMA, BRI1 p.5 (Mary Smith)
- <sup>20</sup> AOT, LC 445/3 (Margarett Smith & Robert Smith)
- <sup>21</sup> AOT, POL 450/1 p.233 No.4 (Margaret Smith)
- <sup>22</sup> AOT, POL 450/1 p.233 Nos.2 & 3 (Robert Smith)
- <sup>23</sup> AOT, POL 450/1 p.235 Nos.6 & 7 (Margaret Smith); *Launceston Examiner*, 18 February 1865 p.3 col.4 (Margaret Smith)
- <sup>24</sup> AOT, HSD 247/1 No.469 (Madge Towie *uxor* Smith)
- <sup>25</sup> AOT, POL 709/1 p.54 (Robert Smith)
- <sup>26</sup> AOT, HSD 52/2 No.221 (Madge Towie *uxor* Smith)
- <sup>27</sup> AOT, SWD 26/12 (Mary Towie); AOT, SWD 53/1 (Mary Towie)
- <sup>28</sup> AOT, CON 33/114 *Oriental Queen* No.27808 (Robert Smith)
- <sup>29</sup> *The Mercury*, 2 April 1879 p.2 col.5 (Robert Smith)
- <sup>30</sup> AOT, AB 365/7 Nos.118 & 264 (Mrs John Higgins)
- <sup>31</sup> TAS Death Record 1900/0526 (Madge Towie); AOT, AB 365/7 No.294 (Madge Towie or Smith)