

# Martha Williams

(*nee Martha Fuller*)

POLICE NUMBER 416<sup>1</sup>  
TRIAL DATE 4 January 1841  
TRIAL PLACE Central Criminal Court (Old Bailey), London  
OFFENCE stealing 2 boots from a shop and former conviction  
SENTENCE 14 years  
GAOL REPORT twice convicted before, poor, widow, 1 child  
PREVIOUS CONVICTIONS twice convicted before  
SURGEON'S REPORT orderly  
ON THE TOWN 2 or 3 years  
MARITAL STATUS widow  
CHILDREN 1 or 3, 0 on board  
FAMILY sister Ann Fuller<sup>4</sup>  
NATIVE PLACE County Cork, Ireland  
TRADE ON EMBARKATION  
TRADE ON ARRIVAL house servant

LITERACY read only  
AGE ON EMBARKATION 28<sup>2</sup>  
AGE ON ARRIVAL 32  
HEIGHT 5' 3"  
COMPLEXION fair  
HEAD round  
HAIR brown  
VISAGE oval  
FOREHEAD round  
EYEBROWS brown  
EYES light blue  
NOSE medium  
MOUTH medium  
CHIN round  
MARKS red mark corner of left side of mouth

c1811

**Born** in County Cork, Ireland.<sup>3</sup>

4 January 1841

Tried at the Central Criminal Court (Old Bailey), London, England indicted for larceny and former conviction in stealing on 14 December 1840 2 printed books value 15 shillings from the shop of stationer John Watson, 869 Oxford Street, London; found guilty; sentence 14 years transportation; aged 38.<sup>4</sup>

Statement of witness John Watson:

*I am a stationer, and live at No. 869, Oxford-street. On the 14th of December the prisoner came to my shop, and wished me to purchase several trifling song books of her – I refused to have any thing to do with them – there were several cases of books on my counter – I observed her make a roll against the counter, and give her hand a swing – I went round, felt down her side, but felt nothing – I let her go, and thought nothing further of it till a policeman and a woman came in with this case, containing this prayer-book and church lessons, which had been safe on my counter, and had never been sold.<sup>4</sup>*

Statement of witness Ann Fuller:

*I am single – the prisoner is my sister – her friends have tried all in their power to reclaim her, but all in vain. On the 14th of December she sent for me to take these books – I asked where she got them – she said she had taken them from Mr. Watson's shop – this is the third time of her being tried here and at the Westminster Sessions.<sup>4</sup>*

Statement of witness William Chadwick, Police Sergeant T 2:

*I went with Fuller to the prosecutor's, and showed him the books, which he said were his – I took the prisoner.<sup>4</sup>*

Statement of defendant Martha Williams:

*Prisoner. I am sorry it happened.<sup>4</sup>*

Statement of witness Thomas Pegler, Police Constable T 148:

*I produce a certificate of the prisoner's conviction from Mr. Clark's office – (read) – I was present at the trial – she is the person.<sup>4</sup>*

<sup>1</sup> TAHO, CON40/1/10 p.219 No.416 [image 196] (Martha Williams); TAHO, CON19/1/1 p.266 [image 136] (Martha Williams); ML, CY 1282 p.155 (Martha Williams); ML, CY 1197 p.152 (Martha Williams); ML, CY 958 p.441 (Martha Williams)

<sup>2</sup> Age given as 38 at her trial in London.

<sup>3</sup> TAHO, CON19/1/1 p.266 [image 136] (Martha Williams)

<sup>4</sup> *Old Bailey Proceedings Online*, t18410104-435 (Martha Williams)

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*Martha Williams*

5 April 1841	Departed Woolwich, England on the <i>Rajah</i> . <sup>5</sup>
19 July 1841	Arrived at Hobart on the <i>Rajah</i> . <sup>5</sup>
c24 July 1841	Upon arrival at Hobart, sent to Cascades Female Factory; not fit for assignment being pregnant. <sup>6</sup>
31 December 1841	Mustered at the nursery <sup>7</sup> at Hobart. <sup>8</sup>
3 June 1844	Classified as a 3 <sup>rd</sup> class probation pass-holder; gazetted 14 June. <sup>9</sup>
August 1844	<b>Died</b> at the Colonial Hospital, Hobart; aged 30. <sup>10</sup>
11 August 1844	Buried at Holy Trinity Cemetery, Hobart. <sup>11</sup>
1 November 1845	Ticket of Leave granted; gazetted 4 November. <sup>12</sup>
5 April 1853	Ticket of Leave revoked for having failed to report herself to the district Police Office in December 1852.

**Notes**

- Martha may be the Martha Fuller (maiden name) who was tried at the Central Criminal Court (Old Bailey), London, England on 11 May 1840 indicted for larceny in stealing on 10 May 1 pillow value 1 shilling from John Mott, a brothel-keeper; sentence 3 months imprisonment; aged 28.<sup>13</sup>
- Martha may be the mother of the child John Williams who was buried on 13 May 1842 at St David's Anglican Cemetery, Hobart; aged 10 months, resident of the nursery at Cascades Female Factory, convict's child.<sup>14</sup>

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<sup>5</sup> AJCP, ADM 101/63 *Rajah*

<sup>6</sup> ML, CY 1282 p.143 (Martha Williams); ML, CY 1274 p.264 (Martha Williams)

<sup>7</sup> This was probably the nursery when it was at located Liverpool Street, Hobart.

<sup>8</sup> AJCP, HO 10/51 p.404 No.416 (Martha Williams)

<sup>9</sup> *Hobart Town Gazette*, 14 June 1844 p.644 (Martha Williams)

<sup>10</sup> TAHO, NS349/1/29 p.98 No.1428 (Martha Williams)

<sup>11</sup> TAHO, NS349/1/29 p.98 No.1428 (Martha Williams); TAHO, RGD34/1/2 1844/1287 Hobart (Martha Williams)

<sup>12</sup> *Hobart Town Gazette*, 4 November 1845 p.1387 (Martha Williams 416)

<sup>13</sup> *Old Bailey Proceedings Online*, t18400511-1483 (Martha Fuller)

<sup>14</sup> TAHO, RGD34/1/2 1842/913 Hobart (John Williams)

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