

THOMAS CONBOY

One of 250 Convicts Transported on “Ratcliffe” 1848
Sentenced to 7 years at Cornwall Assizes
Transported to Van Diemen’s Land

NAME: THOMAS CONBOY

AGE: 23

NATIVE PLACE: Lambeth-London

TRIED: 1 August 1846, Cornwall Assizes – tried with John Hogan and John Oram

SENTENCE: 7 Years

CRIME: Stealing clothing

GAOL REPORT: First conviction

SHIP: Ratcliffe (second voyage) – departed Spithead 29 July 1848, arrived Hobart 12 November 1848, a voyage of 106 days, carrying 250 male convicts (248 landed). Master Phillipson, Surgeon John Gibson

SURGEON’S REPORT:

SURGEON’S REPORT ONBOARD -

- (Folio 2) – Thomas Conboy, aged 22, convict; (sick or hurt) ophthalmia; put on sick list 15 September 1848, sent 14 November 1848 to Hospital
- (Folio 10) – Thomas Conboy, aged 22, convict; taken ill at sea; (sick or hurt) ophthalmia; the right eye is highly inflamed, swollen and painful, eyelids turgid, conjunctiva enlarged – followed by a burning sensation with copious watery secretion of eyes; put on sick list 15 September 1848, sent 14 November 1848 to Colonial Hospital (note: in Hobart)

SURGEON’S GENERAL COMMENTS: Folios 14-15: Surgeon's general remarks. The numerous cases of diarrhoea on board was attributed by the surgeon to the change of diet. The guard, convicts and seamen all suffered more or less from the disease at Spithead and in the Channel. On approaching the Cape and the Colony the disease appeared again from the sudden vicissitude of climate. The surgeon suggested that warmer clothing should be allowed. Included in the general remarks is a table of the average height of the thermometer and barometer and remarks about the weather during the period of the voyage, and also regulations for the guidance of the convicts on board set up by the surge

RELIGION: Roman Catholic

LITERACY: Can read and write

FAMILY –

Marital status: Single

Brother: Andrew – in the East Indies

SOLDIER –

Deserted his regiment. The Conduct Record for John Hogan (tried with Conboy) shows - transported for stealing boots, stockings etc, 2 indictments, stated this offence “desertion and stealing boots etc from my comrades, absent 30 days, tried with Conboy and Oram, 3 years 8 months in 55th Regiment – so its possible that Thomas Conboy was in the same Regiment. (There is a record for a Thomas Conboy in the 88th Foot, but this man was born Ireland and arrived in Tasmania as a Military Pensioner in the 1850’s with his wife Jesse Stewart)

DESCRIPTION –

Trade: Soldier – deserted his regiment. There was a Thomas Conboy in the 88th Foot. Unable to make out his trade on his Indent

Height: 5' 10 ¾"

Age: 23

Complexion: Pale

Head: Round

Hair: Black

Whiskers: Black

Visage: Long

Forehead: Low

Eyebrows: Dark

Eyes: Dark

Nose: Medium

Mouth: Medium

Chin: Medium

Native Place: Lambeth, London

Remarks: Scar on right shin

TASMANIAN CONDUCT RECORD -

Crime:

Stealing boots and stockings (stated this conviction was for "housebreaking; stealing money and a watch")

Probation:

None shown

Assignment:

14 Nov 1848 – Hospital

20 Jan 1849 – Ticket of Leave

30 Oct 1849 – Not eligible for a Conditional Pardon

10 May 1851 – District of Launceston

21 May 1851 – C.H. Hill

7 July 1851 – Hospital, Launceston

18 July 1851 – District of Launceston

19 July 1851 – C. Hat Hill

28 July 1850 – Recommended for a Conditional Pardon

Offences and Sentences:

22 Apr 1851 – Constable-Launceston – Drunk; Fined 5/-

10 May 1851 – Constable-Launceston – Misconduct in taking a prisoner who was in his custody into a public house and getting drunk with him; also behaving in a riotous manner in the watch house – three months imprisonment and hard labor – recorded that he believed the Police ___ apprehended

24 June 1851 – H. Hill – misconduct; admonished

Ticket of Leave:

20 Jan 1849

Conditional Pardon:

9 September 1850

Possible Trial:

There was a trial for a Thomas Conboy following the murder of Ellen Caine at Deloraine in 1870, but not known if this is the same man. There is also mention of the name in Victorian newspapers.

SOUTHLAND TIMES (New Zealand), 20 January 1870 -

Launceston, Jan 15 – The trial of Thomas Conboy for the murder of Ellen Caine, near Deloraine, has lasted since Thursday. The jury were locked up two nights, and being unable to agree were discharged this morning. The prisoner remains in custody, and will be tried again at the next assizes.

DEPARTURES INDEX:

Not found

NEWSPAPER REPORTS –

CORNWALL ROYAL GAZETTE, 31 JULY 1846 - To be tried at Cornwall Summer Assizes, Thomas Conboy along with John Hogan and John Oram (facing additional charges) with stealing various articles of clothing &c from William Harvey of South-Petherwin, and James Coumbe of Northhill

WEST BRITON, 7 AUGUST 1846 – SUMMER ASSIZES – CROWN COURT, Tuesday, August 4, before Mr Justice Erle -

JOHN HOGAN, 20, JOHN ORAM, 20, and THOMAS CONBOY, 21, were indicted for stealing, on the 16th of July, a pair of boots, a brass pound weight, two pieces of silk, and some lamb, the property of WILLIAM HARVEY, of South Petherwin.

MARY BATT, the servant of the prosecutor, said she recollected the three prisoners coming into her master's house; they went into the front room, called the club-room. They had something to drink, and after they were gone she missed the articles named in the indictment, the whole of which she had previously seen in the room.

WILLIAM DINGLE said he had apprehended the prisoners; he took Oram first, and found upon him the boots and piece of silk. The other two prisoners, Hogan and Conboy, were caught in a wood; he found the neck of lamb in Hogan's possession. The jury found Hogan and Oram Guilty, but Acquitted Conboy.

The same three prisoners were then charged on a second indictment, with having stolen, on the 16th of July, in the parish of Northhill, seven stockings, a cloth cap, and a shawl, the property of JAMES COOMBE. The prosecutor stated that he was a cooper, living with his mother, who keeps the Ring of Bells public house. He recollected the prisoners coming into his mother's house and calling for some cider and one of them had some spirit and water. Witness left the house before the prisoners went away.

JANE COUMBE said she lived at the Ring of Bells, and recollected the prisoners coming there on the 16th of July, and calling for some refreshment. After they were gone she missed some stockings, a cap, a shawl, which she had previously seen in the room where they had been drinking. She ran after them, and charged them with having her son's cap; they said they had not, one of them had put it in the cupboard. Constable DINGLE then came up, and the prisoner Conboy returned with him to the house, but the cap was not there. The constable afterwards brought them all back, and the cap and other things were recovered.

JOHN COODE, living at Northhill, said he saw the three men in the village on the 16th of July, and had some conversation with them. Not liking their appearance he followed them at some distance, and observed them when they thought they were out of sight begin to run. Witness saw constable Dingle afterwards, who required his assistance, and witness mounted a horse and rode after them. When he overtook Hogan and Oram he called to them to stop, but Oram lifted his stick and said no one should stop him. Some other men, however, being near on the road, witness succeeded in taking him. GORGE DAW, a shoemaker, gave a very interesting account of the chace and capture of one of the prisoners, and deposed, as did also the preceding witness, to the finding of some stockings, a jacket, &c.

CONSTABLE DINGLE said he was sent for by Mr. Coumbe, and took Conboy; Oram and Hogan secreted themselves in a wood, but were afterwards found and brought back to the Ring of Bells. The jury found all three prisoners Guilty, upon this indictment. There were two other indictments against Hogan, for stealing various articles at Tavistock, the property of CHARLES WOOLCOCK and of WILLIAM COLENSO. These indictments, however, were not tried. The learned Judge said it appeared from the depositions that the prisoners were soldiers, who had deserted from their regiments, and had since employed themselves in stealing. He should not be doing his duty to suffer such dangerous men to remain in the country, and should therefore sentence them each to Seven Years' Transportation.

REFERENCES –

http://search.archives.tas.gov.au/ImageViewer/image_viewer.htm?CON33-1-91,258,44,L,80

http://search.archives.tas.gov.au/ImageViewer/image_viewer.htm?CON14-1-40,220,18,L,80

http://search.archives.tas.gov.au/ImageViewer/image_viewer.htm?CON14-1-40,220,19,L,80

<http://paperspast.natlib.govt.nz/cgi-bin/paperspast?a=d&d=ST18700125.2.13.5&l=mi&e=-----10--1--2-all>

<http://www.rootschat.com/forum/index.php?PHPSESSID=i6o7fepssskcrqvu823sq69dj4&topic=42614>
<http://freepages.genealogy.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~wbritonad/cornwall/1846/misc/aug.html>

Last Updated: 4 November 2010

CONBOY (IHPS) David Conboy

Thomas Francis Conboy

BIRTH 1827 • Lambeth, London, England
 DEATH 28 AUG 1878 • Prahran Victoria Melbourne

LIFESTORY
FACTS
GALLERY

Facts

Name and gender SHOW

| | |
|---------------|---|
| 1827 (AGE) | Birth 1827 • Lambeth, London, England 4 Sources |
| 1827 | Birth (Alternative) 1827 • Lambeth, Surrey, England |
| 1829 2 | Birth of Brother Patrick T Conboy (1829-) 1829 • Lambeth, Surrey, England |
| 1832 4 | Birth of Sister Marry Ann Conboy (1832-1904) 1832 • Lambeth, Surrey, England |
| 1834 7 | Birth of Brother Michael John Conboy (1834-1881) 1834 • Lambeth, Surrey, England |
| 1837 10 | Birth of Sister Elizabeth Conboy (1837-) 1837 • Lambeth, Surrey, England |
| 1841 14 | Residence 1841 • Lambeth, Lambeth, Surrey, England 1 Source |
| 1846 19 | Residence 1 August 1846 • Cornwall, England 1 Source |
| 1846 19 | civil 01 Aug 1846 • Cornwall, England 2 Sources |
| 1848 21 | Departure 25 Jul 1848 1 Source |
| 1848 21 | Departure 25 Jul 1848 1 Source |
| 1848 21 | Arrival 1848 • Tasmania 2 Sources |
| 1853 26 | Death of Father Thomas Conboy (1798-1853) Jun 1853 • Lambeth, London, United Kingdom |
| 1864 37 | Marriage 18 Feb 1864 • St Andrews Presbyterian Church Ararat VICTORIA AUSTRALIA Mary Plumb (1840-1912) 2 Sources |
| 1866 39 | Birth of Daughter Elizabeth Conboy (1866-1946) 16 Mar 1866 • Emerald St.Collingwood, Victoria, Australia |
| 1866 39 | Birth of Daughter Elizabeth Conboy (1866-1946) 16 Mar 1866 • Emerald St.Collingwood, Victoria, Australia |
| 1868 41 | Birth of Son Thomas Conboy (1868-1868) 10 Aug 1868 • Crn Park & Vre St East Collingwood |
| 1868 41 | Death of Son Thomas Conboy (1868-1868) 19 Aug 1868 • Vic, Australia |
| 1869 42 | Birth of Son George Thomas Conboy (1869-1933) 08 Sep 1869 • Crn Park & Vere St East Collingwood, Victoria, Australia |
| 1872 45 | Birth of Daughter Mary Anne Conboy (1872-1967) 10 Dec 1872 • Sackville St Collingwood |
| 1877 50 | Birth of Son Thomas Francis Conboy (1877-1950) 19 Jan 1877 • Wangaratta, Victoria |
| 1878 51 | Death 28 Aug 1878 • Prahran Victoria Melbourne 2 Sources |

Sources

Ancestry Sources

| |
|--|
| 1841 England Census |
| Ancestry Family Trees |
| Australia, Death Index, 1787-1985 |
| Australia, Death Index, 1787-1985 |
| Australia, Electoral Rolls, 1903-1980 |
| Australia, Marriage Index, 1788-1950 |
| Australia, Marriage Index, 1788-1950 |
| Australia, Marriage Index, 1788-1950 |
| Australian Convict Transportation Registers - Other Fleets & Ships, 1791-1868 |
| England & Wales, Criminal Registers, 1791-1892 |
| New South Wales and Tasmania, Australia Convict Musters, 1806-1849 |
| New South Wales and Tasmania, Australia, Convict Pardons and Tickets of Leave, 1834-1859 |

Family

Parents

Thomas Conboy
1798-1853

Elizabeth Light
1797-

Siblings SHOW

Spouse & Children

Mary Plumb
1840-1912

Elizabeth Conboy
1866-1946

Thomas Conboy
1868-1868

George Thomas Conboy
1869-1933
1869-1933

Mary Anne Conboy
1872-1967

Thomas Francis Conboy
1877-1950

Australian Convict Transportation Registers – Other Fleets & Ships, 1791-1868 for Thomas Conboy

1846-1848

| 36 | | | | 169 | | | |
|---------------|-------------------------------|-------------|---------------|--------------------------------|-------------------|--------------|---------------|
| Name | Where Convicted | When | Term of Years | Name | Where Convicted | When | Term of Years |
| Thomas Conboy | Cornwall Assizes Dorset | August 1846 | Seven | Robert Woodward James Tello | Exeter Assizes | 7/June, 1848 | Life |