

## William Burt, 166, *Hashemy*

Researched by Marcia Watson

Name variation: Birt, Bart, Beart

Baptism	9 January 1816, Woolpit, Suffolk
Parents	George Birt and Charlotte Napkin/Napthan/Naptham
Parent's marriage	12 October 1802 in Suffolk
Siblings	James (1802), George (1804-1818), Charles (1806), Charlotte (1808), Robert (1811), Elizabeth (1813-1817), Elizabeth (1818), Mary Ann (1820), George (1823)
Wife 1	Elizabeth Sparke (1816-1841)
Married	1840
Wife 2	Elizabeth Turner
Married	6 October 1847, St Andrew, Holborn, Middlesex
Children	Alfred (1841-1841)

William Burt married Elizabeth Sparke in the December quarter of 1840, probably in Woolpit as they both came from the village. Their son Alfred was baptised 7 March 1841 at Woolpit. William was a labourer.

Elizabeth Burt was buried 25 May 1841 at Woolpit, aged 24.

On the 1841 census, Living at Woolpit were:<sup>1</sup>

George Burt, 65, ag lab, Charlotte, 60, William, 25, ag lab, and his son Alfred, 4 months.

Baby Alfred was buried on 13 July 1841, aged about 4½ months.

Between 1841 and 1847, William moved to London where he remarried at the Trinity Church, parish of St Andrews, Holborn, Middlesex, on 6 October 1847:

William Burt, full age, widower, a porter of Elm Street, father George Burt, carrier

Elizabeth Turner, full age, widow of Elm Street, father Jeremiah Grady, paviour.

They married by banns, and both signed the register.

Just over a year later, in January 1849, William and Elizabeth appeared at the Guildhall in London: *William and Elizabeth Burt, of 10 Elm-street, Gray's Inn-lane, and Charles Whitcher, of 4 Church-row, Aldgate, with John Lee, of 32 St Mary-at-Hill, were placed at the bar before Alderman Challis charged – the two former with receiving, and the two latter join six others now in Newgate awaiting their trial, for stealing a large quantity of goods, the property of Messrs Wood, of Watling-street.*

They were all remanded until the next week, when they were committed to trial. Bail was refused.<sup>2,3</sup>

On 26 February 1849, at the Central Criminal Court:

713. Henry Albert, stealing 40 yards of carpet, value £10; the goods of Henry Wood and another: and William Burt and Elizabeth Burt, feloniously receiving the same, knowing, &c.

Henry Albert— Guilty of stealing. — Transported for Seven Years. He was also sentenced to be Transported for Seven Years more, upon the indictment on which he was convicted last Session.

William Burt— Guilty of receiving. — Transported for Fourteen Years.

Elizabeth Burt— Not Guilty.<sup>4</sup>

The full trial transcript can be read at:

<https://www.oldbaileyonline.org/browse.jsp?id=def2-713-18490226&div=t18490226-713#highlight>

Two further charges were brought against William and Elizabeth Burt.

714. John Lee for stealing 2 table-covers, value £1; and 1 counterpane, 10s.; the goods of Henry Wood and another, his masters: and William Burt and Elizabeth Burt, feloniously receiving the same. Mr Ballantine offered no evidence. Not Guilty.<sup>5</sup>

<sup>1</sup> HO107/1036/25, p29

<sup>2</sup> Sun (London), 27 January 1849, p8

<sup>3</sup> Weekly Chronicle (London), 11 February 1849, p6

<sup>4</sup> Old Bailey Proceedings Online (www.oldbaileyonline.org, version 8.0, 03 November 2019), February 1849, trial of HENRY ALBERT WILLIAM BURT ELIZABETH BURT (t18490226-713).

717. Charles Witcher was again indicted for stealing 100 yards of green baize; and William Burt and Elizabeth Burt, feloniously receiving the same: upon which no evidence was offered. Not Guilty.<sup>6</sup>

William Burt, 35, married, can read and write imperfectly, was received at Millbank Prison on 4 May 1849 from Newgate Prison. The register notes it was William's first conviction. A year later, on 1 May 1850, he was transferred to Portland Prison.<sup>7</sup> He boarded the *Hashemy*, with Henry Albert, on 19 July 1850 for the voyage Fremantle, Western Australia.<sup>8</sup>

During the voyage William was sick:

Folio 4: William Burt, aged 37, prisoner; sick or hurt, rubeola; put on sick list, 15 September 1850, discharged 21 September 1850 well.<sup>9</sup>

The *Hashemy* arrived in October 1850 and a description of each convict taken:

166 William Burt, 34, 5' 4½", sandy hair, light hazel eyes long face, fair and fresh complexion, much freckled, labourer and married.<sup>10</sup>

General Register:

166. William Burt, 34, married, porter and packer, Church of England, went to public school, reading and writing were good, and maths was very fair. His wife Elizabeth Burt, dealer, lived at N° 10 Elm street, Grays Inn Row, London.

Attended Divine Service? Usually attended regularly

Received Sacrament? Yes

Habits? Sober and attentive to his business

Intellect? Sound

State of Mind? Hopeful

Knowledge, Secular? Limited

Knowledge, Religious? Limited

Alleged Cause of Crime? Alleges his innocence, his wife being the principal his misfortune

Name of Person referred to for Character, &c. Mr William Caldecot, upholsterer, 53 Great Russell street, Bloomsbury, London.<sup>11</sup>

William appears on the casual sick list at Fremantle. <sup>12</sup>

Burt Wm	12 Nov 1850	Diarrhoea	Cal: Pilul & draughts, chalk mixture three times a day
Burt Wm	13 Dec 1850	Cold	Continue fever mixture
Burt William 66	11 Feb 1851		
Burt Wm 166	13 Feb 1851	Sick headache	Emetic
Burt Wm 166	14 Feb 1851	Colic	Cal:..... Opii .....
Burt Wm	20 Feb 1851	Bad lip	Aper: medicine, poultice
Burt Wm	22 Feb 1851	Bad lip	Poultice
Burt Wm	23 Feb 1851	Bad lip	Poultice, Aper: medicine
Burt Wm	25 Feb 1851		Infus: Gentian
Burt Wm	26 Feb 1851	Februs	Aper: medicine
Burt Wm	27 Feb 1851	Bad lip	Mixt fever
Burt Wm	28 Feb 1851		Nil
Burt Wm	18 Mar 1851	Indigestion	Infus: Gent, Pil aper
Burt Wm	19 Mar 1851	Indigestion	Continue Quassia

<sup>5</sup> Old Bailey Proceedings Online (www.oldbaileyonline.org, version 8.0, 03 November 2019), February 1849, trial of JOHN LEE WILLIAM BURT ELIZABETH BURT (t18490226-714).

<sup>6</sup> Old Bailey Proceedings Online (www.oldbaileyonline.org, version 8.0, 03 November 2019), February 1849, trial of CHARLES WHITCHER WILLIAM BURT ELIZABETH BURT (t18490226-717).

<sup>7</sup> HO24/4

<sup>8</sup> HO/105

<sup>9</sup> The National Archives UK, ADM 101/32/6/1-6 (transcribed by them)

<sup>10</sup> SROWA Acc 128/40-3

<sup>11</sup> SROWA Acc 1156 R21A

<sup>12</sup> SROWA Acc 1156 CS1

Burt Wm	5 Apr 1851	...lled testicle from ..... **	..... three time a day
Burt Thos	14 Apr 1851	Bad eyes	Lotio: Arg: Nitrat *, Dovers powder
Burt William 166	14 May 1851	Febricula	Mixt fever
Burt William 165	15 May 1851	Februs	continue

\*\* might have had a strangulated testicle; \* Silver nitrate; mixt = mixture, aper = aperient,

William received a Ticket of Leave on 26 February 1852.

In 1855, at the Quarter Sessions in Perth, Charles Dibden and George Stone, charged with false coining at Fremantle. Evidence given by William Burt.

Wm. Burt.—I am a carpenter; I know the prisoners; Dibdin lived with Mr Graves; I took a cottage, and Stone lived with me; Dibdin frequently came up to see Stone, Dibdin said, in my hearing, to Stone, I want some money-I'll make some I'll make a mould. They got some plaister of Paris. Dibdin said, if he could not get any at Fremantle, he could get some from Perth. That was in August last. I saw Dibdin making a mould, and Stone assisting him; they finished one mould of plaister of Paris, on the 24th August. On the 25th August Dibdin left his employ. On the 26<sup>th</sup> August he told Stone, in my presence, that he was going to Perth to get some stuff to make gold lotion with; I never made any before, I used to buy mine ready prepared in London; Stone said he would go with him (Dibdin) to Perth. On the following Tuesday both the Prisoners returned to my house, and on the following Saturday I saw them both engaged in making counterfeit sovereigns. They finished sixteen, of which I believe, the two produced are part. They made the coins of some metal, like pewter, from spoons melted down. I saw them cover the coins with gold solution, by means of a galvanic battery. I saw Stone take a sovereign, beat it out, and cut it into pieces, and got Dibdin to refine it. They got some money from me, to buy solution with. Dibdin, on that Saturday, gave me one of the sovereigns to get changed, and he gave Stone another. I went to Mr Carter who paid me my wages. As I was going out, I met prisoner Stone going in. I waited till Stone came out, and he then told me that he had changed one of the bad sovereigns in Mr Carters. The same evening Stone, in my presence, offered one of the bad sovereigns to a man, named Spencer, who immediately said it was a bad one. I tried to pass another of the bad sovereigns that evening, but it was rejected. I offered one of those sovereigns for Dibdin, and by his instructions offered it to Mr Oakley, in paying for a waistcoat: but Mr Oakley rejected it. I said I had received a sovereign that evening from Mr Carter. I was then taken into custody by a policeman. McGlew accompanied him and myself to Mr Henry Carter to whom I represented, that he had given me the bad sovereign on payment of my wages. He gave me a good sovereign in exchange. I was present when police Serjeant Hicks came to search my house. I and the two prisoners were at dinner. The moment that Hicks came in I saw Dibdin put several counterfeit sovereigns into his mouth and swallow them. I saw him take them from his waistcoat pocket. About three hours before that I had seen 10 counterfeit sovereigns in Dibdin's possession. Dibdin was standing partly behind the door, when I saw him swallow the coin. I saw the 3 small coins produced taken from the person of Dibdin by Hicks. I saw the contents of some of the bottles produced, used by the prisoners in some of the processes of making the counterfeit coin. I saw them use the ladle produced. They had hot sand in it.

Cross-examined by Mr Leake: I did not assist the prisoners to make the coin; I am a ticket-of leave man; I tried to pass one of the bad sovereigns on the 4th of Sept., I first told my story to the magistrate; I never had any agreement with any one, that I should not be prosecuted if I gave that story; I received part of the good sovereign I got from Mr Carter. I have seen Dibden altering some candlesticks for Mr Scott. I had been living next door to the house in which the prisoners were arrested for more than 12 minutes before that. The ladle was got from Beddingfeld the baker, on the 29th August; I have never done any coining, or saw any coining before I saw the prisoners at work. I heard the coin rattle between Dibden's teeth, when I saw him put his hand to his mouth, I distinctly saw Dibden put coins his the counterfeit sovereigns produced, into his mouth.

Cross-examined by the Court: I have examined the pieces of baked earth in the paper produced. They are pieces of an earthen vessel, which I have seen Dibden using in gliding the counterfeit coins.

Cross-examined by a Juror: I have had no inducement to peach upon the prisoners, held out to me by a magistrate or anyone else.

Stone and Dibdin were found Guilty and sentenced to transportation for life.<sup>13</sup>

A Conditional Pardon was granted to William Burt on 12 April 1856.<sup>14</sup> Just after receiving his Conditional Pardon, it appears William wanted to marry.  
Index to Correspondence.<sup>15</sup>

37. 13 August 1856: Further particulars required before truth of assertion of William Burt that he is a single can be ascertained.

49. 15 June 1857: Stating that William Burt is a married man.

No further trace of William found in Western Australia. He may have gone to South Australia, however, there a number of people called William Burt living in Australia.

*To James Wm. MacDonald, Esq., S.M., Commissioner of Insolvency.*

*Dear Sir—We the undersigned, old residents in and near Koorunga, having noticed the insulting and unwarrantable attack made by a Mr Parker upon your reputation while Stipendiary Magistrate of this district, feel compelled to express our disgust and indignation thereat, and to assure you that your removal from among us (although to a more important office) was universally felt as a great loss to the district. In conclusion, allow us to state our conviction that a more high-minded, able, impartial, and just Magistrate never presided in a Court of Justice.*

*We have the honour to remain, dear Sir,*

*Your obedient servants and sincere well-wishers,*

*Signed by residents including: Wm Burt, carpenter, Hampton<sup>16</sup>*

*Fire at Cowell's. The city coroner (Mr T. Ward) commenced an enquiry on Saturday, March 8, at the Old Colonist Inn, Norwood, as to the cause of the fire which destroyed Cowell's timber yard and adjoining premises on Monday, March 3, 1884.*

*One witness was William Burt, carpenter, who lived on the Cowell property. He had been employed by Cowell Bros. for about two years.<sup>17</sup>*

---

<sup>13</sup> The Perth Gazette and Independent Journal of Politics and News (WA : 1848 - 1864), 12 October 1855, p3

<sup>14</sup> SROWA Acc 1156 R21B

<sup>15</sup> Correspondence Index, SROWA Acc 128/37

<sup>16</sup> Adelaide Observer (SA : 1843 - 1904), 30 May 1863 p 2

<sup>17</sup> The Express and Telegraph (Adelaide, SA: 1867 - 1922), 10 March 1884, p4

## *Elizabeth Spark*, first wife of William Burt, convict 166

Baptism	2 August 1816 at Woodpit, Suffolk
Parents	Thomas Spark (1789-1859) and Dorothy Rose (~1786-1859)
Parent's marriage	13 August 1811, Woolpit, Suffolk
Siblings	Mary Ann (1813), Lydia (1829)
Husband	William Burt (1816-1886?)
Marriage	1840
Children	Alfred Burt (1841-1841)

Elizabeth married William Burt in the December quarter of 1840, probably at Woolpit as they both came from the village.

Their son Alfred was baptised on 7 March 1841 at Woolpit. William was a labourer. Elizabeth died 2½ months later and was buried 25 May 1841 at Woolpit. She was 24 years old.

In the 1841 census, William and his son are living with his parents at Woolpit, Suffolk.

George Burt, 65, Ag Lab

Charlotte, 60

William, 25, Ag Lab

Alfred, four months. Baby Alfred was buried on 13 July 1841, aged about 4½ months.

Between 1841 and 1847, William moved to London, where he re-married.

## *Elizabeth Turner*, second wife of William Burt, convict 166

Baptism	About 1805, Westminster, London
Parents	Jeremiah Grady
Parent's marriage	
Siblings	
Husband	William Burt (1861-1886?)
Marriage	6 October 1847, Trinity church, St Andrews, Holborn
Children	Two from her previous marriage: Elizabeth Turner (~1833) Richard Turner (1839)

Elizabeth Turner said she was born in St Margaret's parish, Westminster, about 1805, and her father was Jeremiah Grady. No baptism has been found.

Elizabeth appears to have married three times.

**First marriage:** 26 October 1826 at St Botolph, Bishopgate, by banns:

Elizabeth Grady, a spinster, married Robert Callahan, a bachelor. Both signed the register

**Second marriage:** 19 September 1831 at St Bride Fleet Street, London, by banns:

Elizabeth Callahan, a widow, married Richard Turner, a bachelor. Both signed the register.

Their daughter, Elizabeth, was born about 1833. Son Richard Turner was born on 13 July 1839, at 24 Laystall Street, mother's maiden name Callan. Baby Richard was baptised at St Anselm & St Cecilia parish, Lincoln's

Inn Fields (Sardinian Chapel) on 6 September 1839. Richard Turner, the father, was a cellarman, possibly at the Red Lion that was at 22 Laystall St, Holborn.

On the 1841 census, the family were at Laystall Street, St Andrew, Holborn, Holborn:

Richard Turner, 45, Beer Seller, born in county

Elizabeth Turner, 35, born in county

Elizabeth Turner, 8, born in county

Richard Turner, 2, born in county

And six male lodgers

Richard probably died in September quarter 1842, Holborn, aged 47.

**Third marriage:** 6 October 1847 at Trinity Church, parish of St Andrews, Holborn, Middlesex.

William Burt, full age, widower, a porter of Elm Street, father George Burt, a carrier

Elizabeth Turner, full age, a widow of Elm Street, father Jeremiah Grady, a paviour.

They married by banns, and both signed the register.

In January 1849, at the Guildhall, William and Elizabeth Burt, of 10 Elm-street, Gray's Inn-lane, and Charles Witcher, of 4 Church-row, Aldgate, with John Lee, of 32 St Mary-at-Hill, were placed at the bar. The Burt's were charged with receiving. The others were part of a larger group charged with stealing a large number of goods, the property of Messrs Wood, of Watling-street. They were remanded, and on 7 February 1849, all were committed to trial. Bail was refused.

On 26 February 1849, Central Criminal Court:

Henry Albert, stealing 40 yards of carpet, value £10; the goods of Henry Wood and another: and William Burt and Elizabeth Burt, feloniously receiving the same, knowing, &c.

Henry Albert, found guilty, was sentenced to seven years transportation. He was sentenced to another seven years on a second charge, a total of fourteen years transportation.

William Burt, guilty of receiving, sentenced to fourteen years transportation.

Elizabeth Burt found not guilty.

William and Elizabeth Burt were found not guilty on a further charge of receiving. A third charge against the pair for receiving was dismissed as no evidence was submitted.

Elizabeth reverted to the surname Turner. On the 1851 census, she was still living at 10 Elm Street, St Andrew Holborn, Holborn.

Elizabeth Turner, 42, widow, bag maker, born St Margaret, Westminster, Middlesex.

Richard Turner, 11, son, scholar, born St Andrew, Holborn.

She was not living at 10 Elm Street on the 1861 census, and her whereabouts are unknown.

There are numerous people called Elizabeth Turner living in London. Elizabeth may be back in Elm Street, at No 5, on the 1871 census - Elizabeth Turner, unmarried, 65, upholster, born Westminster, Middlesex.

Children: No further information found.