

Thomas Hague, 123, *Hashemy*

Researched by Marcia Watson

There are at least 28 baptisms for a Thomas Hague born between 1818 and 1823 in Yorkshire.

When Thomas was transported to Western Australia, the prison record notes he was "once previously convicted of a felony and once imprisoned for assault".

Possible previous felony - Magisterial Proceedings, Sheffield Town Hall, on 31 January 1840:

Thomas Hague was charged with robbing the house of Edward Anderton in Fitzwilliam Street. On Saturday evening, Mrs Anderton locked up the house and came into town, where she met with her husband. They returned home about midnight. They found the door unlocked, and the house had been ransacked with various articles removed. On Monday evening, policemen went to Dawson's public house in the Wicker, where they found the prisoner with a bundle. The bundle consisted of a coat and waistcoat wrapped in a handkerchief. The coat and waistcoat were identified by Anderton as his, and the handkerchief was identified as belonging to Anderton's lodger, Mr JT Bee. ¹

The trial at Sheffield Sessions, 20 March 1840:

Thomas Hague (19) pleaded guilty to two indictments, one of stealing wearing apparel at Sheffield, the property of Edward Anderton; the other with stealing a watch and other articles, the property of William Allcard. Both houses were broken into when the residents were absent. Evidence as to the character was given by the master of Thomas who promised to take him into his service again—sentenced to six months, three months for each conviction. ²

Imprisonment for assault has not been found, possibly a summarily conviction.

Then in August 1848:

Thomas Hague and Wm. Wilson charged with having, on the 3rd inst., at Sheffield, burglariously entered the dwelling-house of Heinemann Herz Rosenberg, and stolen five half-crowns and 10s, were committed to York Castle for trial. ³

At the County Assizes, York Castle, beginning 11 December 1848

Thomas Hague, 28, and William Wilson, 35, were charged with having, on 3 August last, at Sheffield, burglariously entered the dwelling-house of Heineman Herz Rosenburg and stolen therein £1 4s 4d, in silver, his property.

Mr Smith was for the prosecution; Wilson was defended by Mr Overend and Mr C. Newton; Hague pleaded Guilty.

The prosecutor is a tobacconist, carrying on business at Sheffield and Manchester, the establishment at the former place, and where the burglary took place, being conducted by his brother, Mr Louis Rosenburg. About 10 o'clock at night on 3 August last, the premises were properly fastened by the prosecutor's brother, who then went to a public house at a short distance. Whilst there, a gentleman in the company asked him for a cigar, but as he could not accommodate him, he returned to the premises to procure one. On trying to unlock the back door, Rosenburg found that it was already unlocked and that the latch was fastened inside, thus preventing him from gaining admittance. He made a great noise in endeavouring to force an entrance when the two prisoners suddenly opened the door, rushed out of the premises, and ran off at full speed. Rosenburg immediately pursued them, calling out "Stop thieves" as loud as he could.

A policeman seized Hague, who was left in charge of Rosenburg whilst the police-constable and another officer named Devonport gave chase to Wilson, and he was at length apprehended. In the pursuit, Hague

¹ Sheffield Independent, 01 February 1840, p5

² Sheffield Independent, 28 March 1840, p3

³ York Herald, 12 August 1848, p7

threw a life preserver and a bunch of skeleton keys into a yard contiguous to a Roman Catholic chapel. On the person of Hague, the stolen money was found, but when Wilson was searched, no cash was upon him.

Mr Overend, for Wilson, contended that he was not the guilty party, inasmuch as the thief effected his escape, and the officers seized Wilson by mistake. – A witness was called who deposed that she had been standing for ten minutes in conversation with Wilson at the time he was taken into custody.

The prisoner Hague was sworn, and he said that Wilson was not connected in the slightest degree with the robbery. In answer to a question from his Lordship, Hague said that a man named Thomas Thompson of Manchester was the person associated with him in the robbery. Wilson was a man whom he did not know.

The prosecution called a witness to contradict the latter part of Hague's statement, and he deposed that the two prisoners were well acquainted with each other, having seen them together many times and that they were men of bad character. Both the prisoners were sentenced to be transported for fifteen years.⁴

Letter to HS (High Sheriff) of York on 21 February 1849, to authorize the removal of convicts from York Castle, including Thomas Hague, to Millbank Prison.

The Millbank register notes Thomas was 28, single, could not read or write, was a forgerman, and had once previously convicted of a felony, once imprisoned for assault.⁵ He was transferred to Portland Prison, from Millbank prison, on 6 March 1850 and boarded the *Hashemy* on 19 July for the voyage to Western Australia.⁶

Thomas arrived at Fremantle on 25 October 1850, and a description was taken.

132. Thomas Hague, 30, 5' 8¹/₈", brown hair, blue eyes, round visage, dark complexion, well set, no scars or marks, machine fitter, single.⁷

Unfortunately, General Register sheds very little on the early life of Thomas. It says his ability to read, write and do accounts is indifferent. No family is mentioned.⁸

Thomas suffered from a sore leg and appeared on the Casual Sick List at Fremantle Prison. The injury was probably from shackles.

Hague Thos	11 November 1850	Sore leg	Plaster
Hague T	15 November 1850	Headache	Plul & draughts
Hague Thos	16 November 1850	Bad ankle	Bandage
Hague Thos	27 November 1850	Sore leg	Dressing, blue pill every night
Hague Thos	29 November 1850	Bad leg	Bandage
Hague Thos	3 December 1850	Bad leg	Bandage
Hague Thos	14 December 1850	Bad leg	Poultice
Hague Thos	15 December 1850	Bad leg	Dressing
Hague	18 December 1850		
Hague Thos	24 December 1850		
Hague Thos	19 January 1851		
Hague Thos	20 January 1851		
Hague Thomas	24 January 1851		
Hague Thomas	2 February 1851	Burnt eye	Lotion & poultice
Hague Thomas	3 February 1851	Bad eye	Continue lotion
Hague Thomas	4 February 1851	Bad eye	Continue lotio sulph zinc
Hague Thomas	5 February 1851	Eye	Continue lotion

⁴ Yorkshire Gazette, 16 December 1848, p7

⁵ Correspondence And Warrants, HO13/96, p177; HO24/4

⁶ HO8/103, p37; HO8/105, p20

⁷ SROWA Acc 128/40 - 43

⁸ SROWA Acc 1156 R21A

Hague Thos	24 February 1851	Bilious	Emetic
Hague Thos	25 February 1851		Aper: medicine
Hague Thos	22 March 1851		Treated with Infus Gent.
Hague Thos	23 March 1851		Treated with Infus Gent.
Hague Thos	24 March 1851		Treated with Infus Gent.
Hague Thos	25 March 1851	Debility Gent
Hague Thos	26 March 1851		Continue Gent.
Hague Thos	28 June 1851	Burnt foot	Dressing

On 18 January 1852, 123 Thomas Hague to proceed to Toodyay.⁹

He was a machine fitter and cutter and was entitled to a Ticket of leave on 17 February 1852.¹⁰ Thomas was working for himself on 15 October 1852. The Biographical Dictionary of Western Australia says he employed four ticket of leave men between 1851-4.

He appeared several times in court for being drunk.

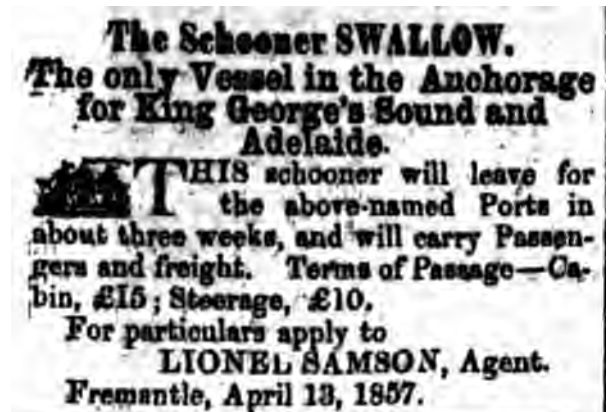
Perth, 8 October 1852. T. Hague, t.l., out after hours; dismissed with costs.

Perth, 2 April 1853. Thomas Hague, t.l., drunk in the streets; fined 5s and 3s costs.

Perth, 20 August 1855. William Stanley and Thomas Hague, drunk and breaking the windows of Henry Chambers, fined each 5s.¹¹

Thomas Hague and fellow convict from the *Hashemy*, George Porter, went to South Australia per *Swallow*. The ship sailed from Fremantle on 30 April 1857 for Adelaide and arrived at Adelaide on 27 May. Thomas was a steerage passenger.¹²

There was an inquiry into the landing of passengers, from the *Swallow*, at Rosetta Head, Encounter Bay, before the ship reached Adelaide. These passengers reportedly made their way overland to Adelaide. The Government did not want any WA convicts.



What happened to Thomas? He does not seem to have stayed in South Australia.

Note: The Thomas Hague on this website, who reportedly arrived on the *Swallow* then migrated to Victoria, is a different person. He is:

Thomas Hague, 19, arrived at Melbourne in February 1857, from Liverpool per *Shooting Star*.

https://sites.rootsweb.com/~slkarner/PS08/PS08_416.HTML

⁹ Toodyay's Ticket of Leave Men(PDF, 846KB) - Toodyay Visitors Centre

¹⁰ SROWA Acc 128/40 - 43

¹¹ The Perth Gazette and Independent Journal of Politics and News, 15 Oct 1852, p4; 15 Apr 1853, p2; 24 Aug 1855, p3

¹² The Inquirer and Commercial News (Perth, WA : 1855 - 1901), 25 Mar 1857, p1