

Joseph Hampshire, 7139, Clyde

Researched by Marcia Watson

Name variations: Hamshaw, Hampshaw

Born and Baptism	b. 15 May 1820 and bap. 21 May 1820
Parents	Samuel Hampshire and Ann Smith
Parent's marriage	11 April 1808, Horbury, near Wakefield, Yorkshire
Siblings	John (1808-1828), George (1810 –1815), Mary (1812-1881), George (1815), Sarah (1818), Samuel (1822)
Wife (1)	Unknown
Marriage (1)	England
Wife (2)	Margaret Haggerty née Cassady
Marriage (2)	20 January 1874, Sydney, Australia
Children	

Parents: Samuel Hampshire was a waterman. Ann Hampshire, née Smith, died in 1836.

Joseph Hampshire registered as a seaman, at Lynn, on 1 January 1845. The register says he first went to sea in 1844 and usually resided in Wakefield. He was born 15 May 1820 at Horbury, was 5'6" tall, with dark hair, a dark complexion, blue eyes, and could not write. Three voyages are listed – December 1845, June 1846 and December 1846. He had not been in the Royal Navy.¹

In September 1847, at the Hull Police Court:

Two men named Joseph Hampshire and Joseph Green were charged with stealing £11 10s, the property of John Stead. The prosecutor is the master of a vessel, and on the previous day, he was drinking in a public-house with the prisoners, but while they were there, the two prisoners suddenly left him. Not suspecting anything at the time, he stayed in the house a little longer, but on going to his ship, he found that the cabin had been broken into and the above-mentioned sum taken out. He gave information to the police, and the prisoners were taken into custody in a public-house in Manor Street, but only a small sum of money was found on them. As it could not be proved that the prisoners had been on board, they were discharged.²

Then, at the East Riding Michaelmas Sessions at Beverley in October 1847:

Joseph Hamshaw (29) and Joseph Green (26) were charged with stealing a hat, penknife, coat, waistcoat and three halfpence, the property of Richard Greensides, a shoemaker of Rooss. On Tuesday, 28 September, Greensides attended the Hull market, and on returning home in the afternoon, he met the prisoners who invited him into the Marfleet public house, where they treated him to two glasses of whiskey. He left the inn in a state of intoxication and was subsequently found in a field, stripped of parts of his dress and robbed of a knife and copper. The prisoners were apprehended at Hedon the same evening. The hat was found on Green, and Hamshaw had the knife. Both were found guilty.

¹ TNA, Britain, Merchant Seaman 1835-1857, BT113/56 (findmypast)

² Hull Packet, 17 September 1847, p6

The prisoners were then arraigned on a charge of attempting to break into the shop of Isaac Hatterley, a watchmaker. A neighbour watched them and then, with the help of other neighbours, secured the prisoners. A large hole had been made in the shutters, and Hamshaw dropped a large clasp knife. The prisoners were found guilty and sentenced to two months hard labour on the first charge and eight months on the second charge.³

Almost a year after getting out of prison, at the Hull Borough Session, on 7 July 1849: James Hampshire, 28, was charged with stealing a cotton bag containing one sovereign, one half-sovereign, and ten shillings in silver, the property of William Thacker. Found guilty, and a previous conviction having been proven against the prisoner, he was sentenced to be transported for ten years.⁴

The first Petition for Clemency was received on 29 December 1851:
To the Right Honorable Sir George Grey Baronet, Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for the Home Department

The Humble Petition of the Father, Brothers and Sister of Joseph Hampshire, a prisoner now confined on a sentence of Transportation at Dartmoor and No 116/3

Sheweth that the said Joseph Hampshire was born of poor parents about the year 1818 and was put to labour at the early age of 8 years or thereabouts to the total neglect of Education even of the humblest kind.

That the said Joseph Hampshire was very early employed on board Sloops trading on the Rivers and Canals of Yorkshire and Lancashire and continued in such Employment with little Interruption until he was imprisoned.

That being of a mirthful disposition he was apt to seek Company when visiting large Towns and was easily led away by designing Companions.

That about 4 years since while he was seeking a Situation and in a State of Intoxication he was taken with a Companion at Hedon while breaking a Shutter. That he and his Companion resisted the Constable who voluntarily offered to let them go away and what was at first considered to be only a Spree was subsequently made into an attempt to commit a felony for which they were tried at the Beverley Session and convicted and ordered to be imprisoned for 8 calendar months.

That upon the said Joseph Hampshire's discharge from prison he resumed his labour as a Waterman and continued doing so until in the Spring of 1849 he was in Hull on the Spree with another Waterman, who on one evening charged him with picking his pocket. Both prisoner and prosecutor were very drunk at the time. He was convicted of this offence at the Midsummer Session in 1849 and, his previous Conviction having been proved, he was ordered to be transported for 10 years.

That since his last Conviction the Conduct of the said Joseph Hampshire, in the prison at Hull as well as elsewhere has been very good without exception as your Petitioners believe and he has manifested symptoms of sincere penitence and sorrow for his previous conduct and he has made the most solemn resolution of Amendment.

³ Hull Advertiser, 22 October 1847, p6

⁴ Hull Advertiser and Exchange Gazette, 13 July 1849, p6

Your Petitioners therefore fully believing that the said Joseph Hampshire is a Sincere penitent and will forever forsake his bad Conduct humbly prays that you will institute an Enquiry into the Case and remit the remainder of the sentence of the said Joseph Hampshire. Signed:

Samuel Hampshire (father) his mark

George Hampshire his mark (brother)

Samuel Hampshire his mark (brother)

Thos and Mary Shooter their marks (his sister and brother-in-law)

I, the prosecutor of the said Joseph Hampshire believing that he robbed me as a Lark and while he and I were both drunk, humbly support the above Petition.

William Thackeray, coal dealer, prosecutor, and about 30 others, many of them watermen.

This was the 2nd application. Answered 9 January 1852

The Prison Registers record that Joseph Hampshire, 28, single, can read, waterman, was from Castleford, Yorkshire, Protestant and had been convicted before. He was convicted on 7 July 1849 at Kingston upon Hull for stealing a sovereign etc., and sentenced to 10 years. Joseph was transferred from Hull to Millbank Prison on 22 October 1849 and sent to Portland Prison on 1 January 1850. Ten months later, he was moved to Dartmoor Prison on 11 November 1850.⁵ Joseph was transported to Tasmania per *Oriental Queen* in October 1852.

Tasmania

Joseph Hampshire, 32, 5'5¾", large head, black hair and whiskers, dark eyes, oval face with large mouth and nose, a waterman or sailor, he had tattoos of J.H. on the right arm, Isabella Nicholson woman LNIN on left arm, J.H. on anchor finger and thumb left hand, middle finger right hand ringed and single.

His father, Samuel and his siblings, George, Samuel and Mary, live in his native place of Wakefield.

Joseph was in trouble with the law a few times resulting in him being fined. He received a Ticket of Leave in 1853 and was issued with a Conditional Pardon at Launceston on 20 September 1855. As a sailor, Joseph would have little trouble securing employment on a ship returning to England, even though his sentence did not expire in 1859.

Back in England by 1858:

Joseph Hamshaw, a middle-aged man, was charged with stealing £16 and a watch, and Elizabeth Manlove was charged with being concerned with the robbery. John Mellor, of Brighthouse and master of the keel *Triumph*, locked his cabin and went ashore on Wednesday, 13 October, about 7 pm. The watch was in a cupboard in the cabin, and the 16 sovereigns were hidden in the timber. On returning at 11 pm, he found his cabin broken into and the watch and money stolen. He informed the police. Eliza Smith, who resided at Manlove's house, where the prisoner also lived, said the prisoner was behind in his rent for lodgings, but on Thursday, he had a new pair of trousers, boots, a silk handkerchief and other pieces of wearing apparel in his possession. He also told her he had 13 sovereigns that had been sent from Australia. Since then, the prisoner has purchased more clothes. When a constable went to the house on Sunday, the female prisoner

⁵ TNA, HO24/16; HO24/4; PCOM2/30

became alarmed and said she did not know what to do with the things and sent them to her daughter. Hamshaw and Manlove were committed to trial.⁶

At the Hull Borough Sessions in October:

Joseph Hampshire (39), waterman, and Elizabeth Manlove (59) were charged with stealing one watch and £16, the property of John Mellor. Before the case was gone into, the charge against Elizabeth was withdrawn. Having been proved that Joseph had been previously transported for ten years, he was now sentenced to 12 years penal servitude.⁷

Escape

The newspaper reported the following month:

Joseph Hampshire, a convict in Hull jail, made his escape from that prison last week. He was under sentence of twelve years penal servitude. Being engaged in the "hard labour" of oakum teasing, he contrived to steal, from time to time, four spike nails used in teasing. He ought only to have been in possession of one at a time and then only when working. From time to time, he also secreted about his person as many single bits of yarn, six inches long and in single threads, as enabled him to make rope twenty-four feet in length. On the morning of his escape, when the prisoners came out of their cells to work, he eluded the eyes of the turnkey, turned back into his cell, got his rope and spike nails, and when the course was clear, pulled off a stocking, filled it with little stones, tied it to the rope, and with the nails also fastened crosswise, threw the heavy end over the wall, twenty feet high, which he thus scaled. On descending outside, he stripped his prison dress, excepting his drawers and shirt, and ran through Wellington Street, Queen Street, Humber Street, and High Street, his old lodgings. Here he clothed himself in a few old things and made off again after Manlove refused to harbour him.

Police were stationed around the town. On information received, they began searching Cooks' buildings in Bowalley-lane, and proceeded to search No 9. They worked their way up the building and reached the cockloft without finding Joseph. A constable opened a trap door, and the officers were almost blinded by the dust that fell on them. They flashed a lantern around the loft and were about to leave when an officer saw what looked like a toe in a bundle of rags. Joseph had sustained himself with a bottle of rum and came quietly. The newspaper described him as Hamshaw, about 40 years old, dark complexion, middle size, rather stoutly built and of a very unprepossessing appearance. At the time of his capture, he was dressed in a pair of old canvas trousers, a blue guernsey shirt, cotton neckerchief and without cap, shoes and stockings. His face was quite black, and he had ascended a chimney or two before hiding in the loft.⁸

At the Yorkshire Winter Gaol Delivery on 20 December 1858, Joseph Hampshire was sentenced to one-month hard labour for unlawfully breaking out of prison, at Hull, on 16 November. He pleaded guilty.⁹

⁶ Hull Daily News, 23 October 1858, p2

⁷ Hull Advertiser and Exchange Gazette, 23 October 1858, p5

⁸ Illustrated Times, 27 November 1858, p11; Hull Advertiser, 13 November 1858, p10; Hull Advertiser, 13 November 1858, p10

⁹ Sheffield Daily Telegraph, 21 December 1858, p3

Prison registers record: Joseph Hampshire, 39, single, read and write imperfectly, convicted on 21 October 1858 at Kingston upon Hull, 12 years, received at Millbank Prison from York Castle on 7 April 1859. His behaviour was very bad at Hull and he had escaped; at York Castle, his behaviour was very bad. He had previously transported in 1849; his father, Samuel, at Castleford near Leeds, and brother, Samuel, at Brotherton near Pontefract.¹⁰

Suicide Attempt

Report of Suicide Attempt at Millbank Prison, 12 November 1859:

8624. Joseph Hampshire, aged 39, was sentenced to 12 years penal servitude.

He suspended himself to a bed rack with his handkerchief in an associated cell at 11:55 pm. A prisoner in the cell awoke when he threw himself off, in time to save Hampshire's life by lifting him down from the rack where he was suspended.

Medical Superintendent - I have not been able to discover any dubious in this case. But he is dull and not of spirits and has twice refused his food and exercise and made more than one attempt on his life. I am of the opinion that the attempts have been serious ones and not more pretences.

Chaplain's remarks - This man is now undergoing a second sentence of transportation or penal servitude. The length (12 years) of his present sentence seems to weigh upon his spirits. He is a very hardened man, and there is

little hope of any change in him for the better. HO18/311

Joseph was transferred to Dartmoor Prison on 27 December 1859.

Escape

Joseph was not happy to be in prison again. William Monish, Esq., Governor of the Prisons at Dartmoor, sent a special message on Sunday, 1 April 1860, to Tavistock, announcing the escape of three prisoners. The information was telegraphed immediately to Plymouth and thence to every station east and west. Their names are George Ball, 5ft 8¾in. high; John Robinson, 5ft 4¾in.; and Joseph Hampshire, 5ft. 3¾in. high.¹¹

Captured

At Liverpool Assizes, 3 December 1861, almost 20 months later:

Joseph Hampshire, who had, 1858, been sentenced to twelve years penal servitude but who had escaped from custody when he had nine years of his period of punishment yet to serve, was charged with being at large before the expiration of his sentence. He pleaded guilty to the charge of having escaped and was now sentenced to twelve years' penal servitude, to date, from the commencement of these assizes.¹²

Received at Chatham from Leicester Prison on 4 August 1862:

4905. Joseph Hampshire, aged 41, from Liverpool, 12 years penal servitude, 5'5¼", grey hair, blue eyes, fair complexion, a boatman, grey whiskers, lost the second left upper front tooth, scar on left

¹⁰ TNA, PCOM2/41.

¹¹ Launceston Weekly News, and Cornwall & Devon Advertiser, 07 April 1860, p4.

John Robinson arrived per *Hougoumont* in 1868 and George Ball arrived per *Belgravia* in 1866.

¹² Manchester Courier, 07 December 1861, p7

eyebrow and upper lip, hairy chest, sailor and J.H. inside right forearm, female figure LNIN inside left forearm, anchor J.H. back of the left hand, blue ring second finger left hand.¹³

Western Australia

Joseph arrived at Fremantle per *Clyde* on 29 May 1863 after a voyage of 75 days. His description on arrival is similar to previous descriptions:

7139. Joseph Hampshire, 41 years old, 5'5", grey hair, light blue eyes, round face, dark complexion, stout, boatman, a widower with no children. He had tattoos of a woman and LNINI on his left arm, a man and J.H. on the right arm, and an anchor and J.H. on the back of his left hand.¹⁴

Joseph left Albany on 21 August 1872 per *Webfoot* for New South Wales and arrived at Newcastle on 7 September. He appears to have obtained a position of Able Seaman on the *Lanercost* that sailed on 20 September from Newcastle to Adelaide. The ship left Adelaide on 21 October and returned to Sydney. The shipping record shows him as Joseph Hampshire, 48, A.B., from Wakefield.

New South Wales

In October 1872, at the Water Police Court:

Joseph Creer, master of the *Platypus*, was ordered to pay Joseph Hampshire the sum of £4 16s wages due, together with £5 compensation, £4 10s costs of Court, and £2.2s professional costs to Mr Lowe, who appeared for the complainant.¹⁵

Joseph Hampshire, widower and seaman of 95 George Street, Sydney, married Margaret Hagarty/Hagerty, a widow of 95 George Street, Sydney, on 20 January 1874 at the Presbyterian Church, Harris Street, Sydney. No other information was recorded on the Marriage Certificate.

Joseph died four years later. The informant was Margaret Hampshire (her X mark), widow, 2 Little Gloucester Street, and she said:

Joseph Hampshire, aged 52, died 24 May 1878, at 2 Little Gloucester Street, Sydney, of chronic pneumonia of 2 years duration. He was last seen by a doctor on the day he died. Joseph was born in Wakefield, England and had been in NSW for about 20 years. His father was Samuel, a mariner. Joseph first married in England; no other information was provided. His second marriage was to Margaret, formerly Cassidy, then Hagerty at age 48 in Sydney. Joseph was buried on 28 May 1878 at the R.C. Cemetery, Necropolis, by the undertaker.

Margaret Cassady

Married 4 February 1861, Wesleyan Chapel, Perth:

Margaret Cassady, 26, a spinster and a servant, resides at Guildford; her father was Edward Cassady, a farmer; Margaret made her mark.

Thomas Haggerty, 23, bachelor, a labourer, resides at Guildford; his father was Thomas Haggerty, a labourer; Thomas signed the register.

Witnesses were – Grace Haggerty (her mark) and John Gallacher (possibly convict 1305).

¹³ TNA, PCOM2/2

¹⁴ SROWA Acc 128/40-43

¹⁵ The Sydney Morning Herald (NSW : 1842 - 1954), 25 October 1873, p8

Thomas is the son of Thomas Haggerty, convict 1554, who arrived on the *Dudbrook* in 1853. He arrived with his mother, Grace Haggerty, on the *Travancore* in 1857, but his brother James Haggerty was not on board with them, according to the shipping list.

Thomas and Margaret Haggerty had one recorded child in 1864 at Guildford, Edward, who died aged three months.

On 21 May 1902, at her residence, 589 Little Walker-street, North Sydney, Mrs Margaret Hampshlre (née Cassidy), native of County Tyrone, Ireland, aged 79 years