

Thomas Hudson, 170, Hashemy

Researched by Marcia Watson

Baptism	9 March 1828, St Peters Church, Leeds, Yorkshire
Parents	Stephen Hudson and Mary
Parent's marriage	
Siblings	Mary Ann (1818), Eliza (1822), Thomas (1826-1827), John (1832)
Wife	Jane
Married	No marriage found
Children	Elizabeth (~1855) [later called Jane; Thomas may not be her father]

Thomas was baptised, son of Stephen and Mary Hudson. His father was a weaver or linen weaver. The family lived in the Hunslet and Holbeck areas, on the outskirts of Leeds.

The 1841 census ¹, at Sheep Bridge Road, Holbeck, Leeds, shows:

Stephen Hudson, 55, linen weaver, his wife Mary, 50, Thomas, 30 (*sic* – should be 13), John, 9, and William Bedam, 80, a greengrocer.

Stephen Hudson was buried on 15 October 1843, aged 62, at Holbeck. After Stephen's death, his wife continued to live in Leeds. In 1851 ², living at 2 Calverts Court, Leeds, were Mary Hudson, head, widow, 61, no occupation, born Blubberhouse, Yorkshire. Also living there was her youngest son, John, 19, a cloth dresser, and granddaughter Ann Holdsworth, 6, scholar, both born at Holbeck. Mary also had one female lodger. Mary Hudson died in 1872 at Leeds, aged 84.

Thomas Hudson first brush with the law was at the Leeds Quarter Sessions on 30 December 1846.³ He was acquitted of housebreaking. Then at the Leeds Quarter Sessions, on 29 December 1847 ⁴, Thomas Hudson (19) and John Hutchinson (20) were acquitted of stealing a pair of cloth trousers belonging to Jonathan Newton.

Then at the Special Winter Sessions, beginning 9 December 1848 at York Castle:

Thomas Hudson (19), Henry Colton (22) and James Busfield Longstaff (23) were indicted for having, on 18 October, at Leeds, assaulted a lad Hudson Sumpter (12), and robbed him of a bag containing £30.

Longstaff and Hudson were each defended; Colton was undefended.

The prosecutors, Messrs Shackleton and Son, millers at Wortley in the parish of Leeds, were in the habit of sending money regularly to Messrs Marshall of Holbeck. On the morning of Wednesday, the 18 October, between 9 am and 10 am, Shackleton put about £30 of silver coin into a blue bag and gave it to Hudson Sumpter to take to Marshall's mill. On the way, he was knocked over by three men. They covered his eyes, then took the blue bag and ran off. Over the next few days, they tried to exchange silver coins for notes or sovereigns.

Several children witnessed the assault, and a publican stated that Longstaff had offered him £6 5s in silver coins for a £5 note the day after the robbery. The case against Thomas Hudson was not as strong as that against Colton and Longstaff as he claimed he was in bed until 10 am.

The jury found all prisoners guilty after that, Colton and Longstaff declared they had committed the robbery, and Hudson had nothing to do with it.

They all received 15 years' transportation, having been each previously convicted of a felony.⁵

¹ HO107/1344, book 11, folio 41, p20

² HO107/2321; Folio: 1108; Page: 24

³ HO 27/83,p 431

⁴ Leeds Times, 01 January 1848, p6

⁵ Leeds Intelligencer, 23 December 1848, p7; Bradford Observer, 21 December 1848, p6

Back in October, on being taken into custody Thomas Hudson claimed he had no participation in the offence. At the preliminary hearing, he called Sarah Radcliffe, Joseph Longbottom and William Holdsworth as witnesses.

One newspaper reporter: *Thomas Hudson was the last boy to run off. Sumpter did not recognise him. One witness, 12-year-old James Peel, saw Thomas Hudson holding the prisoner down while Colter and Longstaff ran off. James had known Thomas for a long time. Peel's friend, William Robinson, corroborated his evidence and positively identified Colton, Longstaff and Hudson, all of whom he had frequently seen before. Sarah Ratcliffe, a neighbour, went into Hudson's mother's house in Denison-row, Holbeck, at a quarter past nine on Wednesday morning to borrow a bowl but could not have it as William Holdsworth, prisoner's brother-in-law, was using it. Later she said Hudson's mother was using it. The prisoner was then in bed. She returned at 10 am, and the prisoner came down the stairs with nothing but his trousers and shirt on. William Holdsworth said he got up at 9 am leaving the prisoner in bed, and he did not rise till ten nor leave the house till twelve. Two other people in the house, a lodger named John Longbottom and John Hudson, prisoner's brother. Longbottom swore that he heard of the robbery at nine o'clock (an hour before it happened) and afterwards returned home, where he found the prisoner in bed. John Hudson deposed that he was at Sheep Brig when he heard of the robbery. When he returned home at half-past ten, the prisoner was in bed, and so was Holdsworth. He heard of the robbery at 11 am. There were many other discrepancies in the evidence given, and Thomas Hudson was committed for trial at the next sessions.⁶ Thomas was well known to the police.⁷ [Thomas's sister, Mary Ann Hudson, married William Holdsworth on 2 August 1835 at Leeds]*

He was received at Leicester Gaol, from York Castle, on 11 April 1849.⁸ The prison register records that Thomas Hudson, 20, single, read and writes imperfectly and was once acquitted and one Bill ignored. He was transferred to Portland Prison on 5 May 1850. While at Portland, his health and behaviour were good, although he was reported for irregularity on 2 July 1850.⁹ Thomas boarded the Hashemy on 19 July for the voyage to Western Australia.¹⁰

On arrival at Fremantle in October, his physical description was:

170. Thomas Hudson, 20, 5' 3¾", black hair, dark hazel eyes, oval visage, fresh complexion, marked with smallpox, one small mole on the right breast, labourer, single.¹¹

General Register noted:

Thomas Hudson, 21, single, weaver, Anglican, had some private schooling, very fair reading, can write. His mother, Mary Hudson, shopkeeper, lives in Holbeck, in Leeds. (1851 census says otherwise)

Attended Divine Service?	Used to attend church regularly, fell off lately.
Received Sacrament?	Not before being in prison
Habits?	Usually sober and attentive to work.
Intellect?	Sound
State of Mind?	Hopeful
Knowledge, Secular?	Limited
Knowledge, Religious?	Limited – but knows the Gospel Plan of Salvation
Alleged Cause of Crime?	Alleges he was innocent.

Name of Person referred to for Character, &c. Mr Joseph Pearson, cloth dresser, Leeds.¹²

⁶ Leeds Times, 28 October 1848, p3

⁷ Leeds Times, 21 October 1848, p5

⁸ HO23/ 4

⁹ Portland Prison. Governor's Journal, 24 November 1848 to 9 August 1850. PCOM 2/354

¹⁰ HO8/104, 105

¹¹ SROWA Acc 128/40 - 43

¹² SROWA Acc 1156 R21A

Thomas, like many convicts, suffered from a fever and was placed on the Casual Sick List.¹³

Hudson Thos	17 December 1850	Diarrhoea	Chalk mixture
Hudson Thos 170	13 February 1851	Headache	Calomel ...; Tincture in three hours
Hudson Thos 170	14 February 1851	Febri C C	Fever mixture
Hudson Thos 170	15 February 1851	Febri C C	Quin mixture
Hudson Thos	17 February 1851	Feb: C C	Quinine mixture
Hudson Thos	18 February 1851		Discharged
Hudson Thos	29 March 1851		Aper medicine
Hudson Thomas	17 April 1851		Aperient medicine
Hudson Thos	4 May 1851	Diarrhoea	... : castor

Thomas Hudson, a labourer, received a ticket-of-leave on 17 February 1852.

Three years later, on 2 August 1855, Thomas Hudson (170) was received at the Fremantle prison as a reconvicted prisoner. He was discharged on 14 January 1856.¹⁴ The nature of his crime is unknown.

A Conditional Pardon was granted to Thomas in March 1857.¹⁵

These two references to a Thomas Hudson are unlikely to be him:

Convicted on 2 March 1858 of stealing and sentenced to 6 months. Admitted to Fremantle on 27 May 1858 and discharged on 1 September 1858. This Thomas Hudson was a local prisoner.

Thomas Hudson, 34, expirée, was convicted again on 7 March 1865 of disposing of provisions, the property of Mr Wellard. Sentenced to 6 months and discharged on 6 September 1865.¹⁶ He could be Thomas Hudson (170) or Thomas Hudson (5440)

Thomas is listed as a mason in Fremantle in the Almanacs from 1881-1889.¹⁷ The 1895 street directory shows a T Hudson living in Albert's cottages, Cantonment St, Fremantle. By 1898 he was living at King William Street, Beaconsfield. He was still there on the 1899 directory.

His wife, Jane Hudson, was buried on 9 June 1900, aged 84, at Fremantle Cemetery. She was born in India; according to the death index, her father was called Patrick; no marriage has been found for Thomas and Jane.

Funeral Notice: The Friends of Mr Thos. Hudson are respectfully invited to follow the remains of his late beloved wife to their last resting place, the Church of England portion of the new Fremantle Cemetery. The funeral is appointed to leave her late residence, King William Street, off Mandurah Road, Fremantle, at 10 o'clock tomorrow (Saturday) Morning. Arthur E. Davies, Undertaker, Fremantle.

Thomas Hudson died 16 October 1914 and was buried at Fremantle Cemetery, Anglican, Section MON A, grave 491. He is buried with his wife, Jane, and grandson George Bateman who died 10 April 1909, aged 32. No headstone on the grave.

Hudson.-On 16 October 1914, at the residence of his grandson, Mr W. G. Lillywhite, No. 647 Edmund-street, Beaconsfield (Fremantle), Thomas Hudson beloved father of Jane Bateman. A colonist of 67 years. Aged 89.¹⁸

Death of an Old Colonist. By the death of Mr Thomas Hudson, there has been removed from our midst one of the oldest colonists of Western Australia, and a very old identity of Fremantle. The deceased gentleman, who was in his 90th year, was born in Yorkshire, England. He arrived in this State in 1847(*sic*) in the barque *Hashmey* (*sic*) and has resided here ever since, a period of 67 years. He leaves one daughter

¹³ SROWA Acc 1156 CS1

¹⁴ WASRO Acc 1156, Receipts and Discharges, 1855 - 1859 (Rd1 - Rd2)

¹⁵ SROWA Acc 1156 R21B

¹⁶ SROWA Acc 1156 V16

¹⁷ <https://www.carnamah.com.au/WA-directories?search=hudson>

¹⁸ Western Mail (Perth, WA : 1885 - 1954), 23 October 1914, p31

(Mrs Jane Bateman, of South Fremantle). The funeral cortege moved from the residence of his grandson, Mr W. G. Lillywhite, Edmund Street, South Fremantle, on Saturday afternoon last and proceeded to the local cemetery, where the remains were interred. The Rev. Alex. Hay, who read the burial service, also delivered an impressive address.

The chief mourners were Mrs Jane Bateman (daughter), Messrs. William and John Bateman, W. G. Lillywhite, G. E. Brain, and W. T. Gates (grandsons), Mesdames W. T. Gates, W. G. Lillywhite, H. Carr, W. Bateman, J. Bateman, junr., and G. E. Brain (granddaughters), Mesdames B. Smith, T. Lee, and F. Roper (grandnieces), and Mr William Bateman (great-grandson). The pall-bearers were Messrs. W. J. Thorn (representing the Sunday school), J. T. Caddy (representing the Junior Endeavour), J. Jackson, and A. H. Barrett (of the South Fremantle Methodist Church), and Messrs. F. Roper and T. Gates. Numerous floral tributes and many tokens of sympathy were received by the relatives. The funeral arrangements were carried out by Messrs. Arthur E. Davies and Co.¹⁹

His daughter:

The Late Mrs Jane Bateman. The death occurred of Mrs Jane Bateman, at Fremantle, on 29 June. The deceased, who was born at Pinjarra 60 years ago, was the daughter of the late Mrs Thomas Hudson, a well-known identity of Fremantle. She leaves a grown-up family of two sons, four daughters, and 16 grandchildren. The funeral cortege moved from the residence of her son-in-law, Mr W. T. Gates, 'Roseville,' Hampton Road, Fremantle, on Wednesday afternoon, the 30 June, and proceeded to the local cemetery, where the remains were interred in the Wesleyan portion.²⁰

Elizabeth Hudson married Matthew Bateman in 1876 at Pinjarra. Mathew was a bootmaker.

¹⁹ The West Australian (Perth, WA : 1879 - 1954), 21 October 1914, p6

²⁰ The Daily News (Perth, WA : 1882 - 1950), 3 Jul y1915, p5