

Thomas Johnston, 143, Hashemy

Researched by Marcia Watson

Name variations: Johnson, Johnstone

Baptism	~1822-6
Parents	Ann Johnston
Parent's marriage	
Siblings	Had seven half-siblings
Wife	
Married	
Children	

Thomas Johnston was most probably the son of Ann Johnston, born about 1822-1826. Ann Johnstone and William Baldwin, both of Sevenhampton, married on 27 October 1828 at Highworth, Wiltshire, by banns. Both made their mark.

On the 1841 census, living at Sevenhampton, Highworth, Wiltshire were:¹
William Baldwin, 35, Ag lab; Ann, 35; Jane 12; Elizabeth 10; Joseph 8; Harriet 6; Robert 3; Maria 1; Thomas Johnson 15.

By the 1851 census, another child is added to the family – Alfred born in 1842. Ann Baldwin died in 1844, aged 39.

Wiltshire Quarter Sessions, Devizes, in January 1847: There were prisoners for trial these sessions; which the large portion of 25 could neither read nor write; and only could read and write well. Twenty were under 21 years of age: one had attained the age 63, and another had scarcely reached 13. The sessions did not terminate until Saturday night.²

Thomas Johnson, charged with stealing one pig, the property of William Hewer, at Highworth. 12 months imprisonment.³

The Criminal Register records - Thomas Johnson *alias* Baldwin, imperfectly read & write, 20, Wilts County Sessions on 5 January 1847, convicted of larceny and sentenced to 12 months.⁴

Then in June 1848, the calendar of prisoners for trial at the County Sessions, on Tuesday next at Warminster, contains about the usual number. None of the offences is of a very aggravated character.⁵ Thomas Johnson *alias* Baldwin, 22, convicted 27 June 1848 of larceny, being before convicted of larceny and felony, at the County Sessions Wiltshire, held at Warminster. He was sentenced to 7 years on each conviction, a total of 14 years.⁶

Thomas Johnson *or* Baldwin, 22, single, can read, labourer, was received at Millbank Prison from Fisherton Gaol on 28 February 1849. He was once previously convicted. On 6 March 1850, he was transferred to Portland Prison and received there the same day. He boarded the *Hashemy* on 19 July 1850 for the voyage to Western Australia.⁷

On arrival at Fremantle on October 1850, his description was:
143. Thomas Johnston, 27 years old, 5' 5", dark brown hair, grey eyes, sharp visage, dark complexion, stout, marks of a bunch of grapes on left arm, below elbow; mole colour; large whiskers, single and a labourer.⁸

¹ HO 107/1178/14

² Devizes and Wiltshire Gazette, 14 January 1847, p3

³ Wilts and Gloucestershire Standard, 19 January 1847, p3

⁴ HO27/83

⁵ Salisbury and Winchester Journal - Saturday 24 June 1848, p4

⁶ HO27/68, p388

⁷ HO24/4; HO8/105; PCOM2/383/1215

⁸ SROWA Acc 128/40-43

General Register:

Thomas Johnston, *alias* Thomas Baldwin was 30 years old in February 1852. He was a farmer's labourer, Church of England never went to school but could read and learnt to write at the Establishment, Fremantle. His brother Joseph Baldwin, a farmer's man, lived at Sevenhampton, Highworth, Wiltshire.

Attended Divine Service? Fell off within the last two years of conviction

Received Sacrament? Never

Habits? Sober & attentive to work

Intellect? Sound

State of Mind? Hopeful

Knowledge, Secular? Limited

Knowledge, Religious? T Tolerable

Alleged Cause of Crime? Company, his own folly

Name of Person referred to for Character, &c. The Rev Mr Nelo(?), Fisherton near Salisbury.

Thomas received books while in prison.⁹

Thomas spent considerable time on the Casual Sick List, Fremantle Prison.¹⁰

[H=in hospital] [Feb. C C = Febris continua continens, continuous or sustained fever]

			Condition	Treatment
Johnson	T	21 October 1850	Bad eyes	Lotion
Johnson	Thos	15 November 1850	Bad eyes	Caustic drops
Johnson	Thos	16 November 1850	Bad eye	Lotion
Johnston	T	6 January 1851	Cold	Pil!; Dover powder
Johnson	Thomas	8 January 1851		Rhub & magnesium ...
Johnston	Thos	13 January 1851		
Johnson	Thomas	14 January 1851	Fever	Saline(?) draughts
Johnston	Thomas	16 January 1851		
Johnstone	Thomas	17 January 1851		Saline (?) draughts
Johnstone	Thos	18 January 1851		
Johnston	Thos	19 January 1851		
Johnstone	Thos	20 January 1851		
Johnstone	Thos	23 January 1851		
Johnstone	Thos	24 January 1851		
Johnstone	Thos	25 January 1851		
Johnstone	Thos	26 January 1851		
Johnson	Thos	27 January 1851		Continue
Johnson	Thomas	28 January 1851	Swelled testacle (sic)	Continue quinine
Johnson	Thomas	29 January 1851		Continue
Johnstone	Thomas	30 January 1851		Continue fever mixture
Johnstone	Thomas	31 January 1851		Continue mix ... Hyd acid
Johnstone	Thos	1 February 1851		Continue mix
Johnstone	Thos	2 February 1851		Continue mixture
Johnstone	Thos	3 February 1851		Continue mix
Johnstone	Thomas	4 February 1851	Febris	
Johnstone	Thomas	5 February 1851	Febris	
Johnstone	Thos	6 February 1851	Fever	Cold sponging
Johnstone	Thomas	7 February 1851	Fever	Continue mist
Johnstone	Thos	8 February 1851	Febris	Continue mist & sponging
Johnstone	Thos	9 February 1851	Febris C C	continue
Johnstone	Thos	10 February 1851	Febris	Mix. quinine & sulphuric acid

⁹ SROWA Acc 1156 R21A

¹⁰ SROWA Acc 1156 CS1

Johnstone	Thos 143	11 February 1851	Feb. C C	Continue Quinine
Johnstone	Thos 143	12 February 1851	Feb. C C	Continue Quinine
Johnstone	Thos 143	13 February 1851	Feb. C C	Aperient mixture
Johnstone	Thos 143	14 February 1851	Feb. C C	Continue Quinine
Johnstone	Thos 143	15 February 1851	Feb. C C	Continue
Johnstone	Thos 143	16 February 1851	Feb. C C	Continue Quinine
Johnson	Thos	17 February 1851	Feb. C C	Continue Quinine
Johnson	Thos	19 February 1851	Feb. C C	Continue Quinine
Johnstone	Thos	20 February 1851	Feb. C C	Continue
Johnston	Thos	26 February 1851	Fever	Continue
Johnston	Thos	27 February 1851		Continue
Johnson	Thos	28 February 1851		Continue
Johnston	Thos	1 March 1851		Continue medicine
Johnston	Thos	2 March 1851		Gayle
Johnson	Thos H	7 March 1851	Debility from fever	Continue Gent
Johnson	Thos H	8 March 1851		Continue Gent
Johnson	Thos H	9 March 1851		
Johnson	Thos	10 March 1851		Continue Gent
Johnson	Thos H	11 March 1851		Ap: medicine
Johnson	Thos H	14 March 1851	Febris	Aper medicine
Johnston	Thos H	15 March 1851	Debility from fever	Continue Gent
Johnson	Thos H	16 March 1851	Debility	Continue
Johnson	Thos H	17 March 1851	Debility	Continue Gent
Johnson	Thos H	18 March 1851		Discharged

Thomas received his Ticket of leave on 27 October 1851.¹¹

On 6 August 1852, No. 143 Thomas Johnston, a ticket of leave holder from the Guildford District, was received at Fremantle Prison under a magisterial sentence of six calendar months. He was to be placed under the usual prison discipline. On 15 November, he was sent to a road party and discharged from prison on 10 February 1853.^{12,13}

His sentence expired on 26 December 1862.¹⁴

¹¹ SROWA Acc 1156 R21B

¹² SROWA Acc 1156 SO1-3; SROWA Acc 1156 RD1-2

¹³ SROWA Acc 1156 RD1-2

¹⁴ SROWA Acc 1156 R21B