

Elias Lapidus, 107, Hashemy

Researched by Marcia Watson

Born	~1818, Lüneburg, Poland
Parents	Isaac Lapuds
Parent's marriage	
Siblings	
Wife 1	Eleanor Brace
Marriage 1	9 May 1842, Ledbury, Herefordshire
Wife 2	Esther Israel
Marriage 2	20 May 1853, Fremantle, Western Australia
Children	Samuel (1844) Henry (1846) Adolph (1847) Nathan (1854) Rachel (1855-1857)

Usk, Monmouthshire in August 1847: In our notice in last week's paper of the case of Elias Lapidus, the Jew, who has been committed in two cases by two of the magistrates of this division for being accessory to the two burglaries committed—one at the shop of Mr Wm. Ball, and the other at the Three Salmons Hotel, in this town, in May last, we omitted to mention that Mr Partridge, of Usk, attended for the prisoner, and throughout, the very lengthened proceedings cross-examined the witnesses, and did everything that professional skill and ingenuity could suggest on his behalf.¹

Monmouthshire Assizes, April 1848:

Elias Lapidus, aged 29, was charged with aiding and abetting in committing a burglary on the premises of William Bull, on 7 May last, at Usk, and the premises of Mrs George, and receiving certain silver-plated goods, the property of Mrs George, well knowing the same to have been stolen.

Mr Gray appeared for the prosecution and opened the case to the jury. He stated that he was in a position to show that the prisoner was acquainted with three men who had been convicted of robbing the Three Salmons Inn at Usk. The prisoner afterwards sold some of the stolen articles at Bristol, which would be proved by the silversmith to whom he sold them. The property would be all be clearly Identified, and the learned gentleman thought he should be able to present such a case to the jury, as would fully warrant them in finding the prisoner guilty.

Mary Tyler, who was the first witness called, said: I live at Wickwar, in Gloucestershire, but on 6 May 1817, I was living with Mrs George, at the Three Salmons Inn, Usk. Mrs George's Christian names are Jane Peachy I remember going to bed on the night of 6 May, last year—before doing so, I went around the house and saw the doors all fastened. There was a skylight over the wine cellar, which was secured. We went to bed at about twelve o'clock. Elizabeth Peachy was the chambermaid then. In the course of the evening, she brought into the bar a bundle, which was left on a shelf in the bar when I went to bed. I got up between six and half-past six the next morning. I looked at the skylight over the cellar; it had been partly removed; it was fastened the night before with cord, which was cut or broken. Persons could get into the cellar by this skylight and thence into the house. I came downstairs, I did not see the bundle I had left on the shelf. I also missed two keys. There was likewise a silver spirit measure missing. Sergeant West of Bristol afterwards showed me this measure, and Mr Hopkins, the policeman, showed me the keys. When we went to bed on the night of the 6th, the kitchen door was locked and bolted; but it was open in the morning.

¹ Monmouthshire Merlin, 28 August 1847, p3

In reply to the prisoner, I know the measure by its being soldered. I know it was Mrs George's from frequently having seen it there.

Elizabeth Peachy, the chambermaid, said: I gave a bundle to the last witness on the 6 May, last year, in the evening. It contained two waistcoats. I afterwards saw these two waistcoats produced by Hopkins, the policeman.

Mark Banks, a waiter at the Three Salmons, said: I had the care of some of the plate at that house on the 6 May last. On the 7th I went to the house (for I do not sleep there) about 7 o'clock. I saw the house had been broken open. I missed four salt spoons, two mustard spoons, six silver cruets tops, and a cruet stand. I had left some of these the evening before in room No. 2, and part in room No. 3. Sergeant West afterwards produced to me a cruet stand and handle and two cruet tops. He also showed me a spirit measure. On the night of the 6th, I had seen all these things in the house at half-past 11 o'clock. I knew the cruet stand and tops to be the same I had seen at the Three Salmons.

William Watkins said: I am gardener to Mr George, at the Three Salmons. I remember going to the house on the 7 May last, about twenty minutes before six o'clock in the morning, and I found the door open. The sash window of the bar had been taken down two strips of hah having been taken off. The doors of the pantry, the wine cellar, and the beer cellar were open. About the floor of room No. 3, cruet glasses were strewed the tops of these glasses were not there I then called James Lewis. James Lewis was next called and sworn, he said I was, boots at the Three Salmons, on the 7 May last. The last witness called me down early in the morning I observed several of the doors open. The sash of the skylight of the wine cellar was open.

Eliza Thomas said: I keep a lodging-house near Usk bridge —three men came to my house on the evening of the 6 May last, about five or six o'clock. I saw the three men at the last assizes as prisoners. The same evening the prisoner came to my house. He had a box with him, and offered jewellery for sale no one called him in I answered him at the door myself. I went out, and returned in about two hours When I went away, he was outside my door; and when I returned, he was in my yard, speaking to George Albert, one of the three men. The prisoner, when I first saw him, wore boots, but when I next saw him, two hours afterwards, he wore slippers. I saw him again that evening at the Golden Lion, soon after I had seen him in my court. I saw him there for about a quarter of an hour or twenty minutes. I heard him ask for a bed candle, and he apparently went to bed.

Cross-examined by the prisoner: I saw the prisoner in the bar of the Golden Lion, and he had a glass of something before him. It was about nine o'clock when I saw him speaking to George Albert. It was between nine and ten when I saw him with the bed candle at the Golden Lion. — To Mr Gray: It is 600 or 700 yards from my house to the Golden Lion.

George Pointen said: I am a razor grinder, of Newport, and was in the house of last witness on 6 May last. About five or six o'clock I saw three men come into the house. They were the same men who were tried here at the last assizes- Mayo, Albert, and Hayes. The prisoner came to the door while I was there and asked if we wanted to buy anything. Eliza Thomas said No. She went away, and George Albert said- "Come in, and let us see what you've got for sale". He came in, and they looked over several things in his box, and Albert then offered his watch for sale. I went out soon afterwards and returned in about ten minutes. The three men were still there, but the prisoner was gone. On my going out after, I met the prisoner going towards the house, from about the turnpike. He asked me where the short man with a light-coloured jacket was I said he was in the house, and the prisoner then went towards the house.

Cross-examined by the prisoner: I knew that the prisoner was the same person I saw both times, from his complexion. I saw him the second time between the house and the turnpike I did not see him go into the house.

Mary Ann Parr, servant to Mr Merrett, at Usk prison, said: On 6 May last, I was a servant at the Golden Lion, in Bridge-street, Usk. The Three Salmons is in Bridge-street, not far from the Golden Lion. I saw the

prisoner at the Golden Lion that evening between eight and nine o'clock. He asked for a bed, and a bedroom was showed to him. Mrs Morgan took him upstairs to show him a bedroom. I am not aware that he came downstairs after he was shown the bedroom. Sometime after he came in, he took off his boots, and put his slippers on, and he then went out, and stayed nearly a quarter of an hour. When he came back he had something to drink. When he went to bed, he asked Mrs Morgan to call him about half-past three. I saw Mr Morgan let him out of the house at half-past four in the morning. He took a small box and a small parcel he had brought the night before. I heard him say the night he came, and he was going to Abergavenny.

Cross-examined by prisoner: I saw prisoner going to bed about ten o'clock. I saw Mr Morgan let him out in the morning. I was up at the time. William Morgan sworn, said: I am the landlord of the Golden Lion, in Bridge-street, at Usk. My house is about halfway between the Three Salmons and the Bridge, perhaps 200 yards from each. The road from my house to Abergavenny is not over the bridge, but past the Three Salmons. I let a man out of my house at half-past four in the morning of the 7 May; I can swear the prisoner is the man; because of our having a child dead in the house, I did not notice the man he took a box he had brought with him, and told me he was going to Abergavenny.

Henry Morgan said: I was at Usk 011 the 7 May last. I slept at William Williams's, in Usk. I had to go down Bridge-street to my work. I had to pass the Three Salmons. I saw three men in the street; it was half-past four in the morning. The men were near the Golden Lion; they went over the bridge, and were joined by another man, the prisoner, who came from the direction of Market-street. The three men had bundles with them. They were here at the last assizes. The prisoner had a box under one arm, and a basket under the other, with handles to it. After going over the bridge, the men turned up through a wood. I had to go that way to my work, so I followed them; after a time, the prisoner left the others, and turned back and spoke to me. He asked me where the path led to. He said, "These men came this way, and I followed them; I suppose they thought they were right." He asked if it was Monmouth's fair the day before. When I left them, the prisoner went along the road.

Rosina Bussell sworn, said: I was a servant at the Steam Packet Inn, Newport, in May last. I was here at the last assizes and saw three men, of the names of Mayo, Albert, and Hayes. On Thursday, the 29 April, I saw these men first. I know the prisoner, I saw him at the Steam Packet Inn, Newport, on the 30 April. When I saw him on the 30th, he was in company with the three men who were convicted at the last assizes. They were conversing together; and prisoner called the others by their names; they seemed to be acquainted with each other. They left the house on the morning of the 30th, saying they were going to Bristol by the packet. I next saw the prisoner on the 6th or 6th of May. He inquired for the persons who were there with him before. I told him they were not there, and he went away. I next saw the prisoner at the Steam Packet on Saturday, the 8 May; he came about five o'clock in the morning. I did not see him between these times. The other three men came to our house also about half-past four on the Saturday morning they brought bundles with them. There was a woman belonging to them stopping in the house that night; she slept with me in a room upstairs. When the men came with the bundles, the woman and the prisoner went out; she afterwards came back with the prisoner he stayed about ten minutes or a quarter of an hour, then went out again, taking a small parcel with him, he came back, and went out again, taking another parcel with him. The parcels were in a sort of wrapper or bag.

Cross-examined by the prisoner: I saw prisoner on the 6 May in the afternoon, about four or five o'clock. I did not see him again till the Saturday morning.

Samuel Harlow, sergeant of the police at Newport, said: In consequence of information I went to the Steam Packet Inn, Newport, on the morning of the 8 May last. I found there three men, in the back part of the house upstairs. We found some hampers there—two waistcoats, &c. The Bristol packet started about eight, or half-past eight that morning.

Edward Hopkins, who was superintendent of police at Newport on the 8 May last, said: I went to the Steam Packet Inn on the 5 May, and found there the three men who were tried and convicted at the last assizes. I found a great number of things in hampers. (The baskets and the other things found, pick locks, life preservers, &c., were produced.)

Jacob Nash, a basket maker at Newport, said: That on Saturday, the 8 May last, at seven in the morning, he sold the prisoner two baskets, or hampers. The ones produced were those he had sold the prisoner.

Cross-examined by the prisoner: I have made many such baskets as these, and sold them to different people. There is no particular mark by which I know them. -To his lordship: These baskets were made of dried twigs, and we do not usually keep that sort ready made. I know these are of my own man's work. - To the prisoner: Other people can make baskets of similar twigs to these.

Josiah Williams, silversmith, of Bristol, said: On the forenoon of the 8 May last, the prisoner came to me to sell some silver goods—a silver cruet stand, two castor tops, and a silver spirit measure. I paid him for them it was about eleven in the forenoon. He said he had taken them of a country shop. keeper. They weighed 15 oz. I paid him £3. 15s 9d., buying them at 4s. 11d. per oz.—To the prisoner- There are many pieces of silver like those I bought in the country.

Sergeant West, of the Bristol police, produced a cruet stand, a spirit measure, and cruet tops, which he had received from Mr Williams, the silversmith. These were identified by Mary Tyler, and Wm. Banks, as the property of Mrs George, of the Three Salmons, Usk. The cruet tops were fitted on to the cruets in court, for the satisfaction of the jury.

Alfred Lewis, constable at Usk, said: I was called to the Three Salmons, Usk, on the morning of the 7 May. The sky light had been broken open and the marks around it corresponded with the size of a "jemmy" produced by Mr Hopkins. The witness produced a jewellery box, which he had received from the superintendent of the Ledbury police. The witness continued: There is a brooch here which I shewed to Ann Bevan.

William Morgan said, the waistcoats produced were his property. He had taken them to the Salmons on the 6 May last, and left them there.

Elizabeth Peachy said, the waistcoats produced were the same she had given into the bar of the Three Salmons on 6 May.

Ann Bevan was next called and sworn. She said, Mr Bull, of Usk, is a relative of mine. I was staying with him on the 6 May last. On that day, the prisoner came to Mr Bull's. and shewed me a brooch, which, he said, was an old lady's great grandmother's brooch. I have no doubt that the prisoner is the man who was in the shop and the brooch produced is the one he shewed me,—To the prisoner I think other persons sell such brooches as this.

James Morgan said: I was shopman to Mr Bull, of Usk, on 6 May last, The prisoner was shewing jewellery in the shop that evening, about five o'clock.

William Shead, superintendent of police at Ledbury, said: I apprehended the prisoner at Ledbury, on a charge of being concerned in two burglaries at Usk. He said he did not know where Usk was that he had never been there. He came willingly with me. I apprehended him at the Rising Sun, in Leamington, Warwickshire. He had this box (the one produced) with him; which I took, and handed to Constable Lewis, of Usk.

Henrietta Morgan, of the Golden Lion, Usk, confirmed the testimony of her husband, as to a man having been at the house on the 6 May, but could not swear that the prisoner was the man.

This closed the case for the prosecution.

The prisoner, who is a foreigner, made a rambling statement to the jury, and produced two letters, in which were testimonials as to his previous character. He also called, as witnesses to character, Isaac Jacobs, of Cheltenham, and Herseh Myers, of the same place, who both stated that they never heard anything against the prisoner, but had always considered him an honest and upright man. The prisoner having thus

sought to establish a good character, Thomas Moore was called by Mr Gray, and handed in a certificate of the prisoner's previous conviction under a different name for two felonies, committed at Painswick. The indictment upon this case was observed by his lordship to allege only that the prisoner was convicted, without affirming that he was convicted under a different name. Mr Gray said he thought that might be taken as a matter of evidence. Some consultation ensued upon this point, and his lordship permitted the certificate to be recorded as evidence against the prisoner. The evidence of Moore, with reference to the certificate, was stoutly denied by the prisoner, who repeatedly affirmed that he had never been many gaol in England or elsewhere.

His lordship then clearly summed up the case to the jury— and after a short consultation, a verdict of Guilty was returned. The prisoner begged piteously for mercy, earnestly protesting that he was innocent but was sentenced to fourteen years of transportation. [The Judge ordered that £5 should be given to Superintendent Shead for his indefatigable exertions in bringing to justice Elias Lapidus, charged with feloniously aiding and assisting Dallimore, Scatterwhaite and others perpetrating burglaries at Usk and other places.]²

Part of another version of the trial.

The prisoner, who a Jew, addressed the jury in very imperfect English and said that they would observe the witnesses had nearly all contradicted themselves in every essential particular, when they compared their present evidence with their depositions before the magistrates. In the matter of the brooch, he said that similar ones were , manufactured by the gross. He was poor man unfortunately, (but that was not a crime) or he would have brought witnesses to character. In the matter of the silver, he would ask the jury question—might he not have taken it and sold it at some distant town, as well at Bristol, and not be known. The prisoner's address occupied nearly half an hour, and displayed much ingenuity.

Isaac Jacobs was called by the prisoner and examined: I live at Cheltenham, and am hawker by profession; I have known the prisoner between five and six years; he has lodged in my house for six months together about two years ago I never knew anything wrong about him; I believe him to be an honest man.—Cross-examined: I never heard that this man had been twice convicted of a felony.

Myers examined: I am a traveller, living at Cheltenham; I have known the prisoner four years; the prisoner lives Ledbury; I always considered him to be a very honest man; he always bore that character.

Mr Gray put in a certificate of conviction for felony, committed by one Phebus Carrow, at Gloucester, whom it was alleged was identical with the present prisoner.

His Lordship said that the certificate did not express that the conviction was made under assumed name. Mr Gray submitted that this was matter for evidence.

His Lordship said, that at the Central Criminal Court had been ruled otherwise. He had doubt about the matter himself but should not establish a rule without consulting his brother judges. If Mr Gray chose to press it for the admission of the certificate, he would leave the question open for future decision, and in the meantime, admit the certificate.

Mr Gray felt strongly in the matter that he should press for the admission of the certificate.

Thomas Moore examined: In 1841, I was deputy governor of Gloucester gaol; the prisoner at the bar is identical with the Carrow, named in the certificate.

His Lordship addressed the jury, and a verdict of guilty was returned.—Sentenced to transportation for the term of 14 years.³

Lapidus, The Jew Convict.—This man was sentenced to transportation at the last assizes, having been found guilty of being concerned in the Usk burglary. During the past week, his wife has been making personal application to some of the inhabitants of Usk, and among others, to Mrs George, of the Three

² Monmouthshire Merlin, 1 April 1848, p2

³ Hereford Times, 01 April 1848, p8

Salmons, one of the prosecuting party, stating that she was going about to obtain signatures to a petition, got up on behalf of her husband. We do not learn that the application, as of much avail in Usk.⁴

Petitions

Bromyard, 26th August 1848.

My Lord,

I am induced, from knowing something of the hardship & circumstances of the case to interest myself in endeavouring to obtain some mitigation of the punishment awarded at the last March Assizes for Monmouth, to Elias Lapidus, a native of Poland, convicted of receiving stolen goods.

He has a wife & three small children, for whose support a pittance of 3/- per week is allowed by the Parish of the wife.

The sentence - 14 years transportation - the man is now at the Millbank Prison.

It appears from the needy circumstances of his relatives, he was undefended at his trial, & that he was ignorant of the English law as to receiving stolen goods, as well as the fact they were stolen goods at the time he received them.

Several respectable parties appeared to give him a good character - His family entirely depended upon him for support, & they are now in a most pitiable plight from it being withdrawn. Believing the man to have been duped of designing villains & that from its being his first offence (if such it were) as well as from his ignorance of the laws of the country or that he was receiving goods that he knew at the time had been stolen & that if not a speedy release some mitigation of punishment would be a merciful & just decision of Her Majesty's Government, I have taken the liberty of submitting his case to your Lordship's consideration & hoping that it will be found on investigation, fully to bear out my opinion & to justify your Lordship's interference in procuring some mitigation of punishment.

I have the honour to remain my Lord, Your Lordship's obedient servant.

John Booth, Incumbent of Wacton & Stanford. [Stanford Bishop, Hereford; Wacton, Norfolk]

Cover: HO18/236/7

Elias Lapidus, 29, Monmouth Lent Assizes, March 1848, receiving stolen goods, 14 years transportation.

Gaol report - convicted before

Nil HW

Application is made for mitigation of the prisoner's sentence on the ground that he was ignorant of English Law - that he had no guilty knowledge - that his character is good - & that his family are in distress.

Answered 7 September 1848.

Received 10 May 1850 (2nd application)

Elias Lapidus, 552

Convicted 25 March 1848, Monmouth, aged 31, Purchasing stolen property, 14 years transportation, received at Portland Prison 20 June 1849.

To the Right Honorable Sir George Grey, Baronet, Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for the Home Office Department.

The petition of Eliza Lapidus, a prisoner in the Portland prison, humbly sheweth

That your petitioner was convicted at the Assizes held at Monmouth 28th day of March 1848 on the charge of purchasing some articles of plate, well knowing the same to have been stolen.

That your petitioner is a native of Germany, and has a wife and three children dependant upon him for support.

That your petitioner having already served the greater portion of his probationary period of punishment, viz. about 2 years, and also 8 months before his conviction, is most earnestly desirous of returning to his native country under such restriction as the Government may think proper to recommend,

⁴ Monmouthshire Merlin, 8 April 1848, p3

where his connections (who are highly respectable) are ready to receive him, instead of being sent to the Colonies, when he would not only be himself a friendless wanderer but be also compelled to abandon to poverty and disgrace his helpless family.

Your petitioner would merely add that at the time he bought the articles in question, he did so in ignorance, being a stranger both to this country and to its laws.

Your petitioner, therefore, humbly implores your merciful consideration of his request to be sent to Germany, and he will as in duty bound with a grateful heart ever pray &c &c Elias Lapidus

Cover: Elias Lapidus, 2nd application

The prisoner prays that as he has now served the greater portion of his probationary imprisonment, he may be allowed to return to Germany instead of being sent to the Colonies.

Nil GG

Early life and previous conviction

Committals at the Gloucestershire County Gaol, 1841: Phoebus Carro, charged with stealing gold rings, at Painswick, from Thomas Nash and others.⁵

Ringing the Changes.— Phoebus Carro, 20, a Torrington Jew, against whom there were three indictments, for stealing gold rings from different families Stroud and Painswick, was tried and found guilty upon two; upon the other no evidence appeared —It appeared that the prisoner was a hawker of jewellery, and having called upon the prosecutors, offered his goods for sale among which he particularly recommended some rings, at the same time admiring the wedding rings which the females had upon their fingers, and expressing a wish to examine them more minutely, prevailed upon them to take them from their fingers Having done this, he managed to substitute a brass ring their stead. Sentenced to two months' hard labour for each offence, with the exception of Saturday and Sunday, to be in solitude.⁶

The 1841 census has two people called Phoebus Caro living at:
Lawfords Gate House of Correction, Clifton, Gloucestershire, Age 21, a hawker.
At New Castle Street, St Mary Whitechapel, Whitechapel, aged 20, a traveller.

A Phoebus Caro, a German bookbinder, arrived at London from Hamburg on 12 September 1837. First arrival and had a passport. ⁷

An Elias Lapdous arrived at Hull, from Germany, on 1 October 1844. He was a Traveller.⁸
Did Elias go to Germany and return so he could legitimate????

The description of Phoebus Carro in 1841 at Gloucestershire County Gaol:
Phoebus Carro, 20, 5'5", black hair, black eyes, eyebrows which meet, long face, fresh complexion, prominent regular features, a small mouth, Jewish persuasion, a hawker of jewellery. Born in Lunenburgh, Poland (Lüneburg) ⁹

The description of Elias at Western Australia in October 1850:
107. Elias Lapidus, 32, 5'6", black hair, dark hazel eyes, an oval face, dark complexion, stout, no marks, jeweller, married with three children.

Elias was removed from Monmouth Gaol and sent to Millbank Prison, arriving there on 26 April 1848. On 12 December 1848, he was transferred to Wakefield Prison, remaining there for about six months. On 20 June 1849, he was transferred to Portland Prison, where he remained until he boarded the *Hashemy* on 19 July

⁵ Gloucester Journal, 06 February 1841, p3

⁶ Cheltenham Chronicle, 11 March 1841, p3

⁷ England, Alien Arrivals, 1810-1811, 1826-1869

⁸ England, Alien Arrivals, 1810-1811, 1826-1869

⁹ Gloucestershire Archives; Reference: Q/Gc/5/6

1850 for the voyage to Western Australia. Elias was twice reported for irregularity, on 15 August 1849 and 12 February 1850, and disposed of as in Report Book and Misconduct Book ¹⁰

For more information on Elias, see - Story on Fremantle Stuff

<https://fremantlestuff.info/people/lapidus.html>

Eleanor Brace, wife of Elias Lapidus, convict 107

Baptism	~1824, Ireland
Parents	Samuel Brace (1787-1872) and Julia
Parent's marriage	
Siblings	
Husband	Elias Laupds/Lapidus
Marriage	9 May 1842 at Ledbury, Herefordshire
Husband 2	James McAleenan
Marriage 2	31 December 1869 at Hilltown, Newry, Down
Children	Samuel Lapidus (1844) Henry Lapidus (1846) Adolph Lapidus (1847)

Samuel Brace was a labourer before joining the 15th Regiment of Foot from 1806 to 1824. He was from Avenbury or Bishop's Frome near Bromyard in Herefordshire. Between 1808 and 1821, he served in the West Indies. Samuel was discharged at Waterford, Ireland, in 1824, having suffered from chronic rheumatism and wasting of the right thigh and leg for three years. He received an army pension of 1s a day.

Eleanor Brace said she was born in Ireland, and her mother was Julia Brace, who was about 30 years old when Eleanor was born.

In 1841, Julia Brace, 48, and Eleanor, 17, were at Copenhagen St, Worcester. They appear to be visitors. Samuel Brace, 55, a labourer, was at Homend Street in Ledbury.

Eleanor Brace married Elias Lapidus on 9 May 1842 at Ledbury.

In October 1842 at Ledbury, Julia Brace, the keeper of a lodging-house in the Homend, charged Thomas Lissiman, a baker and shopkeeper, with assaulting and beating her. The dispute arose about some article which Julia had bought at the defendant's shop. Julia brought forward a whole of host witnesses to prove that both she and her daughter, Eleanor, were beaten in a shameful manner by the defendant; however, only one of these witnesses was heard. Lissman was fined 1s and 8s expenses.

In March 1848, at the Monmouth Assizes, Elias Lapidus, aged 29, was charged with aiding and abetting in committing a burglary on the premises of William Bull at Usk in May 1847 and the premises of Mrs George. He was also charged with receiving silver-plated goods, the property of Mrs George, well knowing the same to have been stolen. The jury, after a short consultation, returned a verdict of guilty. According to the newspaper accounts, 'the prisoner begged piteously for mercy, earnestly protesting that he was innocent. Elias was sentenced to be transported for fourteen years.

Eleanor, now known as Ellen, was at Windmill Hill, Saint Thomas, Birmingham, Warwickshire in 1851.

Ellen *Lepitus*, widow, 26, tailoress, born in Ireland

Henry *Lepitus*, son, 5, scholar, born in Ledbury, Herefordshire

¹⁰ Portland Prison. Governor's Journal, 24 November 1848 to 9 August 1850. PCOM 2/354

