

Alfred Lunon, 163, *Hashemy*

Researched by Marcia Watson

Name variations: Lunnon, Lonnon, London, Lennon, Lonon

Baptism	29 August 1824, Rickmansworth, Hertford
Parents	James <i>Lonnon</i> married Mary Gristwood
Parent's marriage	8 April 1822 at Bushey, Hertfordshire.
Siblings	William <i>Lonon</i> (1822), Elizabeth <i>London</i> (1828), Lucy <i>London</i> (1830), Emily <i>Lunnon</i> (1833), James <i>Lunnon</i> (1836), Keziah <i>Lunnon</i> (1839)
Wife	
Married	
Children	

The 1841 census shows the *Lonnon* family living at Mill End, Rickmansworth, Hertfordshire.¹ James Lonnon, 40, paper maker journeyman, not born in county; his wife Mary, 40, born in the county, and their children William, 15, Alfred, 15, Betsy, 12, Lucy, 9, Emma, 7, James, 5 and Keziah, 1.

On the 17 January 1849, three men named Daniel Brown, Alfred Lunnon, and James Rackley, were examined before the magistrates at Rickmansworth, charged with breaking into the dwelling-house of Mrs Mary Stacey and stealing a £5 Bank of England note and other money belonging to her. Several articles, the property of Mrs Benham, who resides with Mrs Stacey, were also stolen.

The prosecutrix stated that she resides at Scotchhill, near Rickmansworth. On Friday last, she went to bed soon after ten o'clock, but before retiring, she fastened the doors and windows of her house. About twelve o'clock, she was awoken by a noise resembling the beating of a door. She got up and struck a light. Soon afterwards, she heard the smashing of glass in her own bedroom and also in the room in which Mrs Benham sleeps. Two stones came into her bedroom, and one into Mrs Benham's bedroom. She went into Mrs Benham's room and closed the door. Soon afterwards, several persons broke the panel of the door and entered through the aperture. Four or five of the party had clubs. Four of the party had their faces blackened, apparently with soot. One of the depredators had a smock-frock, another a blue frock, another a blue striped frock, another a fustian coat, and another a ragged smock-frock. When Daniel Brown asked Mrs Stacey for money, she replied that "he should have all she had got." He accompanied her into the back room and took a five-pound Bank of England note and one pound in silver. The intruders searched the drawers and boxes everywhere. They also turned the bed. On the mantelpiece downstairs, there were left 1s in silver, 3d in copper, and three silver fourpenny pieces, which were all taken away. The robbers went away at about a quarter to one. One of the men said that "witness might now go to bed comfortably."

Four of the party had clubs; one had a broomstick, which had been left outside her house on the night of the robbery. Daniel Brown had held a club over her head and said he would kill them if she made a noise. Another of the party said, "What a b— murder we will have tonight." Alfred Lunnon had not so much black on his face as the others. There were three clubs left behind. The tin box produced is the property of Mrs Benham. There were marks of blood on the stairs. Alfred Lunnon's finger was found to be cut when brought up for examination.

At the Hertford Assize on 28 February, it appeared that six persons had entered the house, three of them were armed with sticks, and the fourth had the bar that had fastened the window before it was broken open. Mrs Stacy identified Brown and Lunnon, although their faces were blackened. It was that Rackley's shoes correspond to footsteps that were under the window. Also, on the morning after the burglary, he was seen in company with the other two prisoners at a beer shop, and that they all three

¹ HO107/438/21, p27

washed their faces, which appeared to have been blackened with soot. The jury found all the prisoners guilty, and they were transported for fourteen years.² Alfred was 23 and a paper maker.

Alfred's parents petitioned for him to be sent to Bermuda or Gibraltar.

Sent to J H Capper Esq, Secretary States Office, White Hall, London.

Petition, Received 20 March 1849

[Note: there are many spelling mistakes in the petition]

Hon^d Sir,

In being the humble request of an unfortunate Mother of the name of Mary Lonon now living at Millend in the Parish of Rickmansworth in the County of Hertfordshire, both she and her present unhappy Father, standing upon the Grounds of Hopes, to be so fortunate as to meet Your kind approbation so far as to meet your kind answer in the favour having now an Unfortunate son Aged 24. or 25 now laying at Hartford Gaol under the Awful sentence of 14 years Transportation a youth in a perfect good state of Health and never before stood Charged of anything unlawfully, of violating against the laws of his Country previous to this, wick like many more where Completely drawn in to this Trouble through being in Company with, more his misfortune, and where Charged of Burglerly, at the dwelling House of one Mrs Staceys Resident in the Parish of Rickmersworth, Herts with more he ware tried at the March Assizes and found Guilty of the name of Alfred Lonon waiting now till the Order comes for them to be Removed, and it is the humble prayer that your Honours kind Humanity will Grant the poor Distress'd Friends Minds that you will please to send him to the Iland of Blumoder, or to Giberalter they being homerd bound stations and from is good Conduct During is time of Confinement will be found such we have every hopes as to prove in is favour and to be Considered praiseworthy of is liberty, hoping to live to see the Happy day of is safe Return to us a gain if please the Almighty to spare me and my Husband hoping it will be a true warning to him to the End of is future days of is life, and that he will become a good and worthy member of society, in the Eye of is Maker, kind Sir I should be Very thankful to you if you will please to return me a few lines in ans^r you will please to direct the answer to John Gilbert Sen^r Watford Union that I shall have it safe from him hoping it will prove a to my prayers and never shall be thankfull Enough Hon Sir for such an act of kind humanity being granted to us there is not one of our family kind Sir that ever where in any kind of Trouble even before, nor any one of there Aged Friends whatever on Neither side wick all adds to give us Every hopes, from your goodness that our humble Request will be granted and that we shall live to see him Return to us again hoping it will be is lot to go to the Iland of Blumader and to the End of our future days shall Consider Ourselves in Duty bound to Ever pray for such an Act of Friendship being granted in our present distress and Remain Your & with the greatest Difference Most Obe^d Humble Ser^{ts}

James and Mary Lonon

In the Employ of Mr Magneys paper Mill wick Sir is Charicter will bear Every Inquiry for is Honesty & Sobriety.³

The petitioned was answered 13 April 1849, no action was taken and the sentence remained.

Alfred Lunnon, 23, single, can read and write imperfectly, labourer, was convicted on 27 February 1849 at Hertford Assizes or burglary, and sentenced to 14 years transportation. He had once been imprisoned for assault. Alfred was received at Millbank Penitentiary on 10 April 1849. He was removed to Portland Prison on 1 May 1850. From here he boarded the *Hashemy* on 19 July 1850 for the voyage to Fremantle.⁴

On-board the *Hashemy* with him was Daniel Brown. James Rackley was sent to the *Owen Glendower* hulk at Gibraltar before boarding the *Ramillies* in 1854 for Fremantle.

On arrival at Western Australia, Alfred's description was:

163. Alfred Lunon, 24, 5' 4¼", dark brown hair, hazel eyes, long face, dark complexion, slight build, small scar of right side of forehead, a labourer and single.⁵

The General Register noted:

163. Alfred Lunon, 24, labourer, single, Church of England, went to a private school, reading is fair, writing is tolerable and his maths is indifferent. Alfred said his father James Lunon, paper maker, lives in Hertford.

² Northern Star and Leeds General Advertiser, 03 March 1849, p15

³ HO18/236

⁴ HO24/4; HO8/105

⁵ SROWA Acc 128/40-3

Attended Divine Service? Irregularly
 Received Sacrament? Never
 Habits? Drank a little occasionally
 Intellect? Sound
 State of Mind? Hopeful
 Knowledge, Secular? Very limited
 Knowledge, Religious? Very limited
 Alleged Cause of Crime? Bad company and drink
 Name of Person referred to for Character, &c. Mr Joseph Harding of Rickmansworth near Watford, Herts.⁶

Alfred appeared several times on the Casual sick list while at Fremantle Prison.⁷

Lunnon Alfred	6 December 1850	Bad knee	Dress and bandage
Lunnon Alf	14 December 1850	Boil	Poultice
Lunnon Al	15 December 1850	Boil	Continue poultice
Lunnon Alfred	16 December 1850		Discharged
Lunnum Alfred	11 March 1851	Febris C.C	Fever mixture
Lunnon Alfred	12 March 1851	Febric C.C	Continue medicine
Lunnon Alfred	8 April 1851	Bad eyes	Lotion
Lunnon Alf	11 April 1851	Bad eye	Gutt: Argent Nitrat

A Ticket of leave was issued on 10 February 1852.

In December 1855, Alfred was granted a Conditional Pardon.⁸

No further trace found.

⁶ SROWA Acc 1156 R21A

⁷ SROWA Acc 1156 CS1

⁸ SROWA Acc 1156 R21B