Patrick Farley, 1044, Marion

According to census, workhouse, and prison records, Patrick Farley was born in Ireland in about 1820. His parents were James and Hannah Farley, and he had two sisters.

His family is believed to be in Birmingham on the 1841 census: Old Cross Street, Birmingham, Warwickshire: James Farley, 50, S. M. [shoe maker]; Hannah Farley, 55; Elizabeth, 15; Hannah, 9; all born in Ireland. ¹

James and Hannah Farley entered the St George the Martyr Workhouse, Mint Street, Southwark, on 22 November 1848.²

Jas Farley, born in 1797 in Ireland, was a shoemaker, married, and admitted temporarily due to illness; he was Catholic. James died on 13 January 1849 at the workhouse from asthma. He was buried in the parish of St George the Martyr on 17 January 1849; his age is recorded as 55; however, his death certificate records his age as 65 (born 1784).

Hannah Farley, born in 1788, married, admitted because she was old, infirm, and destitute. She was still in the workhouse when the 1851 census was recorded:

Hannah Farley, pauper, widow, 62, monthly nurse, born Ireland Tyrone Holmes. ³ She died on 8 October 1854 in the workhouse, aged 76, of paralysis and was buried at Victoria Park Cemetery, Hackney, on 11 October.⁴ The cemetery is on the other side of the Thames River, about 6km from the workhouse.

Patrick had two previous convictions before he was sentenced to transportation. They appear to be:

Surrey County Sessions, 5 January 1841: Patrick Farley, 21, imp, convicted of assault on a Peace Officer, 6 months.⁵ When the 1841 census was taken on 6 June, he was in the House of Correction at Brixton Hill, parish of Lambeth in Surrey - Patrick Farley, 20, born in Ireland.⁶

Then, in 1846, this newspaper report appears to be Patrick:

A Daring Set of Thieves. A man of shabby appearance who gave his name Patrick Farley was charged at Marylebone Police-court on Wednesday with having, in conjunction with others, attempted to pick the pocket of a lady. Skidmore, 160 S, showed that the prisoner and four or five others were loitering for some time in a very suspicious manner on the previous evening in front of the terminus of the London and Birmingham Railway and that on the arrival of the eight o'clock train, a lady, in deep mourning, with a great number of other passengers came out of the gate in Drummond-street. The prisoner followed her, and when she had gone as far as the corner of Euston Square, the witness distinctly saw him lift the lady's dress and put his hand into her pocket. He was then taken into custody. The Magistrate sent the prisoner to the House of Correction for six weeks.⁷

³ TNA UK, HO107/1564/490

¹ TNA UK, HO107/1145/6

² LMA, Workhouse Admission and Discharge Records; SOBG/101/28, Christ Church Workhouse Register, 1848-1849.

⁴ TNA UK, RG/8/42

⁵ TNA UK, HO 27/65, p191

⁶ TNA UK, HO107/1054/7 HO27

⁷ The Era, 18 January 1846, p2

Patrick's luck ran out when at Lambeth on 19 October 1850: Patrick Farley and Phillis McCann were placed at the bar before Mr Elliott for the final examination, the female on a charge of stealing a purse and seven sovereigns, and the male prisoner with being an accessory.

Mr Frederick Deacon⁸, an engineer of 21 Crozier-street, Stangate, deposed that on that night week, at about 12 o'clock, while on his way home, he was accosted by the female prisoner McCann in familiar terms. He requested her to go about her business and not annoy him, and in order to avoid her importunities, he crossed from one side of the York-road to the other. She (prisoner), however, followed him and, on reaching the other side, threw her arms around him and drew him to a gateway. In a moment or two, however, she let go of her hold and was hurrying away from him when he examined his pocket and found that his purse, containing seven sovereigns, which was safe but a few moments before. He was about to follow the woman when the male prisoner placed himself before him and threatened to give him into the custody of a policeman for indecent conduct towards the female, and by this means he afforded the female an opportunity to get away and the male prisoner also disappeared. On the Tuesday night following, he (the witness) was sent for to come to the Surrey Theatre, and on going into the pit, he at once recognized the prisoners as the parties by whom he had been robbed and gave them into custody. He subsequently accompanied Crick, 40L, to a room occupied by the prisoners, 5 Red Cross-street, Southwark, and there, in a drawer, found the purse that had been stolen from him but which was empty.

The prisoners, who merely denied the robbery, were fully committed for trial.⁹

At the NEWINGTON, Adjourned Quarter Session on 21 October 1850: Patrick Farley, 33, and Phillis McCann, 34, were sentenced to 10 years. ¹⁰

Patrick Farley, 33, single, can read, a labourer, Roman Catholic, was received at Millbank Prison on 10 December 1850 from Horsemonger Lane Gaol. He had been once convicted and once acquitted, although another register said he had been twice in Prison for want of sureties to keep the peace. His mother, Hannah Farley, was in St George's Workhouse, Southwark. Hannah and her two daughters visited Patrick on 28 July 1851. Three months later, on 22 October 1851, he boarded the ship *Marion* for Western Australia. ¹¹

On arrival in Western Australia on 30 January 1852, he was described as: 1044. Patrick Farley, 35, 5'5³/₄", with grey hair, hazel eyes, round face, fair complexion, stout, scar on left cheek, single.¹²

Three days later, Patrick was removed from *Marion* on 2 February and moved to Division 1 at the Prison. On 23 June 1853, he was discharged from Prison - 1044. P. **Farrely** to public works.

⁸ Frederick Bacon on Court Record

⁹ Morning Advertiser, 21 October 1850, p4.

¹⁰ AJCP, Reel M1834, Calendar of Prisoners. Surrey Quarter Sessions at Newington Gaol. March 1848 to December 1853.

¹¹ TNA UK, PCOM2/31 HO24/5

¹² SROWA Acc 128/1-32

There was an unclaimed letter for Patrick Farley in August 1853.¹³ Unfortunately, the sender is unknown.

Patrick was fined 7s for being drunk on 6 March 1854 at the Fremantle Police Court.¹⁴ Then, on 3 November, he received three months hard labour for being absent from his duty; he was discharged on 5 February 1855. Patrick was working in Toodyay when he absconded from the Depot on 7 January 1857 and received one month hard labour. He was transferred back to Fremantle Prison on 17 January to serve the sentence. On 10 March 1857, he was discharged to Ticket of Leave. A Conditional Pardon was granted on 29 September 1859.¹⁵ However, the Government Gazette does not record that Patrick signed for his certificate.

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Patrick died on 16 June 1860 from spasmodic stricture and hydrocele. He would have been about 40 years old.

He is possibly the Patrick Farrelly, aged 40, who died at Busselton in 1860.

Phillis McCann was transported to Tasmania per Aurora in 1851.

¹³ The Perth Gazette and Independent Journal of Politics and News, 5 Aug 1853, p4

¹⁴ Inquirer, 22 Mar 1854, p3

¹⁵ SROWA, Stamp Books, 1857 - 1864 (S1 - S3), image 67.