

Richard King #9800 – Notes by Nicola King

Richard King was my gt gt grandfather. He was christened at St Mary the Virgin, Stanwell, Surrey on 25th December 1831. He was convicted of two crimes before the one that led to his transportation. Here is a newspaper report of the one that led to the transportation. Isabella had two children by Richard King, one of which was my gt grandfather.

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Crown Court Saturday before Mr Baron Martin

Burglary at Little Horwood

Richard King, 35, labourer, and Isabella Slatter, 23, spinster, were charged with burglariously breaking and entering the dwelling house of Thomas Quinton, at Little Horwood, on the night of the 29th August, 1866, and stealing 1 silver tablespoon, 1 pair of silver sugar tongs, 1 silver teacaddy spoon, 3 silver teaspoons, and other articles, value together 25s., and Â£1 2s. in money, the property of the said Thomas Quinton; also with burglariously breaking and entering the dwelling-house of Thomas Wake, at Little Horwood, on the night of the 29th August, 1866, and stealing 8 yards of calico, several other pieces of calico, 1 shawl, 1 handkerchief, and 1 hearth-rug, value 40s., the property of the said Thomas Wake. The charge against the female prisoner was withdrawn by Mr. Drake, the prosecuting counsel.

King pleaded guilty; he also pleaded to a previous conviction.

His Lordship said he had not the least doubt that the prisoner was a regular professional burglar, and came down into this county for the express purpose of breaking into any houses he could, sending his spoil to London to the unfortunate woman who had just been acquitted. He need not say that those who committed such crimes must expect, and indeed did expect, to be severely punished. The sentence upon him was that he be kept in penal servitude for 15 years.

Richard King absconded while on a working party from the Bunbury area in December 1869, he was recaptured in March 1871, placed in irons and given another 3 years' sentence.

He was a groom for the Resident Magistrate in York from June 1874.

He got TOL in March 1875.

He was given his Certificate of Freedom in May 1886.

In December 1887 he was found to have stolen some kegs of gunpowder and was given a further 2 year sentence.

Discharged November 1889.

Richard died 9 June 1909, in Perth Hospital. His occupation was given as 'bootblack'.