

## Henry Whale, 174, *Hashemy*

Researched by Marcia Watson

Name variation: Wale

Baptism	11 November 1827, Lydiard Tregoze, Wiltshire
Parents	Mark <u>Wale</u> and Elizabeth Jones
Parent's marriage	4 April 1825, Lydiard Tregoze, Wiltshire (or Tregooze)
Siblings	Ann (1825), William (1830), Jane (1832), David (1834), Mark (1836)
Wife	
Married	
Children	

Henry's father, Mark, was a labourer and died in 1838 at Basset Down, in the parish of Lydiard Tregoze.

In 1841 and 1851, Elizabeth Wale, 35, and her children still lived in the parish of Lydiard Tregoze, Wiltshire.<sup>1</sup> The 1851 census gives their abode as Basset Down, parish of Lydiard Tregoze; Elizabeth is a laundress.

At the Wiltshire Summer Assizes, in July 1846, Henry Whale, 18, was convicted breaking into the dwelling of Thomas Besant at Liddington on 30 June. He stole seven sovereigns, two half-crowns, seven shillings from a purse. Henry pleaded guilty, and the prosecutor recommended him to mercy. He was sentenced to six months' imprisonment, with hard labour.<sup>2</sup>

A year after being released from gaol, Henry appeared at the Gloucestershire Epiphany Sessions in January 1848. As Henry Jones, he was sentenced to nine months hard labour for breaking into the house of Sarah Harris of Naunton on 1 November 1847 and stealing wearing apparel. Naunton is about 45km north of where his family lived.<sup>3</sup>

After his sentence expired, he was arrested by the Wiltshire Constabulary and appeared at the Swindon Petty Sessions in October:

Henry Whale, of Basset Down, labourer, was charged with feloniously cutting and wounding Jane Chilcot, of Wroughton, on 18 October 1847. The prosecutrix, a poor deformed woman of weak intellect, residing with her mother at Wroughton, deposed that the day question, between six and seven o'clock in the evening, she was sitting in her house (which stands alone on the turnpike road from Swindon to Devises), and her mother was absent all day. The prisoner, whom she knew very well, came into the house and requested be allowed to light his pipe. This she consented to, and the prisoner then pulled out the knife and deliberately drew across her throat twice. However, owing to the bluntness of the instrument, it, fortunately, inflicted only two slight wounds. He then threw her on the fire and decamped. The prisoner subsequently broke into Purton and stole various articles of wearing apparel and victuals. Henry then proceeded into Gloucestershire, where he was convicted under the name of Henry Jones for housebreaking and sentenced to nine months imprisonment. Henry was committed for trial at the Assizes.<sup>4</sup>

At the Wiltshire Lent Assizes, Salisbury, on 8 March 1849:

Henry Whale, 21, was indicted for having feloniously cut and wounded Jane Chilcot, at Wroughton, with intent to kill and murder her. A second count in the indictment laid the offence as with the intent to do the prosecutrix some bodily harm. Before these charges, the prisoner was found guilty of stealing a waistcoat

<sup>1</sup> HO107/1179/9, p11

<sup>2</sup> Salisbury and Winchester Journal, 25 July 1846, p3

<sup>3</sup> Gloucester Journal, 8 January 1848, p2

<sup>4</sup> Globe, 13 October 1848, p1

and other articles from John Besley at Purton and found guilty.<sup>5</sup> He then expressed his wish to plead guilty to the second count of the indictment. The Court sentenced him to transportation for 14 years.<sup>6</sup>

Henry Whale spent seven months in Salisbury before being transferred to Millbank Prison on 9 October 1849.<sup>7</sup> A month later, he was transferred to Pentonville Prison. The register notes Henry weighed 10 stone 9 lbs, he could read & write imperfectly, was single and was a farm labourer. His mother is Elizabeth Whale, lived at Lydiard Tregoze. He had been in Devizes Prison for stealing money four years ago. Eight months later, he was transferred to Portland Prison on 11 June 1850. He boarded the *Hashemy* on 19 July 1850 for the voyage to Western Australia.<sup>8</sup>

During the voyage, Henry appears in the Surgeon's Journal:

Folio 2: Henry Whale, aged 23, prisoner; dyspepsia; put on sick list, 20 August 1850, discharged 23 August 1850 well.<sup>9</sup>

On arrival at Fremantle in October, his description was:

174. Henry Whale (174), 23, 5' 2", dark brown hair, hazel eyes, round face, dark complexion. He had one cut on his hand near the right thumb and 2 scars, one above and one below his right knee. Henry was a sawyer and single. It says he has two children, but this should be assigned to the convict above him on the list, James Wilson (173), who had two children.<sup>10</sup>

General Register:

174. Henry Whale was 24, single, farm labourer, Church of England, had private schooling, could read and write a bit and was indifferent to accounts. His mother was Elizabeth Whale, a laundress lives in Lydiard Tregoze, Wiltshire.

Attended Divine Service? Usually went once each Sunday

Received Sacrament? Never

Habits? Sober and attentive to business

Intellect? Sound

State of Mind? Hopeful

Knowledge, Secular? Limited

Knowledge, Religious? Limited – clear on the Gospel plan for Salvation

Alleged Cause of Crime? Improper company

Name of Person referred to for Character, &c. Mr A.M. Storey, Esquire, Lydiard Tregoze, Wiltshire. Post town Swindon.<sup>11</sup>

Henry appeared on the 'Casual Sick' list at Fremantle.<sup>12</sup>

Date	Complaint	Treatment
16 November 1850	Cough	Lotion for eye, cough mixture
29 January 1851	Bruised foot	Liniment
31 January 1851	Bruised foot	Continue lotion
16 April 1851	Bad eyes	Drops

He received his ticket of leave on 5 March 1852; and his Conditional Pardon on 3 February 1857.<sup>13</sup>

<sup>5</sup> Hampshire Advertiser, 17 March 1849, p3

<sup>6</sup> Salisbury and Winchester Journal, 17 March 1849, p2

<sup>7</sup> HO24/4

<sup>8</sup> HO24/16, p133; PCOM2/383/1423; PCOM2/63, p28

<sup>9</sup> ADM 101/32/6/1-6

<sup>10</sup> SROWA Acc 128/40 - 43

<sup>11</sup> SROWA Acc 1156 R21A

<sup>12</sup> SROWA Acc 1156 CS1

<sup>13</sup> SROWA Acc 1156 R21B

On 21 November 1861, during the return trip of the steamer *Lady Stirling* from Fremantle, one of the crew fell overboard. The accident happened near the Mount Eliza depot, and a boat belonging to Brown Brothers picked up the man, who, though unable to swim, managed to keep himself afloat until assistance arrived.<sup>14</sup>

Henry died 16 December 1861 at the Colonial Hospital from a cold he caught after falling overboard from a steamer. He was buried the following day at the East Perth Cemetery, Church of England section and was 34 years old.<sup>15</sup>

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<sup>14</sup> The Inquirer and Commercial News (Perth, WA : 1855 – 1901, 27 November 1861, p2

<sup>15</sup> East Perth Cemetery database