

# Absconding

**Mary Burns**, assigned servant to Mr. Cunningham, was next at the bar, charged with having obtained permission to go to church on Sunday, and not being able to discover her way back till Tuesday morning. Mary in her defence wished it to be believed, that she had taken up her abode in Church during the intervening space of time, where she would have remained had she not remembered the observation of a friend, who said that, spiritual, must sometime give place to temporal concerns, this all passed in at one ear and out at the other with his worship, who consigned her to the 3<sup>rd</sup> class for 14 days.

(Sydney Gazette 21.02.1833)

**Ellen Haghe** (Bond), apprehended for being illegally at large from her husband. This interesting specimen of her sex, had obtained a pass from her good man, to proceed to Windsor; to visit a friend, but when taken into custody had proceeded no further than a hut in the Government Domain, where it was stated that the particular individual, a *male "cousin"*, whom she was about to visit, had obligingly come to meet her, so as to save her the proposed journey. As her character stood high for faithfulness – to rum, brandy, gin and malt liquors when spirits were not attainable – and “constancy” in always being *absent* from her husband whenever he let her from under his eye, she was sent to the 3<sup>rd</sup> class for three months.

(Sydney Gazette 18-01-1845)

**Honora Mullins**, an assigned servant to Mr. Brooks, was charged by her master with cruising it since Sunday, and sentenced to expiate her offence by six weeks rustication at Parramatta.

(Sydney Gazette 28.06.1831)

**Elizabeth Jones**, was charged by her master with absenting herself from home without leave. She pleaded “*Christmas time*” in extenuation, and the Bench therefore favoured her with a ticket to enjoy the Christmas month in the third class in the factory.

(Sydney Gazette 01.01.1831)

**Catherine Henderson**, assigned to Mr. Lambton, the Solicitor, was charged with absconding from her service on the previous day. The young lady made a great many excuses, which the Bench overruled and sentenced her to be confined in the cells for the space of one month.

(Parramatta Chronicle 21.09.1844)

**Catherine Henderson**, a plump, squat, black-eyed, cock-nosed, good-looking gipsy, assigned to Mr. Brownrigg, not liking such rigs, determined to run a rig

of her own, and on Sunday night decamped from her service, and continued amateur-bushranging on a limited scale in the Government Domain, until apprehended by that sly old fellow Fox, who is always running after the women, and interrupting their amusements. Catherine, who looked extremely demure all the time, mildly intimated to his worship that she had not been paid any wages since she was at Mr. Brownrigg's. Master Brownrig, who was in attendance said, he was desired by his mistress to give her a good character. Sentence – two months 3<sup>rd</sup> class Factory; first and last weeks in solitary confinement.

(Parramatta Chronicle 20.01.1844)

**Eliza Blackwood** was charged by her master with absconding and straying like a lost sheep as far as Liverpool. Eliza pathetically informed their Worships that she had obtained a pass to Parramatta, and on returning had missed her way, and did not discover her mistake until she saw before her the glittering spires of the populous of Liverpool. Their Worships seemed surprised that she should have made such a mistake, until it was hinted by the master that a gallant son of Crispin resided there, for whom she had a sneaking regard. Eliza having nothing further to say in her defence, their Worships sent her to the 3<sup>rd</sup> class for 2 months.

(Sydney Gazette 12.3.1833)

**Harriet Wright**, an assigned servant to Mrs. Wyatt, was brought before their Worships, charged with absconding. **Bench** – *What is the reason you abscond?* **Mary** – *Your Worships. I have a husband, and it is hard for a woman to be kept from her husband.* Her mistress said, it certainly appeared hard to keep a woman who had a husband, for she had frequently absconded, and had only returned from the factory the day before. 1 month 3<sup>rd</sup> class, and to be returned to government.

(Sydney Gazette 26.2.1833)

**Catherine McCormack**, a vestal of the new school, was brought up by her master, Mr. Ralph Hindmarsh, charged with having displayed a bad taste for rural enjoyments, by quitting his very picturesque little farm on the Parramatta road, and tripping it on the light fantastic toe to gulp down large libations of the luxuries of the grog metropolis. But cruel fate had decreed that Catherine's pleasures should not last for ever, for scarce had she finished her seventh week, when she felt the rude gripe of an over vigilant *Trap* dragging her to her account with his Worship, for the said gentle slip of the foot. Catherine's master not wishing to be very hard with her, declined saying anything further; when his Worship, kind soul, taking into consideration the fatigues attendant on an unrestrained course of pleasure during seven weeks, was pleased to consign her to the comfortable apartments of **Mrs. Gordon's villa** for 2 months 3<sup>rd</sup> class..

(Sydney Gazette 7.2.1833)

## Admissions

**Sarah Perkins**, who had been for the last month trying hard for a ticket of admission for free quarters in the Factory or Gaol, obtained her object, under the Vagrant Act, for three months.

(Parramatta Chronicle 26.07.1845.)

**Maria Gibson**, landed only on Wednesday, from the Elizabeth, was charged with being picked up, basking in the sun shine, and snoring delightfully, at 3 o'clock in the day; Maria smirked at the novelty of her situation, closely scrutinized the Bench, and spectators declaring that she only had an orange, that day which was given by a stout man. The Colonel observed that the orange and stout man, were no excuse, and sentenced her to the Factory for 2 months. Maria commenced chattering, when she was cautioned by the Bench, as an additional sentence might be appended.

(Sydney Gazette 29 October, 1836)

## Assault/Abuse

**Ann Hamilton**, was charged with insolence to her master, for which she received sentence of one month to the factory. On leaving court, however, she struck her prosecutor so violent a blow on the mouth as to make his teeth rattle like a box of dominoes, for which an additional 5 months was immediately appended to her original sentence.

(Sydney Gazette 18.04.1833)

**Bridget Freeman**, was charged with insolence, and asking a fellow servant if she was game enough to face Captain Rossi, and get turned into Government also, with refusing to wear Colonial made shoes, as she had been used to nothing but English manufactures, and when her master had lost one pound note, with telling him he should have taken better care of it, that she would much rather be in the factory, where she could obtain 3s 6d a week, and she would then be ready for Moreton Bay the next breaking out. The bench sentenced her for six weeks to the third class of the factory, on hearing her sentence, she exclaimed. "I'll run away when I come back, there now", and turning round, she laid one of the constables on his back, and became so outrageous that handcuffs were obliged to be fastened upon her.

(Sydney Herald 16.05.1831)

**Jane Marcus** another most profligate character (probably a prostitute), was charged with cruel treatment to her husband, a palsied and infirm old man, and with being a common nuisance in the streets of Sydney. It being the determination of the Magistrates to remove, and punish such pests to Society

upon every occasion, when brought before them, the prisoner, who was found guilty of the charges laid against her, was sentenced six months hard labour in the factory at Parramatta.

(More Pig Bites Baby - Page 218)

**Margaret Lynch**, free, whose furious and amazon-like appearance when brought forward, made the *posse* of police, and the by standers rather apprehensive for their personal safety, appeared to answer a charge of aggravated assault on an aged and helpless female. It was with much difficulty his worship could arrive at an understanding of the facts and bearings of this case, so amply did the prisoner deal out her superabundant stock of abuse with which she appears to be all times provided. His worship's patience having been completely out, he commanded her with all his might to hold her tongue, or he would instantly commit her; her vociferated, "You may commit and be d-----, I never could hold my tongue in my life and I am too old to begin now." His worship happy to be rid of a she devil, consigned her to the 3<sup>rd</sup> class in the factory, for three months.

(Sydney Gazette 7.2.1833)

**Bridget Brown**, was charged by her master, with replying to his wife on being ordered to take the pot off. "Go to hell, and do it yourself, for I'll see you'd -----d first". The prisoner kicked up a tremendous noise, while the depositions were being taken, and having been sentenced to 2 months 3<sup>rd</sup> class. She exclaimed as she left the Bar "more luck for government", she was again put at the Bar, and sentenced an additional month, despite of all her protestations, that she intended nothing but respect.

(Sydney Gazette 1.11.1836)

**Rose McAllister** prisoner of the crown, was brought before his Worship, charged by her mistress with getting drunk and threatening to annihilate her, and divers other agreeable intimations, Rose, Niobe like, attempted to awake the sympathies of his worship, by copies flood of fears, but his Worship was too wide awake, as they call it, to be caught, so poor weeping Rose was consigned to the 3<sup>rd</sup> class in the factory for fourteen days, and her drams to be suspended during that period.

(Sydney Gazette 21.2.1833)

## **Bolting**

**Mary O'Brien** was charged with bolting. It appeared that Mary had a taste for tripping it on the light fantastic too, and to indulge that innocent propensity she had made herself scarce the evening before, and betook herself to that classical part of Sydney y'clipt the Rocks, where a fancy ball was to be held that evening, having attired herself in the character of a match girl, she commenced amusing the company by dancing a *pas sueil* to music ground

out of a barrel organ, in the middle of one of the smartest evolutions, one of those destroyers of harmony a charley obtruded his head, a most unwelcome guest, and claimed Mary as a prize; Mary clung round his neck to suffocation, and tried every blandishment to have her spree out, but the man was made of opposition stuff, and cared as little for the tear of beauty as he did for the phenomenon in mechanics, the fifth wheel of a coach. Mary was ordered to practice **Bell's** new set of quadrills for a month, by which time it is calculated she will be perfect.

(Sydney Gazette 29.10.1836)

**Kate Hoy, Maria Hely and Ellen Gorman**, were charged with bolting and becoming remarkably funny, which caused them to dance a three-handed reel in George-street, to the amazement of folks returning from Church, after a little trouble and a short chase they were secured. In defence they all commenced chattering at once with the greatest volubility, expatiating upon their respective merits – better servants never lived – they were quite the thing – always did as ordered – couldn't think how it occurred. This barragoue was cut short by each of them being sent to the Factory for a month. They left Court jabbering like so many talkative magpies.

(Sydney Gazette 8.11.1836)

**Ellen Millon**, with her curls very tastefully arranged, and blushing like a full blown rose, was charged by a constable with being found in Parramatta-street with a bundle in her hand, when the following dialogue ensued: - Constable – Who are you? Ellen – I'm a bolter; Constable – Where are you going to? Ellen – To Parramatta for a little relaxation; Constable – Come with me? Ellen – Can't think of it, its quite out of the question. The constable, however, bore her off before she had time to bolt. Having nothing to offer in defence, except a vacant stare of astonishment, the Bench sent her to the Factory for a month.

(Sydney Gazette 8.11.1836)

## Disobedience

An assigned woman, attached to the Lunatic Asylum, on being charged with refusing to work, stated the Keeper's wife accused her of it because she would not wash her clothes with the Government soap. The defence only plunged her into very hot water, and she was soaped down with two month's seconding at the Factory.

(Cumberland Times 25.10.1845)

**Mary Hipburn**, was charged with gammoning to be deaf and dumb, "Mary?" would the mistress say; "Mary wash the dishes?" mum; "Mary cook the steaks?" silent as the dead; finding that she was exerting her lungs in vain, the Mistress handed her over to the Police, to rectify any natural impediment that might exist; Mary only said in defence "she and her mistress were put upon speaking terms" – two months rotatory motion, at **Bell's Academy**.

(Sydney Gazette 08.11.1836)

**Eliza Strangeway**, was charged with disobedience; prisoner has a *strange way* of understanding orders, she volunteered to fetch the wood, but it was not acceded to, she however observed it was *strange*, that she could not have her *own way*, and fetch it she would, and did. In defence she thought the *way* she had been treated was very *strange*. The Bench thought her *way* of conducting herself was *strange* and sent her to be drilled at **Bell's Garrison** for 3 weeks.

(Sydney Gazette 1.11.1836)

**Mary Williams**, a cousin germain to the furies, was put to the bar charged with continually laving her clay, and studying the art of being useless; together with waging war upon her master and mistress with whom she had solemnly promised not to agree upon any terms; in pursuance of which determination she had well nigh turned the house inside out. This dreadful catalogue of crimes was very ably and feelingly commented on by his worship, in the hope of making an impression on the iron feelings of Mary, who thereupon set up such a bellowing as nearly put an end to the market business for that time: the affrighted multitude running about in all directions; 1 month 3<sup>rd</sup> class.

(Sydney Gazette 23.2.1833)

## Drunk

**Mary Reddy** appeared on the boards before his worship, being her 150<sup>th</sup> time, on the old complaint, viz, *just wetting her lips with a drop or two of Cooper's gin*. Poor Mary assured his worship, that she had tried in vain to overcome the temptation to taking *nourishment*; she would however make another attempt, if his worship would take her word, let her go scot free this time, his worship being inexorable, pointed significantly to the stocks, when poor Mary was pounced upon and lugged off in a giffy, for two hours.

(Sydney Gazette 28.02.1833)

One **Judy Kelly**, a "murry old acquaintance", with a red nose, an eye admirably calculated for looking round a corner, assigned to Mrs. Howell, but more generally residing in the factory, made her ninety-ninth appearance for being *non est inventus* during the past week, and returning "as drunk as a pipe". Mrs. H. declared that she had experienced a *quantum sufficit* of Judy's acquaintance, and the Bench, after denouncing her incorrigible, ordered her to be confined for three months in the third class, and never again assigned in Sydney. The latter part of the sentence evidently disconcerted the damsel, who retired in great dudgeon.

(Sydney Gazette 28.06.1831)

An **assigned servant** to Mr. Raymond was brought up by Cuff, who alleged that he took her out of a disorderly house in Castlereagh-street, between four and five in the morning. She acknowledged that the fault was "all her own" and the Bench sentenced her to six weeks factory discipline, on which she turned round and informed them she would be free in a month. His Worship replied he had nothing to do with that, and she must tell them of it at the factory.

(Sydney Gazette 23.06.1831)

**Mary Eagan**, an assigned servant to Mr. Murphy, was accused of opening the master's wine-cupboard, and enjoying herself with the contents thereof till she had "steeped her senses in forgetfulness". Mary protested she was as innocent as a lamb, and attributed all her misfortunes to the potency of her charms, which she said had raised the jealousy of her fellow-servants. One month to the third class of the factory.

(Sydney Gazette 17.05.1831)

**Elizabeth Barlow**, appeared charged with drunkenness: but it was deposed that she was known to be a lady greatly given to Rum (Ale or Beer, when that article was not come-atable) and Immorality and her husband having averred that he had caught her behaving as she out not to have done, she was sent to the Factory for three months, in spite of her protestations that her husband was the offending party, as he kept a wicked woman in the Brickfields, who had seduced him, and ravished her happiness.

(Parramatta Chronicle 07.06.1845)

An affectionate wife - On Monday last, M. Flintoft noticed the wife of one of his tenants, named **Elizabeth Stewart**, who was taking off her husband's property and selling it. She was drunk at the time, having evidently been carousing with the proceeds of the sale. Flintoft reprimanded her, when she commenced abusing him, and not satisfied with that, was proceeding with violence, when a constable, who was passing, prevented such violence, by bearing her off to the watch-house. She was, on Tuesday last, sentenced to be imprisoned in the 3<sup>rd</sup> class Female Factory for two months.

(Parramatta Chronicle 10.12.1844)

**Ann Flinn** (bond). Inspector Fox deposed that on the previous evening he found the prisoner lying on a creek, near Mr. Bett's, in a beastly state of intoxication. Flinn was a very old offender, having for some time past made it a rule to alternate her time between the Factory and her husband, rather giving the preference to, and striking the balance in favour of, the latter, inasmuch, as, at the end of every three or four weeks passed with her lord and master, she made it a rule to adopt such strong and powerful remedies, as to infallibly secure her domiciliation in the above establishment for a couple of months. In the present instance, the usual two months was directed to be varified by the first and last weeks of the time being passed in the cells.

(Parramatta Chronicle 18.05.1844)

**Ann Davis**, with her face glowing like embers through a gridiron, owing to sundry furrows which had been implanted in her fair cheeks, was called upon to answer for being as the constable termed it disguised in liquor, and refusing to go to the watch house, to which she had a horrid objection she go, indeed, no no, she knew a trick worth two of that, she preferred a featherbed and night cap to being locked up; this argument did not avail anything, to grenadiers of the police carried her off in funeral procession – 1 month 3<sup>rd</sup> class.

(Sydney Gazette 08.11.1836)

**Mary Sullivan**, a Rosslyn Castle damsel, was ordered a six weeks apprenticeship to factory punishment, for absenting herself from service and getting drunk.

(Sydney Gazette 16.6.1831)

## Forgers

**Mary Eagar** - Zachariah Cooper was, on Saturday, fully committed to take his trial for uttering four one pound notes, knowing them to be forged. The woman, Mary Eagar, was discharged and ordered to be returned to the Factory.

(Sydney Gazette 21.12.1844)

## Fraternizing

**Mary Byrne**, a most incorrigible character, who has been repeatedly sent to the factory for her disorderly and disgusting conduct, and who has presented herself to the notice of the Bench no less that three times during the past week for the same, once more made her appearance, charged by Sutland with being a disorderly common prostitute, in the streets at all hours of the night, without a settled residence, and found by him drunk in the road at midnight. The bench very properly relieved the town of her for three months, which she is ordered to spend in the third class of the factory, at hard labour.

(Sydney Gazette 27.01.1831)

**Mary Byrne**, assigned to Mrs. Kennedy, was accused of being absent for several nights successively, without leave. After doing her employer's work by day, she chose, it appears, to work for herself by night. The Bench sentenced her for one month to the third class of the factory.

(Sydney Gazette 16.07.1831)



**Elizabeth Jones**, was put to the bar, charged, as the future proceedings made it appear (no indictment being read) with keeping a house of ill-fame. The prisoner pleaded guilty, and ample evidence having been tendered to show that her house was not only a receptacle for characters of the lowest order, but also a mart for sly grog selling, the Court, after addressing her on the enormity of her conduct, sentenced her to be *imprisoned in the penitentiary class of the factory for six months, pay a fine of 5 pounds to the King, and be further imprisoned till the same is paid.*

(Sydney Gazette 22.01.1831)

**Sarah Hall**, a young lady, who had only been the previous day discharged from the Factory, was again brought up charged with being in the arms of a soldier, in the public streets, and was sent back to the Factory for three months.

(Parramatta Chronicle 12.10.1844)

**Maria Birmingham** being found under very suspicious circumstances with a man, between the hours of nine and ten on the previous night, opposite Peisley's slaughter house, whom she accused of taking unwarrantable liberties with her against her will, was also sent to the Factory for identification.

(Parramatta Chronicle 13.01.1844)

**Mary Robinson** and **Elizabeth Goodwin**, both free women, were charged by district-constable Thorn before the Bench of Magistrates, on Monday morning last, with being common prostitutes, having no regular place of abode; and with rioting in the streets on the Sabbath preceding, to the annoyance of the Public; in fact they were charged as public nuisances. This had not, unfortunately, been the first charge exhibited against those characters for an infringement on humanity and decency, they were sentenced as follows: **Mary Robinson**, to be employed in the factory at Parramatta, at hard labour for six months: and **Elizabeth Goodwin**, having been at the same place three times before, to be kept at hard labour for 12 calendar months.

(More Pig Bites Baby - Page 198)

**Sarah Perkins** was charged with having been, on the previous evening, *lowly* drunk and *highly* disorderly. As it appeared that this interesting specimen of the sex had, within the last ten days, been three times before the court, for drunkenness, and that her mode of obtaining a livelihood, as also her place of residence were profound secrets, which the art of man could not discover, she was sent, as a Lady of Improper Character, to that *fast depot for loose ones* – the Female Factory – for 3 months.

(Parramatta Chronicle 8.3.1845)

## Opposite Sex

**Mary Stewart** (bond) was charged with being guilty of the gross impropriety of walking with a being of the opposite sex, at an unreasonable hour of the proceeding night, in a by-street of the town, skewering a poor devil's heart, instead of broiling kidneys for her "missuss" supper. The prisoner, on being called on for her defence, stated she thought the constable had said enough – and so he had, for she was sent to the Factory.

(Parramatta Chronicle 26.07.1845)

## Habeas Corpus

**Elizabeth Canney**, whose case we noticed on Thursday last, was this day brought up from the Sydney Gaol, by virtue of a writ of Habeas Corpus obtained on Tuesday last, on the motion of Mr. Williams. Our readers will remember that the applicant was sentenced. By a magistrate at Newcastle to be confined for three months in the third class in the Female Factory, at Parramatta, for living in a state of prostitution; - she being a free woman, born in the colony.

The only return to the writ was the warrant of commitment.

The Chief Justice held that the applicant was entitled to her discharge, on the ground that the Magistrates had no power to sentence a free woman to be imprisoned in the Factory, that being, exclusively, a place of convict discipline.

No other business of any public interest was transacted.

\*\*\* In our report of this case, on a former day, we were in error in stating, that the applicant was accused of cohabiting with the steward of the *Lord Liverpool*. It was not so: the evidence of the steward was refused to be received on the part of the applicant, by the committing magistrate, who was James Reid, Esq. J. P. and not Dr. Brookes.

(Sydney Gazette 8 March 1831)

## Head Shaving

**Ann William**, who was discharged only the day previous with an admonition, made her appearance at the bar, for refusing, on her return home, to do any work, declaring that all her acquaintances were in the factory, and she therefore determined to go and see them. The Bench complied with her wish, by ordering her to sojourn in the third class of that establishment, and be returned to government. Probably having her tresses shorn, and being kept to hard labour. On a low diet, will give Ann a better relish for a good service next time she obtains one.

(Sydney Gazette 04.01.1831)

**Margaret Jenkins**, an assigned servant to Mr. Stephen, was charged with absenting herself from her service, the whole of the preceding afternoon and night, having no better authority than “*French leave*”, and sentenced to one month at the Female Factory, with the additional gratification of shorn locks.

(Sydney Gazette 27.01.1831)

**Catherine McFarlane**, was charged with drunkenness, and when the blue devils came on her, she cut off here hair in anticipation of the sentence she would receive, One month to the third class in the factory.

(Sydney Herald 16.05.1831)

**Bridget Radcliff** was charged by her master with insubordination, and refusing to work. Bridget stated, that since her locks had been shorn at the factory, she had no heart to do anything. One month to the third class in the factory.

(Sydney Herald 16.05.1831)

## Poems and Prose

**Sarah Smith**, most tastefully arrayed in a splendid sky blue overall, surmounted with a red coal scuttle bonnet picked out with white, and a cat skin boa killingly encircling her squeeze, was charged with being found in the Demesne on Sunday afternoon, instead of scrubbing the pot and pans at home, an occupation which her delicacy abhorred; “forbid it heaven,” she exclaimed “that my dainty fingers should be thus defiled.” It appeared that on Sunday morning she did the amiable to her delectable person and sallied forth parasol in hand, to the shady bowers of the Demesne, when she fell into company with a dashing young butcher as ever cut the throat of sheep, quite by accident of course, who in the middle of a very elaborate discourse on Platonic affection and all that kind of thing, suddenly stopped short, and throwing himself into attitude exclaimed

*“In the same place thou hast appointed me,  
To-morrow, truly will I meet with thee”*

And darted into the bush. Sarah astonished at this abrupt departure gazed around and beheld a charley close aboard, who despite her soft blandishments bore her off. Sarah offered nothing in extenuation, but sponged the dew drops from her eyes with a cambrie wine.

Bench – We sentence you – here she grew faint – to be confined and worked – here she grew fainter – in the third class of the factory for 2 months – here she fainted, and was carried off, like to a lily plucked and cast away.

(Sydney Gazette 24.10.1836)

**Sarah Murphy**, whom it might be calculated from her brogue, had not long arrived from “the first flowers of the earth, and first gem of the sea,” and dedicated in all the finery that her wardrobe afforded promenaded to the bar, mounted the step in three fourth time, dropped a curtsey to the Bench, and with a most melancholy visage prepared to hear the charge. A charley deposed, that going his beat the overnight, his attention was directed to a melody of sound issuing from a blind alley in Kent-street, on proceeding to the spot, he described Sarah serenading a gallant young waterman, contrary to all rule, acient and modern. He too had his head poked out from a window of the second house, and was surveying the interesting damsel’s charms by the full starlight, and with which he appeared much taken. Sarah stood in the centre of the road in attitude most classical, and the following dialect was warbled by her ruby lips.

*I’ve to the Factory been my Jack,  
And lost a load of fat  
And wouldn’t mind going there again,  
For I’m none the worse for that.”*

“Silence” growled the Charley, on hearing the heresy of the ditty, and seized the love lorn damsel as a prisoner. Jack in the mad manly manner, put the window too and turned in. In defence Sarah begged, entreated, and exhorted the Bench, to permit her to go scotchless this time, but without effect, one month to Bell’s Aviary was ordered. Sarah as she left the bar, poetically observed –

*“When beauty pleads, when woman weeps,  
He is not man who scorns to yield.”*

(Sydney Gazette 11.10.1836)

## Staff

**Official Notice** of dismissal has been given to the Matron and Storekeeper of this establishment, who will take their departure in the ensuing month. We cannot say, with certainty, what the intentions of Government are as to the future disposition of this noted place., At all events it has long wanted remodelling.

(Parramatta Messenger and Cumberland Express 10.04.1847)

**John Hamilton, Thomas Bell and Dennis Hannan.** Of Parramatta, having been called upon to appear, on the charge of fraud, the two former connected with the Parramatta Factory, and latter with the Parramatta Hospital the Attorney-General moved for a further post- upon the ground that the documentary evidence which had been sent for from England, had not yet arrived. Mr. Windeyer opposed the motion on the ground of principle. His honor deferred his decision until today (Saturday)

(Parramatta Chronicle 06.07.1844)

**Bell and Hamilton** – This matter was postponed until Wednesday, on the application of the Attorney General, as he was not prepared to go to trial until that day, and which course being acquiesced in by the Counsel for the defendants Bell and Hamilton; the remand was allowed by their Honors, a special Jury being however empanelled.

(Parramatta Chronicle 11.10.1845)

**William Robinson**, (bond), Tailor, at the Female Factory, was charged with Drunkenness, and In the course of the examination the following rather extraordinary testimony was given.

Robinson being seen on the previous day, at the rear of the Factory, drunk, was ordered to his quarters, and two constables were sent after him. On reaching the Factory Robinson was found at dinner, and on his refusing to accompany them to durance vile, Mr. Smythe, the storekeeper, would not allow him to be taken into custody, and Mrs. Smythe, the matron, offered a little Tip, in the shape of a shilling or two, which was to be given at some more convenient time, when the *Clerk* of the establishment was not an *overseer* of her actions.

Robinson denied being drunk, but admitted having taken a glass, and accounted for some blood being on his face through having had a *turn-up* with the *gardener* – and was sentenced 10 days cells.

(Parramatta Chronicle 19.04.1845)

Gig Driving - Gig Driving from the days of the young gentleman who undertook to drive the sun, has always been a different task, under excited feelings. He of classic love *inflamed* by a taste for glory, nearly set the world in a *blaze*, and William Herbert and **Mrs. Mary Corcoran**, (the late ex-sub Matron of the Female Factory, whom Sir George found it necessary for the bienseance of the establishment to have *told* out when the *Bells* were dismissed,) inspired by something more palpable to the tast, nearly turned Parramatta topsy turvy, and themselves out of their vehicle in the extraordinary management of their pegasus, on Saturday evening, in Church-street. The Police had to become a *protective* force, and with a due regard to the limbs and lives of the towns people convey horse, gig, and its occupants to the public receptacle for the drunk and disorderly, where she, who had consigned hundreds in her time to the “darky”, had, with her unfortunate wight of a charioteer, to face the opaque dormitory of the watch-house. A fine of ten shillings, by way of a check on future fast driving, was imposed on Herbert, while his companion in the “gig” having, on Saturday night, on coming to her senses, deposited twenty one shillings, did not trouble the court with her personal attendance.

(Parramatta Chronicle 13.7.1844)

## Stealing

**Catherine Kenny**, was sentenced to six months in the third class of the Factory, for stealing two shirts off the line, in Mrs. Watsford's yard, while waiting in the kitchen, for the starting of the coach for Sydney, on Tuesday afternoon.

(Parramatta Chronicle 10.02.1844)

**Mary Winters** was charged with going into the house of a baker named Clarkstone, in Market-street, and taking from a drawer two seals, and two keys, the property of a man named Williams, she then went away, but returning in the evening, was charged with the robbery, when she drew from her pocket two keys and one seal, and observed, that if they would give her a shilling she would get the other seal, Clarkstone went with her to a house in Kent-street, when the seal was produced, and prisoner given into custody. The Bench sentenced her to one year's residence in the third class of the factory.

(Sydney Herald 16 May 1831)

**Caroline Brown** (bond) entered the service of Mrs. Edrop, on Tuesday, and on Friday morning, having dressed herself *cap-a-pie* with one of that lady's bonnets – *cloaked* herself with her mistress' cloak - and *slipped stays* with a pair belonging to the same owner, decamped to Sydney, where she was subsequently found in a house of not very transcendent character, in Kent-street, whither with her borrowed plumes she had winged her flight. A portion of the missing gear being found in personal possession, there was little opportunity for denial – and the production of a green *silk* cloak made the prisoner look rather *blue*, more particularly when the Court sentenced 12 months to the third class.

(Parramatta Chronicle 8.3.1845)

## Subcontracted

**A female prisoner**, who is assigned to one person, but had been lent to another till a transfer could be obtained, was placed at the bar, charged by the latter with abuse. The Bench took occasion to reprobate the practice of sending assigned servants to fresh masters till the transfer had been obtained officially, and ordered the woman (her former mistress having left Sydney) to be returned to the first class of the factory till obtained in the regular manner.

(Sydney Gazette 23.06.1831)

## Tobacco

**Winnifred Kelly**, (bond) had to answer a charge of a very enormous die; first, there was the playing at games of chance on the Sabbath day; secondly, that of conveying the luxury of tobacco into that portion of the Factory, where the regulations decree it shall be an unknown weed. Kelly having on the previous day employed herself – better the day, better the deed, in playing such games of chance as flinging tobacco over the back wall of the Factory – the gain thus being all on one side, whilst the odds, as her detection and apprehension for this unlawful pitch and toss proved on hers – by a reward for this *gambolling*, her received two months to the third class.

(Sydney Gazette 08.02.1845)

## Treadmill

**Jane Callaghan**, a contumacious dame, with a pug nose that looked scorn even on itself, was charged with making her self scarce. It appeared that on the previous day, Jane had arrived in Sydney from two month's trotting, in a circle which had only shown her the smarter use of her legs, and having arrived at the house of her future master, she surveyed the premises and furniture with a scrutinising glance, tossing her head by way of disapprobation, in which the pug appeared to join with much satisfaction. The examination being ended she obtained leave to proceed to her late master's for her clothes; she went or pretended to go, and returned in about two hours regularly clewed up; she retired to her bed and slept it off; on awaking she put herself in sailing trim and departed without beat of drum. During the night she was discovered by a Charley backing and filling against a lamp post, being again overtaken; on calling upon her to strike, she replied by a volley of abuse, and a vigorous application of tooth and nail, so that the man of peace was under the necessity of springing his rattle and calling on other's **assistance**. Who by dint of pure muscular strength carried her off. In defence the fair Jane only blushed and simpered out a few unmeaning nothings, which had not the slightest effect upon the bench, who sent her to her formers residence for two months.

(Sydney Gazette 3.11.1836)

## Wearing the Breeches

**Elizabeth Burns** – A female prisoner of the Crown, named Elizabeth Burns, who escaped from the Female Factory some weeks ago, was taken before their Worship's at Parramatta, so completely disguised in the male costume s to render the discovery of her sex impossible. She had assumed the name of a male prisoner of the name Thomas Dougan, also and absentee, for whom she was taken by a constable, while at work as a farm labourer. Their Worship's sentenced the prisoner to 50 lashes for being absentee, but before the same was carried into effect, certain protuberances unusual in the male

sex let to her discovery. She was consigned to the cells of the Factory for 14 days.

(Sydney Gazette 8.2.1833)

**Margaret Donnally** – March 26 – Wearing the Breeches. – It is no new thing for ladies to assume the breeches when they would escape from servitude and throw off its yoke: moreover it oftentimes a very successful plan. Now Margaret Donnally, not liking a far-away to-country life, determined to try this plan; Achilles' petticoats thought she, are upon .cord, why not Margaret Donally's inexpressible. Accordingly have arrayed herself in true blue, with white cravat and braver castor, she set out for Sydney. Rumour has said that she was but following the example of the lady of Sir Cauline, wandering after her knight; but Sir Cauline was a knight of the saddle – while Margaret's knight was a knight of the stirrup, *alias* snob. Forth wandered the lady; but it not well to know that the course of true love never did run smooth. Though she might assume the manly stride, she could not deceive the Argus eyes of the brothers of the baton --- gentlemen for the most part incredulous of the existence of the Epicene .nder. In short, poor Margaret was doomed this morning to appear at the Police Office, under the protection of a constable.

*“Ever on the watch to rob joy of its alchymy,”*

and joy indeed she seemed to experience every time she cast her eyes upon her manly ....ga. Never did boy of 4 years old appear to enjoy himself more, when for the last time casting his eye upon his discarded frock, and now what follows after the watchhouse – the Police Office – after the Police Office the Female Factory for 6 months. This is ....ying too dear for your whistle, Margaret.

(Sydney Gazette 29-3-1827)

## Weaving

**Winifred Stewart** and **Rebecca Redmond**, a very prepossessing *pair of spectacles*, were called upon to explain the “why” and “wherefore” of their being drunk, and threatening to make *bonilli* of their mistress, instead of which they were ordered to make blankets for a months each in the factory.

(Sydney Gazette 19.05.1831)

**Anne Hamilton**, assigned to Mr. Barker, for taking a stroll *ad libitum* since Friday, was ordered six weeks weaving at the factory.

(Sydney Gazette 19.05.1831)