



Sarah North

Date of Trial:	13 January 1817
Where Tried:	Bristol Quarter Session
Crime:	Larceny
Sentence:	7 years
Est YOB:	1795
Stated Age on Arrival:	23
Native Place:	Bristol
Occupation:	Market Woman
Alias/AKA:	Sarah Jones (m)
Marital Status (UK):	
Children on Board:	
Surgeon's Remarks:	<i>A prostitute and bad disposition</i>
Assigned NSW or VDL	NSW

One of the *Friendship's* 'cargo' was 23 year old Sarah North who, when not pilfering, had earned her keep as a market woman.¹ She had appeared before the Quarter Sessions at Bristol on 13 January 1817 charged with 'feloniously stealing the goods of Thos Carlisle – value 18/-', the booty comprising five silk handkerchiefs, for which crime she was sentenced to seven years' transportation.² At that time a 'handkerchief' was not the small square piece of fabric that we today know as a handkerchief, but a more substantial and desirable fashion item as modelled in the portrait below.

A handkerchief was a large square of fabric folded into a triangle, or cut and sewn as a triangle, worn around the neck throughout the 18th century. If you were upper class, your handkerchief would probably be white. Poorer women were more likely to wear darker handkerchiefs that would show less dirt ... Handkerchiefs were not limited to women – men wore them as bohemian alternatives to cravats and stocks. They could be of linen or silk, or later cotton. For men and women, silk versions were the dressiest. They were frequently embroidered, and could be bought pre-made, but even the very wealthy frequently made their own, as the decorative finishes were considered appropriate needlework for a gentlewoman.³



Marquise de Grécourt, née de la Fresnaye by Jean-Laurent Mosnier, ca. 1790

The *Bristol Mirror* reported on 7 June 1817 that Sarah was one of a group of ten female convicts who a week earlier had been transferred from the Bristol Newgate prison prior to embarking on the transport ship, *Friendship*,



then lying at Deptford.⁴

On arrival at Port Jackson the options for the *Friendship's* female convicts were limited. They might be placed in private service or sent to the government-run Female Factory or, as happened to 54 of the women, trans-shipped to Hobart on the *Duke of Wellington*. Alternatively, they might marry or, failing that, find a man willing to take them on as a 'wife'. Initially Sarah North was 'disposed' of as a servant to Mr. Redman, possibly the John Redman who had arrived on the *Surprise* in 1790, who was subsequently appointed Chief Constable and Principal Gaoler, Sydney Gaol, and who was also a shipowner.⁵ It was not long, however, before Sarah had found herself a man.

In his report on the convict women, Surgeon Peter Cosgreave had described Sarah North as a 'Prostitute and bad disposition'.⁶ Thanks to the scant regard given to ensuring that the *Friendship's* crew and female convicts were kept separate, Sarah North and crewman Samuel Jones had become acquainted and, notwithstanding her unfavourable character reference, we find that Samuel (Free) and Sarah (Convict per Ship *Friendship*) were included in a 'List of Persons praying for His Excellency's permission to have their names published in the Church in order to their being married.'⁷

With no apparent impediment, and with the blessing of the colonial authorities who encouraged marriage as far more preferable to 'living in sin', the couple legitimised their relationship at St Philip's Church, Sydney, on 29 May 1818, Samuel's age being given as 24 and Sarah's as 20, and their respective occupations as 'Sailor' and 'Convict'. Samuel was able to sign his name, as was one of the witnesses, Wm. Williams. The other witness, Elizabeth Williams, and the bride, 'signed' their names with an 'X'.⁸ Samuel was not only Sarah's husband, but would also have assumed the role of her master, a relationship that would continue until she had served out her time.

During the early years of their married life Samuel continued his seafaring career as a crewman on the *Campbell Macquarie*, a 133-ton brig based in Sydney, but actually built at the Hobart boatyards in 1813 and one of the first locally built seagoing vessels.⁹ *The Campbell Macquarie* carried passengers and cargo as far as India and the Pacific Islands, but she mainly commuted between Port Jackson and Hobart Town. Timetables for the comings and goings of ships took up considerable space in the local papers. Just as important as the shipping arrivals and departures were the items included under the heading 'Claims and Demands', placed by passengers and crew concerned to settle their financial affairs prior to embarking. Thus, in August 1819 a notice in the *Sydney Gazette and New South Wales Advertiser* advised readers that a number of men, including Samuel Jones, were about to leave the colony in the brig *Campbell Macquarie*, and that anyone having any claims on these men were to present them prior to the sailing date.¹⁰ Similar notices and passenger/crew lists over the next two years confirm that Samuel served on the brig until mid-1821.¹¹ However a notice in the 21 July 1821 *Sydney Gazette and New South Wales Advertiser* heralded a change of occupation. This was a shore-based job which must have been a relief to Sarah after Samuel's three years of coming and going, and now also that their first child Thomas, who had been born on 18 January 1820, was now eighteen months old.

His Excellency the Governor has been pleased to appoint Samuel Jones to be Watchman and Constable, at the Heaving-down Place, in Sydney Cove, in the room of Robert Dew, deceased.¹²

One of Governor Macquarie's first tasks on taking up his position was to review the existing law and order provisions which resulted in the formation from January 1811 of a restructured police force. Key elements were the creation of police districts, the establishment of a system of ranks, and recruitment targeted at free men rather than, as previously, convicts. In 1818 Governor Macquarie announced that

... having taken into serious Consideration the various important Duties which the Constables have to perform in the Town of Sydney, and which are daily increasing by the Increase of Population, and considering that their present Allowances are inadequate to those Services; is pleased to order and direct that from and after the present Date, until further Orders, each Constable doing Duty in the Town of Sydney shall receive a double Ration of Provisions weekly from the King's Stores; and if married, and has Children, his Wife and two of his



Children are to be victualled as heretofore. The Constables will each continue to receive two Suits of Slop Clothing, and four Pair of Shoes, one Suit of Bedding, and one Watch Coat annually. As a further Encouragement to the Constables of Sydney, their Salaries are to be increased from Fifteen to Twenty Pounds per Annum from the present Date. His Excellency trusts that the foregoing Increase of Rations, Slops, and Salary will excite the Constables of Sydney to the most strict, active, and vigilant Discharge of the Duties and Trusts reposed in them, to the full and effectual Preservation and Security of good Order, Peace and Tranquillity in their respective Districts.¹³

I wonder if it was such working conditions that sufficiently 'excited' Samuel to seek the position of Constable. His predecessor, John Dew, had been appointed in November 1818 to replace one William Blue who had been dismissed for improper conduct. John Dew's brief included specific mention of 'that Part of the Government Domain immediately adjoining to Bennelong's Point' for which Samuel, as his successor, would also have been responsible.¹⁴ The significance of this particular responsibility is readily appreciated on reading a somewhat long-winded notice published in August 1817.

His Excellency the Governor having lately caused a small Landing Place to be constructed near Bennelong's Point, within the Government Domain, for his own personal Accommodation and that of his Family, and it appearing that Boats have already landed Persons of various Descriptions there, contrary to the Purpose and Intention for which the said Landing Place was made, Notice is hereby given, that from and after Monday next, the 18th Instant, all Boats, whether belonging to Ships or Vessels, or to private Persons, or plying for Hire within the Harbour of Port Jackson, will be seized and forfeited for the Benefit of the Person or Persons seizing them, which shall be found landing or taking on board any Person or Persons from the said Landing Place, excepting only those Persons constituting His Excellency's Family. The Constable in Charge at the Heaving Down Place, and appointed to guard the Domain, is particularly charged to carry this Notice and Order into the fullest Effect, without Regard to Persons, as they will be made answerable for any Neglect therein after Publication of this Notice.¹⁵

No doubt Sarah was pleased to share in any kudos that attached to the job that her husband had taken on. But even more important would have been the guarantee of a steady income, and the 'perks' to which a Constable and his family were entitled.

In addition to their law and order function, Constables also assisted with the collection of muster data, and it is through the general musters and the 1828 census, together with the Colonial Secretary's papers that we can follow the fortunes of Sarah and her family.

For the 1822 general muster, conducted between 2-13 September, Sarah appears separately from her family, listed as 'Sarah North, C, *Friendship*, 7' but recorded as the wife of Samuel Jones. Samuel is recorded as a constable, resident of Sydney, together with 2 year old son Thomas. Sarah was also by now heavily pregnant with the couple's second son, Samuel James, who was born on 4 January 1823. In 1825 there was an addition to the family, as shown in the September 1825 Muster. Samuel, was listed as a constable and a labourer of Sydney. Sarah Jones, incorrectly classified as CF (came free), was recorded as the wife of Samuel Jones, Constable of Sydney. Bracketed with them were Thomas and Samuel, aged 5 and 3, and 2½ month old Sarah [Jane] Jones.¹⁶ Also separately listed was, Sarah North, wife of Samuel Jones, classified FS (Free by Servitude).¹⁷ Having served her time, Sarah had in fact received her certificate of freedom on 22 January 1824, the record for which provides details of her past 'career', confirms that she was a native of Bristol and, more interestingly, reveals something of her appearance - 5 feet 4¾ tall, with a sallow and pock-marked complexion, black hair and dark eyes.¹⁸

We know from the Colonial Secretary's papers that Samuel retained his position as Constable until he resigned in 1825. In October 1825 Samuel, then residing in Macquarie Street, petitioned the Governor for a grant of land.

Humbly Herewith

The Petitioner came to the Colony in the Ship *Friendship* in 1817, (now a period of nine [sic] years) and married in the Colony, his wife also free and has three children, and will be found of good repute. That Petitioner was in



charge of the Cottage and domain as Constable for 4 years and as Petitioner means to spend his days in the Colony he is anxious of becoming a settler. Petitioner humbly hopes your Excellency will encourage his industrious exertions by granting him such portion of Land as to your Excellency may seem meet and Petitioner will ever pray.

Saml Jones.¹⁹

How disappointed Sarah and Samuel must have been when they were told that the petition was denied on the grounds of Samuel not having provided any supporting recommendations or character references to back up his application. Unemployed, and with no prospects of a land grant, Samuel went back to sea, leaving Sarah to fend as best as she could with three young children.

John McQueen, merchant and shipowner of Sydney, and proprietor of the Macquarie Island sea-elephant oil extraction establishment, took Samuel on as a member of a sealing gang. The sealing gangs spent many months at a time on Macquarie Island, a remote and rugged island, located halfway between New Zealand and Antarctica. Constantly wet and cold, the sealers lived and worked in atrocious conditions. And they were paid, on results, in arrears – on the basis of a ‘lay’ – generally one-hundredth of the ‘take’.

But if life was hard for Samuel, his wife too was finding things very difficult at home having to cope on her own to support herself and a young family. By late 1827 her predicament led her to seek to have her two sons admitted to the Male Orphan School.

November 27th 1827

To the Trustees of the Clergy and School Lands in the Colony of New South Wales.

The humble petition of Sarah Jones Philip Street Sydney wife of Saml Jones in [sic] behalf of Tho Jones aged about 8 years and a half and Samuel Jas Jones aged 5 years.

Showeth that the said Thomas Jones and Saml James Jones are the children of Samuel Jones my husband. That my said husband Samuel Jones left the Colony for England nearly eleven months ago, leaving your petitioner with two other infant children depending on her for support, whose names are Sarah Jones aged 2 years and a half and Elizabeth Jones 3 months old.

Your Petitioner therefore humbly prays that the said Thos Jones and S J Jones may be admitted to the Orphan School.²⁰

Here we have the first, if somewhat perplexing, reference to a fourth child. There is no record of an Elizabeth born to Samuel and Sarah Jones around August 1827. However, there is a record of a fourth child - Catherine – born to Samuel (sailor) and Sarah Jones on 3 October 1827 – which might suggest a possible paternity issue if Samuel had indeed been absent for eleven months. Did Sarah really believe that her husband had gone to England – perhaps never to return? If so, she was mistaken, and perhaps surprised, to find that he was in fact at Macquarie Island, as confirmed by a statement by John McQueen dated 29 November.

This is to Certify that Mrs Sarah Jones, whose husband is on Macquarie Island in my employ, does not receive any allowance of money from me on account of her husband – because her husband has not in any manner authorised me to so do.

However, a postscript to this declaration states that John McQueen had paid Sarah 33/- ‘at the time of her laying-in’. A further letter from Sarah forms part of the application documentation. Annotated ‘Recd 8 Dec 1827’, it is not clear to whom it was addressed but, as Sarah was illiterate, it may have been her son Thomas who penned the letter.

Saturday Morning

Sir

I beg leave most respectfully to state that I made application to the Corporation to get two of four children into the Orphan School. I am in great poverty and nearly in want. My husband went to the Islands in a Sealing Gang in Mr McQueen’s employment but altho’ I made my distress known to him [John McQueen?] he would not



advance me any money as he said he was not sure of [sic] my husband was on the island. As you and ther [sic] father are distinguished for humanity to the poor and distressed may I humbly hope you will forward my application – I am really unable to support my children and pay home rent. If so fortunate as to get them admitted I will ever feel grateful. I am Sir, your obd humble Servant, Sarah Jones.

The bearer – my eldest son – will take the liberty of waiting an answer.

Having to admit that she was unable to look after her boys must have been difficult and humiliating, but perhaps Sarah consoled herself with the hope that the Orphan School might offer her boys better prospects. And knowing now that her husband was probably on Macquarie Island, and would perhaps return home, maybe she thought the separation from her sons would only be temporary. The potential consequences of her decision – that it could be some time before the two boys would be released from the control of the institution - may have only dawned on her when, with an 'X', she signified her agreement to the following condition.

Petitioner hereby agrees that the said Thos Jones and Saml Jas Jones shall remain in the Orphan School so long as the said Trustees shall think fit, and that when of a proper Age shall be disposed of at their discretion as an Apprentice or Servant.

Reverend William Cowper certified that all paperwork was in order and, on his recommendation that the Jones boys were 'objects worthy of the benevolent attention of the Trustees of the Clergy and School Lands', Sarah was relieved of the care of her two sons.²¹ There was a note on the file that John McQueen was to let the clerk know when the boys' father returned.

From an item in the local press we know that Samuel Jones was back in Sydney by early May 1828. It is not clear which of the two Jones' boys was the subject of the following report, but clearly the parents were not happy about his treatment at the school.

The parents of a boy named Jones, belonging to the orphan school at Liverpool, some days ago found reason to make a complaint against the schoolmaster for carrying his powers of castigation over the stripling beyond all rule of mercy or of right. A committee of persons connected with the affair of the school made enquiry accordingly into the complaint, when it appeared, as is alleged, that the boy had been made to smart for some slight peccadillo or the other, under the insatiable rod of the schoolmaster, far more severely than necessity or the extent of his sway could be considered to warrant him in exercising. In such opinion the Reverend Mr. Cartwright, who has a principal share in the management of the school, is represented as having coincided, and affirmed that the chastisement complained of had been inflicted without his knowledge or desire. The affair, we are led to understand, has ended in the stripping the pedagogue, who is not yet a free man, of his scourge, and complying with the desire of the boy's parents who reside in Sydney, in Philip-street, for his quitting the school and returning home.²²

In fact a letter dated 7 April 1828 from Sarah Jones of Phillip Street, Sydney (to an unspecified addressee but probably the Reverend William Cowper), and counter-signed by Samuel Jones, proves that Samuel had returned to Sydney at least a month earlier.

Sir

In consequence of my husband leaving me in this Colony unprotected with a family of 4 young children dependent upon my exertions for succour and support I was therefore induced to apply to the Corporation in order to get two of my children admitted into the orphan Institution; and through your kind intercession my prayer was acceded to; and for such act I beg to return my most sincere thanks.

I beg to state that since my husband's return to this Port everything has been amicable arranged between us, in fact beyond my most sanguine expectation and inasmuch that it is in our power now to maintain our children in a creditable manner and therefore solicit that you will be pleased to lay this my application before the proper authorities, in order that our children may be returned according to the wish of their father.

I beg leave respectfully to subscribe myself Your Obedient Servant - *Sarah Jones*

I beg to say that it is my wish for these Children to be returned to me from the Male Orphan Institution as I have



the means of supporting them – *Samuel Jones* ²³

Given the circumstances of the complaint of ill-treatment, and no doubt taking into account that the breadwinner had returned home, both boys were released to the care of their parents.²⁴

Up to 1828 the authorities had relied on musters to account for the colony's population. However, as free men could not be compelled to participate, it was decided to adopt the census mechanism to obtain more accurate statistics. The first census was conducted in November 1828.

Sarah appears in the 1828 census under her maiden name, Sarah North - '30, FS, *Friendship*, 1818, 7', living in Phillip Street and working as a washerwoman.²⁵ The children are listed under the surname Jones, Thomas 10, James 5½, Sarah 3, and Cathe [sic] 1, all bracketed together as living 'with Sarah North, Washerwoman, Philip St'.²⁶ Father, Samuel Jones, was notably absent from the census returns and indeed seemingly now permanently absent from Sarah's life.

Employment prospects for women like Sarah – illiterate, unskilled, and with young children in tow – were extremely limited. She had resorted to the drudgery of the laundry trough, but at least she could combine earning a living with looking after her family. She would also have had the assistance and companionship of assigned convict Catherine Lyons, who had arrived in the colony in 1827 with her own little girl, Margaret.²⁷

In September 1829 Sarah again had her elder son Thomas re-admitted to the Male Orphanage. The application, to which she again applied her mark, was dated 22 September 1829, and witnessed by Reverend Charles Cowper.

That the said Samuel Jones has been absent from the Colony, in a sealing gang, about 9 or ten months, and that your Memorialist having three other children, which she is unable to support, submits her case for the consideration of the Trustees.²⁸

Thomas had, however, made an impression on people concerned about his welfare. Just prior to, and possibly in anticipation of the application by Sarah Jones, the Reverend Richard Hill, then a trustee of the Male and Female Orphan Institutions, received a letter from William Shaw, clerk in the Principal Superintendent's Office.

Sydney 11th Sept 1829

Reverend Sir

Conformably to your wish I have the honor to inform you that I have made enquiry relative to the boy Thomas Jones, apprentice to Thomas Purdy, (who is now in the Hospital), and have learned his age to be about 12 years. He is in a very unprotected state at present, depending chiefly on what may be in the power of my Government Assigned servant to extend to him. He appears to be a smart lad and as I was informed by Purdy, promised well to be a good tradesman. He is however doing nothing at present but idling and I beg to submit it would be very desirable that something may be done in the way of providing for him another Master, for supposing itself that Purdy would recover so far as to be able to resume his work, he is so liable to relapse that the Boy in a short time would be left in the same predicament, and that such disappointment might have bad effects, such as causing him to become reckless and careless of any thing.

His Mother is expected, I understand, from the Factory in the course of the next week, but with her he would witness nothing but infamy.

I have the honor to be Sir, your most obedient Humble Servant

William Shaw²⁹

Clearly Sarah Jones was in dire circumstances – not only again 'losing' Thomas, but also incapable of supporting her other three children. The Shaw letter suggests that she was now living in the Factory which if so, raises the question as to how she ended up there. Whatever the circumstances, Mr. Shaw held her in very low esteem.

Two BDA items note that no further documentation for Samuel Jones has been found after May 1828, and nothing further for Sarah post-September 1829.³⁰ However, it is possible that a further record has been located for Sarah if she was the 'free' person who was taken into custody on 19 June 1829 charged with receiving government



property, tried, and sentenced to three months imprisonment to be served at Parramatta Gaol.³¹ Assuming she behaved herself, Sarah would walk free again around mid-September.

Sarah's early married life as wife and mother were unremarkable, but hopefully happy and stable. Things apparently started to unravel from around 1825 with Samuel's resignation from the police force and the refusal of his application for a grant of land. How long Sarah Jones lived, whether or not she remarried, and where and when she died are still a mystery. Two Ancestry online family trees state that Sarah Jones died at Richmond, New South Wales, on 4 January 1877 (Ref No 1877/8512). I have obtained a copy of the death certificate, which is for a Sarah Jones (née Loder), born in Windsor, NSW, in 1801. Another researcher suggests that Sarah was widowed around 1828-1830 and died in Sydney around 1863.³²

Thomas Jones

Thomas Jones, eldest of the Jones' children was born on 18 January 1820 and baptised the following month on 6 February at St. Philip, Sydney.³³ He was just 24 when, on 23 February 1844 at Cobbitty in the Camden district, he married Dinah Noakes. Dinah had been born at Udimore, East Sussex, in 1825 and came to the colony with her family, embarking on the *Juliana* which left England on 17 October 1838, and eventually arriving in the colony in May 1839.³⁴ It was a voyage that none of the 240 or so emigrant passengers would forget, as chronicled in a synopsis of the Surgeon's journal.

The *Juliana* sailed from the Downs and met with a series of storms. The emigrants were very "terrified, sea sick and unable to take care of their children". The deck leaked and the bedding was wet and the circumstances meant that cleanliness was not observed as it should have been. Because the Surgeon Superintendent had no power to enforce his regulations regarding cleanliness, it was very difficult to clean the decks berths and bedding. It was necessary to drive the emigrants on to deck by closing the hatches and smoking them out with fumes of sulphur or cayenne pepper. On entering the tropics, remittent fever became prevalent among the emigrants, generally starting with heaviness and pain in the head and pain down the spine. On approaching the Tropic of Capricorn the weather became cooler and the disease subsided but there were so many convalescents the surgeon requested the ship call at the Cape of Good Hope. In doing so, however "the ship was run on shore at Green Point near Cape Town, where she afterwards became a total wreck" on 19 January. The emigrants were safely landed and moved to barracks.³⁵

As ships and space became available, the passengers were conveyed in batches for their final destination. It is likely that the Noakes family eventually arrived per the *Mary Hay*.

Thomas Jones married Dinah Noakes at Cobbitty, New South Wales, in 1844.³⁶ Seven children were born to the couple - Sarah Ann (1844-1886), Mary (1846-1914), James (1848-), Samuel (1851-1929), Susan (1853-1917), Thomas (1857-1919), and Joseph (1859-1931).³⁷ The youngest child had just turned 1 when his father died, in October 1860, at the relatively young age of 40.³⁸ He was buried at Parramatta, leaving a widow and seven children to mourn the loss of a faithful friend, a father dear and a loving husband.³⁹ Dinah Jones remarried in 1868 to James Collison, the event being registered at Newtown.⁴⁰ James, described as a dealer of Silver Street, Newton, drew up his will in 1895, three years before he died on 24 March 1898. His wife was the sole beneficiary and the sole executrix of the will.⁴¹ Dinah, also of Silver Street, Newton, died on 8 November 1901. By her will, dated August 1900, she left her estate in equal shares to her son Joseph Jones and her granddaughter Dinah Wiltshire.⁴²

(Samuel) James Jones

The second son of Sarah and Samuel Jones, was born on 4 January 1823 and baptised the following month on 2 February as Samuel James Jones, but was generally known as James Jones.⁴³ However it was as Samuel Jones, that he, together with his elder brother Thomas, were placed in the Male Orphanage in September 1827 where they remained until being discharged in April 1828. While Thomas was subsequently returned to the Orphanage, there is no suggestion that James accompanied him. What happened to him between 1828 and 1854 has not been established.



On 22 April 1854, at the age of 31, he married 17 year old Elizabeth Walker, the event being registered in the Black Creek, Maitland, Hunter, etc, region.⁴⁴ Elizabeth Walker had been born on 5 February 1835 to Robert Walker, a shoemaker, and his wife Lucy (Louisa) (née O'Neil).⁴⁵ In 1854 Elizabeth was living with her mother who, after her husband Robert's death, had remarried in Maitland in 1853.⁴⁶

Between 1855 and 1880 James and Elizabeth had eleven children - six boys, four girls, and one unnamed who was born and died in 1880.⁴⁷

Name	DoB/Bap/ Registration	Place	Father's occupation
James Robert	3 May 1855	Binnaway	Settler
Thomas William	20 Feb 1857	Warre	Stockman
Sarah	c 1859	-	-
Lucy Elizabeth	22 Nov 1862	Mudgee	Carter
Catherine Emily	22 Oct 1864	Mudgee	Carter
Samuel Ernest	3 Aug 1866	Dubbo	Carrier
Ellen Annie	Sep 1868	Dubbo	Carrier
Edwin John Walker	24 Jan 1871	Dubbo	Carrier
Robert Walter	1 Jan 1874	Gulgong	Puddler
Arthur Victor	25 Jun 1876	Gulgong	Miner
Unnamed Child	3 Feb 1880	Dubbo	Labourer

The table above indicates that James spent his married life in the Mudgee/Dubbo area of New South Wales as a physically demanding carter/carrier/labourer, interspersed with a stint on the Gulgong gold fields. The Gulgong gold rush, which began in 1870, was known as 'the last of the small man's rushes', because large amounts of the precious metal was found not far from the surface. However, by 1880 the surface leads had been worked out.⁴⁸

The following notice appeared in the 5 September 1885 issue of the Sydney paper the *Evening News*. Note – the age at death given in the notice (and also on the death certificate) is 56 – which does not tally with his birth year of 1823.

JONES – August 29, at his residence, Macquarie-street, Dubbo, of paralysis, James Jones, aged 56, late of Gulgong.

Hard labour had taken its toll. According to his death certificate, and apart from Paralysis, James had been suffering for a number of years with Bronchitis and Debility, which became acute in the last week of his life. The informant was his wife Elizabeth who stated, or rather, overstated, that her late husband's father had been a Sea Captain. Perhaps James had 'promoted' his father when talking about him to his wife and children. Elizabeth was not able to give the maiden name of James' mother Sarah. The ten surviving children were listed, ranging in ages from 9 (Arthur) to 29 (James). James Jones was buried at the Dubbo cemetery on 30 August 1885 and the death was registered at Dubbo on 26 September.⁴⁹

His widow outlived him by twenty-seven years. She died on 18 December 1912 at the Newington Asylum, Granville, a forbidding institution in which to spend her last days. According to the death registration she was aged 75 when she died – not consistent with her year of birth. Her birth place of Sydney is confirmed, as are the names of her parents William and Lucy, but with William being recorded as a 'Seafaring Man'. Death was caused by senility, malignant disease of rectum (cancer) and cachexia (weakness and wasting). She was buried on 19 December 1912 at the Rookwood Cemetery, the two witnesses being J R Jones and A W Jones.



Sarah Jane and Catherine Jones

At this stage the fate of sisters Sarah Jane Jones and Catherine Jones, is unknown. In September 1829 they would have been respectively aged 4 and nearly 2

At least with Thomas Jones and James Jones, the sons of Sarah North and Samuel Jones, we find that two of the Jones' children 'survived' their earlier ordeals and found some happiness. And it was through these two sons that a considerable Jones/North dynasty originated. Thomas and his wife Dinah had seven children. James and his wife Elizabeth had 11 children, only one of whom did not reach adulthood. At the last count, and subject to further research of the 'childless' couples, these children produced thirty five children between them – 14 boys and 21 girls.

NOTES

¹ Biographical Database of Australia (BDA), Biographical report for Sarah North, gives her pre-conviction occupation as 'Market Woman' but elsewhere she was also recorded as a 'Country Servant'.

² Ancestry, Australian Convict Transportation Registers, Other Fleets & Ships, 1791-1868, HO11/2; Ancestry, Australian Convict Index, 1788-1868; Convict Records, <http://www.convictrecords.com.au/convicts/north/sarah/50338>; BDA, Expanded Biographic Item of Sarah North.

³ The Dreamstress, <http://thedreamstress.com/2013/05/terminology-buffons-fichu-neckkerchief-handkerchief/>.

⁴ *Bristol Mirror*, 7 Jun 1817, p.3.

⁵ BDA, Biographical report for Sarah North; Ancestry, New South Wales, Australia, Settler and Convict Lists, 1787-1834, HO10/2. BDA, Biographical report for John Redman.

⁶ Ancestry, Australia, Colonial Secretary's Papers, 1788-1856, Series NRS 897, Reels 6041—6064, 6071-6072, pp. 58-67.

⁷ Ancestry, Australia, Colonial Secretary's Papers, 1788-1856, Series NRS 937, Reels 6004—6016, p.202. At this stage, while some possible leads are being pursued, nothing has been found to confirm the provenance of Sarah North and Samuel Jones. However, as prior to the voyage they both hailed from Bristol, it is tempting to speculate whether they were known to each other prior to embarkation.

⁸ New South Wales Registry of Births Deaths & Marriages (NSW BDM), Marriage registration 1818/2192; Thomas Davies, Mutch Card index to births, deaths and marriages, 1787-1957 (The Mutch Index).

⁹ The Companion to Tasmanian History, Shipbuilding, http://www.utas.edu.au/library/companion_to_tasmanian_history/S/Shipbuilding.htm.

¹⁰ *The Sydney Gazette and New South Wales Advertiser*, 7 Aug 1819, p.3.

¹¹ *The Sydney Gazette and New South Wales Advertiser*, 3 Jun 1820, p.3, 26 Oct 1820, p.1, 27 Jan 1821, p.3, 17 Mar 1821, p.4, 30 Jun 1821, p.3; Ancestry, New South Wales, Australia, Departing Crew and Passenger Lists, 1816-1825, 1898-1911, New South Wales State Archives & Records (NSWSA&R), Ships Muster, Series 1289, Items: 4/4771; BDA, Expanded Biographic Item on Samuel Jones.

¹² *The Sydney Gazette and New South Wales Advertiser*, 21 Jul 1821, p.2.

¹³ *The Sydney Gazette and New South Wales Advertiser*, 28 Nov 1818, p.1. From September 1822 Constables were to receive weekly, from the Commissariat Store, a Spanish Dollar in place of each single ration to which they had hitherto been allowed – *The Sydney Gazette and New South Wales Advertiser*, 20 Sep 1822, p.1.

¹⁴ *The Sydney Gazette and New South Wales Advertiser*, 7 Nov 1818, p.1. John Dew (alias Archibald Dew) was convicted in 1803, transported for life and arrived in Sydney in 1806 on the *Fortune*, and granted a conditional pardon in 1814 – BDA, Biographical report for John Dew.

¹⁵ *The Sydney Gazette and New South Wales Advertiser*, 16 Aug 1817, p.1.

¹⁶ Rather than 'James', this entry should have been 'Jane' for daughter (Sarah) Jane Jones who had been born on 7 August 1825. See also comment of Marion Purnell, Australian Royalty entry <http://australianroyalty.net.au/individual.php?pid=19132&ged=purnellmccord.ged#>.

¹⁷ Ancestry, New South Wales and Tasmania, Australia Convict Musters, 1806-1849 – 1822, HO10/36; 1825, HO10/19, HO10/20.

¹⁸ Ancestry, New South Wales, Australia, Certificates of Freedom, 1810-1814, 1827-1867.

¹⁹ Ancestry, New South Wales, Australia, Colonial Secretary's Papers 1788-1856.

²⁰ Ancestry, New South Wales Australia, Applications and Admissions to Orphan Schools, 1817-1833.

²¹ NSWSA&R Indexes Online, Child Care and Protection, NRS 796 [1]; Reel 2777; 1477. Page 008. The Index records committal dates of 27/11/1827 for Thomas Jones and Samuel James Jones and a committal date of 18/12/1827 for Thomas Jones and Samuel Jones, thus further confusing the 'Samuel' and 'Samuel James' naming issue.

²² *The Australian*, 2 May 1828, p.3. The schoolmaster in question was Edward Webster, who had arrived per the *Prince Regent* in September 1827, having had his death sentence for burglary commuted to Life. Prior to his conviction he had been a clerk, which apparently was sufficient qualification for him to be 'disposed of' to the Church Corporation on his arrival in the colony, to replace the previous assistant teacher, Reverend Cartwright's son – Ancestry, New South Wales Australia, Convict Indents, 1788-1842; Beryl M. Bubacz, *The Female and Male Orphan Schools in New South Wales, 1801-1850*, University of Sydney, Doctoral Thesis, 2007, p.272.



- ²³ Given the fact that Sarah, at least, was considered illiterate, and judging by the language used, this letter would have been composed by a third party on her behalf.
- ²⁴ The Admission Book of the Male Orphan School 1819-1833 (Reel 2777 4/32 AO NSW) confirms that the boys were admitted on 18 December 1827 and records their release on 21 April 1828. I am grateful to Roz Gatwood for providing a copy of the letter and the relevant page from the Admissions Book.
- ²⁵ Ancestry, 1828 New South Wales, Australia Census (Australian Copy). Of the adult women enumerated in the 1828 census, 6% worked as laundresses – Kay Daniels, *Convict Women*, Allen & Unwin Pty Ltd, St Leonards, 1998, p.228.
- ²⁶ Ancestry, 1828 New South Wales, Australia Census (TNA).
- ²⁷ BDA, Biographical report for Catherine Lyons.
- ²⁸ NSWSA&R, Indexes Online, Child Care and Protection, NRS 782 [2]; Reel 2776, Page 081-086.
- ²⁹ NSWSA&R, Indexes Online, Child Care and Protection, NRS 782 [2]; Reel 2776, Page 081-086.
- ³⁰ BDA, Expanded Biographic Items for Samuel Jones (0274/001) and Sarah North (0274/002), submitted in the 1980s by M.R. McGowan.
- ³¹ Ancestry, New South Wales, Australia, Goal Description and Entrance Books, 1818-1930.
- ³² Ancestry, Edwards Family Tree, <https://www.ancestry.com.au/family-tree/person/tree/88368385/person/150009746552/facts>; Ancestry, Moller/Robson Family Tree, <https://www.ancestry.com.au/family-tree/person/tree/156717882/person/262076530169/facts>. Philip Doherty (gt-gt-gt-grandson), Community Contributions, Convict Records, <https://convictrecords.com.au/convicts/north/sarah/50338>.
- ³³ Ancestry, Australia Births and Baptisms, 1792-1981.
- ³⁴ Ancestry, Australia, Marriage Index, 1788-1950. Ancestry, New South Wales, Australia, Assisted Immigrant Passenger Lists, 1828-1896. Dinah's mother had died in 1837. Her father Thomas remarried, and it was with his second wife, Matilda, that he emigrated to New South Wales with five children from his first marriage and a daughter, Juliana, who was born *en voyage* – Ancestry, Bradshaw Family Tree, <https://www.ancestry.com/family-tree/person/tree/84808676/person/42508497905/facts>.
- ³⁵ UK National Archives, ADM 101/77/9, Medical and surgical journal of the emigrant ship *Juliana* for 17 October 1838 to 21 May 1839 by Henry Kelsall, Surgeon, <http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/documents/surgeons-at-sea-highlights-guide.pdf>.
- ³⁶ NSW BDM, Marriage registration 1844/358 V1844358 29.
- ³⁷ NSW BDM, Birth registrations, parents = Thomas and Dinah Jones. Note – no registration has been located for son James Jones.
- ³⁸ NSW BDM, Death registration 1860/5270.
- ³⁹ Judith Dunn, "The Parramatta cemeteries : All Saints and Wesleyan. [Parramatta]", Parramatta and District Historical Society, 2007, Extract from monumental inscription of Thomas Jones, died 12 October 1860.
- ⁴⁰ NSW BDM, Marriage registration, 1249/1868.
- ⁴¹ Findmypast (FMP), New South Wales Will Books, 1800-1952, Will No. 16453.
- ⁴² NSW BDM, Death registration, 15421/1901. Findmypast, New South Wales Will Books, 1800-1952, Will No. 30311. Dinah Wiltshire (née Jones) was a daughter of Susan Jones – NSW BDM, Birth registration, 3775/1872.
- ⁴³ Ancestry, Australia, Births and Baptisms, 1792-1981. I am grateful to Roz Gatwood, a direct descendent of (Samuel) James, for information on this Jones boy.
- ⁴⁴ Ancestry, Australia, Marriage Index, 1788-1950.
- ⁴⁵ NSW BDM, Birth registration 684/1835 V1835684 19. The birth was registered at Dapto, Wollongong, New South Wales.
- ⁴⁶ NSW BDM, Marriage registration 26/1853 V 185326 88.
- ⁴⁷ The information recorded for the births was compiled by Roz Gatwood.
- ⁴⁸ Geological sites of NSW, <http://www.geomaps.com.au/scripts/gulgong.php>.
- ⁴⁹ Certified copy of Death certificate, 7576/1885.



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