

CLARKE Richard

Variations : Clark

Alias :

Ship	Date arrived (Sydney)
Providence	2 July 1811

Shipping indent(s)

Fiche	Page	Reel	Shelf	Type
633	366	393	4/4004	Bound

Trial (place, date)	Prev conv	Offence	Sentence
City of Limerick March 1809		Aiding & assisting burglary	life
Notes: Source = bound indent. Offence source =Freemans Journal 17 March 1809 p3.			

Age	Marr/S	Child'n	Relig	Educ	Native place	Country
21						
Notes: Source = SR. Convict Ships, Musters & Papers 1791-1836. 2/8274 p199 [reel 2426]						

Trade or calling	Height	Complexion	Hair	Eyes

Assignment

1816, probably to Arnold FISK at Hobart Town (see Col Sec below)
1823 to Mr Webber [Tocal] (see Col Sec below)
At Tocal: 1823 Tocal occupation:

Freedom (year, details)

T.O.L.	Possible TOL 1816 – see Col Sec below
C.P.	1312, 31 January 1820. SR Register of Conditional Pardons 1791-1825, 4/4430 [fiche 822].

Colonial crime & secondary punishment

Date	Offence	In service of	Punishment
1814			Transportation to VDL, 6 years
1821	Receiving stolen carcasses	Free by Pardon	Transportation to Newcastle, 2 years
Sources: see Col Sec and 'other' below			

Colonial Secretary's correspondence

<p>1814 Apr 4,5 On lists of convicts to be sent to the Derwent per "Windham" (Reel 6004; 4/3493 pp.127, 133). This was a colonial sentence ordered by the Governor on 7 March 1814, duration = "Original sentence from England" (offence not stated)</p> <p>1821 Apr 28,30 Prisoner arrived from Hobart per "Medway" under sentence of transportation to Newcastle; to be held in Sydney Gaol (Reel 6008; 4/3504 pp.7, 10)</p> <p>1821 May 24,28 On lists of prisoners transported to Newcastle per "Snapper" (Reel 6008; 4/3504 pp.35, 55). Labourer, sentenced to Newcastle for two years, from VDL [says three years elsewhere]</p> <p>1821 May 28 his wife proceeding with him to Newcastle per "Snapper" (Reel 6008; 4/3504 pp53-4)</p> <p>1821 Nov 12 Convict from Van Diemen's Land under sentence to Newcastle. Re warrant respecting the commencement and duration of sentence (Reel 6008; 4/3504A p.57). This was a request for further details [reply unknown]</p> <p>1823 Sep 11 Convict servant of Mr Webber. To be victualled from the Store at Newcastle for six months (Reel 6011; 4/3509 p.230). Request that Mr Webber and his six convict servants be victualled from His Ms Store at Newcastle for six months from 11 Sep 1823. The six were Stephen Hower (Mary 3), Jno Waggoner (Minerva), JD Cooper (Atlas), Rich'd Clarke (Providence), John Benson (Recovery) and Wm Shields (Surry)</p> <p>1825 May 30 Of Hunters River. Memorial (Fiche 3124; 4/1840C No.128 p.717). Asking for a grant of land</p> <p>6 April 1816 CLARKE, Richard. [no ship stated]. Prisoner in van Diemen's Land. Servant to Arnold Fisk. Re ticket of leave (Reel 6004; 4/3494 pp442, 445). From Col Sec Sydney to Lieut Gov VDL.</p>

Richard Clarke in Gov service – request he be assigned to Mr Arnold FISK a free settler at Hobart Town. Mr Fisk wants him assigned because of “the experience he has already had of hid fidelity and industry”. His Excellency intends to give him a Ticket of Leave, but what ship was he on? [By a process of elimination, this is very likely Richard Clarke (Providence)]. Letter advising Fisk of above (p445)

8 September 1821 Richard Clarke [**no ship stated**]. One of eight limeburners to be victualled from His Majesty’s Magazines [stores]. (letters sent 1808-25, 4/5781 p84 [reel 6016]. [Given Richard Clarke (Providence) was stationed at Newcastle at this time, and limeburning was one of the main tasks allocated to convicts at Newcastle, this is probably him. This is supported by the absence of Col Sec index entries for other Richard Clark(e)’s at that time].

NSW Census/musters

1822	C, Govt employ Newcastle
1823-25	TL, employed by Mr McCoy Newcastle. Also his wife Catherine (FS Canada 1817, 7 years, Newcastle) and their daughter Mary, aged 7 (BC, Newcastle).
1828	(Clark). Farmer, age 40 years, residence – Vaux Cottage, Patersons Plains. Also listed at the same address as his wife Catherine, age 30, daughter Mary Ann, aged 16, and two assigned convicts. Richard had 230 acres of which 25 was cleared and cultivated. He had 32 cattle.

Colonial marriage

Date	Place	To whom	BDM index reference
1818 Dec 7	Tasmania	Catherine PRENDERGAST /Prendergrass	TAS 296/1818
1837	Patersons Plains	Catherine FLANNAGAN	NSW V1837 280 123

Note: there were married to each other twice, probably a protestant ceremony in Tasmania, and a Catholic one in NSW.

Sources: 1. TAS BDM’s as shown in Tardif P (1990) *Notorious Strumpets and Dangerous Girls* (as Prendergast)

2. Tasmanian Archives, as shown in Ingle K (2001) *Sacred Heart Church & Cemetery, Summer Hill, Paterson Valley*. Paterson Historical Society Inc.

3. BDMs NSW marriage V1837 280 123, and Ingle K (2001) *Op cit.* (Marriage Register, St Joseph’s Catholic Church, East Maitland)

Death

Date	Place	Age	BDM index reference
1866 Aug	Maitland West	82	1866/4945 & <i>Maitland Mercury</i> 25 August 1866 p1

Timeline

Date	Event
1811	Arrived Sydney
1814	Colonial sentence, six years Tasmania
1816	Probably assigned to Arnold Fisk, Hobart Town & probable TOL
1820	Conditional Pardon
1821	Sentenced to three years at Newcastle for receiving stolen sheep carcass
1823	Assigned to James Webber [Tocal]. His sentence expired the same year
1830	Leaseholder on Vacy
1866 Aug	Died at West Maitland

Other (source, details)

Archives Office of Tasmania. *List of Convicts to be sent to the Derwent*, CON 13/1 p33. On list of convicts to be sent to the Derwent under colonial sentence, 9 March 1814. Sentence of six years, ordered by the Governor on 7 March 1814. Sent per ship *Wyndham*.

SR. Court of Criminal Jurisdiction, Returns of Trials, Van Diemen’s Land, 1821-1823, X726 pp1-32 [reel 2652]. 27 Jan 1821, Court of Criminal Jurisdiction held at Hobart VDL, “Charged with purchasing and receiving carcass of sheep stolen by certain felons...”

knowing this to have been stolen.” Guilty, to be transported to Newcastle for the term of three years. [the above date refers to the charge, the court case being held later, see below] SG 28 April 1821 p3. “Hobart Town, March 31 – Court of Criminal Jurisdiction... Richard Clark was charged ... for receiving and purchasing, knowing the same to have been stolen, 1000lbs of mutton, the property of John Riseley, at the New Plains, Pittwater, from three of the prosecutor’s servants, who had, some time in the month of October last, stolen a number of sheep from their master, and soon afterwards sold them to the defendant, living in the neighbourhood, for five gallons of rum. After proof of the larceny, the principal evidence, as to the receiving, was given by an accomplice, Francis Davidson... but was very strongly corroborated by the testimony of Mr Gordon, the Magistrate, as to having himself found a great quantity of salted mutton on the premises of Clark at Pitt-water; which, neither at the time, nor at the trial, he at all gave any satisfactory account for having in his possession. After a trial of nearly two hours, the defendant was found Guilty, and sentenced to be transported to Newcastle for three years.”

SR. Sydney Gaol Entrance Book 1819-1823, 4/6360 [reel 850]. Richard Clarke, Providence, admitted to Sydney Gaol 1 May 1821, having arrived from Hobart Town.

Pers comm from descendant of EG Cory, Vacy. Richard Clarke, one of the original convicts assigned to James Webber, gave evidence in a court case in 1830 concerned with the disposal of timber on Vacy. At the time he was a leaseholder on Vacy and had a wife. He was obviously literate. His evidence suggests he was quite well educated.

Keywords

Newcastle, limeburner

Richard Clarke was granted 120 acres of land in the Parish of Houghton, bordering Edward Kealy at Paterson River (off present-day Summer Hill Road, Vacy):

- NSWGG 1839 p91 notification of grant (promised by Sir Ralph Darling 21 August 1831, possession authorised 31 December 1832)
- NSWGG 1839 p674 deeds issued.

He purchased an additional 100 acres in Houghton Parish

- NSWGG 18 Feb 1835 pp93-94, up for auction, applied for by Richard Clarke
- NSWGG 27 May 1835 p365, title deeds issued (lot 6) to Richard Clarke
- NSWGG 3 June 1835 p389, land paid for by Richard Clarke (35 pounds)

Richard Clarke had several convicts assigned to him at Paterson River, eg:

- NSWGG 1832 p65 Breedon, Christopher, Albion, absconded from Mr Richard Clarke of Paterson’s Plains
- NSWGG 1832 p424 Paine Richard, Lady Harewood, laborer, assigned to Richard Clarke, Paterson’s River
- 1837 Convict Muster
- NSWGG 26 Oct 1836 p830 to Richard Clarke, Paterson, 1 groom & stock keeper
- NSWGG 27 Dec 1837 p957 to Richard Clarke, Paterson, 2 laborers

(PTO for clipping re his trial)

LIMERICK, March, 14.—Last Sunday evening, the Right Hon. the Lord Chief Baron, and the Hon. Baron George, Judges of Assize, for the Munster Circuit, arrived in this city from Ennis, and yesterday opened their respective commissions, the former in the city and the latter in the county court.

Yesterday, in the city court, Richard Clarke was tried, for aiding and assisting his brother, John Clarke, and Patrick Larkin, (who were executed at the late special commission) in the robbery of Michael D'Loughlin, of Ennis—Guilty.

Source: Freemans Journal, 17 March 1809 p3.

General information

Research on Tocal's convicts was undertaken by Brian Walsh. Please do not email or upload this document without acknowledgement.

For further information see the book *Voices from Tocal –Convict Life on a Rural Estate* by Brian Walsh, available from www.tocal.com

For contact details see www.tocal.com