James Dean 504, Pyrenees

Name variation: Dain

Baptism	Possibly 18 August 1805, Mottram-in-Longdendale, Cheshire
Parents	Possibly James Dain and Mary
Parent's marriage	
Siblings	Possibly William (1807)
Wife	Elizabeth Johnson
Married	27 April 1830, Warrington, Lancashire (now part of Cheshire)
Children	George (1833)

When James Dean married Elizabeth Johnson on 27 April 1830 at Warrington, he did so as James Dain. The witnesses were Wm Dain, possibly his brother, and Mary Johnson, Elizabeth's sister.

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A James Dain, son of James and Mary, was baptised on 18 August 1805 at Mottram-in-Longdendale, Cheshire. The family lived at Hyde. James and Mary then had another son, William Dain, baptised on 11 October 1807 at Mottram-in-Longdendale. The family then lived in Newton near Hyde. No other children have been found.

After their marriage, James and Elizabeth DEAN moved to Runcorn, Cheshire, where George, their only child, was baptised on 6 August 1833. James said his occupation was a labourer.

On the 1841 census, at Church Street, Runcorn, Cheshire. James Dean, 35, Beer seller; wife Elizabeth 35, and son George 7, all born in the County.¹

In 1846, Elizabeth's widowed sister, Ann Davenport, made her will a month before she died. She said, "I give and bequeath to my sister Elizabeth wife of James Dean of Runcorn aforesaid Retail Beer Seller the Feather bed on which I now lie". However, "I give and bequeath to my sister Mary, the wife of James Handley of Runcorn in the County of Chester Butcher, the set of bed hangings belonging to the bed on which I now lie." She also gave Elizabeth Dean, one-sixth of any money she had after all expenses were paid. She mentions her late father, John Johnson.²

Stealing of Lead at Runcorn, July 1848. A special meeting of magistrates was called on Saturday last at the Town Hall at Runcorn in order to investigate a charge of stealing lead from the premises of Messrs Johnson. James Bushel, Joseph Sutton and James Dean, a keeper of a public house and marine dealer³ in Church Street, were brought up by Mr Richardson, the constable of the town, and placed before the bar, the first two charged with stealing a quantity of moulded lead (about nine cwt) from the yard of Messrs Johnson. The latter with buying and receiving the same, knowing it to be stolen.

Mr W. Collyer, the managing agent for Messrs Johnson at the Weston Works, stated that having been apprised by some of the men of the theft, he went with two or three others to a field belonging

¹ TNA, UK, HO 107/95/18

² FamilySearch, Film Number/Image Group Number: 004012388, DI 12

³ A Marine Store Dealer was a licensed broker who bought and sold used cordage, bunting, rags, timber, metal and other general waste materials. He usually sorted the purchased waste by kind, grade etc. He also repaired and mended sacks etc. Marine Store Dealers were governed by an Act of Parliament and every marine-store-dealer shall have his name inserted in legible characters over his shop-door and shall also keep a book in which he shall insert the name and address of any person from whom he shall buy any article.

to George Hampton of Weston, where he found the lead in a sough, covered over with thorns and rubbish. He then told the men to keep it secret and watch for the parties, with no doubt would fetch the lead. On Thursday night, the 6th inst., a cart was seen driving up to the place, with Mr. Dean's son in it, a lad of about 14 veers of age; the prisoner, Sutton, joined it and proceeded to the place where the lead was deposited. Sutton removed the lead from its hiding place and put it into the cart. On returning to Runcorn, they were joined on the road by Mr Dean, who got into the cart, and they drove straight to the premises of the latter. On alighting, Dean began to unload the cart. Mr Collyer and his men were following and coming up to the cart, whilst Dean was unloading it, Mr Collyer remarked to Dean that "it was stolen property he was harbouring." Dean replied, "No, I have bought it for its full price."

He did not see Mr Dean or the lead again until he saw both in the custody of Mr Richardson. Collyer then identified the lead, which was produced in court. Several other witnesses were examined who corroborated Collyer's evidence and identified the lead as belonging to Messrs Johnson. The attorney for Dean said Dean was entitled to bail as he was only the receiver, and he thought the charge had not been made out against him as he had given the full price for the lead as it was sold in Runcorn. On the charge for the prisoner Dean, bail has been accepted to the amount of £100 for himself and £50 in each of two sureties.

At the Knutsford Sessions in August 1848. Joseph Sutton and James Bushel were charged with stealing a quantity of lead, the property of Messrs Johnston at Weston; and James Dean with receiving the same, knowing it to be stolen. In part of the depositions, witness John Boyer said that he distinctly remembered that Dean's son had come to borrow the cart. George Dean, the son of James Dean, was brought up, but the magistrates, conceiving that he had acted under the influence of the father, discharged him. The father said that he had not acted under his influence and that he was innocent of the charge as he was. He also remarked upon the cruelty of asking questions to the boy who could not understand their meaning.

Sutton was sentenced to twelve months imprisonment in Chester, Bushel was acquitted, and Dean was transported for seven.⁴

Transportation Order. James Dean late of the township of Weston in the said County order Laborer hath at this present Sessions been indicted and convicted feloniously receiving Goods knowing the same to have been stolen Now it is ordered by this Court that the said Dean shall be transported to such parts the Seas as Her Majesty with the advice of Her privy Council shall direct for the term of Seven years to be computed from this time and it is further ordered by this Court that the Master or Keeper of the House of Correction at Nether Knutsford in and for the said County do unto his custody the body of the said James Dean and him safely keep and to hard labor in the said House of Correction in the meantime and until he shall be so Transported as aforesaid. ⁵

Petition.

Accompanying letter to 1st petition 10 August 1850, received 12 August, from John Jepon, minister of Bethesda Church, Runcorn. Petition is not in the file.

31 August 1850, Runcorn. Received 2 September 1850. 2nd application.

Sir George. Hereby I beg most respectfully to acknowledge yours of the 26th in reply to a Petition signed by the two prosecutors, the clergy and gentry of this town in favor of James Dean, a prisoner at Woolwich.

Since forwarding that Petition, searching enquiry has been made, and if you will be pleased to order a reference to the notes taken by the Judge on the trial, now two years ago, I think it will be found that the prisoner Dean had no guilty knowledge whatsoever that the goods were stolen.

⁴ Chester Chronicle 14 July 1848, p3; Liverpool Mail, 15 July 1848, p3, Liverpool Mail, 26 August 1848, p3, Liverpool Mail, 26 August 1848, p3

⁵ FamilySearch, Film Number/Image Group Number: 004018001, DI 18, No 732

All here allow his previous character to be good. His conduct and character subsequently you could clearly ascertain.

Pray, Sir George, enquire more fully into the Maker before you allow him to leave this country. I have the honor to remain, Sir George, your obedient humble servant,

John I. Jepon, minister of Bethesda Church (late of Tahiti).

Cover: 2nd application.

One of the former applicants now expresses his belief in the prisoner's innocence and prays that a reference be made to the Judge.

It is rather late to enquire into the merits. Nil. G.G.

Answered 9 September 1850.6

The Prison Registers show James Dean, 46, married, could read and write imperfectly, a Marine Dealer, was convicted on 21 August 1848 at Knutsford of receiving stolen goods and sentenced to seven years transportation. It was his first conviction. He was received at Millbank Prison on 9 January 1849 from Knutsford Prison. James was transferred on 7 August 1849 to *Justitia hulk*. His character "appears to have been a respectable man. Conduct was "very good".⁷

He boarded the *Pyrenees* on 5 March 1851 for the voyage to Western Australia. 504. James Dean, 49, $5'6^{7}/_{8}''$, with light hair, blue eyes, an oval face, fair complexion, stout, a scar on the shin bone of the right leg, a labourer, and married with one child.⁸

In July 1851, 504 James Dean, a Wool Sorter, was stationed at the North Fremantle Station.⁹

His Conditional Pardon was granted in January 1854 in Western Australia. No further information has been found.

His wife Elizabeth Dean.

On the 1851 census, at 7 Church Street, Runcorn, Elizabeth continued to run his business. Elizabeth Dean, head, married, 46, Retail beer seller and marine store dealer, born Overton, Cheshire George Dean, son, 17, assistant in marine store, born at Weston, Cheshire. ¹⁰

The 1851 Rates show Elizabeth Dean occupied a house and beer shop in Church Street. The rag shop was in Water Street. ¹¹



At some stage, she moved to Cooper Street, where on 27 October 1859, Elizabeth Dean, 56, widow of James Dean, a beer seller, died of heart disease; Margaret Brown, present at death, was probably her sister.¹² It is unknown if Elizabeth knew her husband was deceased or she called herself a widow because he was absent.

Elizabeth Dean, aged 56, was buried on 30 October 1859 at Runcorn.

It is unknown what happened to George Dean, son of James and Elizabeth.

⁶ TNA, UK, HO18/286/16

⁷ TNA, UK, HO24/4

⁸ SROWA, Acc 128/1-32

⁹ The Perth Gazette and Independent Journal of Politics and News, 25 Jul 1851, p2

¹⁰ TNA, UK, HO 107/2164

¹¹ https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3QS7-8927-P3W4?view=fullText

¹² Elizabeth's siblings were George, John, Ann Davenport, Mary Handley and Margaret Brown.