

No information has been found on the early life of James Salisbury or his marriage. There are several people with the same name in the Manchester area.

His conviction for stealing lead in 1847 is believed to be his first conviction for Felony.

Stealing Lead in Longsight.—Yesterday, two labouring men named James Salisbury and Henry Rutter were charged at the New Bailey with stealing lead from No. 4, Longsight Terrace, an unoccupied house, in the possession of Mr Burnett, Shakspeare-street. A gardener employed on the premises saw the lead, which formed part of the cistern lining, safe on Wednesday night. The next morning, he missed it, but discovering it too, he concealed it in a ditch, partly filled with water, about 100 yards distant. He communicated with a police inspector, and with a watch being kept, the prisoners were seen to come to the spot. One kept watch while the other stooped down as if getting the lead out of the water. Observing, however, that they were watched, they left but were apprehended and taken to the police station. One of them said he had been to the new Prison to endeavour to get work. Mr Trafford said they must both stay in the Prison to await their trial at the sessions, which will take place next week.¹

At their trial on 6 December, Henry Rutter was sentenced to 7 years transportation, and James Salisbury received 8 months in Lancaster Castle. Henry Rutter was transported to Tasmania.

James was convicted again in October 1848. There is no newspaper report of the trial, however, Court Records show:

Whereas James Salisbury, late of the township of Levenshulme in the said County, Labourer, has at this Session been convicted of Felony. This Court doth, therefore, order and adjudge that the said James Salisbury shall be sent and transported to some part beyond the Seas for the space of Seven Years next pursuant to the statute in such Case made and provided.^{2,3}

The prosecutor appears to be John Parrett.

** Levenshulme is about a km from Longsight, where he was convicted of a previous crime in 1847.

James Salisbury, 28 [38], widower, can't read or write, labourer, convicted on 23 October 1848 at Salford of Felony and sentenced to 7 years transportation. He was received on 29 December 1848 from Salford at Millbank Prison. He had been once convicted of Felony and five times imprisoned. On 7 August 1849, he was transferred to the *Warrior* hulk at Woolwich. From here, he boarded the *Pyrenees* on 5 March 1851 for the voyage to Western Australia. He was healthy, and his behaviour was indifferent.⁴

On arrival at Fremantle, James was assigned number 402 and given a Ticket of Leave.

James Salisbury, 40, 5'3¾", with dark brown hair, dark eyes, an oval face, fresh complexion, scar on the back of the neck and on the left leg, a labourer, widower, and with no children.⁵

James was removed from the *Pyrenees* on 1 July 1851 and located in Division 3 of the Prison. On the 3 July, he proceeded to the North Fremantle Station. The newspaper reported that the Ticket of Leave men were at the station and said 402 James Salisbury was a Bricklayer.⁶

After 2 weeks, on 18 July, James was removed from the North Fremantle Station. He proceeded with John Bird (497) and William Dudley (460) to Henry Gray, Peninsular Farm, Perth.⁷

¹ Manchester Examiner, 04 December 1847, p5

² Lancashire Record Office. Quarter Sessions Records and Petitions, Order Books, 1848, Ref. RB.55

³ Two other men transported to Western Australia were convicted at the same Salford Sessions – Charles Hulme (736) and William Boswell (403). Neither appears to have been an accomplice of James Salisbury.

⁴ The National Archived, UK, HO8/107; HO24/4; PCOM2/29

⁵ SROWA, Acc 128/32

⁶ SROWA, Superintendent Orders, 1850 - 1854 (So1 - So3), p46; Inquirer, 23 July 1851, p2

⁷ SROWA, Superintendent Orders, 1850 - 1854 (So1 - So3), p64

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Perth. 1 September 1851. James Salisbury and William Caple each fined 5s for drunkenness.

2 September 1851. James Salisbury was fined 10s and, in default of payment, 7 days imprisonment.⁹

Perth. 26 January 1852. James Salisbury, drunk in Murray Street, was fined 5s and costs.¹⁰

PERTH. 25 February 1852. James Salisbury, ticket-of-leave holder, drunk in the streets at 1 p.m., 24th instant, fined 5s and 3s expenses.¹¹

Around the end of the year, James went to work for Stephen Hale at Guildford.

Guildford. 15 May 1852. James Saulsberry, a ticket of leave man, preferred a complaint against Stephen Hale for a balance of £2 6s on account of wages. Saulsberry stated that he had worked for Hale five months and found him a good master; that he had applied to him for the money once or twice but could not get it, and he, therefore, summonsed him. In defence, Hale said the sum sued for was correct but that he had a bill from Mr Cole for food and spirits, which Saulsberry had on his (Hale's) account, and put it as a set-off. The court could not, however, admit it, as Mr Cole was not present to prove the account and decided the amount claimed should be paid within a week.¹²

Guildford. 31 May 1852. His employment with Stephen Hale ended as James Salisbury, attached to the depot, was charged with being in a public house after 10 o'clock and fined.¹³

Guildford. 28 August 1852. James Salisbury, ticket-man, drunk, out after 10 p.m., and resisting the police; fined 6s and damages for tearing the clothes of the policeman, 6s.¹⁴

Guildford. 4 November 1852. James Salisbury, t.l., drunk; fined 5s and expenses.¹⁵

Guildford. 3 January 1853. James Salisbury, t.l., drunk; fined 6s and expenses.¹⁶

A Conditional Pardon was granted on 30 September 1853

Perth. 7 May 1855. James Salisbury was charged with vagrancy and received one month's hard labour.¹⁷

⁸ The Perth Gazette and Independent Journal of Politics and News, 15 August 1851, p1

⁹ Inquirer, 3 Sep 1851, p2

¹⁰ The Perth Gazette and Independent Journal of Politics and News, 6 February 1852, p4

¹¹ Inquirer, 3 Mar 1852, p2

¹² The Perth Gazette and Independent Journal of Politics and News, 21 May 1852, p4

¹³ Inquirer, 9 Jun 1852, p3

¹⁴ Inquirer, 8 Sep 1852, p3

¹⁵ Inquirer, 8 Dec 1852, p3

¹⁶ Inquirer, 12 Jan 1853, p2

¹⁷ The Perth Gazette and Independent Journal of Politics and News, 18 May 1855, p2

18 September 1859, local prisoner James Salisbury was received at Prison and discharged on 4 October 1859.¹⁸

26 May 1862. Jas Salisbury, convicted for supplying fermented liquor to a native woman, was received at Fremantle Prison on 4 June 1862 and sentenced to 3 months. During his stay in Prison, James was sick several times with a cough. He was discharged in August with a 5/- gratuity.¹⁹

28 September 1863. James Salisbury, 36, expirée *Pyrenees*, convicted of supplying a native woman with fermented liquor, sentenced to 3 months, received at Prison on 30 September 1863 and discharged 26 December 1863.²⁰

Guildford. 6 March 1869. Jas Salisbury, 61, expirée 402, Protestant, can't read or write, drunk and incapable, sentenced at Guildford to 7 days, arrived at Prison on 9 March and discharged 13 March 1869.²¹

James was now about 60 years old. No more information has been found. It seems unlikely that he left the colony.

¹⁸ SROWA, Acc 1156/V16

¹⁹ SROWA, Acc 1156/V16; Acc 1156/V16

²⁰ SROWA, ACC 1156/R&D3-R&D4

²¹ SROWA, Acc 1156/V16a-V16c