

Michael Hogan was married with three young children when he was convicted. According to his petitions, the eldest child was 4 or 5 years old in 1849.

Charged on 5 June 1848 with having at Manchester, feloniously assaulted and wounded John Williamson with an iron instrument, as he was in the execution of his duty as a police constable, with intent to do him grievous bodily harm.¹

Michael Hogan said he had been drinking and had had a few words with his wife and that he was in a state of great excitement. He had been working late and early for over a week, and on Saturday evening when he left work, he got a glass or two with his shop mates, which made him so that he did not know what he was about. One of his masters confirmed his statement as to having been late and early to work for nine previous days.²

At the Lancaster Summer Assizes held at Liverpool in August:

Michael Hogan, 26, was indicted for cutting and wounding John Williamson, a constable, in the execution of his duty, with intent to do him grievous bodily harm. Mr. Cobbett conducted the prosecution; Mr. Pollock the defence. It appeared from the prosecutor's statement that he was on duty in Manchester late at night when he found a number of women of loose character making a noise in the street. He told them to move on; while he was doing so, the Prisoner came up and asked if he had seen the woman whom he (the Prisoner) was looking for, using at the same time some very coarse expressions. The officer took him by the shoulder and told him to go home, on which the Prisoner drew from under his coat a bar of Iron about two feet and a half long, having a handle formed by twine lapped round it, and struck him blow on the temple, inflicting a severe wound. The Prisoner then ran away but was pursued by the prosecutor and another officer. He ran into a court but found there was no exit at the other end. In returning, he met the prosecutor and again struck him but was finally secured. The weapon he used, and which was now produced, was a most murderous one, having a sharp point at one end and being formed like a chisel at the other. Witnesses were called for the defence to show that the prosecutor had behaved improperly to one of the women in the street, who appeared to be the Prisoner's wife, and afterwards assailed the Prisoner when he interfered in her defence, but this was not made out. Verdict, Guilty.—Sentence deferred. He was later brought up and sentenced to 7 years transportation.³ There is no explanation in any of the newspaper reports as to why Michael carried an iron bar under his coat.

Petitions:⁴

Received 21 September 1848.

20 September 1848, Manchester.

The Right Honorable Sir George Grey M.P., Baronet, Secretary of State for the Home Department.

Sir,

We most respectfully beg leave to draw your kind attention to the case of Michael Hogan who was tried at the last Liverpool Assizes for an assault on a Policeman of this City and sentenced to Seven years transportation for the offence.

The above named Michael Hogan had been in our employ as a Lithographic Printer for a period of twelve months and we have every reason to believe judging from his uniformly good conduct and exceedingly quiet disposition that this unlooked for event has not been in any way the result of a malicious intention or was at all premeditated on his part, but arose purely from a heated brain caused by taking an undue quantity of "ardent spirits" on the Saturday night after a laboring weeks labor of Ninety hours.

¹ TNA, UK, PCOM2/322

² Manchester Courier, 07 June 1848, p4

³ Sun (London), 24 August 1848, p10

⁴ TNA, UK, HO18/229

Believing as we do that this is the first offence against the Laws of his Country and not having in the slightest degree and been connected with any illegal societies which unfortunately existed at that time, we fervently pray you will take his previous good character into your favourably consideration with a view to the mitigation of his sentence as you in your better judgement may deem advisable, so that his desolate wife and children may entertain the fond hope he will again be restored to them at no very distant period to labour for their support and train up his children in the "Love and Fear of God". We ourselves will readily take him again into our employment wherever he is set at liberty.

We remain Rt Honorable Sir,

Your very Humble Servants

Harrison and Sale, Engravers and Printers

Result: Nil, answered 26 September 1848

Received 21 May 1849.

Kirkdale Gaol, Liverpool, 18 April 1849

To The Right Honorable Sir George Grey, Bart, Her Majesty's Chief Secretary of State for the Home Department.

The Humble Petition of Michael Hogan, late of Manchester Lithographic Printer, a prisoner in Kirkdale Gaol, Liverpool.

Sheweth, That your Petitioner was committed to the above Gaol on the 5 June last charged with striking a Policeman at Manchester on the 3 June with a piece of Iron at 12 o'clock p.m. and tried upon such charge in August last before the Honorable Mr Justice Creswell, found Guilty and sentenced to seven years Transportation for such offence.

That Your Petitioner was in a state of intoxication at the time the Assault was committed which was the sole cause of the unfortunate circumstance taking place for which your Petitioner hath ever since and doth regret the rash Act.

That Your Petitioner hath for several years last been employed as a Journeyman Printer by the several persons hereinafter named and who will give your Petitioner a Character for being peaceable sober and industrious for the respective periods he served each of them namely Mr Alexander Miller, Printer, No 4 Harrington Street, Liverpool, Messieurs Harrison and Sale Printers, Spring Gardens, Manchester and Mr W. H. Kenyon, Printer and Law Stationer, 109 King Street, Blackburn, Lancashire.

That your Petitioner hath a Wife and three small children the eldest but four years old solely dependant upon him for their support and now in a state of complete destitution.

That Your petitioner was never heretofore charged with any breach against the Laws of his Country with the exception of the one in question for which he most truly and sincerely feels grate contrition. Your Petition therefore humbly prays your Honor will be pleased to take his Case into your Merciful consideration and fully trusts that you may be of opinion that a term of imprisonment will meet the ends of Justice and thereby mitigate his sentence of Transportation on the grounds and for the reasons hereinbefore stated.

And your Petitioner will ever pray &c.

Michael Hogan,

Statements from former employers:

The Petitioner Michael Hogan was a considerable time in my employment in Liverpool and left me on his own accord. He was always attentive to his duties, regular in his attendance and was considered by me, and I believe his fellow workmen, a quiet, inoffensive man.

Alexander Miller, at present residing in Leslie, Fifeshire.

The petitioner Michael Hogan, was for twelve months in my employment in Blackburn and left through me through want of work, occasioned by the late depression in trade. He was always attentive to his duties, honest & upright in his Conduct in every respect.

Henry Whewell Kenyon'

Law Stationer and Lithographer, Blackburn

The petitioner Michael Hogan was in my employ at the period of his unfortunate attack upon the policeman for about 12 months previously, we never observed any disposition in his conduct as would lead us to suppose he would be guilty of such an offence of which he has been found guilty and sentenced to seven years transportation, he always conducted himself in a very steady manner and we found him perfectly trustworthy and would not hesitate to employ him again if ever the opportunity should occur.

Signed Harrison and Sale, 1 Spring Gardens, Manchester.

Received 24 October 1849. 3rd application, Nil
Leeds Borough Gaol
22 October 1849.

To The Right Honorable Sir George Grey, Secretary of State for the Home Department.

Sir,

The humble petition of Michael Hogan, Lithographic Printer of Manchester, sheweth That he is now a Convict in the Leeds Borough Gaol having on the night of the 5 June 848 whilst in a state of inebriation, struck a Policeman with a piece of Iron for which offence he was tried before Mr Justice Cresswell at the Liverpool Assizes on the 16 August 1848 and sentenced to seven years transportation. Your Petitioner humbly sheweth that he was never before charged with any crime, but that he always bore a good character to which his employers Messrs Harrison & Sale, Printers, No 1 Spring Gardens Manchester bore testimony on the day of Examination and also on the day of his trial, a late employer Mr Alexander Miller, Printer, of Liverpool gave the Petitioner an exceptionable character as to his conduct whilst in his employment as foreman. Your Petitioner doth most sincerely deplore and regret the commission of the rash and unjust act for which he has now suffered 17 months imprisonment, and as your Petitioner has left a Wife and three infant children (the eldest but five years old) in a state of destitution during the term of his imprisonment who would otherwise be respectably brought up by the proceeds of his labour if he were again restored to them. Your Petitioner is deeply impressed with a just sense of the misery and degradation he has brought upon himself and family, and firmly resolved by the help of God to act peacefully for the future so that he may regain that position in society from which he has fallen by his foolish conduct; he therefore trusts that you will be pleased to look favourably into your petitioner case and grant such mitigation of sentence as you may deem expedient to meet the ends of justice.

And your Petitioner will ever pray &c

Your obedient humble servant, Michael Hogan

Received 21 February 1850. 4th application

To The Right Honorable Sir George Grey, Baronet
Her Majesty's Secretary of State for the Home Department.

The Humble Petition of the undersigned the wife and Parties who know Michael Hogan, now a Prisoner in Kirkdale Gaol in the County of Lancashire under sentence of Transportation for the term of Seven years.

Sheweth, That the said Michael Hogan was tried at the Assizes at Liverpool for an Assault on 4 June on a Policeman in the City of Manchester whilst in a state of intoxication.

That this is the first crime of which he has been guilty, and this act for which he is now suffering has produced the most poignant regret and sorrow to his friends.

That from the respectable recommendation which he has received from all the Employers has served not only testifying his abilities as a workman, but also his past steadfastness of moral character, and also that he has a wife and three children who will be destitute, and were solely dependent upon him for their support, and inasmuch as the Prisoner has shewn the utmost contrition and regret for his offence.

Cause Your petitioners to solicit your intercession to Her Most Gracious Majesty for a mitigation of the sentence, believing that if the Royal Clemency is granted to him, he will at the expiration of such

punishment as may be decided upon become a better Member of the Community, and endeavour to shew in his future conduct, that it has not been granted in vain. And Your Petitioner will ever pray &c
Signed by 46 people, a large number of whom lived in Deansgate Street.

Result: Nil. Answered 29 February 1850.

The four petitions were unsuccessful.

The Prison Registers record that Michael Hogan, 27, married with three children, read and write imperfectly, and was convicted on 16 August 1848 at Liverpool of cutting and wounding. He was sentenced to 7 years transportation and had not been previously convicted. He was received at Leeds Prison, from Kirkdale Gaol, on 8 August 1849 and then transferred to the *Wye* hulk at Woolwich on 24 December 1849.⁵ However, Quarterly Returns says he was on the *Justitia* hulk at Woolwich.⁶ Michael boarded the *Pyrenees* on 5 March 1851 for the voyage to Western Australia.

On arrival at Fremantle, Michael was assigned number 503 and given a Ticket of Leave. He was described as:

503. Michael C. Hogan, 29, 5'7", black hair, hazel eyes, oval visage, dark complexion, stout build, mark on 4th finger of right hand and arm, lithographic printer, married with three children.⁷

14 July 1851. He was one of 44 men received at the prison from the *Pyrenees*, and he was located in the 3rd division.

15 July 1851. The following 76 men will proceed to North Fremantle Station. 503 Michael Hogan and 504 James Dean to exchange for 403 Wm Boswell and 387 Wm Thompson, proceeding to Ticket of Leave.⁸

According to the Rica Erickson Collection, Michael worked for Thomas, *Hinton?* of Perth from 9 February 1852 to 6 July 1852. It is unclear if Thomas is a given or surname.

The Inquirer reported on 14 July 1852 -The Lithographic Printer, who has been engaged by the Government, has succeeded in turning the Press to some account. We have seen a lithographic plan of the Boat Harbour at the Irwin River executed by him, which is very credible.⁹ The following year, the same newspaper indicated a ticket-of-leave man was employed by the Government as a lithographic printer at 30s per week.¹⁰ This is Michael Hogan.

Then, in 1854, this poorly printed newspaper article was published:

W. ..ozzer, son of Crispin, appeared on a summons, granted at the instance of Michael Hogan, who, in virtue of his employment as Lithographic Pressman in the Survey Office, termed himself a "Government Officer" for keeping a disorderly and riotous house, disturbing the official slumbers and nocturnal repose of the said Michael Hogan on Sunday last. From the evidence (which was a beautiful specimen of handwriting) it appeared that there was some little account outstanding between the two belligerents for money lent by the defendant to, and sundry "soling and heelings" to the "understandings" of the complainant, and this fact, it may well imagined, did not render their proximity to each other, as next-door neighbours, a whit more agreeable. There were one or two lady and gentlemen witnesses on both sides, and the amount of dependence to be put on each's statement was about equal. The defendant admitted having a "lark" in his house on Sunday night but also accused the complainant of being drunk. In this state of uncertainty, the bench adopted the wisest course that could be followed - dismissing the case and recommending one or other of the parties to quit a close neighbourhood.

⁵ TNA, UK, HO23/3

⁶ TNA, UK, HO8/102

⁷ SROWA, Acc 128/1-32. The middle name 'C' only appears on Acc 128.

⁸ SROWA, Superintendent Orders, 1850 - 1854 (So1 - So3), p58, p60

⁹ Inquirer, 14 July 1852, p3

¹⁰ Inquirer, 16 February 1853, p2

The person summonsed may be William Tozer, who arrived on the *Pyrenees* with Michael Hogan.¹¹

A newspaper reported, - The Local Government have lost their Lithographic Pressman, the man who has worked for them as such for some years past, having gone away to the other colonies in the *Thane of Fife*.¹² The ship left Fremantle on the 4 March 1856 for Adelaide with 54 passengers, and arrived on the 24 March. Michael is not among the passengers listed in the South Australian newspapers, however, the ship left 3 days later for Melbourne. No passenger list has been found in Melbourne, but the ship had 5 cabin passengers and 19 or 23 steerage passengers.

It is believed that Michael travelled onto Melbourne as in 1863 there is a report of a bankruptcy that appears to be him.

Michael Hogan, of Melbourne, lithographic printer. Causes of insolvency: Losses in business as a greengrocer, want of employment and pressure of creditors. Liabilities, £38 18s; assets, £20; deficiency, £18 18s. Mr Courtney, official assignee.¹³

Another newspaper reported, Michael Hogan, late of Victoria street Melbourne, greengrocer, now of Finn-place, Little Lonsdale-street east, lithographic printer. Causes of insolvency – Losses in business, sickness in family, want of employment. Liabilities £18 18s; assets, £2; deficiency, £16 18s. Mr Courtney, official assignee.¹⁴

No further information has been discovered on either Michael or his family left in England

¹¹ Inquirer, 5 April 1854, p3

¹² The Perth Gazette and Independent Journal of Politics and News, 7 March 1856, p2

¹³ Leader, 7 November 1863, p4

¹⁴ The Argus, 4 November 1863, p6