

Henry, Tansley, 3807, William Hammond

Researched by Marcia Watson

Name variation: Tinsley

Baptism	16 June 1827, St Peter Ad Vincula, Coggeshall, Essex
Parents	James Tansley and Susannah/Susan Arnold
Parent's marriage	3 October 1813, St Andrew, Halstead, Essex.
Siblings	William (1813-1869), Joseph (1818-1818), James (1821), Henry (1827), Mark (1828-1834), Mark (1835)

On the 1841 census, Crouch Place, Great Coggeshall: ¹

Jas Tansley, 45, gardener

Susannah Tansley, 45

Robt Tansley, 15, ag lab (son of William and Ann)

Henry Tansley, 12, ag lab; Rachel, 10; Mark, 5, all born in the county.

His mother, Susan, died in 1846 at the age of 54.

The following year, at the Witham Petty Sessions, 23 November 1847:

Henry Tansley, of Great Coggeshall, was convicted of disobeying an order of bastardy and having no goods whereon to distrain, and was committed for one month.²

Committed to the County Gaol and House of Correction, Ipswich, July 1854.

George Tyler, Henry Tansley and William Smith were charged with breaking into a dwelling—house, and stealing a quantity of wearing apparel therefrom at Marlesford.³

At the Suffolk Summer Assizes, Ipswich, 28 July 1854:

Henry Tansley, 27, George Tyler, 18, and William Smith, 28, were charged with having feloniously broken and entered the dwelling house of George Matton, of Marlesford, on Sunday, 2 July 1854, and stolen therefrom certain articles of wearing apparel. Tyler and Smith pleaded guilty.

The prosecutor is a gamekeeper, and about ten o'clock on the morning in question, he left home with one of his sons to attend to his duties in the neighbouring property. His wife had gone out previously, so the house was left unprotected. On the family's return, they discovered that an entry had been effected and that a quantity of property had been stolen. The evidence against Tansley consisted of the fact that he was seen by the district postman near the house in company with the other prisoners, and that a portion of the property was found in his possession when the parties were apprehended.

All the prisoners, a policeman stated, had been previously convicted; Tyler and Smith for felony and larceny very recently, and Tansley summarily.

The prisoners were proved to be worthless fellows, and the jury having found them guilty, they were sentenced to 15 years' transportation.⁴

The Prison Registers show that Henry Tansley was convicted on 28 July 1854 at the Ipswich Assizes for housebreaking and sentenced to 15 years. After spending 2 months in Ipswich Gaol, he was received at Millbank Prison on 31 August 1854. Henry was 27 years old, 5'2½", with brown hair, brown eyes, fresh complexion, pockmarked scar on right side of jaw, single, can't read or write, labourer, good character and Church of England. His father, James Tansley, was in the Union House, Witham, Essex. Henry was transferred to Portland on 10 September 1855. ⁵

¹ The National Archives (TNA) UK, HO107/335/4

² Chelmsford Chronicle, 26 November 1847, p3

³ Ipswich Journal, 08 July 1854, p3

⁴ Suffolk Chronicle, 05 August 1854, p6; Bury and Norwich Post, 09 August 1854, p5

⁵ TNA, PCOM2/66; HO24/4; HO8/106

Portland Prison, Governor's Journal, 18 December 1855.

The Surgeon Superintendent inspected the prisoners for embarkation, and they were afterwards embarked at 2:30 pm, 80 in number, as follows: 66 for Public Works and 14 with Ticket of leave for Western Australia. Those for Public Works included Henry Tinsley(sic) and George Tyler.⁶

On arrival at Fremantle, Western Australia, on 29 March 1856, Henry was assigned number 3807. 3807. Henry Tansley, 31, 5'2", dark brown hair, hazel eyes, oval face, fresh complexion, middling stout, pockmarked, cut on crown of head, labourer, single.⁷

During the first half of 1857, Henry was on the sick list numerous times for various complaints. He was working at the lime kiln, or charcoal party, or as a mason's labourer, or at the Pensioner Barracks.

His brother, William Tansley, arrived on the *Nile* on 1 January 1858.

On 6 January 1858. Henry Tansley, 32, provisional prisoner, admitted to hospital with a small abscess in the Axilla (armpit), complains of a good deal of pain; bowels are rather confined.

7 and 8 January. Much the same. Bowels freely moved.

9 January. Opened abscess, free discharge.

11 January. better, no pain

13 January. Nearly well, discharged.

A Ticket of Leave was granted on 28 September 1858. He worked at Fremantle, Guildford and Today. A Conditional Pardon was granted on 31 July 1861.

Reconvicted:

Henry Tansley, a conditional pardon man, was charged with stealing a horse belonging to B. Mason and tried at the Supreme Court on 1 October 1862.

Benjamin Mason deposed to having missed a mare from his stable on the afternoon of 25 August, between four and five. The same evening, the mare was at the Perth Police Stables, being secured by Police Constable Crowe. I had not given any person authority to take that mare from my stable.

Police Constable Crow deposed that on the evening of 25 August last, about half-past nine, he was coming across the Causeway towards Perth, and met the prisoner on a horse without a saddle, and on his getting close to him prisoner struck the horse, as if he wished to pass quickly by; witness laid hold of the reins of the horse, and demanded of the prisoner, who he was, he produced a conditional pardon and said he was going up the Swan, but refused to answer any other questions. I thought something was not right, arrested the prisoner, and took him and the horse to the station. Some time after, Mr Mason and two of his men came to the Stables and claimed the mare as his property.

In his defence, the prisoner said that a man met him opposite the barracks and asked him to take the horse to Guildford, and that he was doing so when the Policeman stopped him.

Sentenced to 7 years' penal servitude.⁸

As a reconvicted convict, he received a new number, 6496.

Henry Tansley, 34, 5'2", dark and grey hair, light hazel eyes, oval face, sallow complexion, stout, pockmarked, scar and boil marks on left arm, labourer.

Another Ticket of Leave was granted on 30 August 1866.

Henry Tansley, 6496, aged 40, Ticket of Leave for Swan district. Hired from the Depot, on 15 September 1866, by S. Montgomery, land digging at 24/- per acre. Discharged. 31 October 1866,

⁶ TNA, PCOM2/357

⁷ SROWA, Acc 128/32

⁸ The Perth Gazette and Independent Journal of Politics and News, 3 October 1862, p3

hired again for digging, £2 per acre and discharged 14 November 1866. The same day, he was hired by R. Ogle to dig for £2 per acre.

His brother, William Tansley, died on 15 August 1869.

In March 1871, Henry Tansley, expirée, was charged by P.C. Gardiner with being drunk in the public streets and discharged with a caution. Cornelius Newman, expirée, *alias* the Bindoon Infant, was charged by P.C. Gardner with stealing from the person of one Henry Tansley, the sum of 12s on the North Jetty. The prisoner was remanded.⁹

Robbery with Violence.

Cornelius Newman was indicted on the charge of having on 13 March taken from the person of William Tansley the sum of 12s. The prisoner pleaded not guilty and was undefended.

The Attorney General prosecuted and called:

Henry Tansley, sworn, said: I remember Monday, 13 March. I was in Fremantle that day, and I was in two or three public-houses during the day. I know the prisoner; I met him with another man, whose name I do not know: I asked them to drink, and we had 5 or 6 glasses together. I had 23/- that day, which I kept in my pocket; I spent about 10s and gave Newman one; it was me who paid for the beer. I wanted to go to Perth by steamer that day, so I asked Newman what time it was, and he told me. I then started for the steamer, and on arriving there, found she had just gone. I was returning when I met Newman and the other men, who had just come down after me. One then got behind me and put his arm around my neck, lifting me up; my throat is still sore. I do not know which of the two it was, but I think it was Newman; they then made off. One of my pockets was turned inside out. I then went to the police station and gave the information.. I was not drunk at the time; I had just about enough.

By the prisoner: You advised me to give my money to the barman. I left the house with the intention of going on board the steamer. Two minutes could not have elapsed when you met me at the North Jetty. When I was lifted up by the neck, I lost my senses for a minute or two.

Alfred Chan, sworn, said; I remember Monday, the 13 March; on that day I was serving in the bar of Mr Harwood's Hotel. I know the prisoner; he came into the bar in company with an old man named Tansley; they drank together; Newman recommended Tansley to give me the remainder of his money; Tansley gave the prisoner a shilling.

P. C. Gardiner, sworn, deposed: I am a Police Constable at Fremantle. I remember 13 March, I saw Tansley that day coming towards the police station; he laid the complaint. His left-hand pocket was turned inside out; Tansley was the worse for liquor. I arrested Newman in Baston's Hotel and locked him up.

The prisoner was found "Guilty" and sentenced to 5 years' penal servitude.¹⁰

On 20 September 1875, H. Tansley entered prison, a pauper. Discharged the following day.

A man named Henry Tansley was admitted into the Mount Eliza Invalid Depot on 10 November 1888, but was subsequently moved to the Colonial Hospital to be treated for a carbuncle in one of his shoulders. In January 1889, the man was readmitted to the Depot, but he died, at the age of sixty-four, yesterday afternoon, from senile decay.¹¹

He died on 25 March 1889 at Mount Eliza Invalid Depot. Henry was buried circa 26 March 1889 at East Perth Cemetery, East Perth.

⁹ The Herald, 25 March 1871, p3

¹⁰ The Herald, 15 April 1871, p3

¹¹ The Daily News, 26 March 1889, p2