

## CONVICT MUTINY ON THE WARRIOR HULK, 1851

The Times

Thursday, 1 January 1852, p5c

The Convict Mutiny:- The mutiny among the convicts at Woolwich became unbearable between 12 and 1 o'clock on Tuesday, when they returned from their work in the dockyard to take their dinner on board the *Warrior* convict ship. They no sooner entered the ship than they rushed down and took possession of two decks, defying the guards or any of the Military to come near them, at the same time singing, cheering and swearing; and some who had got hold of pipes and tobacco commenced smoking. The guards were threatened in such manner that, they represented to Mr Masterman that it would be dangerous to go out with the convicts in the afternoon if examples were not made of some of them. Captain, the Hon. Montagu Stopford, acting superintendent, was immediately communicated with, and the aid of the guard of the Royal Artillery and Royal Marines called on board, and the guards in charge of the convicts, with drawn cutlasses, went below and brought up and heavily ironed 38 of the most outrageous and disarmed them of knives, forks and sharpened files of which they had by some means become possessed. Twenty of the convicts were in the course of the afternoon conveyed to London in the police vans sent down to Woolwich for the purpose and safely secured at Millbank Penitentiary. The other 18 were also heavily ironed and taken on board the *Wye*, in the river. The Military displayed great forbearance under most provoking circumstances, as the whole of the convicts were armed, in some way or other, and it was only the sight of the bayonets and the caps on the nipples of the percussion locks half cocked which checked their movements, and ultimately restored some degree of order.

On page 7c

Suggestion that 130 of the 170 convicts were anxious to get to Australia as they had heard of the gold discoveries and this was a way of speeding up the process. The ringleaders are more likely to be sent to Norfolk Island.

The Times

2 January 1852, p8a

Suppression of the Convict Mutiny:- The 18 convicts who were separated from the other convicts on board the *Warrior* at Woolwich Dockyard on Tuesday last, and, after being heavily ironed, placed on board the *Wye* convict ship in the river, were taken on shore on Wednesday afternoon by order of Captain Whitty, and conveyed in omnibuses hired for the occasion, in the dusk of the evening, to Millbank Penitentiary. The other convicts have resumed their labour, under their guards as usual during the day in the dockyard; but, from information Captain Whitty has received, there are seven other convicts still among those at the dockyard whose conduct was very bad, and he has considered it necessary that they should be taken and flogged as an example to the others. The Royal Artillery has been ordered to take their turn of convict guard duty with the Royal Marines.

The December Quarterly Return for 1851 from the *Warrior* notes the convicts who were transferred to Millbank prison, 17 on 30th December and 14 on the 31st. The Return does not indicate those that were flogged.

The conduct of the convicts is generally noted as good or very good, apart from 17 who were classified as indifferent or bad. The newspaper reports 7 convicts were flogged. Only 4 convicts were classified as having bad behaviour and one of these came to WA, George SOLLETT. Could he have been flogged? His conduct on March 1852 Return was 'good'.

Convicts on board the *Warrior*, when the mutiny took place, who came to WA.

WA No	Surname	Given	Hulk No
1355	AGAR	John	5209
2626	AIREY	Henry	5134
1359	AMOS	Edward	5171
2644	ANDREWS	David	5080
2635	ATKINS	Andrew	5038
1725	BARNES	William	5036
1747	BECKETT	Robert	5146
1734	BEVINGTON	John	5051
1760	BISSETT	James	4952
1722	BURROWS	William	4787
1753	CAMPBELL	Joseph	5165
1739	CHATTERTON	Edward	5033
1758	CHESTER	Thomas	5049
2648	COLEMAN	Levi	4829
1756	COWAN	George	5082
2642	DICKSON	John K	5064
1719	DUNCAN	John	4665
1726	EATON	John	4659
1733	EVANS	John	4978
1742	FISHER	Duncan	5063
1752	FRASER	Peter	4895
2645	FRASER	Daniel	5078
1744	GELLAN	John	5155
2650	GOSNEY	Joseph	4732
2633	GRIFFITHS	William	5123
2649	HARPLEY	Berry	4984
1740	HOLMES	John	4639
2646	HOLMES	John	4651
1715	HUNT	William	4774
2647	HYNES	Thomas	4985
1723	JONES	Thomas	5150
1759	LENNON	John	5147
1731	MADDEN	John	4901
1730	MADDEN	Edward	4926
1714	MARTIN	Thomas	4806
1743	MCCANN	John	5017
2629	MCDONALD	James	5110
2640	MCPHERSON	Alexander	5079
2630	MERRICK	William	5029
1729	NEARY	John	4771

WA No	Surname	Given	Hulk No
1755	NIBLOCK	Charles	5081
1761	PHILLIPS	John	5157
1708	PICKARD	George	4941
1712	PRIOR	Albert	4664
2638	RAISIN	Walter	4870
2639	RAYNER	Robert	5094
1751	RITCHIE	James	5163
1749	RODGER	James	5055
1728	ROSIER	Henry	5035
1741	ROSS	James	4963
2643	RUST	Thomas	5207
1717	SANDILANDS	Thomas	5070
1720	SAUNDERS	Edward	4865
1748	SAWYER	Joseph	5037
1727	SAWYER	William	5040
1762	SCOTT	James	5071
2632	SHEARN	Farnham	5061
1713	SHIELDS	Mark	4840
2636	SHULTZ	Thomas	4898
1746	SIMMONS	Richard	4942
1732	SMITH	Thomas	4977
2637	SOLLETT	George	4704
1716	THOMAS	John	4775
1735	THOMPSON	John	5026
1757	THOMPSON	John H	5083
1718	WALKER	John	4736
1364	WALKER	Charles	5199
2651	WATKINS	William	4980
1710	WATSON	William	4641
1750	WEBB	John	5056
1738	WHITE	Peter	4961
2627	WHITE	William	4975
2631	WILMOT	Thomas	4946
1711	WILSON	John	4654
1745	WILSON	Peter	4992
1721	WOOD	James	4800
1357	WORMAN	Thomas	5201
2634	WRIGHT	Edward	5100
1737	WROE	George	4916

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References and Notes:

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