

Friday February 8th 1822

On Friday last sailed for Bombay with the various detachments of troops that have occasionally arrived here as guards to transport vessels the ship 'Lord Hungerford' Captain O'Brien, passenger Captain Peter Dillon of the East India Service.

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I cannot help but feel that the voyage of the 'Lord Hungerford' was not as smooth as that of the 'Claudine'. She was 250 tons heavier and 24 days longer on the voyage, carried 68 more convicts, 4 of whom died from unknown causes, but most significant is the statement that she landed her prisoners 'in tolerable good health'. The arrival of many other transports refer to prisoners being in good health and praise being given to Captains and Surgeons for this fact.

One other document examined in the Public Record Office was the following:

HO 10/45 (1823) Muster Tasmania Reel Nos 72 to 80 List of Convicts (incomplete)

I could not find any trace of Richard Briginshaw. Unfortunately the muster was undated other than 1823 so it was possibly taken after Richard's death but in any case the list was marked incomplete. There was no record of an 1822 muster having been taken.

However, in examining this document on micro film I did see reference to a great number of convicts from both the 'Claudine' and the 'Lord Hungerford', a number on Public Works etc., one a constable and a number in gaol!

On following pages are copies of some of the documents found in Tasmanian archives by John and which helped me to commence the foregoing research. These include record of death and burial of Richard in Hobart in 1823 at the age of 18 but no details of the cause of death have been found either in Tasmania or London.

Some of the documents, unfortunately, lose detail in copying so where this is likely to happen I will show on page 28 the details opposite Richard's name.

Work will have to continue in an effort to locate Richard's birth place and which should lead to his place on the family tree. If any member has any suggestions I should be glad to hear from them. The records say Marylebone but David Hawkins' book 'Bound for Australia' and the recognised authority on Transportation warns that care must be exercised in accepting places of birth shown in some criminal records as sometimes this was assumed to be the same as where the crime was committed.

Another thing that has been a problem. No trace can be found of any of the other cases attributed to Richard i.e. 'That he had been in custody 4 or 5 times and sent to a House of Correction'. The answer may be that these were dealt with in some other place, perhaps outside London and could be a pointer to the failure to find his birth.