



The Story of George Godwin of Westport

Wilts Lent Assizes, Crown Court.

The business of these Assizes commenced on Monday last, at Salisbury. Mr. Justice Gazelee presided.

George Godwin for stealing a pig at Foxley, - "Transportation for life." **Hampshire Advertiser, 13 March 1830**

Petition for Appeal - Ref: HO 17/98/112, National Archives, 1830-1846

Prisoner name: George Godwin.
Prisoner details: Aged 23.
Court and date of trial: Wiltshire Lent Assizes, New Sarum [Salisbury] 1830.
Crime: Stealing a pig, property of William Baker of Foxley, near Malmesbury, Wiltshire, yeoman.
Initial sentence: Transportation for life.
Gaoler's report: Former course of life bad; before convicted of felony.
Annotated: Nil.
Petitioner(s): Nathaniel Godwin of Westport, Malmesbury, farmer, the prisoner's father, undersigned by William Baker, the prosecutor, and 21 people, including three of the prisoner's former masters, testifying to his good character. William Baker, the prosecutor, Nathaniel Godwin, the prisoner's father, and 42 inhabitants of Malmesbury and district.
Grounds for clemency: The prisoner is young; his aged father requests that he be imprisoned in this country; after 16 years the prisoner claims that he has been recommended for a conditional pardon.
Correspondence: Covering letter for second petition from Joseph Neeld, Grosvenor Square.

Additional Information: Prisoner previously convicted of stealing fowls. Held on board the prison hulk
Captivity. Transported to Sydney.

Later Life

George received his ticket of leave on 18th December 1839. In 1862, George Godwin and his wife Mary Ann Jones and their first five children were the first white settlers in the Forster area New South Wales. George took up a 40 acre piece of land. They had 15 children. Date of death, 10 August 1890.

Source: Tracey Jansen