



Swing Riot Trials

John Thorn, 22; Joseph Watts, 28; David Gee, 19; Jeremiah New, 16; and Worthy Gee, 18, were convicted of robbing Thomas Langford, of Wroughton, of a sovereign, his property.

The Jury recommended John Thorn, David Gee, Jeremiah New, and Worthy Gee to mercy.

Salisbury and Winchester Journal, 10 January 1831

Wilts Special Commission

Salisbury, Monday.

At nine o'clock this morning Mr. Baron Vaughan, Mr. Justice Parke, and Mr. Justice Alderson, the Earl of Radnor, and T. G. B. Estcourt, Esq., M.P., took their seats in the Nisi Prius Court. As it was understood that the sentences were to be passed this morning, the moment the doors were opened the court was crowded to excess. The remainder of the prisoners who had not received sentence were then placed at the bar. Many of them were greatly afflicted. ...

Judgement of death was then recorded against the following prisoners: ... Elias Thorn, David Gee, Jeremiah New, Wortley Gee, ...

The criminals are ordered for execution on Tuesday, the 25th instant.

Salisbury and Winchester Journal, 17 January 1831

OPC Notes:

Jeremiah New - 16, farm labourer. Sentenced to death but commuted to 7 years' transportation for Machine breaking. Sent to Van Dieman's Land on the Proteus. Upon arrival he was assigned to Andrew Birrell and died a few months later, on 18th October 1831.

John Thorn, 22, single, a shepherd. Sent to Van Dieman's Land on the Proteus. Sentenced to death but commuted to 7 years' transportation. He received his free pardon on 3 February 1836 and departed from Launceston on the Industry for Port Phillip on 29th August 1839.

David Gee, 19, single, ploughman. Sentenced to death, commuted to 7 years' transportation. Sent to Van Dieman's Land on the Proteus. He received a free pardon 3 February 1836. In 1850 he married Mary Ann Monachan.

Worthy Gee, 18, single, Ploughman, sentenced to death, commuted to 7 years' transportation. Sent to Van Dieman's Land on the Proteus. He was assigned to James Brown and continued working for him until he received a free pardon 3 February 1836. On 3 June 1836, Worthy Gee sailed from Launceston with his former master, James Brown, on board the Gem for Port Phillip. They took 500 sheep and two horses with them.