

Sarah Jane Jackson

1871 census – Parkhurst Prison, Carisbrooke

John Jackson	Head	49	Principle Warder	Dublin Ireland
<i>Sarah Jackson</i>	<i>Wife</i>	<i>47</i>		<i>Wexford Ireland</i>

Hampshire Advertiser – 12 January 1876

NEWPORT

FRIGHTFUL DEATH FROM BURNING. — Mr. F. Blake, coroner, held an inquest at the Foresters' Inn, Horsebridge-hill, on Saturday, on view of the body of Ann (*sic*) Jackson, aged 50, wife of John Jackson, a warder at Parkhurst Prison, who died from burning, caused by an accident when filling a benzoline lamp by the fireside on Thursday evening. — John Prendergast, a prison warder who had known deceased some years, said, — I was at home about 6.15 p.m. on the 6th instant, when I was told that there was something wrong at Jackson's house. I immediately went to the house, and found a benzoline lamp alight on the table in the kitchen. I heard deceased in the back yard calling out. I found deceased in the yard with her clothes smouldering. I took her indoors, and put out the fire. There was no other person in the house at that time. Deceased's husband came in a few minutes afterwards. Deceased did not say how she caught fire. I saw her face, hands, and feet were much burnt. — Emily Prince deposed, — I live at Horsebridge-hill. I was at deceased's house on Thursday evening last. She asked me to go and get the can of benzoline oil and the lamp. She was in the kitchen filling the lamp with oil, and some of it went over her dress. She was sitting by the fire at the time, and the oil spilt on her dress caught fire, and then the lamp ignited. Deceased then went and endeavoured to wrap round her a curtain, which was near the door, and the curtain caught fire. Then deceased rushed into the parlour, called "Fire," and caught up the cushions. She then told me to go home for mother. She was all in flames then. — Mr. H. Roome, surgeon at Parkhurst Prison, said he was sent for about 6 p.m. on Thursday, and went at once, and found deceased in the front bedroom on the floor, her clothes still smouldering. She was very much burnt from head to feet. He considered at first that they were mortal injuries. He entirely enveloped her in cotton wool. He saw her several times afterwards. She died the same night, at 11.30, from the burns. She told him how she caught fire. Her account was the same as that given by last witness. — Verdict, "Accidentally burned by some benzoline oil falling on her dress and igniting it."

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