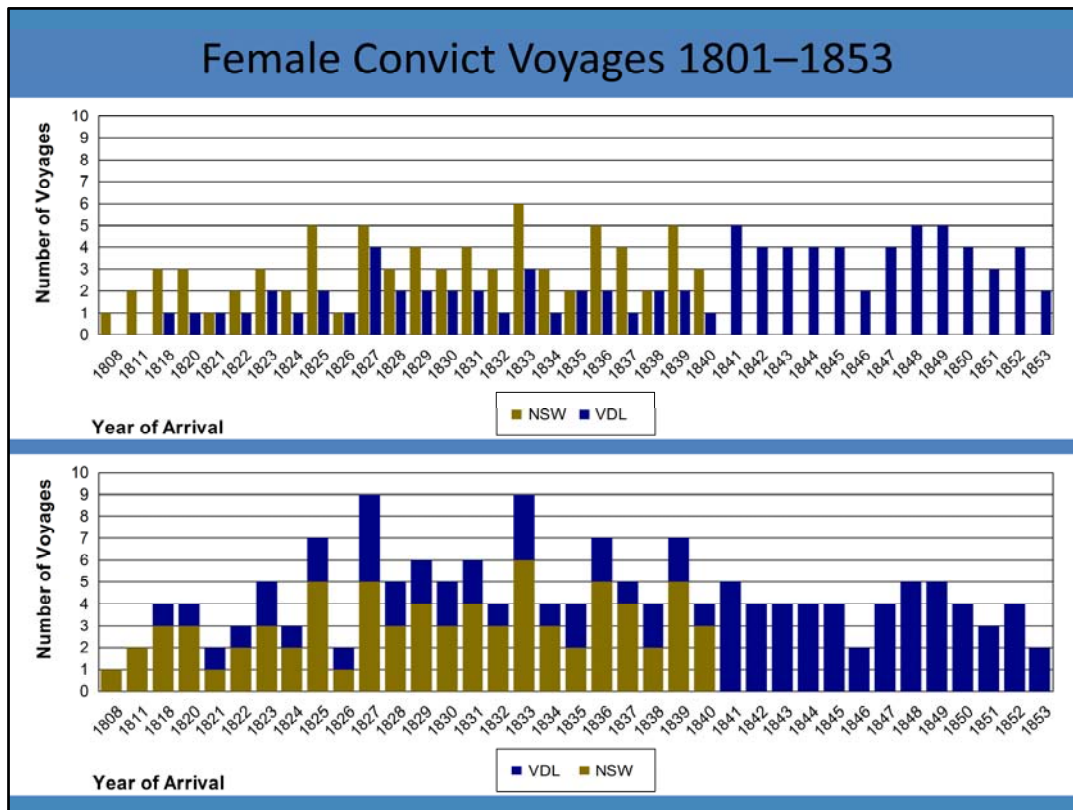


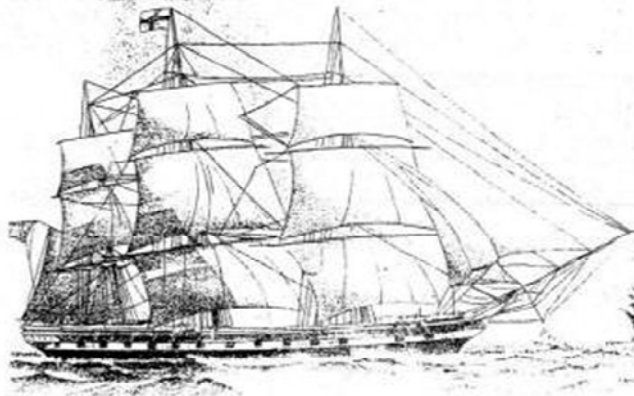
A Statistical Overview of the Voyages

Dr Trudy Cowley

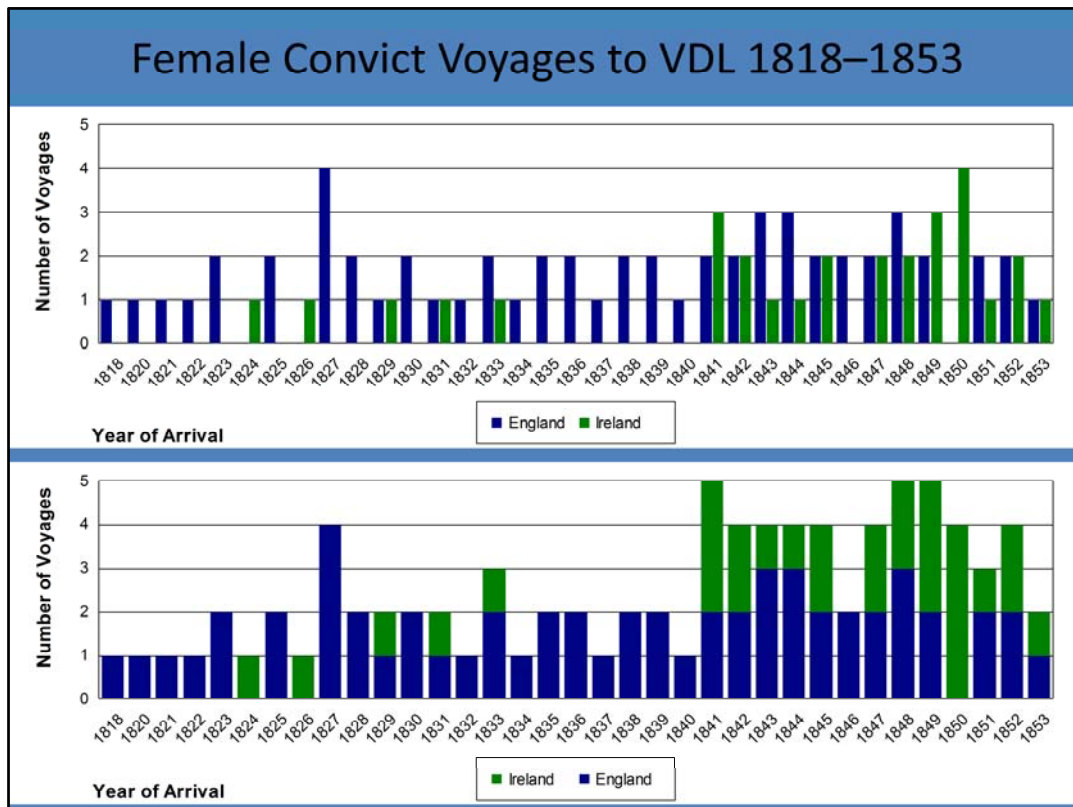


- These two graphs show the same information in two different ways.
- 87 female convict ships direct to VDL between 1818 and 1853.
- 103 female convict ships direct to NSW between 1801 and 1840.
- After transportation to NSW ceased in 1840, the number of female ships direct to VDL increased significantly.
- First female convict ship direct to VDL – *Maria I* in 1818.
- Last female convict ship direct to VDL – *Duchess of Northumberland* in 1853.
- Last female convict ship direct to NSW – *Margaret* in 1840.
- The largest number of ships in one year to Australia was 9 – in 1827 and 1833.
- The largest number of ships in one year to VDL was 5 – in 1841, 1848 and 1849.

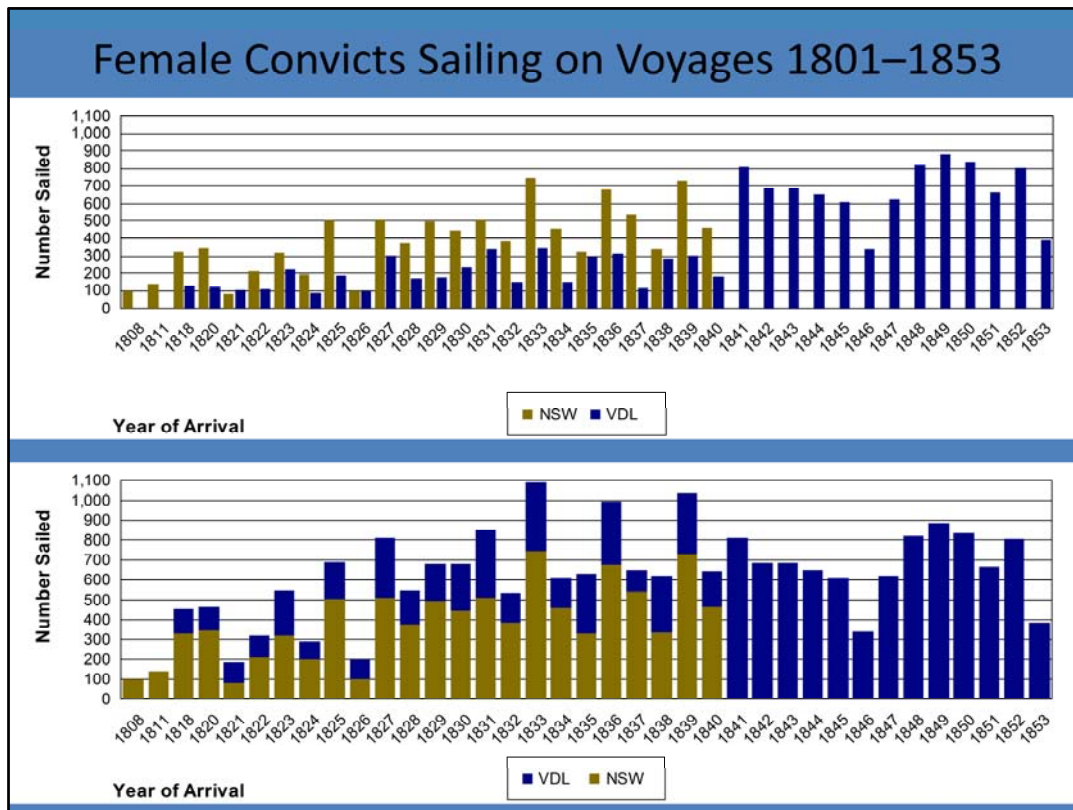
Duchess of Northumberland



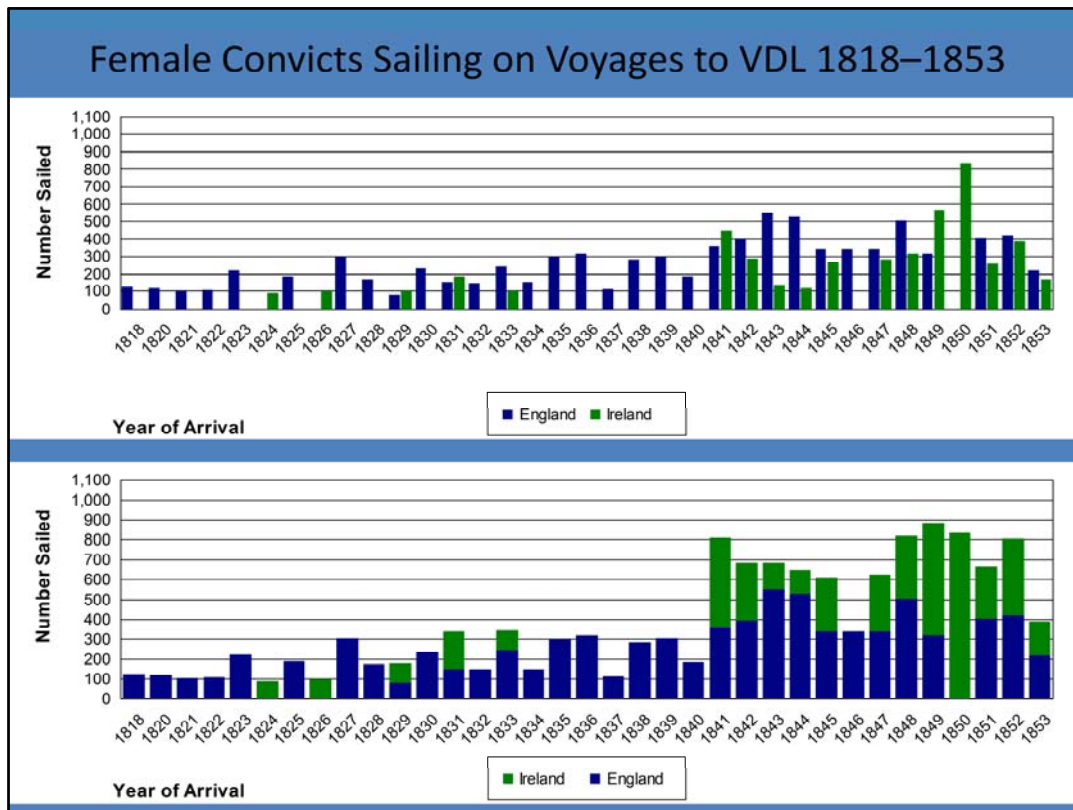
*Said to be the full-rigged ship **Duchess of Northumberland**, of 541 tons built in England 1834. She made numerous voyages to Australia with immigrants and with convicts and was converted to barque rig later in her career to reduce crew members.*



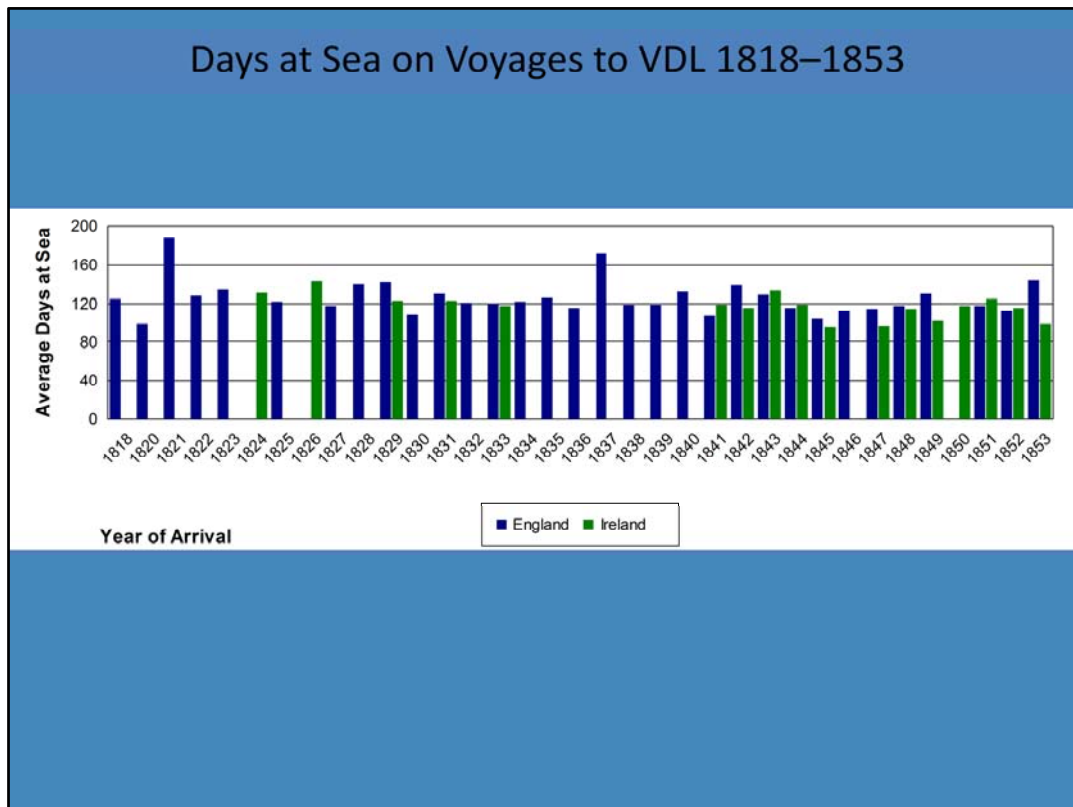
- 58 female convict ships direct to VDL from England.
- 29 female convict ships direct to VDL from Ireland – half the number from England.
- The number of ships from Ireland increased significantly from 1841.
- First female convict ship direct to VDL from England – *Maria I* in 1818.
- First female convict ship direct to VDL from Ireland – *Brothers* in 1824.
- Last female convict ship direct to VDL from England – *Duchess of Northumberland* in 1853.
- Last female convict ship direct to VDL from Ireland – *Midlothian* in 1853.
- The largest number of ships in one year to VDL from England was 4 – in 1827.
- The largest number of ships in one year to VDL from Ireland was 4 – in 1850 (no ships from England that year).



- 13,224 female convicts sailed on voyages direct to VDL between 1818 and 1853.
- 11,608 female convicts sailed on voyages direct to NSW between 1801 and 1840.
- After transportation to NSW ceased in 1840, the number of convicts arriving in VDL increased significantly.
- The largest number of female convicts in one year to Australia was 1,090 in 1833.
- The largest number of female convicts in one year direct to VDL was 883 in 1849.



- 8,571 female convicts sailed on voyages direct to VDL from England.
- 4,653 female convicts sailed on voyages direct to VDL from Ireland (54% of the number from England).
- The largest number of female convicts in one year direct to VDL from England was 550 in 1843.
- The largest number of female convicts in one year direct to VDL from Ireland was 837 in 1850 (no ships from England that year).
- The average number of female convicts who sailed on a voyage to VDL was 152; the median was 151.
- The number of convicts on a voyage increased over time as the size of the ships increased.
- The smallest number of female convicts who sailed on a voyage to VDL was 60, on board the *Persian* in 1827.
- The largest number of female convicts who sailed on a voyage to VDL was 261, on board the *Blackfriar* in 1851.



- The shortest voyage was 85 days (under 3 months) from Dublin to Hobart on the *Martin Luther* in 1852.
- The longest voyage was 188 days (over 6 months) from England to Hobart via Port Praya (island of St Jago, Cape Verde Islands) and Rio on the *Providence II* in 1821.
- The *Platina* took 172 days from London to Hobart via the Cape in 1837.
- The average voyage length was 120 days; the median voyage length was 117 days (about 4 months).
- The voyages got shorter as the ships got larger and swifter.

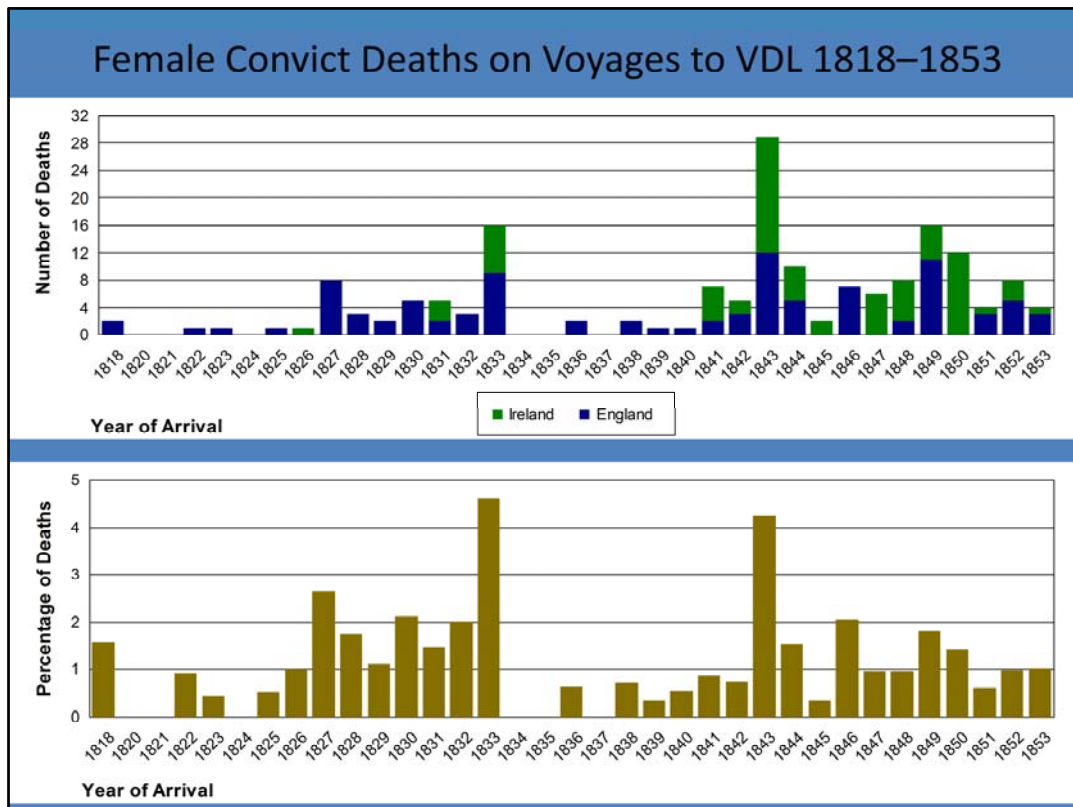
Providence II



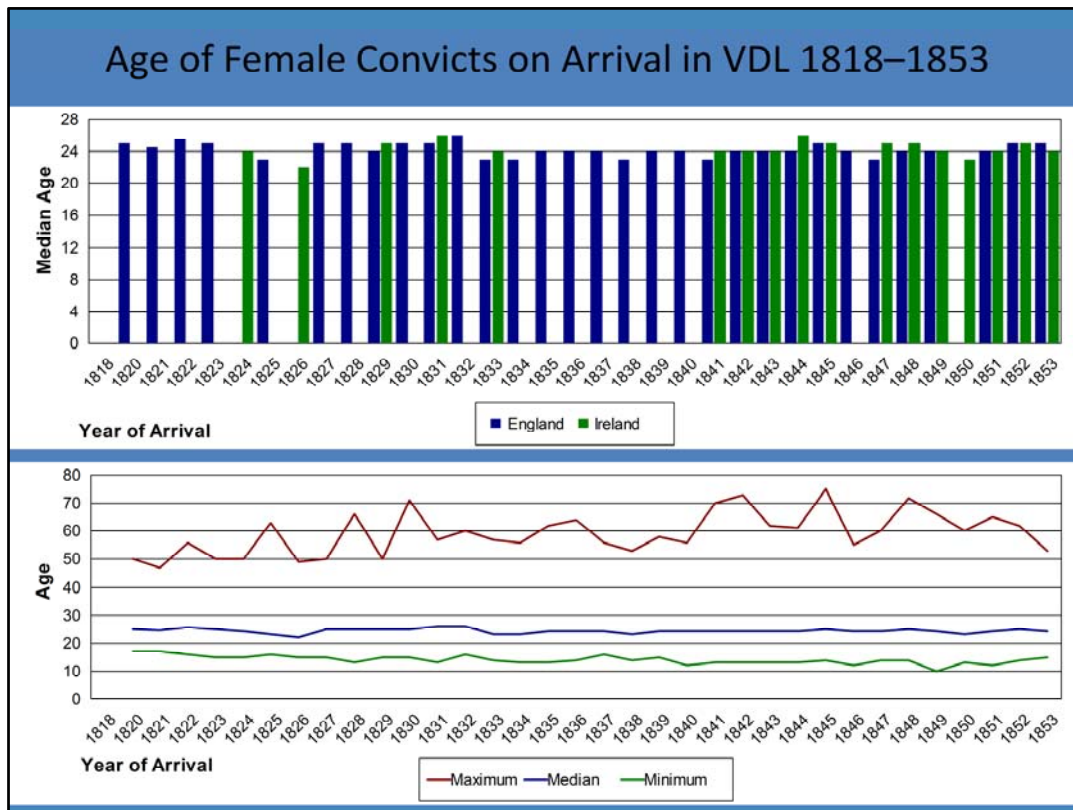
Oil painting by F. Whitehead

National Maritime Museum, Greenwich

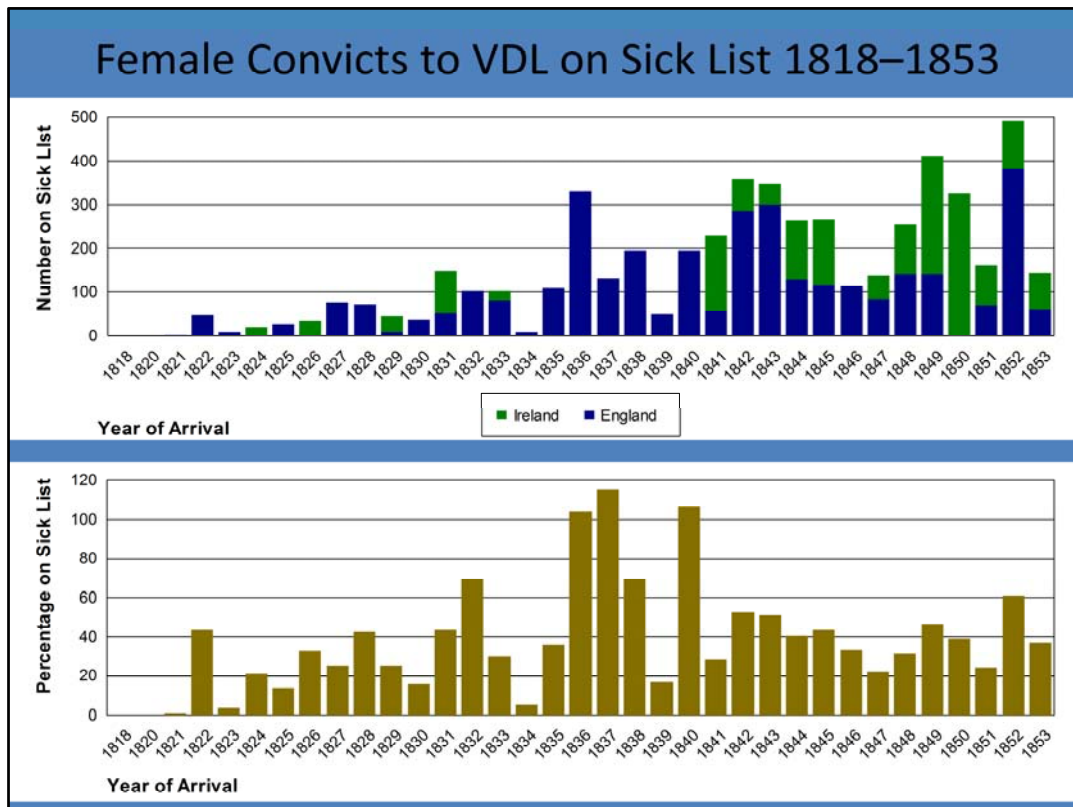
The "PROVIDENCE", 1807



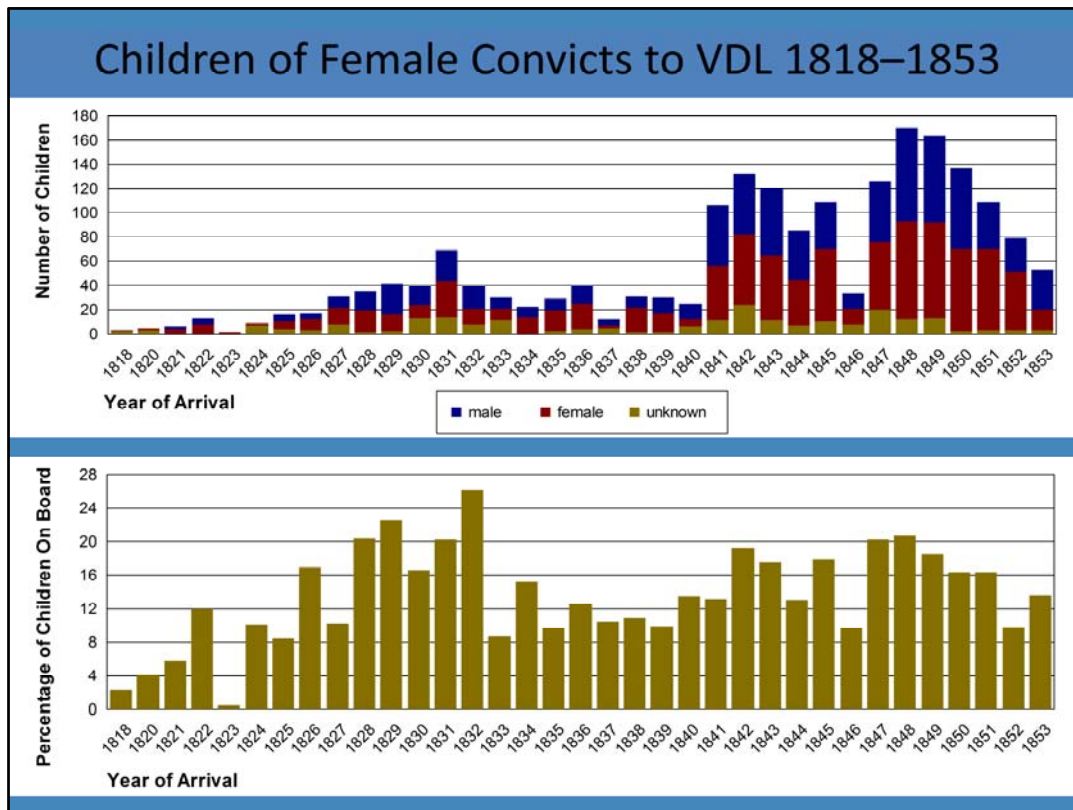
- 96 deaths on female convict ships direct to VDL from England (1.1% of those who sailed).
- 76 deaths on female convict ships direct to VDL from Ireland (1.6% of those who sailed).
- The largest number of deaths was 29 in 1843; 17 female convicts died on the voyage of the *East London* (Irish).
- The highest percentage of deaths on a voyage was 12.8% on the *East London* in 1843.
- The highest percentage of deaths in a year was 4.6% in 1833 when 16 out of 345 female convicts died; 7 on the *Frances Charlotte* (Irish), 2 on the *Jane II* (English), and 7 on the *William Bryan* (English).
- No deaths were recorded in 1820, 1821, 1824, 1834, 1835 and 1837. **Were new regulations introduced after 1833?**
- There were 24 voyages without deaths; 4 from Ireland and 20 from England.
- The average number of deaths per voyage was 2; the median number of deaths per voyage was 1.



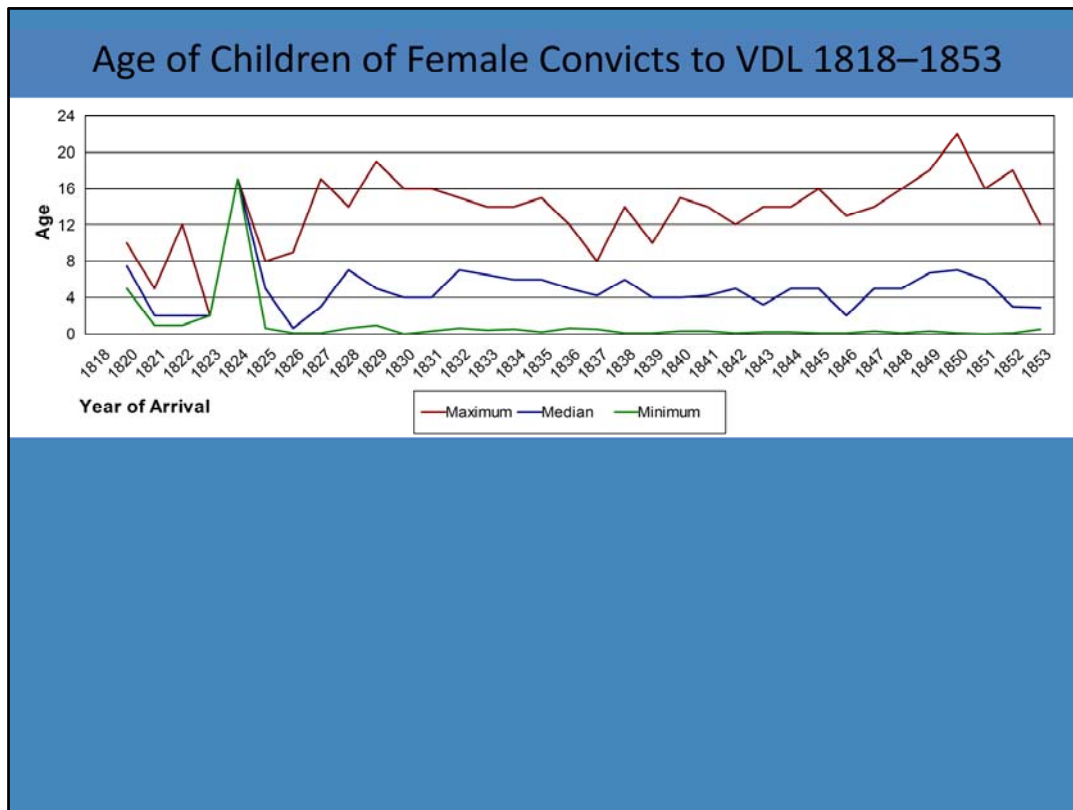
- These graphs are based on a sample of data—88% of female convicts transported direct to VDL.
- The median age remained relatively stable over the period of transportation; a range of 22 (1 year) to 26.
- The youngest transportee, Margaret Burke, aged 10, sailed on the *Australasia* from Ireland in 1849; her mother was also a prisoner on board.
- The eldest transportee direct to VDL, Mary McCallister, aged 75, sailed on the *Phoebe* from Ireland in 1845.
- An 81-year-old female convict, Mary Deal, sailed via Sydney on the *Janus* and *Princess Charlotte* in 1820.



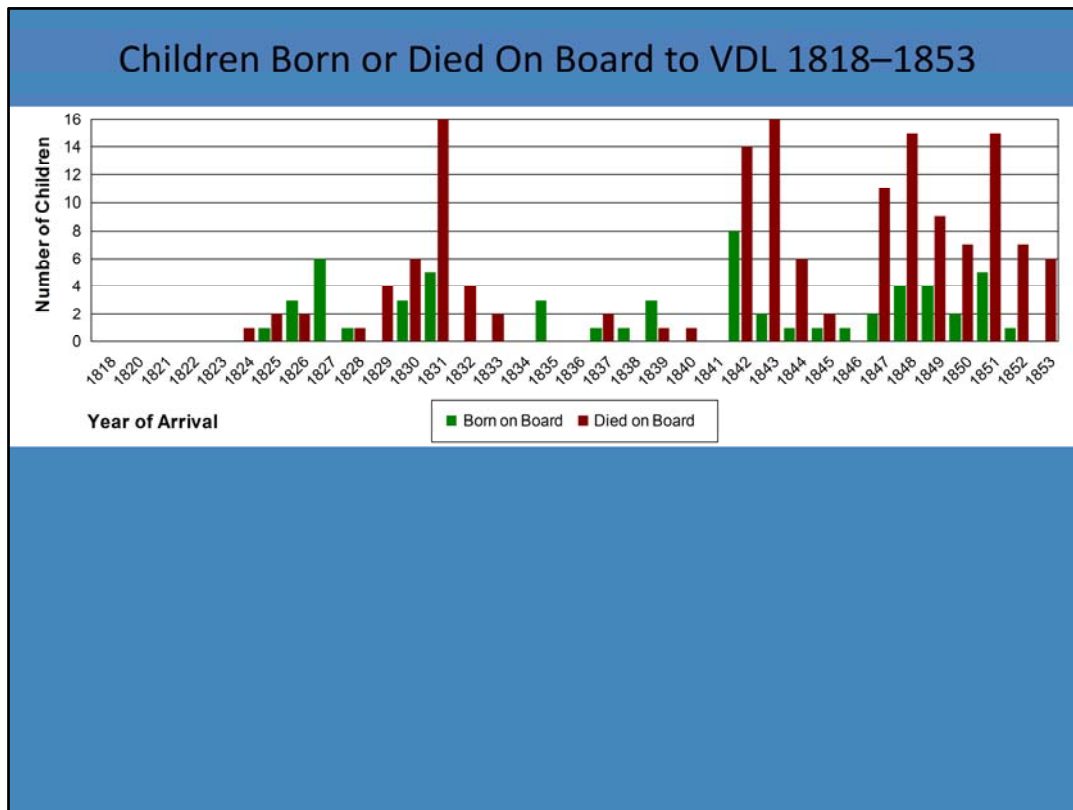
- These graphs are based on a sample of data—sick lists do not exist for every ship, and early ship lists were not as extensive. Also, Surgeons Superintendent were inconsistent in the way they compiled sick lists.
- Percentages of female convicts on the sick list as a proportion of the number of female convicts who sailed can be greater than 100% as an individual convict could be on the sick list more than once.
- One convict on the *Westmoreland* from England in 1836, Ellen Galvin, was on the sick list 7 times—4 times for costiveness, then once each for eruption, ophthalmia and scurvy.
- The highest proportion of female convicts to be put on the sick list was 115% in 1837, the only voyage in that year being that of the English ship *Platina*.
- The largest number of female convicts to be put on the sick list was 492 in 1852.
- The high proportions of female convicts put on the sick lists between 1836 and 1840 (excluding 1839) may be as a direct result of changes after the high incidence of death on the 1833 voyage?



- 47% of children female, 42% of children male, 11% of children of unknown gender
- More children transported with their mothers to VDL from 1841 onwards, after transportation ceased to NSW and more Irish ships arrived, though the percentage of children on board did not increase significantly.
- The largest number of children transported with their mothers to VDL in one year was 170 in 1848; 46 on the *Anna Maria*, 29 on the *Cadet*, 10 on the *Elizabeth and Henry*, 35 on the *John Calvin*, 37 on the *Kinnear*, and 13 on the *Tory*.
- The largest number of children transported with their mothers to VDL on one ship was 80 on the *Earl Grey* from Ireland in 1850.
- The percentage of children on board in any year ranged from 1% to 26%.
- The highest percentage of children transported with their mothers to VDL was 26% in 1832; 39 children were on board the *Hydery*.



- These graphs are based on a sample of data—80% of the children transported to VDL with their mothers.
- The median age of children transported to VDL with their mothers is 5 years.
- The eldest child (not a convict), Johanna Murphy, aged 22, was transported on the *Earl Grey* in 1850.



- 58 children were born on board during the voyages of female convicts direct to VDL
- the largest number was 8 in 1842
- 150 children died on board during the voyages of female convicts direct to VDL
- 14 of the 16 children who died on board in 1843 were on board the *East London* from Ireland.
- 12 of the 16 children who died on board in 1831 were on board the *Mary III* from England; the other 4 were on board the *America* from Ireland.