

Ann Matthews ID1061 per St Vincent 1850

The prisoner is the daughter of the Post master of Carmarthen. This Petition which is signed by many Magistrates and other respectable persons, states that she was strongly recommended to mercy by the Jury (all of whom have affixed their signatures) and prays for mitigation of her sentence in consideration of her irreproachable character and the affliction of her parents.

Answered 4th May to the Mayor of Carmarthen.

To the Right Honourable Sir George Grey Her Majesty's Principle Secretary of State for the Home Department.

The humble Memorial of the undersigned:

Sheweth

That Anne Matthews daughter of the Postmaster of Carmarthen was at the Spring Assizes 1849 held at Carmarthen in and for the county of the Borough of Carmarthen convicted of stealing a letter containing two sovereigns and for such offence was sentenced by the Honourable Justice Erle to be transported beyond the seas for the term of 10 years.

That the verdict of the Jury was accompanied with a strong recommendation to mercy on the grounds of her previous uniformly good character.

That the sentence has plunged her unoffending parents who have always borne the highest possible character for respectability and integrity in the deepest affliction.

That your Memorialists in consideration of the previous good character of the said Anne Matthews respectfully crave that you will be pleased to recommend to Her Majesty such mitigation of the terms of her sentence as will preclude the necessity of her removal beyond the seas.

And your Memorialists will ever pray.

John Lewis – Mayor of Carmarthen

John Jenkins – Alderman

Thomas Taylor Webb – Alderman

William Morris – JP for the County of Carmarthen

William Thomas – Alderman

And 28 other signatures

And 11 signatures of the Jury

Carmarthen

12th December 1849

Dear Sir

Ann Matthews convicted of robbing the Post Office in this town and sentenced to 10 years transportation is now onboard the St Vincent at Woolwich her number is 12.

A memorial signed by all the respectable inhabitants of the place, pray that she might be permitted to pass the period in England was presented to Mr Saunders Davis the Member for the County.

Mr Evans Member for Herefordwest and myself and we indulge and hope that the request would be complied with at the request of her afflicted parents I now venture to address you hoping that it is not too late to [] her.

I am not aware whether Sir George Grey is in town and therefore taken the liberty of addressing you which I hope you will excuse and I shall be much obliged by any [] you may be pleased to make in her behalf

I am dear Sir

Your faithful and obedient servant

D Morris

Parliament Street

28 December 1849

Captain O'Brian

Transmits report of character and conduct of Ann Matthews a convict recently embarked in the Cadet from Millbank

45 Parliament Street

28th December 1849

Sir

In compliance with the instructions in your letter dated the 24th inst. I beg to transmit a report from the Governor of Millbank Prison on the character and conduct of Ann Matthews a convict recently embarked onboard the ship St Vincent, from which appears that the conduct of this prisoner had been exemplary during her confinement at Millbank

I am Sir

Your most obedient servant

D Brien

To

Waddington Esq

Van Diemens's Land

Government House

3rd July 1850

No 147 Miscellaneous

My Lord

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordships despatch No 16 of the 25th January last, transmitting a copy of a letter which had been received from the Home Office on behalf of a convict named Anne Matthews and in compliance with your Lordship's desire that I will give this woman the benefit of the indulgence which Secretary Sir George Grey recommend should be extended to her, I have the honour to recommend that her conduct having been free from offence since her arrival in the Colony

I may be authorised to grant her the indulgence of a Ticket of Leave

I have

(signed)

W Dennison

Downing Street

19th January 1851

Stating that a Ticket of Leave has been granted to Anne Matthews a convict in V.D.L.

GG

Downing Street

10th January 1851

Sir

With reference to your letter of the 29th December 1849 in behalf of Anne Matthews, a convict in Van Diemens Land, I am directed by Earl Grey to request you will inform the secretary of State for the Home Department that in compliance with the recommendation from the lieutenant Governor of that Colony, contained in the enclosures despatched, Earl Grey had conveyed to him authority for granting to the prisoner the indulgence of a Ticket of leave.

I am

Sir

Your most obedient servant

[Norman Mervale]

Anne Matthews aged 27

Carmarthen Lent Assizes March 1849

Stealing letters from the Post Office

10 years transportation

Gaol Report – Considered very respectable

Series – HO 18

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