

Catherine Arundell ID5068 per *Emma Eugenia* 1851

Catherine Arundell aged 22

Devon Assizes at Exeter 16th March 1850, Highway Robbery

10 years transportation, Gaol report – Not Known

Received into Millbank Prison from Exeter on 10th August 1850

Series – HO18, Piece Number – 288

The prisoner expresses her innocence and prays for her discharge.

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

The Petition of Catherine Arundell a prisoner in the Millbank Prison:

Humbly Shewewth

That your Petitioner is not guilty of the crime laid to her charge but believes that she received the above sentence mainly in consequence of the impression produced by her denying (at the request of her husband) that she was a married woman. She begs to state that she was borne and brought up at Crediton in Devon her parents having lived these from childhood being tenants of Mr [Badge] and in the employ of Mr Dadd and Mr Brock, Farmers of Crediton who with the Rector of the Parish The Rev Mr Bows would (if applied to) testify to the decency and upstanding of their character.

Your Petitioner went to work very young and was taking on as an assistant with the driving of Mr Frances at Moore 2 miles from Crediton where she became acquainted with her husband while he was working on the premises and contrary to the wishes of her

parents they were married more than two years ago. He treated her very cruelly and had lately been much out of employ but a brother in law living in Taunton had promised them lodgings and work for a short time and they were on their road to him when they were apprehended.

Your Petitioner had recently lost an infant and was enduring great suffering in consequence and finding it impossible to go faster without applying a [] to her chest, her husband agreed that she should go in search of a chemist's shop and meet him at a house then in view. Your Petitioner obtained the linseed, went and rested to the place her husband had appointed but he was not there and she was unable for some time to hear anything of him.

At length she found him at another house in company with a man named Chasty and a woman named Mary Morris. Your petitioner knew them both as persons living at Crediton but had not been accustomed to associated with them. Mary Morris went immediately out and could not be afterwards found and in less than an hour two Police Officers accompanying by a Farmer came in, the latter identified Chasty as the man who had knocked him down and assisted to rob him a short time previous. The Farmer said your Petitioner was not the woman that Chasty had with him therefore she was not taken but her husband was, your Petitioner did not like to go on to Taunton without her husband especially as he denied being at all privy to the affair so she went [] to see him always [] that she was his wife, but on the fourth day when leaving she was detained and told she was suspected of being an accomplice. The trial came on in a few days your petitioner felt bewildered and had no one to speak for her, she could only say that she was entirely innocent of the whole transaction, but had no means of proving it she therefore received the above sentence.

Your Petitioner protests that she is not guilty and humbly solicits your kind interference on her behalf, begging that enquires may be made into the circumstances of her case and hoping that you will be

pleased to recommend her pardon and your Petitioner will ever
pray.

The mark of Catherine Arundell

Witness – []
