

Charlotte Roberts ID2242 per Asia 1847 (*Did not arrive*)

Charlotte Roberts aged 46

Somerset Quarter Sessions Taunton 10th October 1846

Larceny – Stealing bed linen

10 years transportation

Gaol Report – Convicted, acquitted and in gaol many times before.

Received into Mill Bank Prison on 30th November 1846 from Taunton Gaol.

Series – HO 18

Piece Number – 187

The Prosecutor considered the sentence a severe one and requests it may be mitigated in consideration of the prisoner's contrition, large family and bodily ailments.

Request the Report and opinion of the Chairman

GG

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

The Petition of Charlotte Roberts a prisoner in Millbank Prison

Humbly Sheweth

That she earnestly implores his merciful consideration of her case and humbly begs that a mitigation of sentence may be granted to her as she has received information that her Prosecutor has Petitioned for her to the Secretary of State and hopes that mercy may be

bestowed and that she may be allowed to remain in this country having a family of six children and her husband unable to get sufficient employment to support them and can positively declare that though the property which she is accused of stealing was found in her house yet it was given her to take home and wash and would have been returned to its owner, should he listen to her prayer her future conduct shall be such as to [] her not unworthy of the kindness she may receive.

Charlotte Roberts.

The Chairman of the Quarter Sessions (Mr Wells MP) sends the evidence and states that he can recommend NO mitigation of the prisoner's sentence.

Langport

10th November 1846

Sir

In the last month of October at the Taunton Quarter Sessions, Charlotte Roberts was convicted of felony and (evidence of previous convictions having been given) I believe was sentenced to 10 years transportation.

Although not at Taunton, I had consented to become Principle Prosecutor to promote the ends of Justice. The sentence however seems severe (although I must acknowledge at the same perfect confidence in the excellent Magistrates who committed and convicted) and I am therefore induced, on the repentant and earnest solicitations of the prisoner to state that she is a married woman, elderly in constitution if not in years of exceedingly defective vision and having a husband and 6 children whom if the full sentence be carried out it is but too probable she may never see again in this world.

Under all the circumstances will you suffer my earnest hope that you may be able to recommend Charlotte Roberts the prisoner in question to Her Majesty's gracious consideration for a mitigation of her term of years if not for imprisonment for a limited period within Her Majesty's dominions.

I have the honour to be Right Honourable Sir

With much respect you most humble and faithful servant

Edward D Green

Clerk, Head Master of the Grammar School, and Chaplain of the Union of Langport.
