

JB

I shall be sensible to the Judge - it seemed a rather a hard sentence for such a trivial offence

Refer to the Chairman

To His Majesty's Principle Secretary of State for the Home Department

The Petition of HANNAH RANDALE of the Borough of Warwick - Widow.

Humbly Sheweth that your Petitioner is the mother of ELIZABETH KING who was convicted at the last Quarter Sessions at Worcester of a felony, and sentenced to be transported for the term of fourteen years. Under this distressing event your petitioner is impelled by motives of a affection, dutifully to petition your Lordship to be pleased (in your kind humanity) to mitigate the sentence passed upon her daughter in consideration of it being her first offence never been arraigned at the Bar previous to the late unhappy transaction sincerely hoping that should levity be extended to her, she will feel grateful and pay a due obedience to the Laws of her Country and as in duty bound your Petitioner will ever pray.

Hannah Randall

To His Majesty's Principle Secretary of State for the Home Department.

The Petition of the undersigned inhabitants of Warwick

Humbly Sheweth that ELIZABETH KING was convicted at the last Quarter Sessions of the Peace at Worcester of felony and sentenced to be transportation for fourteen years. Understanding that she was never before arraigned at the Bar and never having heard any unfavourable report of her character previous to this circumstance we most respectfully petition you to be pleased to take her case into your kind consideration by mitigating her sentence hoping (that you should be induced to favour her) it may prove a salutary warning to to her she has an aged mother who is a widow resident in Warwick in experiencing your humane attention your Petitioners as in duty bound will ever pray.

Robert Gold

John Whitmore

Joseph Dolphin
And another 30 signatures.

Mansion House
Bensworth
Evesham
23 July 1836

My Lord

I have the honour to receive your Lordships letter with the Petition in behalf of ELIZABETH KING tried and convicted before me at the last Midsummer Quarter Sessions for the County of Worcester for the crime of stealing from the person by last message mail. The facts of the case are this JOSEPH ADAMS a Labouring man came to Bromsgrove Fair on the 24th June he went into a Public House, had a pint of beer. The Petitioner ELIZABETH KING and ANN STEPHENS who was convicted with her under the same indictment, place themselves one on each side of him in the Passage as he was going out - KING held up his smock [] and put her hand to the flap of his breeches whilst STEPHENS on the other side picked his pocket of his purse containing one sovereign, two half crowns, five shillings, both prisoners immediately ran away together into another Inn a few yards distant followed by ADAMS crying out that he had been robbed, on entering the house after the women he was collard by a man and stopped from pursuing the women. James Oakes saw the whole transaction , saw STEPHENS as she passed the man collard ADAMS give something into his hand as they entered the house, KING was apprehended in the house by a Police Constable. STEPHENS ran away followed by Oakes who overtook and brought her back to the Constable who searched both the women and found but two pence halfpenny upon them. The Prisoners were defended by Council , brought no evidence, enquiry was made by the Head of the Bromsgrove Police who apprehended the prisoners who believed them to be persons of a low character gaining a disreputable living by attending fairs. Both prisoners willingly [] in consent in connection with a gang of thieves and there does not appear to me to be any [dist] in their defence fault. They were unknown in the gaol at Worcester. The Prisoners say nothing to the character or mode of life of the convict and in the feeling of sympathy for the [] and [] of those who degrade themselves by the commissioning of crimes I most cordially join- but in the absence of any mitigating circumstances - good character sudden temptations - want - early youth or contradicting testimony - I have great regret to be obliged to conclude that the case of both the prisoners is one of premeditated plunder without extenuating circumstances and consequently that the punishment awarded by the Law with the intention of preventing the like offences by others - can have no other reason [] for mitigation than that pity which must ever be felt for the unfortunate criminal.

I have the honour to remain
My Lord
Your Lordships most obedient and humble servant
Thomas Beale []
Chairman of the Quarter Sessions Worcester.

ELIZABETH KING
WORCESTER 1836
STEALING FROM THE PERSON
14 YEARS TRANSPORTATION
SOURCE - HOME OFFICE CRIMINAL PETITIONS - SERIES 1
SERIES - HO 17
PIECE NUMBER 96
ITEM NUMBER - RW 39

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ELIZABETH KING - AGED 31
WORCESTER QUARTER SESSIONS JUNE 1836
STEALING FROM THE PERSON
14 YEARS TRANSPORTATION
GAOL REPORT - NOT KNOWN HERE - TWO CHILDREN - ONE ILLGITIMATE
PRISONER EMBARKED ON THE CONVICT SHIP WESTMORELAND