

Hannah Gould ID1533 per *Angelina* 1844

Hannah Gould aged 24

Lincoln City Sessions October 1843

Stealing from a person

10 years transportation

Gaol report – Reputed a thief convicted before.

Series – HO 18

Piece Number – 119

Transport

GG

This Petition states that the prisoner bears a good character that she was deserted by her husband and committed the offence under the pressure of destitution and that she labours under physical infirmity on which grounds mitigation is prayed for.

East Retford

2nd November 1843

Sir

The friends of the young woman who is the subject of the accompanying memorial have requested me to transmit it to you and to implore your favourable consideration of it.

I have the honour to be

Your humble and obedient servant

J W Ward

To the Secretary of State for the Home Department

The memorial of the undersigned inhabitants of East Retford

Sheweth

That Hannah Gould or Hannah Trafford Gould was convicted at the Lincoln Sessions on the 21st October 1843 on a charge of stealing a purse containing 10s and 4d in silver the property of Mr Cannit of Newark and sentenced to 10 years transportation.

That the said Hanna Gould was born in East Retford and is about 23 years of age and up to the time of committing the offence in question had borne a good character for honesty, sobriety and correctness of conduct.

That she was married about 5 years ago to a person named George Trafford whose treatment and neglect and final desertion of her reduced her to great extremity and there is reason to believe that it was partly owing to the state of destitution in which she was placed, and partly to the instigation of a woman, who sought her acquaintance and obtained influence over her, that she was led to the commission of the crime.

That within a year or two of her marriage she was in service, but owing to physical infirmity (under which she is still suffering and from which there is not hope of recovery) she was obliged to relinquish service.

That it does appear to the undersigned that the amount of punishment in relation to the offence was disproportionately severe.

Your Memorialists therefore request that, under the circumstances of the case, you will so far interpose your clemency as to prevent the poor woman from being sent abroad, but instead, to allow her to be placed in such probationary confinement in this Kingdom as might

eventually lead, if she by the conduct were found deserving to a commutation of the sentence.

Will Fisher

John Parker

Richard Hawksbury

And 80 other signatures

I the undersigned the Prosecutor above named do hereby humbly certify my earnest desire that the request of the parties performing the above memorial may be complied with

Thomas and Mary Caunt

12 Cliff

Scarborough

22nd November 1843

Dear Sutton

I have been solicited by some of my constituents to intercede on behalf of Hannah Gould now a convict in Lincoln Castle under sentence of 10 years transportation for picking a man pocket of 10s.4d

The ground of their application is that she was influence by her husband a notoriously bad character, if any extension of the Royal Mercy can be extended to her my constituents state she is deserving of it.

I remain Your truly

A [D]

19 Whitehall Place

13th November 1843

My Dear Sir James

I have been requested by several of the parties whose signatures are appended to the enclosed copy of the memorial which was lately presented to you to support its prayer.

Being unacquainted with the case itself (which was tried at Lincoln) I cannot do more than testify to the character of those who have signed the memorial. It bears the names of most of the respectable inhabitants of Retford.

I am

My Dear Sir James

Yours very faithfully

[Timothy]

The Earl of Lincoln sends a copy of the Petition already forwarded.

Inform the Earl of Lincoln that the prisoner had been convicted before.

To the Right Honourable Sir James Graham Secretary of State for the Home Department.

Sir

Some weeks back a Petition was presented to you in favour of a commutation of the sentence of ten years transportation passed upon a woman of the name of Hannah Gould in reply which to the Earl of Lincoln MP (who presented it as a copy) you stated that you could not consistently with your Public Duty advise Her Majesty to comply with the prayer thereof.

Now we your Memorialists having been made acquainted with this adverse decision would once more respectfully appeal to your clemency in favour of her being allowed to remain in England during the period for which she was sentenced by the Court of Sessions at Lincoln, and we do so for the following reasons;

First: That during the early life of the prisoner and whilst placed out in servitude her character for honesty was unimpeached and as we believe unimpeachable.

Secondly; We believe that through her unfortunate connection with her husband Gould that she was induced to commit the offence for which she is now suffering, and that it was owing to his tyrannical conduct towards her on several occasions that she was absolutely compelled to do that which we believe her better judgment told her she ought not to do.

Thirdly; That as they have been credibly informed she the said Hannah Gould is now, and had been for some time past, labouring under a severe case of hernia, so as to incapacitate her from performing any manual labour; that for this and the other reasons alleged, you may be pleased so far to comply with your Memorialists humble request as to order that she the said Hannah Gould may not be removed from out of this Kingdom but sent to such place within its limits as you in your official capacity may be pleased to direct. And for which your Memorialists as in duty will ever pray.

Edward Parker – Mayor

John Smith – Member of the Town Council

And another 45 signatures
