

Jane Doyle ID235 per *Duchess of Northumberland* 1853

Jane Doyle aged 22

York Lent Assizes March 1852

Robbery with violence

15 years transportation

Gaol Report – Not known

Onboard The Duchess of Northumberland for VD Land.

Series – HO 18

Piece Number – 343

The prisoner's mother prays her detention in this country after her previous good character since convicted, and her own age and distress.

To Her Most Gracious majesty Queen Victoria

Madame

May it please your Majesty,

To pardon the intrusion of one of your most humble but devoted subjects on your august presence as no other than the circumstances herein stated could have induced me to presume to address your Majesty being imboldened by the noble generous and philanthropic actions by which your Majesty is characterized and knowing your willingness to lend an ear to the supplications and endeavours to alleviate

the distress of your subjects however humble their station in life may be:

Madame

My name is Jane Doyle aged 26 years and an a convict under sentence of 15 years transportation. I have been tried and found guilty at the York March Assizes by a Jury of my own countrymen , offered no further observation on the Justice or Injustice of my sentence save the severity. I am at present confined in the Millbank Penitentiary previous to my removal to a Penal Settlement. Alas my early pursuits thro' life never led me to imagine I would have been brought to this untoward and unhappy fate. I was brought up in the love and fear God and with due respect to my parents and continued to be an excellent wife, until the death of my husband who died thro' the effects of a fall in the pursuit of his daily vocation as a Labourer.

Madame

The request that I so earnestly solicit at your Majesty's hands is that I may be permitted to undergo the period of my incarceration in the Hulks or some of your Majesty's prisons in this country with a desire thro' God's goodness thro' long the period that I may still be at home to receive into my bosom my now helpless and unhappy daughter aged 2 years and 3 months for whom me heart is nearly severed and appeal with all the feeling of a mother [] merciful and humane consideration. To the Chaplain and Superintendent of the Penitentiary I refer as to my conduct while in prison and trust that my conduct will always meet their approbation.

To the Right Honourable Spencer Walpole Secretary of State
for the Home Department .

For the consideration of Her Most Gracious Majesty Queen
Victoria;

Honoured Sir

The Applicant Mary Gathorp who presumes to address Her Majesty on behalf of her daughter. Widow Jane Doyle a convict onboard Her Majesty's Ship "The Duchess of Northumberland" now lying at Woolwich. Most respectfully solicits your attention hoping you will condescend to convey to her Most Gracious Majesty the request herein set forth. Applicants daughter was convicted at the York Spring Assizes for felony and sentenced to 13 years transportation. She acknowledges the justice of her sentence but bitterly deplores being sent to a penal settlement with her fatherless child now 2 years and 6 months old. The convict was a dutiful and obedient child a good wife and an affectionate mother, and never in any instance deviated from the path of duty until the unfortunate occurrence that had doomed her and her offspring to miserable exile.

The convicts conduct while in prison previous and subsequent to her sentence can bear strict investigation as exemplary and modest.

Applicant now aged and nearly heart broken seriously and earnestly appeals to Her Most Gracious Majesty to alleviate her distressed mind by permitting the convict to spend the period of her imprisonment in one of Her Majesty's Prisons in this country and not cause her and her infant to be banished

to a Penal Settlement. Having no doubt at the expiration of her incarceration she and her child would become useful members of society and applicant as in duty bound will ever pray.

Lady Clifford

Constable Burton

Eliza Chichester
