

**Anne Larney- Irish Transportation Database CRF 1841 C67**

Report on case of Marg<sup>t</sup> Corcoran, & Anne Larney, prisoners in Tullamore Gaol.

The prisoners were convicted, before me, at the last Parsonstown Quarter Sessions, for stealing potatoes from Thos. Doolan, at Shinrone.

It appeared in evidence that Mr Doolan had two servants, one, a man named Richard Ardill; the other, a boy of 11 or 12 years old, named Daniel Pye. He continued for a great length of time to lose potatoes, and it was at length discovered, through the boy Pye, that Ardill was carrying on improper intercourse with one of the prisoners, and, in consideration of this, countenancing them in stealing his Master's potatoes. The particular parcel?, for stealing which the conviction took place, was removed by Ardill to the hayyard on the 6<sup>th</sup> March ; & carried thence by the prisoners, the same night. To ensure the secrecy of Pye, one of the women (Larney) seduced him into criminal intercourse; and it turned out, that she actually infected him with venereal disease.

The prisoners are sisters – lived together, – & possessed very indifferent characters. Anne Larney has been convicted of larceny once before & escaped with some imprisonment.

The prisoners were sentenced to 7 years transportation. I thought this punishment severe; but the local magistrates considered both women irreclaimable; and the offence as of the lowest species, when viewed in regard to the situation of the parties – the prostitution, which was the reward for the infidelity of Ardill – and the grossness of seducing a child like Pye into vice. They therefore concurred in pressing for the heavier punishment.

I know nothing of the intercourse, which is alleged, in the memorial, to have existed between Mr Doolan the prosecutor, and the prisoner Corcoran; but after what occurred at the trial, I confess that I should require testimony as to & indictive feelings on Doolan's part, very different from mere allegation of either women, before I should attach much weight to the insinuation thereby made.

J Nelson  
Ass<sup>t</sup> Barrister for King's County  
7 Gard .. Place, Dublin  
Aug. 25/1841

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*Stamp: CHIEF SECRETARY'S OFFICE DUBLIN, 41 AUG 19*

*Annotation: W Connor, [.....]*

To His Excellency The Earl Fortesque Lord Lieut General and General Governor of Ireland

The Humble Petition of Margaret Corcoran and Ann Larney - Tried at the last Quarter Sessions both for stealing potatoes from a Mister Thomas Doolan, and sentenced to seven years Transportation by Joseph Nelson Esquire the Chairman  
Humbly Shew,

That they feel Contrition and Sorrow for their offence – which was caused from starvation and want - and principally to feed the illegitimate son of their prosecutor Thomas Doolan who not only seduced Margaret Corcoran from the paths of Virtue but had a son by her now twelve years old – but wishes now to Transport her to prevent her seeking Redress by Law for the Suport maintenance Education and Clothing of his Son, and to preclude the Testimony of Petitioner Anne Larney who is her principal witness.

That Petitioners refer to the said Joseph Nelson the Chair man who is one of the most Humane and best Chair man in Ireland – for his Report, as petitioners think they have laid new matter before him – to Recommend a Commutation from Transportation to imprisonment.

May it therefore please your Excellency  
Thro your great Humanity and Kindness to  
Commute their sentence to imprisonment

Truly read by  
George Kennedy Attorney  
Practicing 50 years  
Char[....] Square Tullamore

And Petitioners will ever pray  
Margaret x Corcoran her mark *written above & below*  
Anne x Larney her mark *written above & below*

To His Excellency .... Fortesque Lord Lieutenant General and General Governor of Ireland

The Humble petition of Margaret Corcoran and Anne Larney

Margaret Corcoran  
Anne Larney  
Stealing Potatoes 7 yrs

Commute in Margaret Corcoran's case to 2 years imprisonment with hard labour.  
In Anne Larney's case the Law must take its course.

Aug 28

1. Ass<sup>t</sup> Bar ans<sup>d</sup> 6 Sep/41
2. orders prepared initials HTL