

Margaret Douglas ID1703 per *Anna Maria* 1851

Margaret Douglas aged 30

Birmingham Borough Sessions July 1851, Larceny by Servant

14 years transportation, Gaol report – Character good

Series – HO 18, Piece Number – 313

Write to the recorder for his report.

HW

The Governor and Chaplain of Birmingham Goal expresses their firm belief in the prisoner is innocent represent the inconclusive nature of the evidence against her and her excellent previous character and pray that her case may receive consideration. She has friends in Canada and is desirous of joining them in the event of her discharge.

The only mistake in this case was the acquittal of the receiver. The sentence however seems to me extravagant for a first offence but I think it should still stand.

H W

The Recorder states that he sees no grounds for any reasonable doubt of the prisoner's guilt but that he will make further inquiries into the case at the Sessions should it be thought desirable.

I think the Recorder and the verdict is right. If the purse spoken of by several witnesses as in the prisoner's confession was quite clearly the purse allege to have been stolen, there could be no sort of doubt but

the "it seems as" if this might have been ascertained it does not seem to have been as far as depositions are concerned. The Recorder might be able to clear this up by further inquiries if any doubt exists, but I confess I feel little []. The conduct of the prisoner is inconsistent with the [notions] of her extreme propriety of demeanour and respectability , which seems to afford a [] ground for doubting her guilt.
