

Maria Feans ID 10565 per *Rajah* 1841

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Beaminster

Dorset

21<sup>st</sup> November 1840

My Lord

We the undersigned beg most respectfully to solicit your Lordship on behalf of Maria Feanes alias Parke now a prisoner in the Penitentiary at Millbank under the sentence of transportation for seven years, with a request for the commutation of her sentence from transportation to a confinement in the Penitentiary for either the whole or any part of the time – and the grounds on which we sign this Petition are as follows:

1. That the offender is young and an imbecile in her intellect
2. That the offence in which she is sentenced appears to have been the first of the kind of which she has been accused and that she was instigated to it by persons more guilty and now deserving of the punishment than herself.
3. That her parents are industrious people who would in case of her ultimate liberation and her continuances in

this country do their best to restore her to the paths of  
honesty and virtue

And you petitioners will ever pray

To the Right Honourable The Marquis of Normanby The  
Secretary of State for the Home Department.

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Alfred Bishop – Minister

Thomas Russell – Churchwarden

Benjamin Pine – Overseer

George Cox – Clerk to the Beaminster Union

Jonathan Dodswell – Churchwarden

Maria Feanes aged 18 also Beaux also Parke

Southampton Sessions October 1840

Larceny

7 years transportation

Gaol Report – Not known

Series – HO18

Piece Number – 38

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The object of this application is the penitentiary instead of transportation on the grounds that this is the prisoner's first offence – that she is of weak intellect and that her parents are respectable.

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