

Martha Morgan ID7593 per *Lloyds* 1845

Martha Morgan aged 24

Manchester Quarter Sessions December 1844

Larceny

10 years transportation

Gaol Report – Character Bad – convicted before and twice in prison

Series – Ho 18

Piece Number – 150

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Prepared by a Petition Writer in Manchester

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22 Nicholas Street

Angel Street

Manchester

18<sup>th</sup> January 1845

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

The Humble Petition of James Morgan

Sheweth

That he is the much distressed parent of Martha Morgan who was  
tried at the Borough Sessions at Manchester on 30<sup>th</sup> December 1844  
she being charged with being a party in robbery,

It is understood that his unfortunate child as being in company with  
the actual perpetrator of the deed and to that point and position the

Learned Counsel in defending the case in such a consistent strain of reason as to astonish all when the Jury brought in a verdict of Guilty.

Your most humble Petitioner begs it to be mercifully considered that he is an aged man and left a widower to protect a family and that if any of his family may enter into evil company it was against the precepts of their late mother and himself.

Your most humble supplicant and his mourning children most humbly implore that this case may have an examination throughout, when he will have hope that some feature of deserving [leuity] will be seen Honoured Baronet, in your superior penetration and judgment, to open the way for a mitigation of sentence.

It is not denied that his unfortunate child was in company with the actual aggressor and the Prosecutors but it is proved that Ann Gibson only was so near to him, as to effect a robbery upon his person while his unfortunate child is proved to be at the other side of the table.

Look mercifully Honoured Baronet at this case and show humanity to your doubts in it in granting some mitigation to that awful sentence of ten years transportation and for which and in duty bound your most humble Petitioner will ever pray.

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John Lee – Prosecutor

The above is the hand writing of the Prosecutor who stated in our presence that Martha Morgan never took one farthing from him and that he felt quite astonished how the Jury could bring her in Guilty.

Thomas Riley his mark

Mary Ann Lees her mark

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Martha Morgan

2nd Application

A further Petition from a Petition writer in Manchester.

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J Phillips Esq

Under Secretary of State for the Home Department

Honoured Sir

I most humbly beg to acknowledge the receipt of an answer dated Whitehall 24<sup>th</sup> ulterno the same being a reply to my Petition on behalf of my unfortunate daughter Martha Morgan who was tried at the Borough Sessions held in Manchester in the latter end of December last and where may said daughter Martha Morgan was found Guilty of felony and was sentenced to ten years transportation. It is now most humbly requested that the Prosecutor testimony throughout all the proceedings of the trial, and also of my former petition may be mercifully looked at and considered, as from first to last and now the Prosecutor says that Martha Morgan did not nor could not rob him as there was a table between him and her, and that the other prisoner Ann Gibson only did commit the robbery.

It is most humbly trusted that your own superior judgment will ponder over this misconstrued case, as in the first instance, his daughter was about to be discharged upon the first examination when an Officer of the Court suggested that one was as bad as the other although the Prosecutor could not point her out particularly as by any means so near this person as to have committed a robbery upon his person without his detection and if afterwards she might have been associated with Ann Gibson that was for the judgment of the Court top form its decision. She has left an infant unprotected by a mothers care and is also advanced in pregnancy, although not heavily been tried in her husband's name which is that of Riley.

Your most humbly supplicant implores of you Honoured Sir, to take a look of only justice upon the present statement and judge from its proud work throughout what act proved guilt it explicitly exhibits to merit a sentence of ten years transportation.

Oh Honoured Sir, do in mercy recommend this case for a mitigation of sentence and for which and in duty bound your most humble Petitioner will ever pray.

John Lee – Prosecutor

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