

To the Right Honourable His majesty's Secretary of State for the Home Department

The humble Petition of SARAH MANYARD

Sheweth

That she was at the last assizes held at Maidstone before Justice Littledale indicted of felony in stealing nine sovereigns the property of her master to which indictment by the advice of Counsel she pleaded GUILTY and sentenced to two month imprisonment and to be kept in hard labour in the House of Correction and after that period to be transported for LIFE but in consequence of the exceeding good character which had been given her by several of the most respectable persons in Maidstone with whom she had lived and also a strong recommendation to mercy by the Prosecutor and Jury in consideration of the good character which she hath hither borne for the length of time she had been in Prosecutors service, the Learned Judge in passing sentence observed that the Act of Government left him no discretion as to the extent of the punishment and was therefore obliged to pass the sentence of transportation for life on her but he recommended her legal advisor to make an immediate application to His Majesty's Principle Secretary of State for the Home Department. Your Petitioner therefore right humbly and earnestly entreats that His Majesty's Secretary of State will be graciously and mercifully pleased to remit the heavy and afflicting sentence of transportation for life and confine it to the imprisonment .

And your Petitioner will ever pray  
Sarah Maynard

I JOSEPH LANGDON MORGAN the Prosecutor do hereby beg to recommend SARAH MAYNARD to the mercy of His Majesty's Secretary of State.

JL Morgan  
Maidstone

We the undersigned being examined as it infers on the trial of SARAH MAYNARD do hereby in consequence of her previous good character beg to recommend her to His Majesty's Secretary of State.

William Sands - Farmer - East Farleigh Kent  
Mrs Maria [ ]  
Ann Palmer

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To J H Capper Esq

County Gaol  
Maidstone  
25th September 1834

Sir

I beg to acknowledge yours of yesterday. In the case of SARAN MAYNARD I have seen the Prosecutor Mr Joseph Morgan a respectable tradesman of this town. He assures me to the best of his recollection no such [expression] as that alluded to by the Judge took place in his hearing.

He says that he recommended her to mercy on being informed that she was advised to plead guilty.

I have made enquiry as to the character of this young woman and am sorry nothing favourable can be reported.

I have the honour to be

Sir

Your most obedient servant

Thomas Agar

Keeper.  
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[Hothon] House  
Midhurst  
14th September

Dear Capper

I am obliged to trouble you with the Petition of a convict and I feel much anxiety to get the prayer of it granted if possible. As [ ] [ ] is in Iceland and that [ ] Rice officiating for him, I will not write to either till I hear from you whether a letter from one would assist the case. You will observe that two months imprisonment is part of her sentence now I am uncertain when that commenced and I am aware that you ship them off pretty quick.

We are [ ] a few miles out of Portsmouth Roads and I hope that if you are still in the habit of going there, you will not pass without paying us a visit.

We are all well and join in best wishes to you and your family.

Ever sincerely

Charles [Bannett]  
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[Hothon] House

Midhurst  
23rd September

Dear Capper,

I am much obliged to you for the letter respecting SARAH MAYNARD tho' nothing can be done in her case, which is certainly a hard one as the Judge in passing sentence upon her expressed his sorrow at being obliged to give her so severe a punishment and recommend her to petition, do you think if I wrote to J P Stanley it would be of any service to the poor woman. I think [ ] you the mans letter who wrote to me upon the subject and who enclosed to me her petition;; if you have his letter, pray return it to me if you remember his name, let me know it as I have forgotten it . You must give me a line when you come this way and I will meet you and we hope you will give us your company for more than a day as you say. Please give all our kind remembrance to Mrs Capper .

Believe me

Faithfully Yes

Charles [Bannett]

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SARAH MAYNARD

KENT 1834

STEALING 9 SOVEREIGNS FROM HER MASTER

TRANSPORTATION FOR LIFE

SOURCE - HOME OFFICE CRIMINAL PETITIONS - SERIES 1

SERIES - HO 17

PIECE NUMBER - 90

ITEM NUMBER - QT 17

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SARAH MAYNARD - AGED 20

KENT SUMMER ASSIZES AUGHST 1834

STEALING 9 SOVEREIGNS FROM HER MASTER

TRANSPORTION FOR LIFE

GAOLER REPORT - CHARACTER - BAD