

To the Right Honourable Lord John Russell, Her Majesty's Principle Secretary of State for the Home Department.

May it please your Lordship;

The humble Petition of Edward Brennan

Sheweth

That your Petitioner is a Journeyman tailor and husband of ANNE BRENNAN who was tried convicted and sentenced to be transported for the term of seven years, at the late Session of the Central Criminal Court.

Your Petitioner has lived a great many years in this Metropolis and worked for many of the most respectable Masters in it, with credit to himself and had up to the present moment borne an impeachable character, as testified by the undersigned respectable inhabitant householders of the various districts in which he has lived.

Your Petitioner has a young family of four children, the eldest (a boy) but seven years old, and the youngest an infant (now with his mother) but four months old - It has always been your Petitioners desire and wish to care by his labours sufficient to maintain himself and family in humble respectability and comfort in which he succeeded until about four years since, when it please providence to afflict him with rheumatic in his arms, by which complaint he was compelled to become an indoor patient of St George's Hospital under Doctor Chambers, when in the course of four months he was partially cured and became an outdoor patient. After some considerable time your Petitioner endeavored to work at his business, but the complaint having settled in his frame, shewed its self with increased violence in the winter and has done every succeeding winter time. The consequence to your Petitioner has been the loss of each succeeding house from which he obtained work - not being able in the severe season to work and keep his times with that punctuality required by a Master and necessary to obtain by the workman - Your Petitioner respectfully [ ] the foregoing statement of himself with the view of shewing your Lordship that he is not an unworthy or improper character and that his distress were occasioned and brought about by a physical incapability and not by any cause over which he had the slightest control himself.

Your Petitioner and his little family having during the last intensely severe weather suffered greatly - often in want of the common most necessaries of life - supposes his unfortunate wife was led to commit the act for which she is now doomed by the Law to suffer; in order to mitigate her children's wants and supply them with those necessaries which he could not - your Petitioner hopes and implores your Lordship to look at her crime in that charitable light.

Your Petitioner has now no employment and the sole care of three children with no friend of sufficient means to do for either of them - if therefore your Lordship did

(as he hopes to do) obtain practical employment he must of respectability attend to it. - neglect his poor unfortunate and desolate children as his earnings could not enable him, to pay a person to look after them - they have always been [ ] to their unfortunate mother and she to them.

Your Petitioner most humble prays that your Lordship would be pleased to take his case into your humane consideration, with a view of excercising the merciful prerogative which your high office invests you with , by mitigating the sentence of his wife and sending her to the Penitentiary and making an order for the admission of the children now with him, or such of them as to your Lordship may seem meet. An your Petitioner as in duty bound will ever pray.

Edward Brennan  
1 Bowling Green Place  
Little Woodstock Street  
Maylebone

19th July 1838

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Henry Ford - 11 Brunswick Street Soho  
William Connelly - Greengrocer - New Street - Golden Square  
Anne Herne - 3 Husband Street Golden Square  
And 14 other signatures.

ANN BRENNAN  
1838  
LARCENY  
7 YEARS TRANSPORTATION  
SOURCE - HOME OFFICE CRIMINAL PETITIONS SERIES 1  
SERIES - HO 17  
PIECE NUMBER - 111  
ITEM NUMBER - VY 22

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ANN BRENNAN - AGED 39  
CENTRAL CRIMINAL COURT JULY 1838  
LARCENY  
7 YEARS TRANSPORTATION  
GAOL REPORT - CONVICTED BEFORE.