

Irish Transportation Records; Catherine Nicholson CRF 1841 N4, Film 45

Stamped Chief Secretary's Office Dublin

41 APR 29

W Connors written up the side

18 Gardiner's Place

28 April 1841

I have the honor to return herewith the Memorial of Catherine Nicholson referred to in your letter of this date together with a report of the particulars of her case for the information of his Excellency the Lord Lieutenant.

I am not aware of any mitigating circumstances which would render the Prisoner a proper object of Mercy.

I have the honor to be

Sir

Your obed^t serv^t

Henry Hutton

N.H. Macdonald Esq

Under Secretary

Catherine Nicholson was tried at the last Hilary Quarter Sessions for the County of Carlow for stealing two coats the property of Michael Byrne.

Michael Byrne being sworn stated that he lives in Carlow & deals in clothes – on the 22nd December last he lost a blue body coat and a brown top coat – in about ten minutes afterwards John Conolly brought the Prisoner back to witness's shop with the brown coat – witness in about half an hour missed the blue coat – found it in Robert Dillon's pawn office in about half an hour after he missed it – Both the coats were produced at the trial & identified by the witness

Pater McDonnell being sworn stated that he is a clerk in Mr Dillon's Pawn office – knows the prisoner – she pledged the blue coat for 7s three or four days before Christmas – thinks it was the 22nd – it was pledged the same day that witness shewed it to Mr Byrne –

John Conolly being sworn stated that he lives next door to Byrne – there was a coat laid inside witness's door – the Prisoner was trying to take it away – witness took the Prisoner & the coat to Mr Byrne – the Prisoner claimed it as her own –

On the forgoing evidence the Jury found the Prisoner guilty

It appeared that the Prisoner had been convicted at the previous Spring Qr. Sessions of Larceny for which she had been sentenced to be imprisoned with hard labour for a term which had expired –

The Court for her present offence sentenced the prisoner to be transported for seven years

At the former trial it appeared that the Prisoner was a prostitute –

H. Hutton

April 18th 1841

Stamped Chief Secretary's Office Dublin

41 APR 16

W Connors written up the side

To The Most Noble The Marquis Ebrington Lord Lieutenant General & general Governor of Ireland
etc etc etc

The Humble Petition of Catherine Nicholson a convict in Carlow gaol

Most Humbly Sheweth

That your petitioner was tried at the last January Sessions for
stealing – an old coat – which she pleaded guilty for – and was sentenced to seven years
Transportation.

Your humble petitioner begs now to lay a correct statement of her melancholy case before
your Excellency in the hope of your Excellency being graciously pleased to commute her sentence
when she pleads her cause –

Your petitioner is the only remaining child of a poor desolate widow – now very far
advanced in years and totally blind – for the last four years and if your poor petitioner is sent from
her she must inevitably perish

Petitioner begs humbly to state that it [was in?] the depth of winter [when?] provisions & -
fuel were not to be had for the poor - nor work to earn the price of them. That your poor Petitioner
was obliged to resort to the measures which have sentenced her forever to a foreign land. Oh in pity
to her aged and blind mother may petitioner implore your Excellency's forgiveness and pardon - and
imprison your humble petitioner to any period your Excellency may please – but oh – do not send
her from that only parent – she has or separate her from her only support – poverty – distress and
sickness alone – caused your poor petitioner to act as she did - having had an honest Father and
Mother which Captain Eustace of Castlemaine can certify –

Petitioner once more begs to throw herself on your Excellency's mercy that you may
graciously be pleased to commute her sentence to any imprisonment but oh do not send her from
her aged Mother and your petitioner as in duty bound will ever Pray.

Catherine Nicholson

Stamped Carlow Ap 15 1841

To The Most Noble The Lord Viscount
Ebrington, Lord Lieutenant General
And General Governor of Ireland
Castle Dublin

Co. Carlow
Catherine Nicholson
Larceny 7 yrs Transpⁿ

Catherine Nicholson
Refer to the A.B.
For the facts
April 24

The law must take its course
April 30
A.B. ans^d 1 May 1841