

Irish Transportation Records; Mary Fitzpatrick CRF 1841 F31 Film 44

Stamp: CHIEF SECRETARY'S OFFICE DUBLIN

41 NOV 22

Margin: W Connor

20th November 1841

20 Upper Morris St

Sir

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 18th Instant enclosing the Memorial of Mary Fitzpatrick a Prisoner in the Grange Gorman Penitentiary from County Mayo and which I beg leave to return herewith.

I have a recollection of a previous memorial having been sent in on behalf of the Prisoner and of my having answered the letter which I received upon the subject from the then Secretary of State shortly after the conviction of the Prisoner tho I cannot at this moment recollect the date of the letter which I received or of my answer.

The Prisoner was tried before me at the last Assizes for the County of Mayo upon two several indictments.

The first charging her with having stolen different pieces of coin from the person of Bridget Langford who appeared to be a very respectable young woman rather of the better class of County people, another second indictment charged her with a similar offence in respect to one Sarah Gibbons who also appeared to be a ~~very~~ respectable person, both offences were proved very clearly against the Prisoner and to have been committed by her at the Market of Castlebar, and I was very fully satisfied upon the whole of the evidence that the Prisoner was one of a Knot of Robbers and Swindlers who were in the habit of defrauding and Robbing the unfortunate Country people of their money I therefore thought it right to pass upon her the Statutable Sentence of transportation and I am not aware of any mitigating circumstances in her case and from the evidence produced before me upon her Trial I did not give the slightest credit to the Statement contained in her Memorial and do not consider her a proper object of mercy –being thoroughly convinced that she was most properly convicted and that she is a person that ought to be sent out of the country.

I have the honour to be

Sir

Your most obedient servant

[John] Richards

E. Lucas Esq

Stamp: CHIEF SECRETARY'S OFFICE DUBLIN

41 ...?

Margin: W Connor

To

His Excellency The Earl De Grey etc

Lord Lieutenant General and General Governor of Ireland

The Petition of Mary Fitzpatrick a Prisoner lately confined in the Gaol of Castlebar in the County of May and since transferred to the Female Penitentiary in the City of Dublin:-

Most Humbly Sheweth

That Petitioner was tried at the last Summer Assizes held in Castlebar in and for the County of Mayo before the Right Honorable Baron Richards for the taking from the person of one Margaret [Langan?] the sum of Two Shillings upon which occasion she was found guilty and Sentenced to Transportation for the period of Ten Years:-

That the Circumstances which led to such trial were that Petitioner with her Husband was proceeding to the town of Westport in Order to purchase Cunnemarra Stockings which they were accustomed to deal in since her Marriage when Petitioner arrived in Castlebar on the 24th July last, and having come up to a Stand of Stockings in the Market place, a little Girl whom Petitioner met by accident on the Road continued with her, where in a hurried manner handed her said Two Shillings. Which Petitioner supposes she took from the Prosecutrix, and which was immediately missed whereupon Petitioner instantly handed the Money to her. Yet Petitioner was taken into Custody and eventually was committed for Trial:-

That a Woman of the name of Sarah Gibbons also represented to the Magistrates that she had lost the Sum of One Shilling and Sixpence in the Market and had the hardihood as petitioner was informed to Swear an Information against her which Person Petitioner most solemnly declares she never seen until the day such as Second Complaint was lodged which naturally caused an unfavourable impression on the [mind?] of the Learned Judge who tried Petitioner:-

That the said Assizes at which Petitioner was tried commenced in a week after Petitioners Committal consequently had not an opportunity of preparing for her Defence, and being a Stranger in that part of the country was unable to produce any Gentleman to depose as to her Character that might mitigate that consequent upon her Conviction:-

That Petitioner is now about 24 years of Age, with a Husband and three infant Children, who by such unforeseen misfortune. unless thro the humane and effective interposition of Your Excellency. must inevitably become objects of the Charitable and Humane, their Father from his line of business being unable to afford a Parental or necessary protection.

May it therefore please Your Excellency to take Petitioners unprecedented case into Your merciful Consideration, in tender Compassion not only for Petitioners Youth, but that of her infant Children by intercepting the banishment from them probably never to behold them more, and for that purpose to direct a Commutation of Petitioners Sentence to Imprisonment for any Number of Years or for the entire period limited by same, and thereby eventually restore Petitioner to their protection or for such other order or directions as to Your Excellency shall seem meet

And Your Petitioner Will ever Pray

Mary Fitzpatrick

31

Mary Fitzpatrick

Robbery - 7 yrs (Initials)

There is no record of any..... reference to Baron Richards on this case

H. T. C 23

The law must take its course

3 sets of initials

1 Baron Richards ansd 27...

Order prepd – do

A W C
