

Irish Transportation Record of Jane Kearney (AKA Jane McLaughlin) per John Calvin 1848 –
CRF 1846 K34 – Receiving Stolen Goods - Sentenced to 7 Years Transportation –
Died at Sea

Dublin
38 Glo'cster Street
19 Nov 1846

Sir

I have the honor to receive your letter of the 18th Instant transmitting to me by command of the Lord Lieutenant a Petition on behalf of **Jane Kearney** a Prisoner in the gaol of Londonderry & obtaining my opinion whether there are any mitigating circumstances in the case which would render the Prisoner a proper object of mercy.

I have in reply to your communication the honor to report to you for His Excellency's information that the Prisoner was tried at the last Sessions of Derry on 3 distinct charges.

- 1st for stealing goods the property of Ian Kirkpatrick
- 2nd for stealing goods the property of Daniel [?]
- 3rd for receiving goods stolen from John Gallagher knowing them to be stolen.

On the two first indictments she was acquitted & on the third she was convicted.

It appeared in evidence on the trials that on the night of the 5th of August last the house of the Prosecutor Daniel [?] was opened & that several articles of wearing apparel were stolen thereout – That on the night of 27th August last the house of the Prosecutor John Gallagher was opened & some blankets stolen therefrom – That on the night of the 5th September last & aft 12 oC at night a window in the house of the Prosecutor Ian Kirkpatrick was opened & several articles of wearing apparel stolen thereout.

It further appeared by the evidence on the said trial that some of the articles stolen out of such of these 3 houses on the occasions before referred to were found in the possession of the Prisoner – That she stated to the Police Constable that the articles which were in her possession & which were identified as the property of the Prosecutor Ian Kirkpatrick she (the Prisoner) had got six weeks before in Scotland from her sister & that she stated that she had also got the articles identified as the property of Daniel [?] from her sister in Scotland & that as to the blankets the property of John Gallagher (for receiving which she was convicted) she stated that she had had them in her possession since the time of her marriage which was then as proved of 3 years) altho' they were identified as the property of John Gallagher & stolen out of his house on the night of the 5th Sept' last – She further stated as appeared in evidence that she had not seen her husband for 6 weeks & yet all these 3 robberies were committed within one month from the time she made this statement. It appeared further in evidence that at the time she made these statements her husband was in custody on some criminal charge.

It is [?2 words] to the Prisoner to state that the Police Constable further stated that the articles he found were not concealed & that no opposition was given to his making his search.

The Prisoner did not on any of her trials go into any evidence her attorney addressed the Jury but called no witnesses.

I have obtained for the information of His Excellency all that appeared upon the trials.

I am not [?indecipherable] to say aware of any mitigating circumstances in the case.

I have the honor to be Sir your most obdt Servant
Wm Armstrong

To
T N Redington Esq
&c &c &c
Dublin Castle [*foot of page 1 of 5*]

To
T. N Redington Esq
&c &c &c [*foot of page 5 of 5*]
Mr Hitchins Nov 20/46 [*crosswise page 1*]

To the Right Honb^{le} The Earl of Bessborough
Lord Lieutenant of Ireland

The Petition of **Frank Kearney** of Tamlaght Finlagan C^o Londonderry

Most Humbly Sheweth

That Petitioner is a very Poor man now verging on his seventieth year and who has endeavoured to bring up a large Family of one son and eight daughters in habits of industry and strict honesty his only means being what he could procure by his earnings as a day labourer.

That all his large Family of Daughters as they grew up had to earn their own support principally as domestic servants and generally in places of confidence and trust, requiring punctuality and strict honesty and Petitioner has the proud gratification of saying that on all the situations they ever held up to this hour their honesty was never questioned.

That Petitioner's eldest daughter **Jane McLaughlin** unfortunately became acquainted with a young **John McLaughlin** servant to a **hugh [?Cowing/Couring]**, Farmer and married him before she knew his character, which proved to be none of the best and which was not improved by his roaming habits as a labourer on Public Works, he brought her some wearing clothes and a Blanket which she supposed he had bought, when found with her, in her foolish fondness for her husband, the unworthy Father of her 3 helpless Babies, to save him she insisted they were hers before her marriage, on this admission and on conclusive evidence, she was tried at the Londonderry Sessions of this month found Guilty and sentenced to Transportation for seven years.

Petitioner her Father totters on the verge of the Grave, her poor old mother still lives if she may be said to live to mourn her degradation and the disgrace she has brought upon all her Family, her three children what will become of them! the youngest babe on the breast will your Excellency then in the plenitude of your compassion look upon this picture of misery and desolation and extend your Mercy to the poor deluded victim of a bad husband the exercise of your clemency is not entreated for one hardened in crime – for a pen'sworth she never stole, - but for the victim of woman's confiding and abiding love, tho' the object was most unworthy.

Petitioner most humbly and most earnestly implores your Excellency to commute her Sentence of Transportation to such term of confinement as may meet the ends of Justice and with his bated breath and Petitioner as in duty Bound will pray.

Frank Kearney
Tamlaght Bally Kelly
Londonderry
October 27th, 1846

As far as I can ascertain the statements
made in the above petition are true
Richd^d Dill Presbytⁿ
Minis^r of B.Kelly.

We the undersigned do certify that Frank Kearney and
his Family being in this neighbourhood have always
borne a character for strict honesty

Matn Clark – Muckeragh
William Scott
Beresford, [?/an] Arbuckle
John Ritchie Tully
William Ritchie Tully
James Ritchie Tully

Mr Hitchens Nov 2/46
Report to Assistant Barrister Nov 7 H.H.[*crosswise page 1 of 3*]

Stamped No 6 BALLYKELLY 2

To His Excellency
The Earl of Besborough
The Lord Lieutenant of Ireland

Dublin Castle
Dublin
Seal of Derry
