

**THOMAS LYNCH Irish Transportation Records CRF 1840 L50
(husband of Anne Lynch)**

To His Excellency, Lord Viscount Ebrington , Lord Lieutenant Govern
or and General Governor of Ireland
etc etc etc

The Memorial of Thomas Lynch at present a prisoner in the Gaol of Trim, in the Co^y of Meath Laborer

Humbly sheweth,

That poor unhappy Mems^t was convicted at the last Trim General Quarter Sessions, of having been concerned in the stealing of four sheep, for which offence he was sentenced to Transportation for Seven Years. That poor, unguarded Mems^t was, in an evil hour, entrapped into a participation in the above offence, tho prior thereto , he has supported a pure and unblemished character for honesty, sobriety and industrious habits, in endeavouring to support himself and his poor, helpless wife and six children, one of whom has died since the commencement, of his misfortune!

That his surviving family, vix. his poor wife and five children, have been the pitiable victims of the most heart rending distress, easier to be conceived than described, since his arrest, in last May; for, they have not had since "a place to lay their heads" unless that of precarious lodging, - neither have they had any means of satisfying the mere cravings of Nature, even for a single day, but that afforded by the kind hand of Humanity and, should his sentence be carried fully into effect, to separate him for ever, from his poor destitute, forlorn family, by Transportation, their absolute ruin will become inevitable, - and himself, burthened with a broken heart, for one act of indiscretion, may sink into a premature, and probably a watery grave, even before he reach the foreign clime destined for such as may unhappily fall into the commission of crime!!-

Most humbly implores that Your Excellency, if not in compassion of his miserable state, at least in commiseration of the sufferings of his poor guiltless Family, may be graciously pleased to commute his sentence to limited Imprisonment, that he may be restored to his wailing Family, for which merciful dispensation of the Royal prerogative both he and they will ever pray.

Thomas Lynch

November 26, 1840

I certify that I know the laborer named Thomas Lynch the prisoner. the crime he was convicted of, his character was particularly good and by his confinement his unfortunate family consisting now of a wife and five ...

Address:

To His Excellency Lord Viscount Ebrington
Lord Lieutenant General, General Governor
Of Ireland
Dublin Castle

50
Thomas Lynch
Larceny 7 years Transportation
The sentence passed appears to be 10 years
Commutd to 7 years
Signature

I certify that Thos Lynch has lived with me in my Employment as market man for many years during which time he always conducted himself strictly honest sober attentive and never heard of anything dishonest Impeached to him before.

27th Nov. 1840

Phillip Gallagher
Foxtown

I certify that I know Thomas Lynch that your Honour passed Sentence of Transportation at the last Quarter Sessions held at Trim and I know him from my infancy to be possessed of being Sober , Honest and industrious according to his humble capacity in life until the present charge Brought against him –

Nov. 26.1840

John Allen
Dangan Castle

County of Meath

The examination of the Prisoner Thomas Lynch

To wit

Who having been present when Mr Harbury and Thomas Lynch were examined says -

I was in Umberstown on the night of the 29th April last, I live in Trim. I went to Umberstown in the day about 10 o'clock on the 29th April last. I went to my Mothers I slept in her house that night. Mr Hanbury did not see me driving the four sheep – I have nothing more to say

Thomas Lynch
His mark x

Taken 7th May 1840
G Despard

County of Meath

The
Of Byrne bank in Said County

To Wit

Who being sworn and examined Saith on the night of Wednesday the 29th of April last past I was called up by my father in consequence of the dog giving the alarm. I got up and my Brother who was out first before me told me he saw a man pass driving four sheep. I followed the man and overtook him, and said it was a late hour for us both to be out; he made some answer which I did not understand. I asked him who owned the sheep he said Mr O'Reilly of where said I of Boyne Lodge he replied. I asked him where he was going with them, he said to the fair of Summerhill. I remarked on his going so early, he said he had to go to Umberstown for more. I put my hand on one of the sheep and discovered a circular brand on the rump. I cannot say what the letters were. I asked him was he the man who was coming in Lynches place. he said I don't know yet, & we parted. as from his answer I had then no suspicion, I heard on Tuesday evening the 5th Inst of Mr O'Reilly's four sheep having been stolen and I sent word next morning to Mr O'Reilly's Steward to come over to me. we consulted on going into Trim to look for him. As from the description I gave of him to Mite the Steward, he said he suspected it was Thomas Lynch. we searched the town for him and discovered him on the Green. I told him he was the person I wanted. I brought him to Mite and they had some conversation which I was present at but did not hear or remark it at all, I asked him was his name Lynch and I told him he was the man I wanted. I asked him where was his coat. he said at Mr Robinsons. we went for it and he produced a coat & I told him it was not his. I told him he was a man I never knew before until I saw him on a late occasion. he made some answer and I told him he was a bad fellow for what he had done & I afterwards told him what I had seen him doing and the Conversation we had on the night of the 29th of April and he said in a short time after this that I might have been mistaken I told him I was not mistaken. I swear that I knew him when I saw him on the Green of Trim yesterday & know him now to be the same person I so overtook on the night of the 29th of April last driving the four sheep. Immediately after I made the remark that he was a bad fellow which I repeated more than once and before I told him he was the man I saw on the 29th of April driving the sheep. He said to me Oh Mr Hanbury sure you wont do anything against me. I have a wife and four children I then brought him to Robinsons until he got the coat and then brought him back to Thomas (.ight?) and we afterwards gave him up to the Police, before the said Thomas Lynch said to me "Oh Mr Hanbury says you will not do anything against me. I have a wife and four children." I did not threaten him or hold out any promise to him-

C W Hanbury

Sworn before me the 7th May 1840
G Despard

31 Upper Fitzwimn St
Dec 23 – 1840

My Lord – I had a few days ago the honor of receiving your letter dated the 110th Ins^t enclosing the Memorial of Thomas Lynch a Prisoner in the Gaol of the County of Meath under sentence of Transportation, & requesting me to acquaint you with the particulars of the case and whether in my opinion there are any circumstances in it which would render the Prisoner a proper object of mercy – In reply I by leave to state that I do not see any circumstances in his case which would render him a proper object of mercy – immediately upon the conviction of Lynch at the Quarter Sessions held in Trim (in which town he resides) a particular enquiry as to his character was made and the Bench was satisfied that he has been for many years reputed to be a cattle stealer and that the Police had been a long time on the watch to detect him. He has a strong faction in the country which has deterred the farmers from prosecuting him – upon his trial which took place in the town in which he lives, he called no person to his character – but his attorney upon cross-examination of one of the witnesses for the Prosecution made it appear he had an Indifferent one – upon looking at his Memorial and finding it to be signed by Mr Nough who states that Lynch's character previous to his conviction was particularly good I wrote to the Assistant Magistrate Captain G Despard and also to the Governor of the Gaol and from their answers as well as from my recollections of what took place upon Lynch's trial I am quite satisfied that Lynch is not a proper object of mercy – Mr Chas Nough is a very reputable Magistrate but in this instance as in some other of the same kind I have found him to be misled by his humane feelings – I enclose a Copy of the Information of Christopher Hanbury the Prosecutor, who died previously to the trial and also a copy of the Examination of the Prisoner have originals of both, which documents were read upon the trial of the Prisr - I also enclose a note of the trial of the Prisoner.

I have the honor to be
My Lord
Your obedient servant
John Plunket

At the Quarter Sessions Held at Trim on the 22nd October 1840

Thos Lynch (Indicted for Larceny of 4 Sheep the property
(of James O'Reilly on the 29th April at Boyne
(Hill.

Ist Witness

George Despard is a magistrate of the Co of Meath duly took the Information now produced ,of Christopher Hanbury on the 7th May last – Chr Hanbury has since died – the information was taken in the presence and hearing of the Pris^r Lynch who was duly cautioned and asked did he wish to ask Mr Hanbury any questions in reference to what he had stated in his Information. This witness also proved having duly taken the examination of Lynch voluntarily given

It was then proposed on the part of the prosecution to give in evidence this Information of Chr Hanbury. I admitted the evidence having no doubt of its legality but as I did not recollect an instance of the same kind occurring in my experience in Ireland (this is common in England and the Statutes & law bearing on the subject are quite alike in both countries)I intimated to the Attorney of the Pris^r that if the Prisoner forwarded a Memorial to the Government I would draw their attention to the admission of this evidence which I now take the liberty of doing-

The Information of Christopher Hanbury was then read.

2nd Witness

Thomas Might States that he lives at Boyne Hill - 3 wethers and one pet Ewe, the property of James O'Reilly were stolen from witnesses ledge on the night of the 29th April last – the fair of Summer Hill was the next day - there were 60 to 70 sheep together witness thus the orchard where the sheep were in the morning was before he set out for the fair but did not mind to count them – did not see the 4 sheep since - they were branded behind with the letters O.R. witness went on 6th May with Mr Christopher Hanbury to arrest the Prisoner - witness said to the Prisoner “you are a gone Man” I refused to allow anything in the nature of a confession said at the time by the Prisoner after this to be given in Evidence as the words were used by the assistant and in the presence of the prosecutor – on cross examination of this witness by the Prisoner’s Attorney he said the character of the Prisoner was only a middling one – the Examination of the Prisoner was then read - a copy of which I enclose- The Prisoner called no witnesses –

In charging the jury I told them no to take into their consideration any thing in the latter part of the Information of Chr Hanbury said by Lynch which might be construed into an admission of guilt.