

Margaret Hayes ID13145 per *Woodbridge* 1843

Margaret Hayes aged 20

Central Criminal Court January 1843

Stealing from the person

10 years transportation

Gaol report – 3 times in prison

Series – HO 18

Piece Number – 105

The prisoner's mother asserts her innocence and states that she was undefended and represents the Prosecutor to be a person of infamous character and totally unworthy of credit.

Transport

GG

To The Right Honourable Sir James Graham Her Majesty's Principle Secretary of State for the Home Department

The humble Petitioner of Julia Hayes of No 6 Wellington Buildings, John Street, Commercial Road Saint Georges East in the County of Middlesex.

Sheweth

That your Petitioner is the mother of Margaret Hayes who was tried and convicted together with CATHERINE BRYANT and HANNAH DALY agt the last Session of the Central Criminal Court holden in the Old

Bailey for felony and who was therefore adjudged and sentenced to ten years transportation.

Your Petitioner most humbly begs to shew unto your Lordship that she is a poor but industrious person the mother of 11 children and that at the time of the trial of her unfortunate daughter she was totally unable through distress to obtain the assistance of Counsel for which had your petitioner been able to have procured would have proved her innocence and been the cause of her child being still with her now broken hearted mother.

Your Petitioner further begs to state unto your Lordship that the Prosecutor of her unfortunate daughter (JAMES COLLINS PICKETT) is a man totally unworthy of belief and that his statement sworn against her on her daughters trial is false and wicked your Petitioner is able through respectable persons to prove that the Prosecutor is a reputed thief and at this present time a Warrants for his apprehension are now out against him for various felonies committed by him in Ireland and that he is now living in hiding places having broken out of gaol and escaped to this country.

Your Petitioner further shews unto your Lordship that at the time the alleged felony being committed her unfortunate daughter was in company with the said Catherine Bryant and Hannah Daly but most solemnly does her child asserts her innocence of participating in any way in the robbery nor did she know at the time that her companions had committed the crime for which she is now doomed to suffer for and that the Prosecutor was at the time greatly intoxicated not knowing what he was about and that three days had elapsed before your unfortunate Petitioners daughter was taken into custody by the Police knowing that she was perfectly innocent of the charge laid against her.

Your Petitioner lastly implores of your Lordship that you will be pleased in your great wisdom to cause an inquiry into the case of your unfortunate Petitioner and that this her Petition may be found to be correct and founded upon the truth and that your Lordship will

be graciously please to listen to this her supplication this being the first offence ever laid to her child and that the Arm of Mercy may be extended to her and that she may not be compelled to suffer the bitter sentence now pronounced against her and that your Petitioner together with her ten helpless children may be saved from knowing that her unhappy child is banished from them to a far distant clime.

And your Petitioner as in duty will ever pray.

To The Right Honourable The Secretary of State for the Home Department.

Right Honourable Sir

I the undersigned John Collins of Anns Court Salmons Lane Limehouse in the County of Middlesex – Labourer having at the last Sessions at the Central Criminal Court prosecuted three persons (females) named Brien, Doyle and Hayes for a robbery from my person andf who were convicted for the offence do most earnestly but respectfully beg to recommend to your most merciful consideration the case of MARGARET HAYES as I felt convinced at the time and still continue in the same opinion that she had NO participation in the said offence but merely having been in the room when I was robbed by Brien and also finding upon enquiry that she had always borne an honest and industrious character and myself not understanding the manner in which I should have applied to the Learned Judge who tried the case or I should most earnestly have begged mercy to be extended to the said MARGARET HAYES.

Allow me therefore Right Honourable Sir to solicit with every submission unto your superior wisdom and judgement a commutation of her sentence as may be considered not to defeat but to answer the ends of Justice and that she may be soon restored to her aged parent and family.

I beg to remain Right Honourable Sir

Your most obedient and humble servant

John Collins his x mark

Witness to the mark of John Collins being made by him in our presence this 28th February 1843

John Griffiths

John Peterson

The prisoner's mother again applies, declaring her innocence and the Prosecutor expresses his belief that she did not participate in the offence.

Refuse

GG

28th February 1843

To The Right Honourable Sir James Graham the Secretary of State for the Home Department.

The Petition of MARGARET JULIA HAYES Senior.

Humbly Sheweth

That your Petitioner ia a widow having eleven children dependent upon her for their support and that MARGARET HAYES the eldest daughter of your Petitioner who assisted her mother in so doing was unfortunately present when a person named JOHN COLLINS was robbed of the sum of fifteen shillings on the 24th January last at Ratcliff Highway by two unfortunate girls named DOYLE and BRIEN who were tried and convicted for the same at the last Sessions of the Central Court.

That your Petitioner's daughter (who had not any connection with them further than washing for them) was also included in the indictment and ALTHOUGH THE PROSECUTOR SAID THAT HE DD NOT BELIEVE THAT THE PRISONER MARGARET HAYES HAD ANY PARTICIPATION IN THE MOST REMOTE MANNER IN THE GUILT OF THE OTHER PRISONERS AND THE POLICE CONSTABLE STATED THAT HE NEVER HAD HEARD DIRECTLY OR INDIRECTLY THAT THE PRISONER HAYS WAS EVER BEFORE ACCUSED OF ANYTHING WRONG IN ANY SHAPE OR WAY WHATEVER and your Petitioner not being able from her poverty to employ and Counsel to plead for her and she not knowing how to defend herself was found GUILTY and was sentenced to be transported for the term of ten years the same as the actual thieves.

Your Petitioner therefore most humbly and earnestly prays that you will be pleased to cause such inquiry to be instituted as to the real facts of the case as you in your wisdom may think proper and if there should be found any circumstances of an extenuating or mitigatory matter that you will in your well known humane and merciful kindness and with the intent that at the same time the end of Justice should not be defeated still be enabled to recommend that mercy may be extended to the unfortunate convict and that some commutation of her sentence may take place for the sake of your Petitioner and enable the convict to retrieve her character by honesty and industry.

An your Petitioner will ever pray

Margaret Julia Hayes Senior

No 6 Wellington Buildings

St George East

Middlesex.
