

Irish Transportation Record of Mary Kenny per Arabian 1847
CRF 1846 K21 – Assault - Sentenced to 7 Years Transportation

To His Excellency the Earl of Besborough Lord Lieutenant General and
General Governor of Ireland

My Lord on a late occasion, the 13th of July, I Petitioned in her own name your excellency for a commutation of the Sentence of Transportation of **Mary Kenny**, under sentence for a common assault to which she pleaded Guilty, as her Memorial of 13th July states.

To that Petition the answer received from your Excellency was, that the “Law should take its course.”

Since then, I find by a motion of Lord John Russell that he, intends, to abolish transportation in minor cases (such as, the one before us).

I Pray then of your Excellency to commence the good work by commuting this unfortunate being's Sentence, and thereby restore her to the support of the Two Orphans, and a paralysed sister!

By so doing, your Excellency will not only do an act of Justice and Humanity, but you will save the Country from an unnecessary expenditure of over £70[?] which beneficial local Confinement will answer as well at the one tenth of the Costs of Transportation.

The favour of an answer from your Excellency
will oblige your obed^d serv^t

Patt Coughlan

Reporter

2 Georges Quay

Limerick

Mr Hitchins 27 Aug 46
Answ^d29/H.H. [2 lines crosswise]

14 Fitzwilliam Square N.
July 31st 1846.

Sir

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 29th July with reference to the accompanying memorial of **Mary Kenny** a prisoner under Sentence of Transportation in the Gaol of the City of Limerick; and regret to state that there are not in my opinion any circumstances in the prisoner's case which would render her a proper object of Their Excellencies, The Lords Justices mercy.

The prisoner pleaded guilty at the last Limerick Quarter Sessions to an indictment for an assault calculated to endanger life upon a girl named **Ellen Sullivan**.

The prisoner was the keeper of a low Brothel and had committed an assault upon Ellen Sullivan (one of the prostitutes residing with her) of such a grievous nature that her Eye was destroyed in consequence of it.

The Sentence of Transportation was passed with the full concurrence of the City of Limerick Bench of Magistrates and I cannot therefore with propriety recommend the prisoner to the merciful consideration of Their Excellencies The Lord's Justices.

I have the honor to remain Sir your most obed^t humble Servant

Robert Tighe
Assistant Barrister

C°. Limerick.

T.N. Redington Esqr
&c. & &.

Mr Hitchins 10 Aug 46
The Law must take its course. *Signed*
AB inf^d do H.H.
Gaoler do 10th Aug^t AWC [6 lines crosswise page 1 of 2]

K 21 1846

Mary Kenny

Assault – 7 yrs Transpn.

Report of Assistant
Barrister annexed
Augt 8th/-

To His Excellency The Earl of Bessborough Lord Lieutenant General
and General Governor of Ireland
The Humble Memorial of **Mary Kenny** a Convict in the City of Limerick Jail.

Humbly Sheweth that she implores that the Clemency of Your Excellency may be extended to your Memorialist after due consideration of the circumstances attendant on the case hereinafter stated of Your Memorialist.

That Ellen Sullivan who prosecuted Memorialist for an assault was for a period of four years a lodger in the house of Memorialist and that she became addicted to drink and of intemperate habits and on such occasions her temper was violent in the extreme and her language offensive and irritating.

That at the time of the assault for which Memorialist was sentenced as aforesaid to transportation the said, Ellen Sullivan commenced a personal attack [*next line illegible – about 8 words*] by your Memorialist and excited her so much by virulent Language that Memorialist gave the said Ellen Sullivan a stroke of the hand on her face which unfortunately hit her on the eye which became inflamed that your Memorialist employed at her own expense a surgeon to prescribe for and attend on the said Ellen Sullivan and that Memorialist retained her free of expense at her house and was at so much expense by her that your Memorialist being poor was obliged to raise money in a Pawn office on some of her wearing apparel but that in consequence of the constant drunkenness of said Ellen Sullivan all said medical care was ineffectual and said Ellen Sullivan eventually lost the sight of her eye.

That said Ellen Sullivan undertook not to prosecute your Memorialist if she would pay her a sum of Two pounds sterling. That your Memorialist was taken by surprise at the last Quarter Sessions for the City of Limerick and had not an Agent or Attorney to defend her and [*next line illegible*]

That your Memorialist having been arraigned for such assault any trial pleaded Guilty to her Indictment and to the surprise of every person who knew the true facts of the case was sentenced by Mr Tighe the Assistant Barrister to Seven years transportation.

That your Memorialist is convinced that the said Assistant Barrister would not have passed such sentence if he was aware of those facts. That your Memorialist's late husband

a Carpenter was killed by a fall from a house and left Memorialist a Widow with an orphan child who if this case of Memorialist be not duly considered by your Excellency will be left totally destitute.

Your Memorialist therefore prays your Excellency to order that Said Sentence may to commuted and not carried into effect and your Memorialist will ever Pray.
Mary Kenny

Please turn over}

Mr Hitchins 27 July/46
Referred to Assist Barrister
29th do H.H. [*crosswise left margin page 1 of 3*]

We the undersigned beg leave to state that we have enquired into the truth of the foregoing statement and from our knowledge of this case we earnestly recommend the Memorialist as a fit object for the exercise of the Royal Prerogative in her favor.

Signed

Mick Kearney	Jas Beal
Denis O’Gorman	Mich’ Kelly
	John Cormeen
	James Sexton
	Thomas McKnight
	William Kelly
	Mich’ Jonovan

Memorial
of
Mary Kenny
a Convict under rule
of transportation at
Quarter sessions in
the City of Limerick
Jail
for
commutation of sentence
[*above 10 lines crosswise*]

To His Excellency the Earl of Bessborough Lord Lieutenant General &
General Governor of Ireland

The Humble Petition of **Mary Kenny** a Convict in the city of Limerick Gaol, Humbly Sheweth

That your petitioner is under sentence of seven years transportation for a common assault to which your petitioner pleaded Guilty.

I have, on more than three occasions, written to your Excellency, by petition, praying your merciful clemency and kind feeling. I am now over five months in prison. I have an orphan, and a paralyzed sister to support, and who must be a burden on the City if you do not commute my sentence.

Mary Kenny

May it please your Excellency to take the above Petition into consideration, as I state in my late application in her behalf, I stated that Lord John Russell's intention is to abolish transportation, in minor cases, such as the case of petitioner.

And of not subjecting the County to the Expense of £70 for the transportation of such a unfortunate beings out of the Consolidated Funds while £20 would suffice in the Gaol of [*about 6 words illegible*].

Please to favour me with an answer and Your Excellency will Excuse its publication through the [*4 words illegible*].

Patrick Coghlan
Reporter
2 Georges Quay
Limerick

Mr Hitchins Sept 19/46
Mr C referred to His Exy's
decision [*about 5 words illegible*] his letter of 29thult.
HH.23 Sept H.H. [*6 lines crosswise page 1 of 2*]
