

To the Right Honourable Robert Peel His Majesty's Principle Secretary of State.

The humble Petition of ANN DONNALL of Newark in the county of Nottingham widow, and ROBERT SMITH of the same place Labourer

Sheweth,

That your Petitioner ANN DONNELL hath a son named WILLIAM of the age of nineteen years thereabouts and your Petitioner ROBERT SMITH hath a daughter named MARY of the age of eighteen years or thereabouts.

That the said ANN DONNELL and ROBERT SMITH left their homes about three months ago unknown to your Petitioner and it was only about three weeks ago that your Petitioner obtained information they were at the town of Kingston Upon Hull . That in your Petitioner arriving at the said town it was to their great grief that they learnt their children had been tried at the Quarter Sessions there lately held for the said town and convicted of stealing various small articles from shops in that town under the names of WILLIAM JOHNSON and MARY JOHNSON and for which offence they had been sentenced to be transported for the term of fourteen years to such place His Majesty by the advice of His Privy Council should think fit.

Your Petitioners beg leave to state to your Lordship that as far as they can learn it was an account of their children being enticed by strangers in Hull and not having any person to speak to their previous characters, that the Court passed a more severe sentence upon them than it otherwise would have done if they had previously known.

Your Petitioners therefore most humbly pray that as it is the first offence of which their children have ever been guilty, and that as the are not transported to any particular place , your Lordship will be pleased to take their case into your most serious consideration and investigate if possible the sentence passed upon them and if not to procure them to be confined in some Penitentiary or place of confinement in England

An your Petitioners as in duty bound will ever pray.

ANN DONNELL (her mark)

and

ROBERT SMITH (his mark)

October 1829

We whose names are underwritten being the persons who prosecuted the said WILLIAM DONNEL alias JOHNSON and MARY SMITH for felony on account of what we have heard of their former good characters recommend them to your Lordships

notice as proper objects of mercy.

[Jonathan][Willis]
L Lamming.

We the undersigned inhabitants of Newark do certify to the Right Honourable Robert Peel that we personally have known the Petitioners and their said children some years and that we can with confidence state we never heard anything against them or any of them for honesty industry and sobriety and we recommend the said WILLIAM DONNEL and MARY SMITH to your Lordships notice as proper objects of mercy

William Bartlett - Vicar of Newark
William Taylor Wild - Curate of Newark
George Johnson
Thomas Hitchen
James Carver
Richard Bell - Chief Constable of Newark

STEALING FROM SHOPS

14 YEARS TRANSPORTATION

SOURCE - HOME OFFICE CRIMINAL PETITIONS SERIES 1

SERIES - HO 17

PIECE NUMBER - 58

ITEM NUMBER - KO 10

WILLIAM JOHNSON - AGED 19

MARY SMITH - AGED 18

HULL QUARTER SESSIONS OCTOBER 1829

14 YEARS TRANSPORTATION

GAOLERS REPORT - CHARACTER - BAD