

Irish Transportation Record of **Sarah O'Brien** per Phoebe 1845
CRF 1844 - O3 – Larceny – Stealing £40 from dwelling house - Sentenced to 10 Years
Transportation

Dublin April 2^d 1844

Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 27th March enclosing to me by command of the Lord Lieutenant the memorial of **John O'Brien** on behalf of his daughter **Sarah O'Brien** a prisoner in the gaol of the County of King & to reacquaint you for the information of His Excellency that the prisoner was with a man named **Richard Galway** tried before me at the last assizes of the County of King on an indictment charging them with stealing forty sovereigns in the dwelling House of **Mrs Margaret Williams** and they were both found guilty.

The facts of the case were that the prisoner **Sarah** was a servant of **Mrs Williams** who left her in charge of the house on Christmas Eve— having locked her drawing room in which the sovereigns were in a chest. The prisoner **Galway** is a soldier in the 1st Royals stationed at Tralee & it appeared that he & another soldier were brought in the house on Christmas Evening & another girl who lived opposite to Mrs Williams. They all spent the evening drinking there & the soldiers stopped there all night (not however sleeping with the females). In the morning the other girl & soldier left the house – the prisoners remained behind & Galway broke in the drawing room door & got the sovereigns then he & the prisoner O'Brien eloped with them – they were both afterwards arrested at Mitchelstown in the Coy Cork where they were lodging together under false names. 25 of the sovereigns were found on the female prisoner & some new clothes were also found with them.

The female prisoner received a good character – but considering all the circumstances of the case I thought it would be of very [*?bad*] example to persons in her situation in life to refrain passing a severe sentence on her – nor could I well make any distinction in her favour from the case of the other prisoner. I accordingly passed sentence on them both of transportation for 10 years – and though I think it most probable that she may have been somewhat under the influence of the male prisoner & whether she had hitherto fore conducted herself well which I cannot say that in the circumstances [*.. can take*] there are any which in my opinion would render her a proper object of mercy.

I have the honor to be
Sir your very obedient servant
[*signed Maziere Brady*]

E Lucas Esq
&c

O 3 1844

Sarah O'Brien

The law must take its course

Ap 3 Chf
1844

Gaoler inf^d do 4th
A.W.C.
Ch.Baron ans^d 8th-

Certificate ret^d 29 Apl
Another Memorial annexed 8th May/44
Confirmed
May 9 Chf
1844
Gaoler infor^d do
11th AWC

Another Memorial annexed –
14th June
A.W.C.
Confirmed
June 15 Chf
1844
Gaoler infor^d do
AWC

Stamped CHIEF SECRETARY'S OFFICE *faded*
To his Excellency Earl De Grey –
Lord Lieutenant General and General Governor of Ireland

The humble, Petition of **John O'Brien** late a Private in the 84th Regiment and now
an out Pensioner of Chelsea Hospital –

Most humanely sheweth,

That your Petitioner his wife and seven children that is to say Three sons and four Daughters of very Tender years are Dependant upon your Petitioners for yearly pension of one shilling and fourpence per Diem with his own Industry for their support, and that your petitioner placed out or rather put one of his Daughters to service who is now only of the age of about Twenty years namely **Sarah O'Brien** (which is the subject matter of this Petition,) with Mrs Williams of Blennerville a widow Lady who on the 25th day of December last went to spend her Christmas & Holidays with some of her friends and left the said Sarah O'Brien in the Keeping and Charge of her House at Blennerville and in her absence a young Man of the name of Galway a private in the 1st Royals now quartered in the Tralee Barracks attracted her Notice whom she permitted him to remain in said House for that Night and on the following Morning she together with Galway absconded and went away taking with them the sum of £40 the property of the said Mrs Williams and were in some days afterwards apprehended and brought to trial at the present Spring Assizes of Tralee and found Guilty of felony and upon which Tryal the sum of £25 part of the said sum of £40 was handed over to Mrs Williams and then the said Sarah and Galway were ordered to Ten years Transportation each.

That your Petitioner was in hopes that by the wages of the said Sarah when added to his Scanty Pension, that he could support the rest of his helpless family but to his utter sorrow it proved the Reverse however your Petitioner begs leave to Refer your Excellency to the subjoined Certificate of the Clergy and Gentlemen & whose Signatures appears subscribed thereto as to the Character of the said Sarah O'Brien and that under all these Circumstances your Excellency may be pleased to take compassion upon her youth and Innocence and that you in your humanity and Benevolence may be pleased to order her sentence to be Mitigated and reduced to confinement for which your Petitioner will ever pray.

19th March 1844

John O'Brien

We the undersigned Gentlemen and Clergy hereby certify our knowledge of the abovenamed **Sarah O'Brien** always knew her to be an Innocent honest young woman and never heard her being charged with any Misdemeanour until the present. Given under our hands this 19th day of March 1844.

Signed John Fitzgerald Day Clk BallyMcElligott
C.F. Nash J.P. [Rev] Edw Nash Clk
[signature indecipherable] Robert Wade Clk Tralee
William Blennerhassett J.P.

Mr Connor [crosswise]

Seal

To

His Excellency Earl De Grey
Lord Lieutenant General and General Governor of Ireland
Dublin Castle

Seal TRALEE MR23 1844

To His Excellency Earl De Grey Lord Lieutenant General and General Governor of Ireland.

The Respectful and Humble Petition of **Sarah O'Brien** Spinster now a prisoner in the Gaol of Tralee in the County of Kerry.

Most Humbly Sheweth,

That your Excellency's Petitioner lived in a small village called Blennerville within one Mile of the town of Tralee aforesaid in the month of December last as Servant to one Mrs Williams, that in said Town the depot of her Majesty's first Royal were stationed, with one of whom, a private of the name of **Richard Galway**, your Excellency's poor petitioner got acquainted.

That on the night of the 25th December aforesaid your Excellency's petitioners' Mrs being then from home, said Galway came to her, and said he would spend the evening with your Excellency's poor petitioner, to which proposal your Excellency's Poor petitioner agreed & in the course of the evening and refreshing themselves freely he Galway proposed to marry your Excellency's Petitioner to which she consented she being at the same time under the Influence of liquor.

That after said Marriage being fully agreed and settled on, said Galway said he could not marry her without money, your Excellency's petitioner stated she had no money but a trifle, he answered your Mrs has plenty of it in her drawer, without any more to do he entered the drawing room broke open the sideboard drawer, and took out of it some forty sovereigns the property of her Mrs.

That your Excellency's poor and foolish petitioner [tis true] at the time she being then under the influence of spirits, and being seduced by said Galway did Consent and go off with him under his several and repeated promises & oaths to marry her and remained with her until they were both arrested thinking every day he would marry her which he [declared?], and after they being arrested said Galway being Searched, twenty five of said Sovereigns were found on him and restored to her Mrs.

That at the last Kerry assizes your poor petitioner's & said Galway's trial came on, both were found Guilty of said offence and Sentenced to be Transported for Ten years.

That your Excellency's poor petitioner being a foolish young girl, labouring under, labouring under Inferiority and of weak mind yielded to said Galway & aided him in the crime aforesaid, and your Excellency's poor petitioner earnestly implores of your Excellency to take her case into your Excellency's humane and kind consideration she being never before accused of any crime whatever and at present not more than eighteen years of age (as your Excellency will see by the Several and Respectable Gentlemen Magistrates and Clergy of the County of Kerry whose Signatures are hereunto attached certifying same and understand the circumstances of your poor petitioner's case). She hopes your Excellency will remit the sentence of Transportation, and make such other orders as to your Excellency shall seem meet and your Petitioner shall for your Excellency's prosperity and long life ever Pray.

We the undersigned Gentlemen Magistrates & Clerks of the County of Kerry do hereby certify that we know the above named **Sarah O'Brien** for a long time & that she has never before been charged with any offences and think her a proper object for your Excellency's consideration to Remit the sentence of Transportation now Recorded against her confinement. Given under our hands this 17th April 1844.

I have known **Sarah O'Brien** from her Childhood as her Parish minister & never knew anything to her disadvantage before. She appeared to be not very strong in intellect [2 or 3 words indecipherable] the above recommendation.
John Fitzgerald Day Clk BallyMcElligott.

I have known **Sarah O'Brien** for the last twelve years and never heard anything [about 6 words indecipherable]
William Blennerhassett J.P.

I know the above statement of the Rev J.F.Day to be correct.
Robert Wade Minister of Tralee

[About 15 lines following are black and illegible]

Mr Connor O 3 [crosswise]

I have known **John O'Brien** pensioner of Her Majesty's 84th Regiment and for a number of years, and always considered him a correct person in conduct and desirous to bring up his Family respectably and creditably May 1, 1844 [Signature indecipherable]

Mr Connor 30 Aug^t 44 [crosswise]
The Law must take its course Heytesbury Augst 31st 1844 [crosswise]

To His Excellency Baron Hetersberry, Lord Lieutenant General
And General Governor of Ireland
The very Humble and respectful representation and Petition
of **John O'Brien**, aged 68 years, an old pensioner of
Chelsea Hospital at 1^s/4^p per diem

Most Submissively Sheweth –

That your Excellency's Petitioner has served in the 84th Regiment and in other Regiments for 23 years and 3 months, from 1794 to the year 1817, in the East Indies and in different parts of the World, and always maintained the character of a dutiful and steady soldier.

That your Petitioner's ancestors (who as well as Petitioner, have been always loyal Protestants) have invariably devoted their lives, since the year 1689, to the service of their King and Country, either in the military or Naval service.

That your Excellency's Petitioner having a large family of children, and being just his labour, and having no other means of support than his pension, was obliged to suffer some of his children to seek their own support, in the service of others, and among others, one of his daughters, named **Sarah O'Brien**, aged about 18 years, entered into the service of a Widow Lady, named **Williams**, residing at Blennerville near Tralee in this County, where, in the absence of her said mistress, who went to spend the Christmas Hollidays with a relative in Tralee (leaving Petitioners said daughter the only inmate in her house) his said daughter was seduced by the artifices of a soldier, named **Gallwey** of the first Royals, now quartered in Tralee, to admit the said soldier into the House, and finally to abscond with him, his carrying off a sum of money, belonging to her said Mistress, there deposited in the House.

That the said **Gallwey** and Pet^r's unfortunate daughter, were subsequently arrested, and tried at the last Spring Assizes held in Tralee, convicted and sentenced to ten years transportation, under which sentence, his unfortunate daughter now remains a prisoner in Tralee jail.

That the said **Sarah O'Brien** is a poor Girl of naturally weak Intellect, and was seduced to elope with said **Gallwey**, on a promise of Marriage, he even persuading her that he was a protestant, and going to Church with her, in order to persuade her of his sincerity, tho', as Pet' has since been informed, by his commanding officer, he was always bad and infamous character and consequently of no religious Principles.

That for the fact of his said daughter's good conduct since her Imprisonment, Petitioner begs leave to refer to the Governor of the County Jail, Mr [?Murphy], and to Mrs Brereton the respectable [2 or 3 words faded] of that establishment and as to her simplicity and weakness of intellect it can easily be ascertained .

Petitioner therefore most humbly supplicates your Excellency to take compassion on the wounded feelings of an aged Parent and faithful old soldier, who has risked his life in various [one word faded] in the service of his King and Country and be mercifully pleased in pity to this poor imbecile Convict, who, if sent to a penal settlement must fall to either destruction and perish miserably, to be graciously pleased to commute her sentence, to imprisonment in

The County Gaol)
of Tralee) for any term that may be sufficient to answer the ends of rigorous justice so that her utter destruction in time and eternity may if possible be avoided and Petitioner, as in duty bound will ever most humbly pray.

John O'Brien

BallymacElligott)
Post Town Tralee)
13th August 1844)

I have known Petitioner & Daughter for more than ten years - & considered him always a religious & moral character & his Daughter an innocent & rather a simpleminded girl. For which reasons I beg to recommend this Petition in his behalf to his Excellency's favourable consideration.

John Fitzgerald Day, Rector of BallyMcElligott

I have known the Petitioner for many years and never heard anything whatever to his disadvantage.

Edw^dNash [*?indecipherable*] of Ballycahane

I know the above statements to be true.

William Blennerhassett J.P.

I believe the above statement to be true.

Anthony Denny, Rector of Tralee

Robert Wade, Curate of Tralee

True copy – [*illegible*]

I do hereby certify that Priv^{te} **John O'Brien** of his Majesty's 1st Batⁿ 84th Regiment hath served in the said Corps for twenty years & one hundred and Ninety seven days (under my own observation) has conducted himself to my satisfaction, and is deserving of every favour usually granted to victorious old Soldiers.

Camp. Near forty

1st December 1845.

Signed. A Campbell

Lt Col 84th Regt.

Sarah O'Brien

Larceny – 10 yrs transpn.

Former papers annexed

30 Aug/44

Sea/ TRALEE AU28 1844F

To His Excellency
Lord Baron Hetersberry
Lord Lieutenant General
And General Governor of Ireland
Castle Dublin
Seal 5A AU30 44
