

Catherine Symon ID4703 per *Emma Eugenia* 1842

Catherine Symon

Perth Circuit Court April 1841

Murder of her child

Sentenced to Death

Series – HO 18

Piece Number – 52

Day of Execution 26th May 1841 at Dundee

Commute

Transportation for Life 13th May 1841

4th May 1841

To The Most Noble Marquis of Normanby

My Lord

I have now the honour to report to your Lordship's information that on the 29th May Catherine Symon was brought to trial at the Circuit Court at Perth charged with the murder of her illegitimate child at about seven weeks old, when the Jury by a large majority found her "Guilty but unanimously recommended her to mercy".

Your Lordship will herewith receive copies of the Indictments, Declarations of the prisoner, Medical Reports on the body of the child after death, and Lord Medurgn the Presiding Judge's notes of the evidence with a statement from him addressed to me which he

had forwarded for the purpose of the recommendation of the Jury being laid before Her Majesty.

From that evidence no doubt appears to exist of the correctness of the verdict finding the prisoner guilty of the murder charged against her and I am sorry to be obliged to add, that the observations of Lord Medurgn on the nature and circumstances of the case and the recommendation to mercy seem to be but too well founded. I will therefore let Her Majesty's advisers to determine whether under the whole circumstances of this lamentable case there are sufficient grounds for the Royal Clemency.

Your Lordship will observe that the execution is ordered to take place at Dundee on the 26th May

I have the honour to be

My Lord

Your Lordships most obedient and humble servant

D Boyle.

(By Keith the Transcriber: There follows over 70 pages of letters, Medical Reports, Newspapers cuttings giving Jury details and miscellaneous Petitions for her mercy)
