

Ann Mary Goatley ID8059 per *Margaret* 1843

Mary Ann Goatley aged 19

Central Criminal Court October 1842

Stealing from a dwelling house

10 years transportation

Gaol report – Character not known

Series – HO 18

Piece Number – 92

The prisoner's father states that she had heretofore borne an irreproachable character and that she was led into the offence by her accomplices that are much older than herself.

Transport

GG

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

The humble Petition of Henry Goatley of Hampton Wich in the County of Middlesex, carpenter, on the behalf of his daughter Mary Ann Goatley now a prisoner in Newgate under sentence of transportation of ten years.

Most humbly Sheweth

That at the last Sessions held at the Central Criminal Court in the present month of October MARY ANN GAOTLEY but of the age of nineteen the daughter of your Petitioner was convicted of burglariously breaking and entering the Palace of our Sovereign Lady

the Queen at Hampton Court and stealing there from a quantity of silver Plate of the value of £30 the property of Mrs Caroline Hamilton Sheridan and also of stealing a quantity of wearing apparel from out of the same Palace the property of Lady Salina Dufferine.

Included in the same indictment were one a HENRY GROVER aged 30 years and MARTHA his wife aged 31 years who were convicted of the same offence and one SUSAN [HOSTER] aged 67 years who was charged with receiving the above mentioned property knowing the same to have been stolen but she was acquitted by the Jury.

That your Petitioner's daughter is but 19 years of age whereas the prisoners HENRY and MARTHA GROVER are approaching double that.

That your Petitioner's daughter has borne an irreproachable character from her childhood downwards to the time of the commission of this offence as well be seen by the letter in the handwriting and under the seal of Doctor INGLIS which accompanies this memorial as well as the numerous signatures of various respectable Gentlemen attached hereto.

That your Petitioner's daughter as will be seen also by reference to such letter was in the service of the before mentioned Doctor INGLIS for the period of three years and nine months during the whole of which time she conducted herself in every respect to his most perfect satisfaction so much so that he had himself spontaneously increased her wages.

That your Petitioner's daughter left the service of Doctor INGLIS so recently as the 31st August 1841 but little more than 12 months since, and that the cause of so leaving his service was not by his the Doctor's wish but that she was induced to do so from an idea that a Cook's situation was more suitable to her and that upon so leaving the Doctor's service she went into the County to pass a short time with a relation as a holiday previously to entering into a fresh situation and upon returning from such relatives she engaged herself with the Prosecution Mrs CAROLINE HAMILTON SHERIDAN as Cook in whose service she remained up to the present time.

That your Petitioner is firmly convinced that from the conduct of his daughter from her childhood she never would have been in her present disgraceful situation had she not been instigated by the wicked practices of persons more dangerous, designing and experienced than herself, by whose arts she is now the victim and in whose hands the instrument employed in the commission of this offence, in fact that she had been completely the tool working under the direction of the more aged prisoners GROVER and his wife.

That your Petitioner most humbly submits that this statement is no idle supposition upon his part but is fully proved by the previous good character of the prisoner and the short time that has lapsed since her leaving the service of the highly respectable Gentleman who so kindly has given his Testimonial in her favour which is so very short that it seems hardly probable that any person could so far commit herself as the prisoner appears to have done had she not been most subtly practiced upon by others.

Your Petitioner therefore most humbly prays your Lordship to Take the case of his unfortunate daughter into your most serious and merciful consideration, that you will consider especially her youth, her previous good character and the strong probability that she has not committed this offence from natural depravity on her part but rather that she had been led away by the artful inducements and temptation of persons experienced and well practiced in the ways of [] and under much consideration your Lordship will in your mercy recommend to her Majesty that the prisoner's sentence be so far commuted that at the least she may be allowed to remain in this Country.

And your petitioner as in duty bound will ever pray.

Henry Goatley
Hampton Wick

John Collins
William James
Thomas Russell

And a further 17 signatures.

2nd Application

Miss Neave on behalf of the Ladies Committee recommend the Penitentiary.

Refuse

GG

Thurlow Lodge

Clapham

21st November 1842

Miss Neave presents her complements to Sir James Graham and begs to inform his that she took the liberty of calling upon him this morning under the idea that it would occupy his time to hear than to read the following statement which as a Prison Visitor she feels it her duty to make.

The case of Mary Ann Goatley aged 19 who prays to be suffered to remain n England and to endure her sentence in the General Penitentiary has been fully entered into by Mrs Fry and those Ladies who are regular attendants on the prisoners, Miss Neaves has beside known every circumstance of M.A.G's previous life and education which were very respectable and her character until the present previous offence irreproachable – it appears very evident that the woman who induced her to rob Mrs Sheridan had long been using very wicked arts until she brought the thing to pass she desired. Miss Neaves has too much experience in the sad deteriorating effects of a Convict Ship and the subsequent fate of female convicts when they reach their destination, no to endeavour at least to retain a virtuous girl in England and to wish to secure for her the admirable seclusion attended with instruction and employment of the Millbank Penitentiary - M.A.G has also a home to go to when the term of this imprisonment expires whereas many poor prisoner are obliged on their discharge top return to the haunts of vice from whence they

were taken in which case the sentence of transportation is not so great an evil.

Miss Neaves trusts Sir James Graham will excuse her intruding upon him, she had Mrs Fry's full approbation of the poor girls Petition and being besides a regular visitor at Millbank she knows that the end contemplated in the punishment of offenders is there, secured as far as human means can avail.
