

Mary Briggs ID8033 per *Margaret* 1843

Mary Briggs aged 16

Lancaster Quarter Sessions – Preston October 1842

Larceny

7 years transportation

Gaol Report – Tried before and acquitted.

Series – HO 18

Piece Number 91

The prisoner's mother says she has hitherto been a good girl and prays that her sentence may be mitigated.

Transport

GG

To The Right Honourable Sir James Graham Secretary of State for the Home Department.

The humble Petition of Mary Briggs of No 1 Nicholas Street, George Road Manchester.

4th November 1842

Humbly Sheweth

That Petitioner's daughter named Mary Briggs a youthful female only turned 16 years of age under the heavy sentence of seven years transportation being accused of stealing a handkerchief of a man who treated her to a glass of ale in Preston at this she accepted of

the ale she was a virteous well conducted girl and was not given to loose habits of any sort she worked hard for a living in a factory and was now out of [] houses from her birth only at her work nor was she out of the Petitioner's house after 10 o'clock any night[till the late Preston Guild]. She then being out of work she and several other girls stole away to Preston to see there the unhappy sports for her [] youthful years to be snatched away from a sickly father affectionate mother and six kind brothers and sisters of whom she is the eldest , O good heavens how hard is her fate and how dreadful is the feelings of her poor father and mother and six brothers and sisters and may God pity us all.

That Petitioner's husband is ill of a decline a length of time and his death is hourly expected and when it does happen your Petitioner will be left with six small children brothers and sisters of the above named youthful girl all under the age of 13 years, she being the eldest of all of the children and one of them a cripple and how wretched shall your Petitioner be particularly so as this youthful girl is now missing from the rest who [] for their support. All which your Petitioner humbly submits to the tender and humane feelings of your Right Honourable and as she had had never a spot or blemish in her character before her unfortunate visit to Preston Gild that you will be graciously pleased that her youthful and tender years of this poor girl and the heart rendering tears of her poor dying father and the melting sorrows of her poor affected mother and grant her a mitigation of sentence as she has a most exemplary character for good behaviour modesty and honesty from her last employer which I herewith send you anything your Right Honourable is pleased to [] this unhappy girls behalf as to a mitigation of sentence shall be ever [] acknowledged with a heart filled wish of gratitude and thanks by me the heart broken mother of the youthful female.

And the Petitioner will pray

Mary Briggs

Manchester

24th October 1842

The parents of the convict named in the Petition are members of my congregation they are honest and well conducted people and endeavour to bring up three children in the fear of love of Good – I believe the convict to have been well behaved girl up to the time of the late unfortunate turn out.

Daniel Hearne

Rector of St Patrick's

Rev. Philips.

James Potterson [Brother in Law]

2nd Application

To the same effect as before

Refuse and transport

GG

12th December 1842
