

Sarah Silley ID 2991 per *Borneo* 1828

Sarah Selley aged 20

Exeter Quarter Sessions January 1828

Stealing from the person

14 years transportation

Series – HO 17

Piece Number – 112

Item Number – WM 27

Character – Bad – convicted once before – common prostitute.

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Refuse

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Sarah Selley now confined in the gaol for the City and County of the City of Exeter.

To The Right Honourable The Secretary of State for the Home Department

The humble Petition of Sarah Selley

Your very humble Petitioner Sarah Selly with respectfully states that she was tried last Sessions on the 14<sup>th</sup> January 1828 at the Guildhall Exeter for the alledged crime of stealing a watch from the person of John Nicholls for which the sentence of 14 years transportation was passed upon her.

Your unfortunate Petitioner begs leave to further say, that the said John Nicholls confessed that she Sarah Selley DID NOT take it from him declaring that the person so guilty was ELIZABETH COLLINS. Previously to their confinement he made a promise that if the watch was delivered to him he would not prosecute either, on which

promise solemnly given it was put to his possession when he immediately had your Petitioner and Elizabeth Collins taken up. The watch was valued by a silversmith sent for by the Right Worshipful the Major at only 5/-.

Under these circumstances your humble Petitioner earnestly prays for a lesser punishment than the heavy one awarded against her, for which clemency and goodness she will most humbly be grateful. Her humble thanks shall show deep gratitude. Her thanks will be offered with deference and your humbly respectful Petitioner will as in duty ever pray.

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Removed to the convict ship 7<sup>th</sup> May 1828

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