

Ann Glaze ID10942 per *Sea Queen* 1846

Ann Glaze aged 18

Central Criminal Court December 1845

Stealing from a dwelling house

10 years transportation

Gaol report – Not Known

Series – HO 18

Piece Number – 168

Call for a report on the sanity of the prisoner

GG

This Petition states that the prisoner is of weak mind and three members of her family are afflicted with insanity – It is stated t also that she had been much neglected and that she was thrown upon her own resources at an early age. Her character is said to have been good.

Mitcham

Surrey

29th December 1845

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

Right Honourable Sir

We the undersigned inhabitants and householders of Mitcham having had our attention called to the circumstances of the case of

Ann Glaze, who was tried before Mr Baron Alderson on the 20th December at the Old bailey Sessions and convicted for stealing and recommended to mercy by the Jury. We have instituted an enquiry into the character and general conduct of the said Ann Glaze and into the circumstances leading to her offence. We beg respectfully to present the result in the Christian hope that some mitigation of punishment may be safely extended in this case for the reasons following - That the said Ann Glaze was born and nurtured under truly adverse circumstances her parents being poor and illiterate, brought her up in comparative⁴ ignorance and sent her out in the world at a tender age, when only partially instructed. That, three of the family are afflicted with insanity, that a sister had long been in the Surrey Lunatic Asylum and that this young woman is of weak and inconsiderate mind. That her conduct was inoffensive up to the time of committal. That it is stated (correctly we believe) that the house in which she was employed was far – very far – from being of a moral or correct description, likely to lead an inexperienced female into error and to a contamination fearful to contemplate.

That many persons here, who long knew her would have willingly borne testimony at the trial, had they been apprized at the time, whereas she was undefended and destitute of any advice or friends.

Should it be deemed prudent and consistently with the due administration of the Law, to mitigate the sentence of 10 years transportation, to a sentence of a Penitential character, we sincerely hope and trust this object of our solicitude will ever hereafter duly appreciate the mercy now sought to be extended to her, t=for this we trust, her first offence, and that it will present a means whereby she may become a good and useful member of society.

We have the honour to be

Right Honourable Sir

Your most obedient and obliged servants

Richard Simpson – Vicar of Mitcham

Arthur Askworth – Curate of Mitcham

Gabriel Hayter – Guardian

Abel Parraway – Overseers

John Chart – Vestry Clerk

And 43 other signatures

To the Inspectors of Millbank Prison

Millbank Prison

8th January 1846

Gentlemen

Pursuant to your instructions I have examined the convict Ann Glaze with reference to the state of her mind, and have to report that in two lengthened conversations with her I have been unable to discover the slightest signs of mental unsoundness or insanity. Nor can I learn from the officers in whose charge she is that her conduct here has in any respect been such as to raise a doubt respecting the soundness of her intellect.

I have the honour to be

Gentlemen

Your most obedient servant

William Baley MD

Durham House

Mitcham Surrey

10th January 1846

Right Honourable Sir

Having had the honour to transmit a Petition on the 29th approved and signed by the most respectable inhabitants of Mitcham, praying for a mitigation of punishment in the case of Ann Glaze and as enquiries are constantly being made to me for information respecting the result of the memorial which I am unable, hitherto to satisfy, I trust therefore I shall be pardoned in trespassing on your attention.

I am not aware that any additional reasons can be waged, beyond those embodied in the Memorial (other than to observe on the GREAT TEMPTATIONS to which she was unfortunately exposed).

Yet at the solicitation of many of the respectable Petitioners, who express interest in the result, I consider it advisable for their satisfaction generally and in the cause of humanity again respectfully to plead for clemency in this case hoping and believing should it be deemed advisable to extend mercy – that the pitiable object of our solicitude – if she be allowed the chance – may yet repent, reform and become a good member of society.

I have the honour to be

The Right Honourable Sir

Your most obedient and humble servant

Abel Parraway

(One of the Overseers of the Parish of Mitcham)
