

Ann McPherson ID 4995 per *Emma Eugenia* 1846

Ann McPherson aged 21

Perth Circuit Court October 1845

Theft

7 years transportation

Gaol report – 4 times before convicted

Series – HO 18

Piece Number – 174

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This application represents the neglected condition of the prisoner in her early youth and prays for a mitigation of the sentence in consideration of her good conduct and contrition.

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November 1845

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

The Humble Petition of the undersigned inhabitants of Dundee.

Sheweth

That the petitioners feel much interested in the case of Ann McPherson who was lately convicted at the Perth Circuit Court of Justiciary of the crime of theft and sentenced to seven years transportation and who has since been removed to Mill Bank Prison.

That the said Ann McPherson who is only twenty one years of age was while very young deprived of both her parents and left with scarcely anyone to take charge of her. To this cause the Petitioners ascribe the commission of the crime of which she had been convicted. They are gratified to learn however that she had since

manifested the deepest contrition for her conduct and during her confinement in prison, behaved in a penitent and becoming manner.

That the Petitioners being apprehensive that if her sentence of transportation shall be carried into effect, any hope of permanent improvement will be frustrated, are induced humbly to apply to the Right Honourable Secretary of State, praying that he will be pleased to give the necessary orders for the prisoner being detained in this country.

And your Petitioners will ever pray.

James Webster

Constable Brown – Provost of Dundee

An another 21 signatures

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Dundee Prison

17<sup>th</sup> November 1845

We hereby certify that during the time Ann McPherson was in confinement here, both before and after her time, until she was removed to Millbank Prison on the 1<sup>st</sup> November she conducted herself in a quiet and orderly manner and seemed to feel very conscious of the guilt she had [ ] and appeared very sorrowful for the situation in which she was placed.

Thomas MacKison - Governor

E Anderson - Matron

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Dundee

18<sup>th</sup> November 1845

Sir

I have the honour to enclose a Petition in favour of Ann McPherson who was convicted of theft at the Circuit Court of Justiciary at Perth, then sentenced to seven years transportation and is now in Millbank Prison.

The case of this unfortunate young woman had been looked up by many in Dundee with great sympathy. She having lost her mother when only two years old, and had only reached the age of nine when she also lost her father; her parentsd were very industrious people much respected by those who knew them, and I beg to call your attention particularly to the manner the Petition is signed, having contributed to it the names of the Provost, Magistrates of this Burgh, I hope you will also excuse me in stating that I have been specially called on by the Lord Dean of Guild of this place requesting me to hand you this. I have my great pleasure in doing so and most earnestly by that you will have the kindness to examine into the nature of the case of Ann McPherson and I trust that the result will be, [your] feeling yourself at liberty to grant the prayers of the Petitioners and authorize accordingly .

I have the honour to be

Sir

Your most obedient and humble servant

George Duncan

MP for Dundee.

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Sailed for Van Diemen's Land

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Application is made for a favourable consideration of the case on the grounds that the prisoner is troubled with fits which have produced a tendency to consumption  
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Answer to be sent to Mr Duncan