

Catherine Harvey per Majestic 1838 - HO17/71/85

CATHERINE HARVEY

HONE OFFICE CRIMINAL PETITIONS - SERIES 1

SERIES - HO 17

PIECE NUMBER 71

ITEM NUMBER - MY 39

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CATHERINE HARVEY - AGED 38

LANCASTER LENT ASSIZES MARCH 1838

TRANSPORTATION FOR LIFE

GAOL REPORT ; BEFORE CONVICTED OF A SIMILAR OFFENCE.  
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The Right Honorable Lord John Russel one of Her Majesty's Principle Secretaries of State.

My Lord,

With feelings of confusion and unutterable anguish of mind, I beg leave very humble and respectfully to address your Lordship on behalf of my unhappy and unfortunate sister, CATHERINE HARVEY, (wife of Thomas BLINKHORN) and the mother of three infant children one of whom is only about four months old, now under sentence of transportation for LIFE, in Kirkdale Goal, in the county of Lancaster for passing bad money, hopeless of my mitigation of her doom, expect from your Lordships benign interposition with her Most Gracious Majesty under the circumstances which I now beg leave humbly to submit for your humane consideration, accompanied by highly respectable testimonials of my sisters former good character, from respectable friends in Manchester who employed her for many years.

My sister my Lord was born in the city of Armagh in Ireland and lived servant in many respectable families, in that city, with great credit to herself, from whom I could obtain certificates of her good conduct, if these certifiactes could be made available now. She came to England in about the year 1820 and obtained employment in several factories in Manchester when she was encouraged

and laboured dilligently as a cotton dresser, being esteemed an honest hard working woman, during which time for six or seven years she chiefly supported her and my mother by her own earnings.

In the month of March 1832, my sister unfortunately married THOMAS BLINKHORNE, a striker in a foundery and to this event , and her husbands brutal and bad conduct to her, and her poor children, the two crimes she committed, are to be entirely attributed. I will not presume at length to wound your Lordship's feelings by any detail of his bad conduct to my sister, further than, to observe that on my sister being taken into custody for passing money which she received from him believing it good money, as part of his wages, he fled, abandoning my sister and her children, two of whom are now in the Poor House of Manchester and the other still,at its mothers breast.

My sister my Lord is sincerely penitent and heartily sorry and overhwhelmend with grief at having been so cruelly made the perpretrator of two offences so unconsciously on her part and [far] from the character which she formally bore, with several good and greatly respectable firms in Manchester herewith [annotated] , together with the certificate of the Chaplain of Kirksdale Gaol your Lordship should find grounds sufficient to plead with Her Most Gracious Majesty for such mitigation as you may deem the case to admitt of, permitt me, My Lord most humbly earnestly and with unattenable feelings of [ an ] affection and solicitude to crave the exercise of your Lordships influence in her behalf and for the sake of her bereaved children.

In the mean time I have the honour to remain may it please My Lord  
your Lordships  
most affected humble servant

Patrick Harvey

Warehouseman  
for Messrs William and Joseph Myers and Co  
Merchants  
Liverpool  
April 1938