

Elizabeth Moncur ID2632 per *Baretto Junior* 1850

Elizabeth Moncur or Gowans aged 24

Perth Circuit Court May 1849, Theft, 7 years transportation

Gaol report – 11 times in prison

Series – HO 18, Piece Number 244

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The purpose of this statement is that the prisoner having been deserted by her husband committed the crime under the pressure of destitution

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To Her Royal Highness Victoria Queen of Great Britain and Ireland.

The Petition of Elizabeth Moncur or Gowans wife of John Gowans – Seaman.

May it please your Most Gracious Majesty

Your Petitioner with the greatest respect now most humbly takes the liberty of stating that at the last Circuit Court of Justiciary held at Perth she was unfortunately convicted of theft and sentenced to seven years transportation. That your Petitioner's husband having deserted her about nine years ago and left her utterly destitute with the burden of two of a family she foolishly took the advice of bad companions and committed the crime, for which sentence had now been pronounced against her. Under the circumstances above state, and from the certificate and recommendation hereto subjoined, your Petitioner had most humbly to request that your Majesty will be most graciously pleased to give her a mitigation or commutation of the sentenced passed against her.

May it therefore please your Gracious Majesty on taking this Petition with the certificate and recommendation hereto subjoined into

consideration to extend your Royal Clemency to the Petitioner, by mitigating or commuting the sentence passed against her, as now humbly craved.

And your Petitioner as in duty bound will ever pray.

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Dundee

5<sup>th</sup> July 1849

We the individuals under named and designed hereby certify that the statement made in the Petition hereto , addressed to Her Majesty from Elizabeth Moncur or Gowans wife of John Gowans – Seaman are in our opinion true and correct and we have therefore most respectfully to give our recommendation that Her Most Gracious Majesty may be pleased to grant the desire of the Petitioner.

The parents being long known to us as sober industrious and decent persons in their humble sphere, this unhappy daughter being the only one of numerous family members that has ever given them trouble.

James Thourtsion – Minister of St Clements Church Dundee

Robert Younger – Merchant

James Mills

And 6 other signatures.

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Castle Lane

Dundee

31<sup>st</sup> August 1849

Sir

I most respectfully beg leave to take the liberty of enclosing a Petition on behalf of my daughter Elizabeth Moncur the particulars of her case are fully stated in the Petition and I have humbly to request you will give it an early consideration. I will feel much obliged by your directing a reply to the above address. I am with the greatest respect

Sir

Your most obedient servant

Abraham Moncur

Porter

Dundee

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