

Emily Lilley ID3291 per *Cadet* 1848

Emily Lilley aged 30

Central Criminal Court March 1847, Larceny, 7 years transportation

Gaol report – Not Known

Series – HO 18, Piece Number 196

The prisoner's husband prays for a mitigation of her sentence on the grounds that she has always borne a good character that she was led into this offence by others under circumstances of temptation that the Prosecutor was compelled to appear against her in opposition to his own wishes and that she had a large family.

To the Right Honourable Sir George Grey Secretary of State for the Home Department.

The humbler Petition of William Lilley – Baker, at Woolwich on behalf of his unfortunate wife Emily Lilley who was committed by Mr Jeremy from the Woolwich Police Court for trial on a charge of robbing Mr Holmes of Deptford (who at the time earnestly requested not to be compelled to press the charge) and convicted at the Central Criminal Court on the 6th March 1847 and sentence to seven years transportation though it was her first offence.

Your Petitioner bearing the most unexceptional character which the following signatures from persons of high respectability will verify and being left with four young children varying from four to nine years now motherless and as her character was irreproachable up to the late unfortunate occurrence and her having been led into crime by others, he humbly prays that these circumstances may be taken into consideration and she may not be sent from this Country but her sentence mitigated from transportation to a term of imprisonment

at Maidstone where from the lesson she receives it would enable her to resume the protection of her young family and return to the path of honour.

Trusting this may be deemed worthy attention for which the Petitioner will be most grateful and as in duty bound will ever pray.

William Lilley.

Frederick Simpson

Charles Cullingham

And 15 further signatures.

To the Right Honourable Sir George Grey Secretary of State for the Home Department

The humble Memorial of the undersigned inhabitants , Householders of Peckham in the County of Surrey

Sheweth

That your Memorialists are much grieved at the unhappy situation of EMILY LILLEY now lying in Her Majesty's Prison of Newgate under the sentence of transportation for a felony.

That your Memoralists have know the prisoner many years as the wife of a respectable Master Baker in Peckham who was three years ago reduced from unavoidable circumstance to the greatest possible distress.

That the prisoner's husband is now working as a Journeyman Baker in the employment of Mr Joy at Woolwich with whom he had been nearly two years.

That your Memorialists believe the prisoner must have committed the crime for which she had been convicted under circumstances of the most trying temptation.

That your Memorialists are informed by her husband of the prisoner, that she is now upwards of four months advancement in pregnancy.

Your Memorialists therefore humbly pray that in consideration of the prisoner's previous good character this being her first offence and the painful position of her unhappy husband who is thereby left with the sole care of four helpless children varying in age from four to nine years you would in the exercise of your functions be pleased to recommend the prisoner's case to the merciful consideration of Her Majesty with the view to a mitigation of punishment.

And you Memorialists as in duty bound will ever pray.

Charles Millson – Churchwarden

James Loader

Edward Lilly – Minister of Peckham Church

And a further 66 signatures.
