

**Irish Transportation Records CRF 1841 C10 Film 43**

*Stamped Chief Secretary's Office Dublin 41 Feb 30*

*W. Connor written along the side*

To his Excellency the Lord Lieutenant General  
And General Governor of Ireland  
Dublin Castle  
The humble Petition of Honora Cunningham Transported  
In the Gaol of Ennis Co of Clare

My Lord

I was Tried Before the Hon<sup>ble</sup> Justice Crampton on a Charge of Larceny with Mary Bradly and Pat Sullivan and Sentenced Seven Years Transportation at the prosecution of Pat Sullivan who was the principle perpetrator but turned Queens Evidence to avoid the Justice of the law.

My Lord I am a poor orphan without Father or Mother and has three orphans more unprotected and no one on Earth to look on them and my Lord I confess that I proceeded to the house of Mr Leary in company with the above Named persons but never Entered the man's house and I have Gave information and the said Mr Leary Got all his clothes I hope that your Lordship will take my case into your Just and wise Consideration in Granting a Mitigation of my Sentence to any imprisonment that Your Lordship May be pleased to appoint or direct.

My Lord I never was Guilty of any any(sic) violation of the law previous to Said charges and I now Conclude praying for your Lordships long life and Eternal Happiness

Honora Cunningham

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Clare

Honora Cunningham

Larceny 7 years transportation

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*Stamped Chief Secretary's Office Dublin 41 Mar 3*

*W. Connor written along the side*

Ennis – 23<sup>rd</sup> Feb<sup>ry</sup> 1841

Honora Cunningham  
& Mary Bradley

Breaking into a shop and larceny

1 Wit Mary O'Leary

I keep a shop in this town, it is my father's shop, Daniel O'Leary is his name. He sells second hand clothes – I know the two Prisoners – on the 5<sup>th</sup> August last I fastened the doors and next morning found that the shop was all stripped – the door had been cut – [& the?] things taken [away?] - clothes & shawls were taken away. I saw them after with the Police – they are the same that were taken from the shop – this is about 7 months ago – the next day after the taking I saw the goods with the Police – I had seen on the night before, closing the shop the two Prisoners watching the door – the door was fastened on the outside

2 W.C. - Erangay? Head Constable

I went with (P) Honora Cunningham, who led me to a field – I found [them?] there two bundles of Clothes – they were covered with weeds – Honora Cunningham gave information – (Mary O’Leary identifies the clothes)

3 W.C. John [Bolston?] Policeman

I know Honora Cunningham I found some of the clothes near Hermitage – this is the bundle I found. The bundle was hid in a field of corn – P. Mary Bradley shewed me the place – she said to Honora Cunningham, as you shewed where the rest was, I will shew where the rest is – (This bundle is identified by Mary O’Leary)

4 Wit C Patrick Sullivan an Informer

I was at the robbing of O’Leary’s shop two girls were with me – We took away the clothes – the two Prisoners are the girls that were with me – it was about 2 or 3 in the night – We cut a piece out of the door with a knife – Mary Bradley went in, & she handed out the clothes to Honora Cunningham & me – We put some of the clothes into an old hessian & some into a potato [ground?]

5 W.C. Chas [Denoin?] Jus Peace - prove nothing –

For the Prisoners Ellen O’Shaughnessy a midwife - Told a rambling story about a quarrel between the prisoners –

The Jury found the Prs<sup>ts</sup> guilty and they were sentenced to Transportation for 7 years –

P.. Crampton

[.....] March 4<sup>th</sup> 1841

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*Stamped Chief Secretary’s Office Dublin 41 Mar 5*

*W. Connor written along the side*

[.....] March 4

Sir

I yesterday had the honor of your letter of the 2<sup>nd</sup> March inst. - including the Memorial of Honora Cunningham a Prisoner in the Gaol of Ennis- and requesting me to inform you with the particulars of Cunningham case – and whether in my opinion there are any mitigating circumstances which would render her a proper object of mercy –

I have the [honor?] for the information of his Excellency the Lord Lieutenant to enclose - a copy of my notes of the trial which will furnish his Excellency with the particulars of the prisoners case - & I have only to add that in my opinion there are not any mitigating circumstances which would render the Prisoner or either of them fit objects of the royal mercy

I have the honor to be

Sir

Y<sup>r</sup>. Ob<sup>t</sup> hum<sup>le</sup> serv<sup>t</sup>

P. Crampton

N.H. MacDonald Esq

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*Stamped Chief Secretary's Office Dublin 41 .....*

*W. Connor written along the side*

To his Excellency the Lord Lieut and Governor General of Ireland etc etc

The most Humble Petition of Honora Cunningham now a Convict in Ennis Jail, convicted at the Asizes for a robbery committed in that Town –

Your Petitioner Most Humbly Sheweth –

That she was most foolishly led to be concerned in such a disgraceful transaction, and did not at the time consider the danger or disgrace of such an action, till the day following when she considered the evil of the crime that she went to the resident magistrate and confessed her Guilt told the accomplices and where the property was concealed all of which was obtained, and accomplices taken, one of which prosicuted and I was with another convicted to seven years transportation, Your Excellency was so good to mitigate the sentence of Mary Bradley to imprisonment so your Petitioner is the only sufferer, and most humbly Implores Your Excellencys pardon, to mitigate her sentence to anny Imprisonment you may deem fit.

Your Petitioner most humbly declares it was her first offence and during her life she will not be guilty of anny one action that will offend the Law, and has given herself up to her God and her Clergy who will by his signature prove her asertion to be correct, She relys apou Your Excellencys benevalent pardon, and trusts you will mitigate her sentence, and she will become a worth member of Society

The Under Signed Gentlemen and clergy hopes his Excellencys pardon for the above Petitioner it being her first offence and from her good conduct in prison and sorrow repentance etc we hope by her receiving a remission of her sentence she will be by a general rule of good conduct prove worthy of your Excellency act of clemency and in duty bound your Petitioner will with her one only Sister as in duty bound ever pray –

Pat<sup>k</sup> De..... R.C.C.

Jam<sup>s</sup> B.....

*2 signatures (indecipherable)*

This case has been decided [unfairly?]

This is the 3<sup>rd</sup> or 4<sup>th</sup> Meml

Memorialist ans<sup>d</sup> 12/May & [repd? that no further attention can be paid to her? [.....]

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*Stamped Chief Secretary's Office Dublin 41 .....*

*W. Connor written along the side*

To his Excellency the Lord Lieut and Governor General of Ireland etc etc

The most Humble Petition of Norry Cunningham under sentence of Transportation from last Asizes for being conected in a Robbery of a Shop in Ennis County Clare

Your Petitioner Most humbly sheweth

That she was most unfortunately into that disgraceful act through threats and fear and that she on the next day after the Robbery was rumored moved by her conscience of being conected with a most disgraceful action went personly to the Magistrates and gave herself up as conected and

all information respecting said Robbery and discovered all particulars relative to it also stated where the articles were deposited that were stole from the Shop and likewise information of the party conected with it, otherwise it would never be discovered. Petitioner Most Humbly Sheweth that the party were all taken prisoners and at several times Petitioner was examined by the Magistrates and still kept prisoner with the hope of being Prosecutor she was unable to procure Council till to late as Patrick Sullivan a boy connected with the Robbery was brought to prosecute a Boy of the worst of Character who was conected in several Robberies previous to this one and the Asizes before last was acquitted on a similar charge. Your Petitioner most humbly sheweth it is the first time during her life she was guilty of such an action and her honesty compelled her to discover it the next day without being asked

Also your Excellencys Petioner is a poor girl without Father or Mother and liveing with one poor only Sister whose heart will brake at her loss unless your Excellency will take pitey on your most humble Petioner and pitey her youth only 19 years old and is in an ill health She implores your Excellency to look upon her with an Eye of pitey and restore her to her liberty and during her life she will avoid vice and bad company.-

Most Humbly Sheweth that Interest was maid by Patrick Sullivan's friends maid interest with the Magistrates so his evidence as taken though your Petioner gave first information and laid to the discovery of the Robbery. Your Petioner most humbly Sheweth to your Excellency the Woman conected and convicted with her Mary Bradly a desperate Character swears openly to take petioners life when going for transportation in the Caw or Ship by sticking her this is her declaration before all the prisoner aledging all blame to her for the discovery so Petioner's in danger of her life and afraid of so desperate a woman, now your Excellencys Petioner trust you will take her case into consideration and mitigate her sentence to confinement she will as in duty Bound ever pray and may your days be prolonged to length of years and may you enjoy a crown of Glory in a better world Your Petioner will from this caution avoid all vice and become a good woman trusting your Excellency will cause a reply to be sent as to my hopes of pardon and mercy to my poor Sister causeing it to be directed to Mary Cunningham Ennis County Clare she will with her Sister continuously pray and May the Lord Jesus pardon your Excellency , and for all your noble and good actions since you reigned over us may you [...] a reward from God

Norry Cunningham  
Prisoner Ennis Gaol

We the Undersigned know Honora Cunningham to be an honest industrious poor Girl to the present transaction and believe she was laid into it innocently and without the Knowledge of her Sister and concides if her sentence as remunerated it would be a sufficient caution to her future Character

Given Under our hand this 8<sup>th</sup>

Day of April in year of our Lord 1841

W.J. Ross Lewin

T. Preston

W.J. McNamara

John Sheehan