

Mary Jane Cook ID3087 per *Cadet* 1849

Mary Jane Cook aged 21

Leeds Borough Sessions March 1847

Stealing from the person

10 years transportation

Ship - York

Gaol Report – Acquitted and in prison before

Series – HO 18

Piece Number – 193

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The prisoner's mother denies that she participated in the offence – represents her good character and prays that her sentence may be mitigated.

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To the Queens Most Excellent Majesty

Madam

The Humble Petition of your Petitioner

Sheweth

That your Petitioner's daughter Mary Jane Cook who stood charged along with Elizabeth Salisbury with robbing James Winfield of one sovereign in gold and three shillings in silver, genuine coin of the Realm of Great Britain and one silk handkerchief his property in March last.

Your Petitioner's daughter along with Elizabeth Salisbury was taken and tried at the Leeds Borough Sessions on the 6<sup>th</sup> March 1847

before Thomas Hower Ellis Esq. Recorder of the said Borough and was convicted and received sentence of ten years transportation and your Petitioner's daughter Mary Jane Cook is now lying at York Castle.

Your Majesty's most humble Petitioner further begs leave to inform your Majesty that your petitioner's daughter Mary Jane Cook had nothing at all to do with committing the robbery upon the person of the Prosecutor, neither had she any connection whatever with the other prisoner previous of the day of this unfortunate case which befell her, neither was your Petitioner's daughter ever brought before a Court of Justice charged with doing anything wrong to any person in her life, though it appears upon the trial that is not the case with Elizabeth Salisbury the other prisoner as she had been convicted several times before.

Your Petitioner further begs leave to inform your Majesty that your most gracious Majesty will find herewith enclosed characters from three different persons whom your Petitioner's daughter have been in service with and as your Petition is left a widow, and her daughter Mary Jane Cook being the only child whom your Petitioner had to depend on in her widowhood for support and your Petitioner having been informed by her daughter that she is now in a state of pregnancy and this being her first offence that ever she was brought to appear before a Court of Justice.

Under all these extenuating circumstances your Majesty's most humble Petitioner hopes that your most gracious Majesty will extend your Royal Clemency towards your Petitioners daughter and grant her a free pardon.

And should your Most Gracious majesty not deem it meet so to do your humble Petitioner hopes that your Most Gracious Majesty will not sent your Petitioner's daughter out of her own country but at some period not far distant that your most Gracious Majesty will be pleased to extend your Royal Clemency to your Petitioner's daughter

and grant her a free and unconditional pardon before the expiration of her sentence of ten years transportation.

And your Majesty's most faithful subject and dutiful servant as in duty bound will ever pray.

Elizabeth Cook

Widow

No 6 Butler's Court

York Street

Leeds

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Butler's Court

York Street

Leeds

14<sup>th</sup> April 1847

Honourable Secretary

I the undersigned most humbly beg leave to transmit the enclosed Petition to your Honour hoping your Honour will be pleased to present the same to the Queens Most Excellent Majesty.

And by your Honour complying with the above you will thereby greatly oblige your most obedient servant.

Elizabeth Cook.

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We the undersigned do certif. That the prisoner Mary Jane Cook was in my service 8 months and I have nothing to say against her character she was honest and very steady.

Mrs Thomas Kilroy – Clothier of Leeds

Martin Green - Rag Merchant

Mrs Strickland

Mrs Mary Butler

And a further 30 more signatures.

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2<sup>nd</sup> Application

To the same effect as before

26<sup>th</sup> July

(By Keith: could not decipher the signature)

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