

Mary Mason per Mermaid 1828 - HO17/112/15

MARY MASON

OLD BAILEY

STEALING FROM THE PERSON

TRANSPORTATION FOR LIFE

SOURCE - HOME OFFICE CRIMINAL PETITIONS SERIES 1

SERIES - HO 17

PIECE NUMBER - 112

ITEM NUMBER - WM 15

MARY MASON - AGED 30

OLD BAILEY DECEMBER SESSIONS 1827

STEALING FROM THE PERSON

TRANSPORTATION FOR LIFE

PROSTITUTE

THE PETITION OF MARY MASON A PRISONER IN THE GAOL OF NEWGATE UNDER
SENTENCE OF TRANSPORTATION FOR LIFE
(IN MITIGATION)

To the Right Honourable the Marquis of Lansdonne Secretary of State for the Home
Department;

The humble petition of MARY MASON a prisoner in His Majesty's goal of Newgate

Sheweth,

That your petitioner was convicted at the Old Bailey Sessions in December
for stealing from the person of Robert Anthony Cluse the sum of Seventeen
Shillings and sentenced to transportation for LIFE.

That your petitioner is now about 30 years of age and in consequence of
the death of her husband who was a hard working and industrious man, was
reduced to the greatest indigence and obliged to resort to a course of prostitution
for supporting herself which led to present unfortunate transaction.

That the prosecutor in this case is a married man and met with your
petitioner in the street at a late hour on Saturday night the 2nd of Dewcember
last, he bing at the time very much intoxicated a fact which he addmitted on the
trial. The Court severely reprimanded him for his improper conduct and refused
him his expences. The money he missed out of his pocket when in company with

your petitioner was found and restored to him.

That your Petitioners poverty precluded her from having the assistance of Council in her behalf which she considered a great misfortune inasmuch as the representations of a Professional man might have been of great avail in softening the sentence of the Court.

The Prosecutor in this case had willingly consented to sign this Petition in your petitioners behalf and his name appears at the foot hereof.

That your petitioner was never in a Court of Justice before the present unfortunate occurrence and is a sincere Penitent.

Your Petitioner therefore humbly implores your Lordship's merciful; and humane intercession in her behalf and prays that the sentence under which she at present abides may be mitigated or changed into such other mode of punishment as to your Lordship in your great wisdom and judgment may seem meet.

And your petitioner will ever pray

Mary Mason

I humbly beg leave to recommend MARY MASON to your merciful notice as I feel the greatest shame for my own intemperance which led to so severe a punishment on one perhaps driven by distress to crime.

Robert A Cluse
The Prosecutor

49 Cramer Street
Brunswick Square